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Website of the Tibetan Government in Exile: www.tibet.net

Glossary of Tibetan words

Cham ('cham) Monastic dance

Tibetan barley beer Chang (chang)

'Chang song'; sung to guests as they drink chang Chang Shay (chang-gzhas)

Doegar (zlos-gar) Performing arts

Tibetan long-necked lute; found largely in central and **Dranyen** (sgra-snyan)

western Tibet

Ceremonial music; songs (gar-glu) and dance of the Gar (gar)

> Dalai Lama's court in Lhasa; performed by boys (gardrugpa); ceremonial music genre from Amdo

Khatag (kha-tag) Ceremonial white scarf (Ch: hada)

'Round song'; traditional songs/dances found across Korshay (sgor-gzhas)

Tibet performed in a circle.

Kordro (sgor-bro) 'Round dance'; dance genre from eastern Tibet

performed in a circle.

Ache Lhamo (a-ce lha-mo) Tibetan opera; also referred to just as Lhamo

La shay (la-gzhas) Popular genre of lover songs from Amdo

Lingbu (gling-bu) Flute

Losar (lo-gsar) Tibetan new year

Song; unaccompanied 'mountain' songs **Lu** (glu)

Lugar Tsogpa (glu-gar

tsogs-pa)

Song and dance group

Mang Lu (mangs-glu) 'People's song', term used for Chinese geming gequ,

'revolutionary folksong'

Namthar (rnam-thar) 'Aria' from Tibetan opera; denotes the forceful and

glottalised singing style of Tibetan opera 'arias'

Nangma (nang-ma) Genre of Tibetan songs from the Lhasa region,

> accompanied by dranyen, flute (lingbu), fiddle (piwang) and dulcimer (yangchin). Associated with

Toeshay.

Nangma Khang (nang-ma

khang)

Nangma 'house', or Nangma bar; bars in Tibetan cities where live music is performed by professionals

Piwang (pi-wang) Vertically bowed fiddle, played all over Tibet,

> especially in the eastern region traditionally known as Kham (now largely in Sichuan and Yunnan provinces).

Shay (gzhas) Song

Shoton (zho-ston) Annual opera festival held in Lhasa

Tsampa (rtsam-pa) Ground, roasted barley; staple food of Tibet

Tsemo (rtse-mo) 'Games', rural festivals with traditional style games

(archery, tug-of-war, stone-lifting) and music and

dance

Toeshe (stod-gzhas) Songs from Toe in central Tibet. Genre of Tibetan

> song accompanied by dranyen and other Tibetan instruments and a fast stepping dance, which

punctuates the music with foot stamping. Associated

with Nangma.

Toeshe (bstod-gzhas) 'Praise song'; term used for propaganda songs

(Ch: xuanchuan gequ); songs praising the Party

Trigton (krig-ston) Prefecture-level festivals

List of abbreviations

CCP Chinese Communist Party PRC People's Republic of China PSB Public Security Bureau

TAP Tibetan Autonomous Prefecture TAR Tibet Autonomous Region

TCHRD Tibetan Centre for Human Rights and Democracy TIPA Tibetan Institute of Performing Arts (Dharamsala)