

The Nature of Reality

Class 4 – 2022




1

Refuge & Bodhichitta

I go for refuge until I am enlightened

To the Buddha, the Dharma, and the Supreme Assembly

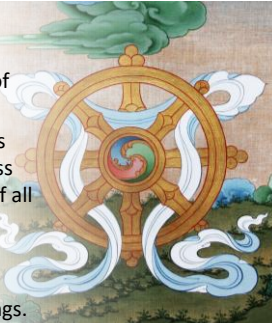
By the merits I create through listening to the Dharma, May I become a buddha to benefit all sentient beings.



2

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.



3

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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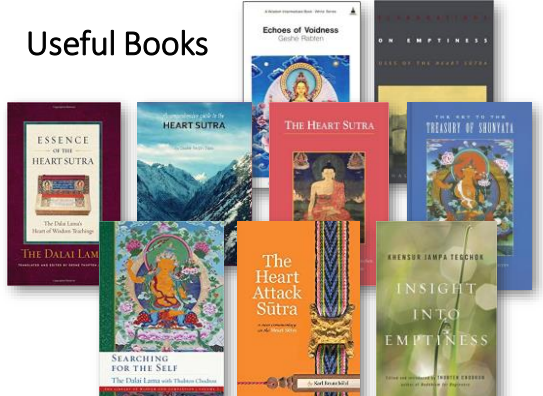


Today’s Topics

- Discerning wisdom
- Objects of the wisdom

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Useful Books



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The Outline For Contemplation

- 1. Introduction
- 2. Engaging in wisdom
- 3. Definition of wisdom
- 4. Object of wisdom
- 5. Quality of wisdom
- 6. Result of wisdom
- 7. Mantra of wisdom
- 8. Clearing doubts
- 9. Words spoken
- 10. Conclusion

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An Extensive Explanation

An extensive explanation for those with inferior faculties

- 1. Path of Accumulation
- 2. Path of Preparation
- 3. Path of seeing
- 4. Path of meditation
- 5. Path of no more learning

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If Inherent Existence Were Real...

One	Many
<ul style="list-style-type: none">•Same•Singular	<ul style="list-style-type: none">•Different•Multiple

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Do You Truly Exist?

- Who is on your seat – I am
- Are the aggregates also on the seat – Yes
- Are you the same as the aggregates – No
- Why – because I am imputed to the aggregates
- Roll your body off the seat
- Who is on the seat?
- You don't truly exist

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The King Of Reasonings

DEPENDENT REFUTES	ARISING REFUTES
Independent	• Nothing at all
Inherent/Intrinsic	• Non-existence
True existence	
Own character	
Own side	

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Defining Wisdom – Path of Seeing

“Shariputra, likewise, all phenomena are emptiness; without characteristic; unproduced, unceased; stainless, not without stain; not deficient, not fulfilled.”

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The Path of Seeing

DEFINITION

“A realization of a Bodhisattva who sees emptiness directly that is a method for attaining the Mahayana path of meditation”



- The exalted awareness of:
1. Pristine wisdom of meditative equipoise.
 2. Pristine wisdom of subsequent attainment.

Eight Empty Aspects



1. **Emptiness** – nature
2. **Without characteristic** – the characteristics
3. **Unproduced** – production
4. **Un-ceased** – cessation
5. **Stainless** – defilements
6. **Not without stain** – separation from defilements
7. **Not deficient** – decrease
8. **Not fulfilled** – increase

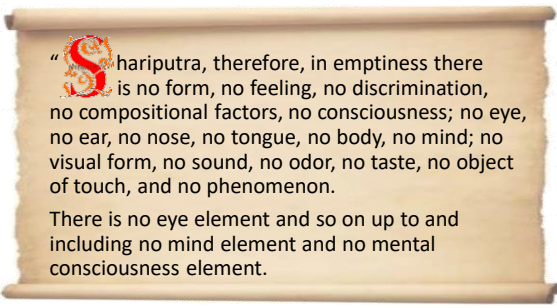
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Objects of Wisdom – Path of Meditation

“**S**hariputra, therefore, in emptiness there is no form, no feeling, no discrimination, no compositional factors, no consciousness; no eye, no ear, no nose, no tongue, no body, no mind; no visual form, no sound, no odor, no taste, no object of touch, and no phenomenon.

There is no eye element and so on up to and including no mind element and no mental consciousness element.



The Path of Meditation

DEFINITION

“A realization of a Superior Bodhisattva who is either abandoning or who has abandoned innate true grasping by practicing meditation”

1. Pristine wisdoms of meditative equipoise
2. Pristine wisdoms of subsequent attainment



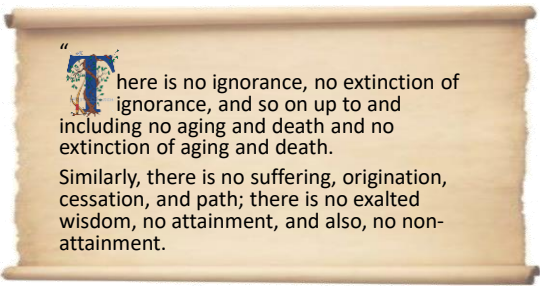
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More of the Path of Meditation

“**T**here is no ignorance, no extinction of ignorance, and so on up to and including no aging and death and no extinction of aging and death.

Similarly, there is no suffering, origination, cessation, and path; there is no exalted wisdom, no attainment, and also, no non-attainment.



No Intrinsic ...

1. Five aggregates
2. Six sense powers
3. Twelve sources
4. Eighteen constituents
5. Twelve links on the afflicted side
6. Twelve links on the pure side
7. Four truths of noble beings
8. An Arya's abandonments, qualities, & emptiness



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What's The Take-Away?

- Knowledge of wisdom on the path of seeing
- You know the 8 eight objects of wisdom on the path of meditation

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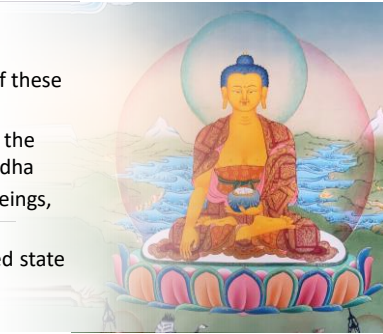


- The qualities and result of wisdom
- No more learning and the mantra

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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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