



## **gYung drung bon gyi sa dpyad mdo rgyud (Geomancy in the Bon tradition)**

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The living conditions and psychological status of sentient beings, particularly human beings, are related to the question of whether the Samig ('Earth-eyes') are good or not. A person's harmonious relationship with a place depends on whether the secret lord of the place has been disturbed or not. For example, when one starts building a house in a place where messengers of naga-demons (*klu bdud*), symbols of earth-lord (*sa-bdag*) such as snakes and frogs are found, and construction work is continued, there might be two results: a possible good result is that building a house in such a place brings wealth to the owner; the opposite possibility is that disaster might befall the house owners, in the form of impoverishment, ill-health, or the loss of livestock to disease. In order to avoid disasters, certain rituals may be performed to propitiate the earth-lord and the *klu*. *Sa 'Bom* writes that: "if one were not to worship the earth-lords, all sentient beings would have nameless diseases"; "The earth-lords are the most powerful entities in the earth, and if they are disturbed the nature of earth will also be disturbed, with the consequence that unfortunate events - a rise in disease and famine - might occur in the human world". However, Geomantic works propose three ways to avoid disasters of this nature: 1. To investigate the nature and formation of the earth according to the prescriptions of the *Mdzod*; 2. To investigate a meditation place for peace according to the outer Tantras (*gSang sngags phyi rgyud*), investigate a meditating place for wrath in accordance with the inner Tantras (*gSang sngags nang rgyud*), and a *gNyan sa* according to the secret Tantras; 3. To build secret temples and houses according to the suggestions in the tantras, and investigating funerary sites.