

transfer his spiritual tasks to a successor, who will not have state power. The separation of Church and State in Tibetan Buddhism is in this way in fact restored.

One of the important conclusions is that according to Tibetan Buddhism besides the current Buddha also the Maitreya Buddha of the future actually communicates through visions with people on Earth. But, especially in Northern Europe, this also seems to apply for *Sinterklaas* and, still wider, for *Santa Claus*.

For reasons of safety within Tibetan Buddhism the Tantras may not be studied or practiced by the non-initiated. I know from my own experience, that for more than thirty years ago a warning was given to me that one should not get involved with tantra nor mantra, because Westerners don't know what these are and what their impact can be.

