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## MOVIE DETAILS

# Angry Monk: Reflections on Tibet

2005-Switzerland-Biography/Religions & Belief Systems

[» Rate or Review 'Angry Monk: Reflections on Tibet'](#)

Type: Documentary  
 Rating: NR  
 Running Time: 97 Minutes  
 Directed by: [Luc Schaedler](#)

## MORE ON 'ANGRY MONK: REFLECTIONS ON TIBET'

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Average Reader Rating (4 stars, 1 vote)  
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## MOST HELPFUL READER REVIEW

**Gendun Choephel's Journey to Modernity**, January 25, 2006

Reviewer: glocalization

Touted as a film about the life of Gendun Choephel, a monk/scholar/traveler who lived in the first half of the 20th century, the movie is less a complete biography than an analysis of the monk's conflict with the norms of Tibetan Buddhism and society. The Swiss director, a non-Tibetan speaker with a translator and no permission from the Chinese to work, embarked on a retracing of Choephel's life and more so his travels within Tibet and India. Choephel was frustrated with the orthodox ways of Tibetan religious politics and tradition. As he was exposed to more and more political ideas, including the Independence Movement in India, as well as scientific and technological progress in other parts of the world, Choephel became convinced that Tibet was in a womb of ignorance. However before he could find a way to share his knowledge of, not only the modern world and its positive points, but also the errors of Tibetan history as a learning tool for then current policy, the Tibetan government suspected him as a communist/revolutionary and imprisoned him in Lhasa. Gendun Choephel could not succeed in bringing modernity to Lhasa, yet young Tibetans everywhere look up to Choephel as a national hero and can relate to his life story as they try to accommodate the seduction of modern life with their respect for tradition. Gendun Choephel is credited for the Tibetan translation of the Kama Sutra and a well-known guide book to Buddhist holy sites in India, amongst other works.

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By MANOHLA DARGIS

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**PRODUCTION CREDITS**

[Luc Schaedler](#) - Director



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