




Course 1: The Principal Teachings of Buddhism
Level 1 of the Steps to Buddhahood



ASIAN CLASSICS INSTITUTE



Class 10:
Karma and Emptiness:
The nature of wisdom and liberation.



ASIAN CLASSICS INSTITUTE

Three Views of Dependent Origination

1. Functionalists
 - Things are dependent on their causes.
2. Independents
 - All things exist dependent on their parts.
3. Consequence School
 - All things exist dependent on you calling them and thinking of them as you do.

དགག་བྱ།

The Object We Deny

gakja

1. Functionalists
 - the self that has no causes
2. Independents
 - the self that exists independent of its parts
3. Consequence or Implication School
 - the self that exists independent of my thinking about it or naming it

Class Objectives

- Understand the relationship between karma and emptiness.
- How to know when you have “correct view”.

Root Text

“You've yet to realize the thought of the Able as long as two ideas seem to you disparate: The appearance of things—infallible interdependence; And emptiness—beyond taking any position.

- Je Tsongkapa

How does the “pen” exist?

Interdependence

Emptiness

- dependent on....
- not self-existent

.... our karmic projections.

Middle-Way Sages Say....

Nothing exists naturally, but not:
nothing exists at all.

Everything exists by convention, but not:
everything exists naturally.

The Two Extremes

Nothing exists naturally, but not:
nothing exists at all.

Everything exists by convention, but not:
everything exists naturally.

Root Text

“At some point they no longer alternate, come together; just seeing that interdependence never fails brings realization that destroys how you hold to objects, and then your analysis with view is complete.”

- Je Tsongkapa

Homework #10

- Questions
- Memorization: memorize the twelfth verse of the Three Principal Paths
- Meditation: Fifteen minutes each day analytical meditation on the marriage of ethics and emptiness

(Remember to record date and time of meditation.)
