



Manuscript reference: Ds 195

The first two pages of this manuscript are beautifully ornamented.

The title folio possesses an elaborate double frame traced with double red lines and painted green, black, yellow, and blue. The title of the text is written at the centre of a green rectangular frame with two side compartments patterned with circular wave designs alternatively traced with black and red inks. Above and below this frame are painted black bands ornamented in the negative with radiating leaf designs at the centre of which are traced clusters of lines and curves resembling *gram shad* in lieu of the plants' veins. On the sides of the central green frame and those black bands are further painted green columns patterned with wave designs, wide unpainted columns adorned with simple vegetal scrolls,

and thin yellow and blue columns. One may also observe isolated intricate scrollwork on the top right corner of the folio, either unfinished or drawn as an exercise.

On the verso of this folio, the text opens with a *yig mgo* consisting of four curls painted in the negative on a black trapezoidal background, and a wide ornate *rgya gram shad* that develops organically on the sides into six scrolls modelled with red ink. Both these ornamental features are repeated on this and the next two folios.

Overall, the ornamentation of this manuscript recalls that of manuscripts Ds 112, 113, and 215 and may be attributed to the same scribe.