NOTES ON TIBETAN TERMS

There is a significant divergence between the oral and the written forms of Tibetan words, and it is difficult for non-specialists to pronounce words romanised with the standardised Wylie system. For example, the term for Tibet is bod but pronounced bö. For readability, I use Tibet and Himalayan Library’s Simplified Phonetic Transcription of Standard Tibetan developed by David Germano and Nicolas Tournadre.¹ Spellings are given in Wylie in the Appendix: Glossary of Tibetan Terms.

Note