

The Pugyal Dynasty

The Kings of Yarlung



Nyatri Tsanpo



Representations of the legend of the First King



Yumbulagang Palace in Yarlung Valley

Legend says that in 127 BCE, the inhabitants of Yarlung Valley elevated Nyatri Tsanpo as the first king of Pugyal (or Yarlung) Dynasty. Nyatri, the story continues, descended as a god-like being from the sky using a 'sky-rope.' When he landed, he met some herdsmen grazing their yaks; they took him on their shoulders and made him king. The seven first kings are said to have used a rope to leave this world after their death. They have left no tombs.

The first kings followed the Bon faith; Buddhism appeared only during the reign of Thori Nyatsen (5th century AD). Once again, it came from the sky. A casket containing the Mantra of Avalokiteshvara, Tibet's Patron fell on Yumbulagang, the royal Palace. Though the king was unable to read the scripts, he kept the casket as a Holy Relic.

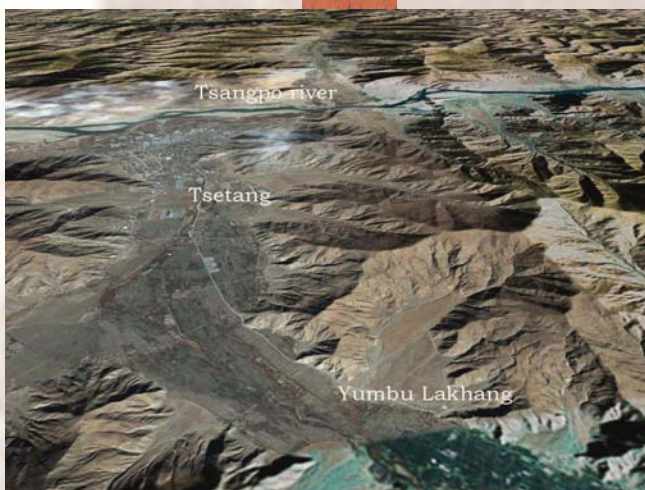
More prosaically, historical research on the relations between the neighbouring kingdom of Zhangzhung and the Yarlung Dynasty is still in its infancy. The hypothesis of the existence of a script has not yet been elucidated.



Protective Armor used by the first Kings



Helmet and Arrows



Google map of Yarlung Valley



Mounds of the tombs of the Kings in Chongye, Yarlung Valley



Little is known of the relations between Yarlung and Central Asia (here Dunhuang)