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Dasho Karma Ura earned his undergraduate degree at Oxford University and his Master's in Philosophy of Economics from the University of Edinburgh. He worked for the Ministry of Planning for 12 years before becoming the Director of the Centre for Bhutan Studies (CBS) from its founding in 1999 until 2008 when he became its President. Under Dasho Karma Ura, the CBS has been at the forefront in promoting and deepening national and global understanding of Bhutan's homegrown development philosophy of Gross National Happiness. He was a member of the Drafting Committee of Bhutan's first Constitution, enacted in July 2008. He was awarded the Red Scarf and the ancient title of Dasho (Knighthood) by His Majesty the Fourth King in December 2006, and in 2010, he was bestowed the honour of Druk Khorlo (Wheel of Dragon Kingdom) by His Majesty the King for his contributions to literature and fine arts. He is also a painter. His paintings can be seen in the renowned, iconic Dochula Temple near Thimphu built under the generous patronage of HM the Queen Mother Ashi Dorji Wangmo Wangchuck. Further, he has written several books, including a novel, The Hero with a Thousand Eyes. He holds numerous international positions, including: 2010~ Executive Committee Member of the School of Well-being, Chulalongkorn University, and San Nagarprada Foundation, Thailand; 2010~ Member of the Reflection Group on Global Development Perspectives, Global Policy Forum, Europe, Bonn; and Member of the Chief Economist's Advisory Panel, South Asia Region, World Bank. In Bhutan, he is a member of several bodies, such as the Board of the Royal Monetary Authority (Central Bank) of Bhutan.
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