

The Damphu Song¹⁵

(*Damphu ko Geet*)

That Damphu is good,
 Which is made of *ghoral* hide;
 That Damphu is good,
 Which is made of *ghoral* hide;
 Framed with *koirala* wood,
 Framed all around;
 With nails of *malla* bamboo
 Fixed in thirty-two places.
*Peng Dorje*¹⁶, our ancestor,
 It was he who made the damphu.
Peng Dorje, our ancestor,
 It was he who made the damphu.
 Greetings, uncle and aunt!
 Greetings, *Nana* and *Jojo*!
 Greetings, uncle and aunt!
 Greetings, *Nana* and *Jojo*!
 We shall sing to the rhythm of damphoo beats,
 Dance to the rhythm of damphoo beats,
 For twisting and swaying a slender waist,
 Damphu beats are the easiest.
Nadhing le, nadhing le,
*Nadhing le, Jhilke, Nadhing le!*¹⁷
 The *Jhilke* is a real dandy,
 That's what our uncle would say.
 That Damphu is good,
 Which is made of *ghoral* hide;
 Framed with *koirala* wood,

Framed all around;
With nails of *malla* bamboo
Fixed in thirty-two places.
Peng Dorje, our ancestor,
It was he who made the damphu.
Peng Dorje, our ancestor,
It was he who made the damphu.

*Translated by Smita Basu, Anshuman Bhowmick and
Shradhanjali Tamang*

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Tamang Selo: An Anthology; Annotated Text and English Translation

PROJECT ANUVĀD

*University with Potential for Excellence Phase II
(Cultural Resources and Social Sciences)*

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© Collection: Jadavpur University Press

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ISBN: 978-93-83660-05-6

First published: January 2015

Published by

Jadavpur University Press,
Jadavpur University,
Kolkata 700 032

Printed by

Typographia
3 Bow Street
Kolkata 700012

Jacket design: Deeptanil Ray

Price: ₹ 200