

CONTENTS

Foreword	7
1. HISTORICAL CONTEXT	9
1.1 The Buryat sangha within Tsarist and Soviet Russia	9
1.2 Internal development of the Sangha at the turn of the 19 th century	10
1.2.1 Conservatives	11
1.2.2 Reformers	12
1.2.3 Nirvanists	14
1.2.4 Balagat movement	14
1.3 Buryat sangha during Soviet period	17
1.3.1 Search for relationship: 1917–1924	17
1.3.2 First wave of reprisals: 1925–1928	17
1.3.3 Second wave of reprisals: 1929–1938	19
1.3.4 Absence of official sangha: 1939–1945	27
1.3.5 First restoration of Buddhism: 1946–1985	27
1.3.6 Second restoration of Buddhism: 1986–present	30
1.4 Bidia D. Dandaron: life and work	33
1.4.1 Childhood (1914–1928)	35
1.4.2 Adolescence (1929–1931)	41
1.4.3 Study in Leningrad (1931–1937)	42
1.4.4 First imprisonment (1937–1943)	42
1.4.5 Freedom intermezzo (1943–1947)	44
1.4.6 Second imprisonment (1947–1955)	44
1.4.7 Freedom (1955–1965)	45
1.4.8 Teaching (1966–1972)	45
1.4.9 Third imprisonment (1972–1974)	46
1.5 Dandaron’s sangha	51

2. DESCRIPTION AND ANALYSIS OF DANDARON MANDALA 57

2.1 Religious or “theological” approach 59

2.2 Academic approach 60

3. CONCLUSION 89

BIBLIOGRAPHY 93

LIST OF PICTURES 101

INDEX 109

SUMMARY 119