



White Crane, Lend Me Your Wings

A Tibetan Tale of Love & War

Tsewang Yishey Pemba

ISBN	9789385285622
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- *White Crane* has special appeal as a posthumous novel from the founding father of Tibetan-English writing
- This is the first work of fiction to deal with the Christian missionary project in Tibet
- *White Crane* is also a significant historical fiction that provides insight into pre-1959 life in the Kham province of eastern Tibet, a period that has yet to be recorded by historians
- Through the story and struggle of Kham guerillas, this novel provides an alternate perspective to the exiled Tibetan government's discourse of a non-violent, peace-loving, and Buddhist Tibetan identity

A posthumous novel by Dr Tsewang Yishey Pemba, the founding father of Tibetan-English literature, *White Crane, Lend me your Wings* is a historical fiction set in the breathtakingly beautiful Nyarong Valley in the Kham province of Eastern Tibet, in the first half of the twentieth century. Dr Pemba skillfully weaves a dazzling tapestry of individual lives and sweeping events, creating an epic vision of a country and people during a time of tremendous upheaval. The novel begins with a never-told-before story of a failed Christian mission in Tibet. It takes the reader deep into the heartland of Eastern Tibet, capturing the zeitgeist of the fierce warrior tribes of Khampas ruled by their chieftains. This coming-of-age narrative is a riveting tale of vengeance, warfare and love, which unfolds through the life story of two young boys and their family and friends. The personal drama becomes embroiled in national catastrophe as China invades Tibet, forcing it out of its isolation. Ultimately, the novel delves into themes such as tradition versus modernity, individual choice and freedom, the nature of governance, the role of religion in people's lives, the inevitability of change, and the importance of human values such as loyalty and compassion.