



# The Mandala of Sherlock Holmes: The Adventures of the Great Detective in Tibet

*By Jamyang Norbu*

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## **The Mandala of Sherlock Holmes: The Adventures of the Great Detective in Tibet** By Jamyang Norbu

The Mandala of Sherlock Holmes: The Adventures of the Great Detective in India and Tibet, first published in 1999, is the story of Sherlock Holmes, the famous fictional British detective. In Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's The Final Problem Holmes was said to have died after being locked in mortal combat at Reichenbach Falls with the criminal Professor Moriarty. The detective's death caused an uproar in Britain, and Conan was forced to revive him. Holmes was said to have disappeared for a period of two years, which he spent in Lhasa before returning to London. Thus Jamyang Norbu's The Mandala of Sherlock Holmes describes the detective's adventures in India and Tibet within that time frame.

Sherlock Holmes reaches the Bombay's Sassoon docks, and disguises himself as a Norwegian explorer named Sigerson. He is received by Huree Chunder Mookerjee, a Bengali scholar who has been given the duty of investigating Holmes by the British Raj. The detective stays at the Taj Hotel, however, a dreadful murder takes place in his room. Holmes realizes that the attack was aimed at him. Convinced that Professor Moriarty is after his life, the detective travels for the hot plains of India to the cool mountain town of Shimla. From there, he journeys on to the vast empty plateaus of Tibet, while encountering deadly red leeches and dacoits on the way. Holmes reaches Lhasa, and is asked to protect the 14 year old to-be-Thirteenth Dalai Lama from the Chinese. Though the protagonist's wish is to find answers to some spiritual questions, he agrees to help the Tibetans. Packed with action, mystery, mysticism, murder, and political intrigue, this book is an excellent read. With a touch of humour, Norbu takes readers on this unusual journey of Holmes. Winner of the Crossword Book Award for Fiction 2000, The Mandala of Sherlock Holmes: The Adventures of the Great Detective in India and Tibet is a wonderful read.

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#### **About the Author**

Jamyang Norbu is a Tibetan writer and political activist.

He spent more than four decades in India as a Tibetan exile. While attending St. Joseph's School in Darjeeling, the author joined a Tibetan resistance movement in Mustang. He also created the Green Book, a Tibetans-in-exile taxation system, that has been funding the exile government for forty years.

Norbu's literary works are in English as well as Tibetan. His books include *Buying the Dragon's Teeth*, and *Warriors of Tibet: The Story of Aten and the Khampas' Fight for the Freedom of Their Country*. His collection of his political essays is titled *Illusion and Reality*. Norbu is the founder and was the director of the Tibetan Centre for Advanced Studies (the Amnye Machen Institute), Dharamsala. The organization has been awarded the Poul Laureitzen Freedom Prize of Denmark twice. The author has given lectures to present Tibet's case in hundreds of universities across the world. He now lives in Tennessee, USA with his wife and children.

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