

The Wisdom of Emptiness

2023 - Class 5



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

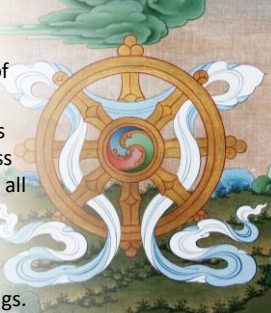
Reverently I prostrate with my body, speech, and mind;

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.



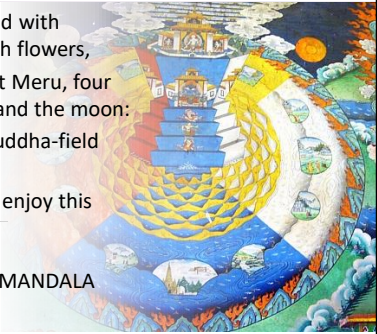
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Mandala Offering

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



5

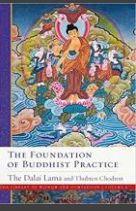

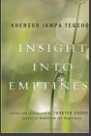


What We've Covered So Far




1. What emptiness is
2. Liberation and Enlightenment
3. Merit and purification
4. Tenets and teachers
5. Extremes of ignorance
6. Selflessness of persons

6

Today's Useful Books



7




Today's Outcomes

- Universal selflessness
 - The Mind Only
 - The MW Autonomist
- Who the person is within each system
- How is this useful?

8

Universal Vehicle Schools



Mind Only
Chittamatra

Middle-Way
Madhyamaka

9


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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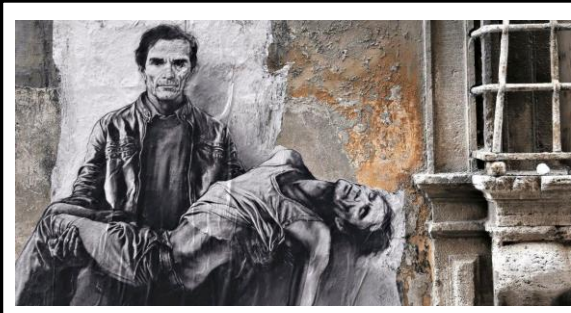
Levels of Subtlety

Unchanging, unitary, and autonomous

Self-sufficient and substantial

Intrinsic

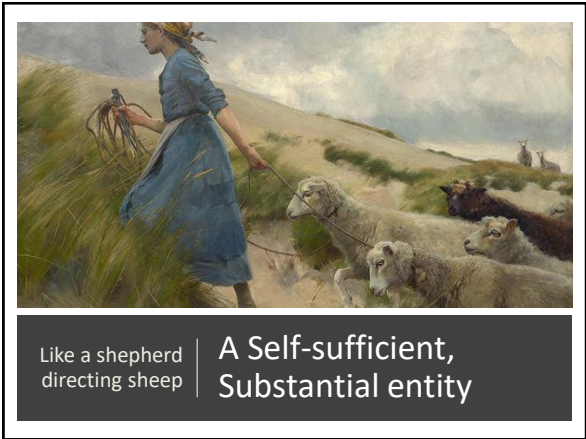
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Like a person carrying a burden

Self, Atman, Soul

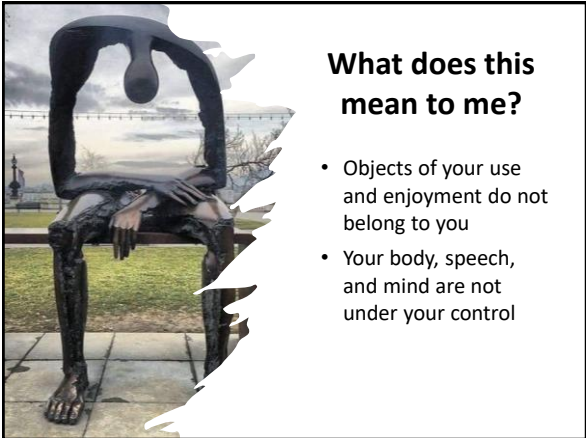
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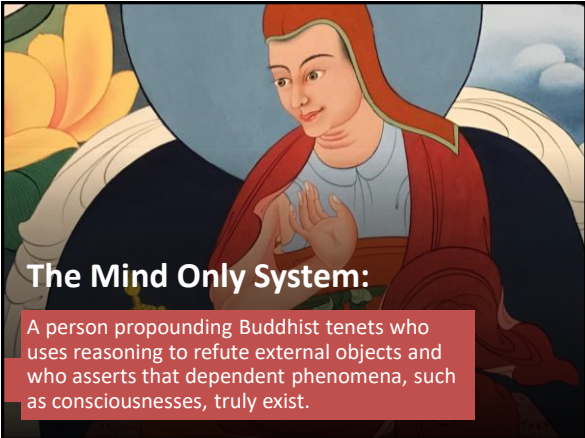
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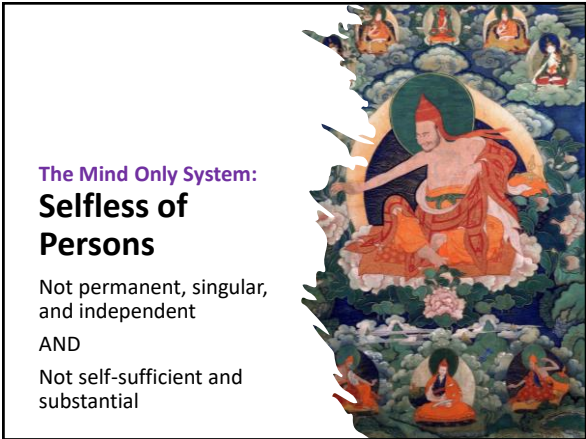
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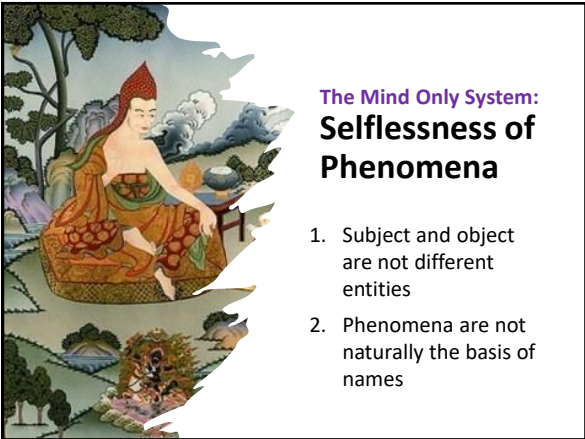
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17



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**The Mind Only System:
The Person**


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



19

**What Does
This Mean
To Me?**

- My hurts are not coming from outside
- Pleasure and joy are not coming from external phenomena
- Help and harm are being created by the mind itself



20

**The Middle Way
School**


Free from the extremes of nihilism and eternalism.



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**The Middle Way
Autonomy System**

- Ultimately – **no true existence**
- Conventionally – **inherent nature**



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**The Middle Way
Autonomy System
Selflessness of
Persons**

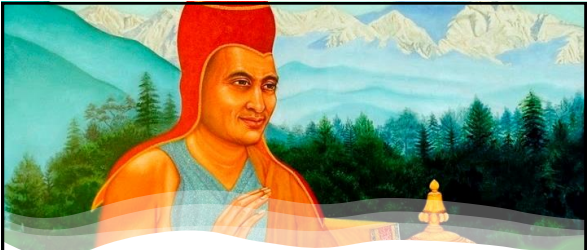
Not permanent, singular,
and independent
AND
Not self-sufficient and
substantial



23

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

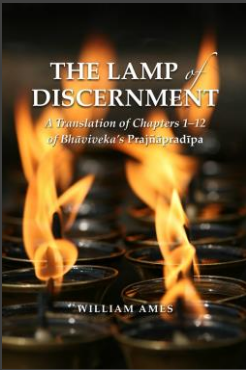
The absence of true
existence




24

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

... the mental
consciousness




25



Meditation

26



What does this mean to me?

- Things are not coming completely from their own side.
- Decisions, not conditions, determine what you are.


27



What's My Take-Away?

- You know of the emptiness of persons and phenomena in two tenet systems.
- You know that this is useful.

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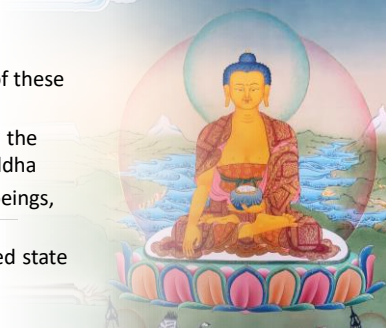


- **Read:**
 - Review the slides “What does this mean to me”
- **Coming up:**
 - The Middle-way Consequence System
 - Gross and subtle emptiness

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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 remains,
As long as sentient beings remain,
May I too remain
To dispel the sorrows of the world

