

The Wisdom of Emptiness

2023 - REVIEW



Ceci n'est pas une pipe.

A 9 week **DISCOVERING BUDDHISM** course with
registered FPMT teacher, Eddie Peet

1

Refuge & Bodhichitta

I go for refuge until I am
enlightened

To the Buddha, the Dharma,
and the Supreme Assembly

By the merits I create through
listening to the Dharma,
May I become a buddha to
benefit all sentient beings.



2


Four Immeasurables

May all sentient beings have
happiness and the causes of
happiness.

May all sentient beings be free
from suffering and the causes
of suffering.

May all sentient beings never
be separated from the happiness
that is free from suffering.

May all sentient beings abide
in equanimity, free from
attachment for friends and
hatred for enemies.



3

Seven Limb Prayer

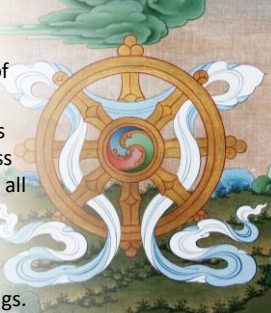
Reverently I prostrate with my
body, speech, and mind;

I present clouds of every type of
offering, actual and imagined;

I declare all my negative actions
accumulated since beginningless
time and rejoice in the merit of all
holy and ordinary beings.

Please, remain until the end of
cyclic existence, and turn the
wheel of Dharma for living beings.

I dedicate my own and other's
merits to the great enlightenment.



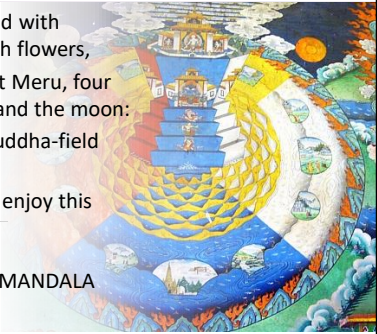
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Mandala Offering

This ground, anointed with
perfume, strewn with flowers,
Adorned with Mount Meru, four
continents, the sun and the moon:
I imagine this as a buddha-field
and offer it.

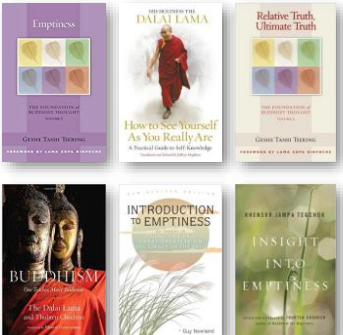
May all living beings enjoy this
pure land!

IDAM GURU RATNA MANDALA
KAM NIRYATA YAMI



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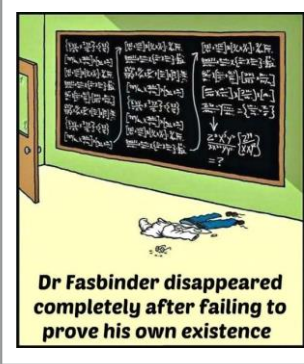
Today's Useful Books



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Today's Outcomes

The exam and assessment questions and their answers.



Dr Fasbinder disappeared completely after failing to prove his own existence

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Emptiness is Not

- Nothing
- Nihilism
- Depressing
- Doctrinal belief



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What is Emptiness?

The final mode of existence

The ultimate truth

A non-affirming negation

A quality of all existents

Reality

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What is Ignorance?


It's **BAD** knowledge. It is **misknowledge**, a force actively opposing knowledge.

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Inherent Existence – Self


Chandrakirti

Any nature or state that objects could have in which they rely on nothing else.




Tsongkhapa

What exists objectively, in terms of its own essence, without being posited through the power of a subjective mind



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Dependence Destroys Ignorance

ll afflictions are overcome Through overcoming ignorance.

When dependent arising is seen, Ignorance does not arise.

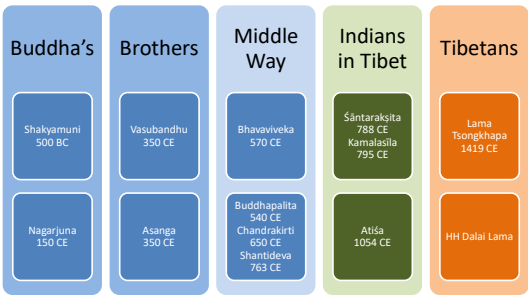
It is the only doorway to peace; It destroys wrong views;

It captures the attention of all buddhas – This is called selflessness

– Aryadeva's "The Four Hundred, v135-136"

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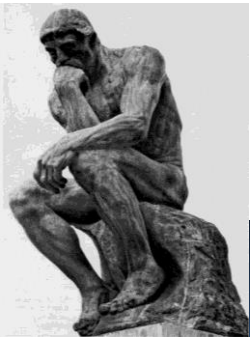
The Great Lineage Teachers



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What is a Tenet?

An established conclusion



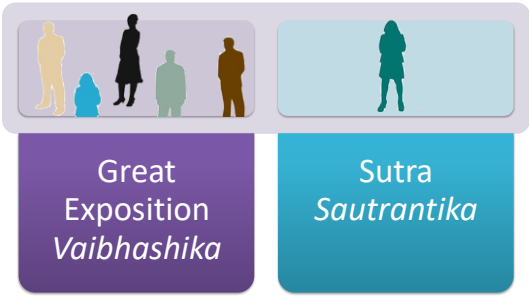
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Four Seals and Four Truths



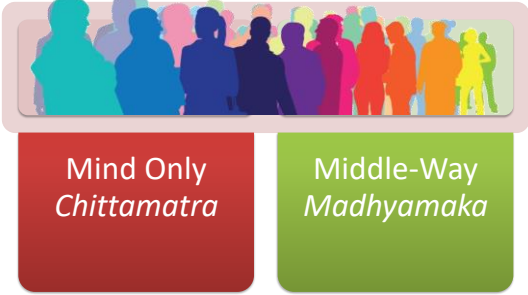
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Individual Vehicle Schools



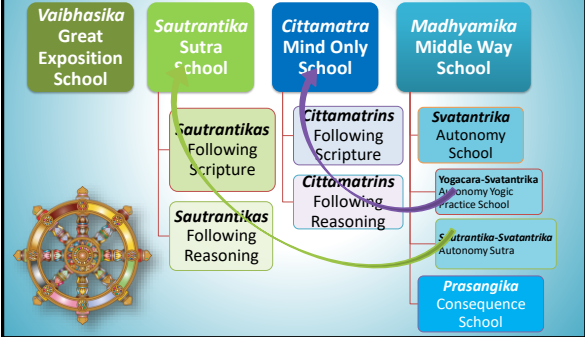
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Universal Vehicle Schools



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Four Schools and Their Branches



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Different Views of the Two Vehicles

Individual Vehicle

- View of selflessness towards the person or personal identity only
- Doesn't speak of obstructions to omniscience
- Doesn't speak of Bodhisattva Grounds

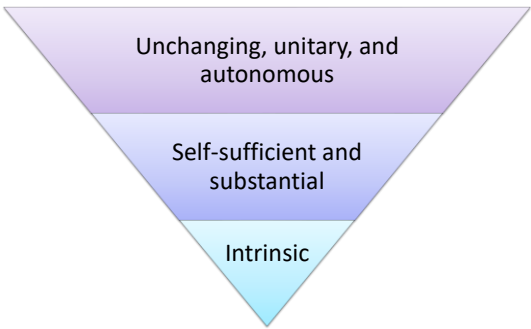
Universal Vehicle

- View of selflessness as a universal principle
- Speaks of obstructions to omniscience
- Speaks of Bodhisattva Grounds which are related to ideas of the selflessness of phenomena and obstructions to omniscience

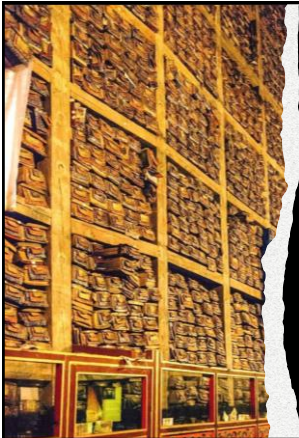


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The Levels of Subtlety of Self



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Why is the Heart Sutra Called That?

It is the essence of all these wisdom sutras

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The Four Profundities of Form

The Ultimate	1.	The conventional	2.	Same entity	3.	Nominally distinct	4.
	Form is empty		Emptiness is form		Emptiness is not other than form		Form also is not other than emptiness

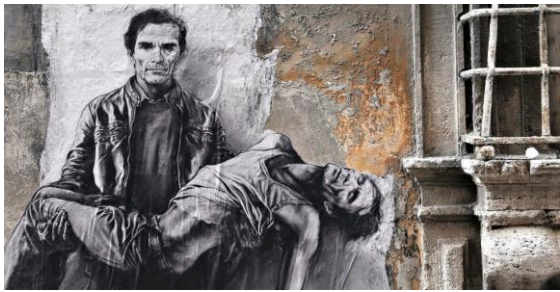
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Meditations Revealing Emptiness

1. Dependent Arising – the King
2. Reasoning establishing the lack of being one or many
3. Diamond Slivers
4. Five-fold reasoning
5. Seven-fold Reasoning



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Like a person carrying a burden

Self, Atman, Soul

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Gross Misunderstandings

1. I am permanent
2. I am independent
3. I am singular

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Permanent, Single, Independent


Meaning

- Not produced and not subject to subtle change
- Has no parts
- Has no dependence upon causes and conditions

Consequences

- If bound, cannot be freed
- Cannot be consciousness or the body
- Has always existed, or else, is created by something else that is permanent

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Like a shepherd directing sheep

A Self-sufficient, Substantial entity

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Self-sufficient & Substantially existent

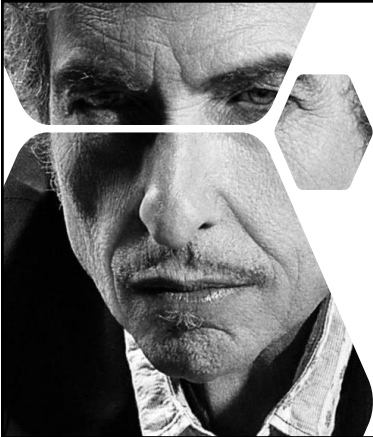
Meaning

- Not dependent on the body and mind
- Does not rely on anything else

Consequences

- A person could exist without having a body or mind
- They would be observed without the appearance of their body or mind

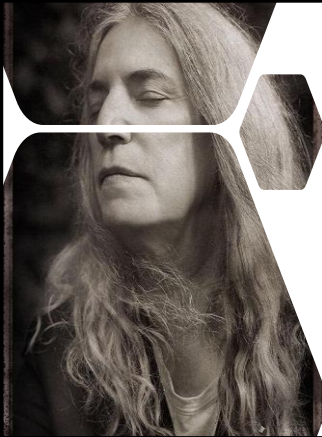
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Great Exposition School: The Person

- An inexpressible reality
- The mere collection of the aggregates


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Sutra: The Person

- An inexpressible entity
- The mere collection of all five aggregates
- The continuum of the five aggregates
- Mental consciousness

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**The Mind Only System:
Selflessness of
Phenomena**

1. Subject and object
are not different
entities
2. Phenomena are not
naturally the basis of
names


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**The Mind Only System:
The Person**

- The mind-basis-of-all
- Mental consciousness



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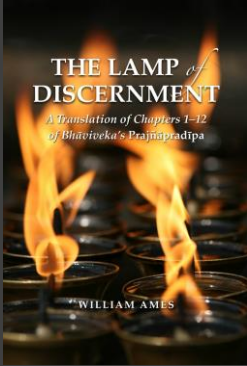
**The Middle Way
Autonomy System:
Selflessness of
Phenomena**

The absence of true
existence

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**The Middle Way
Autonomy System:
The Person Is...**


... the mental
consciousness



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**The
Appearance
and Reality of
an Inherently
Established
Person**


If the person did exist
inherently, their
appearance would not
depend on awareness



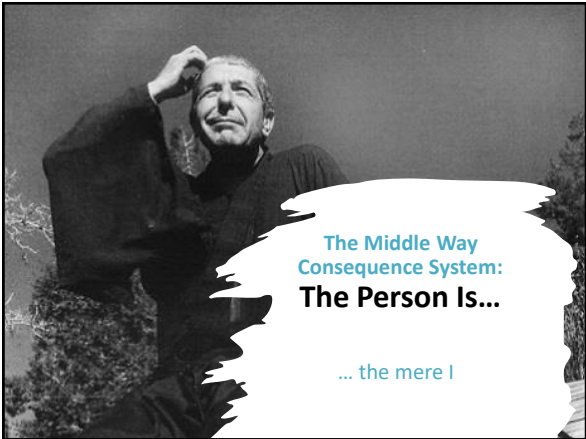
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**The Middle Way
Consequence System:
Emptiness of
Persons**

1. They lack self-sufficient
and substantial existence
2. They lack inherent
existence



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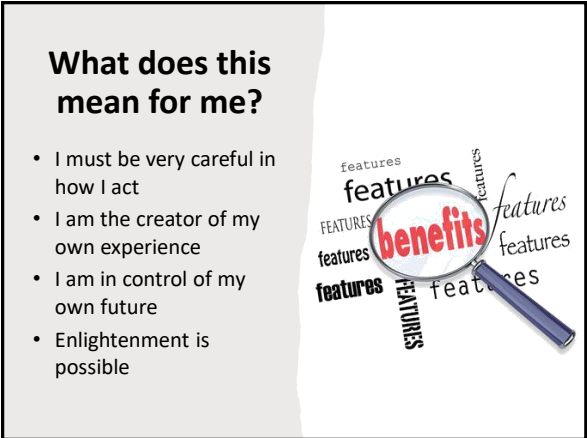
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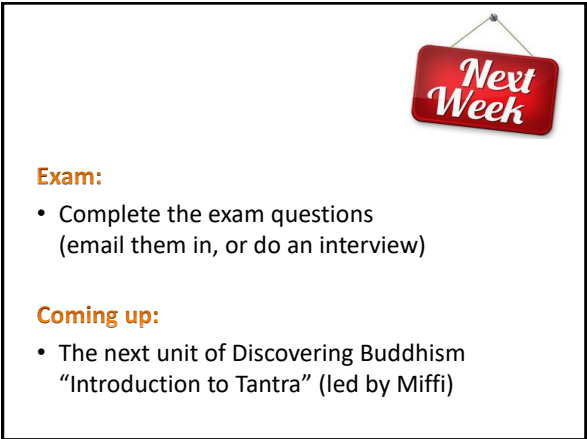
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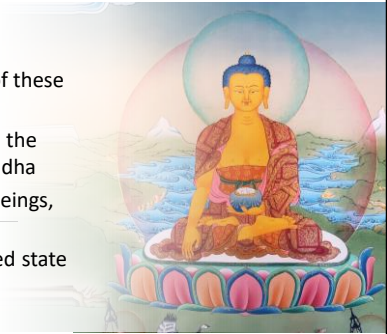
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Dedication

Due to the merits of these
virtuous actions
May I quickly attain the
state of a Guru-Buddha
And lead all living beings,
without exception,
Into that enlightened state



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Bodhicitta Verses

May the supreme jewel bodhicitta
Not yet born, arise and grow
May that born have no decline
But increase forever more

And as long as space endures,
As long as sentient beings abide,
May I too remain
To dispel the sorrows of the world



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