

THE ASIAN CLASSICS INSTITUTE
Course II: Buddhist Refuge
Level One of the Perfection of Wisdom (Prajna Paramita)

Course Syllabus

Reading One (classes one and two)

Subject: The Three Kinds of Refuge

Reading: Kedrup Tenpa Dargye: *Overview of the Perfection of Wisdom, Chapter I, folios 79A-83B*

Kedrup Tenpa Dargye: *Analysis of the Perfection of Wisdom, Chapter I, Part 2, folios 41B-52A*

Reading Two (classes three and four)

Subject: The Wish for Enlightenment

Reading: Kedrup Tenpa Dargye: *Overview of the Perfection of Wisdom, Chapter I, folios 48B-57B*

Kedrup Tenpa Dargye: *Analysis of the Perfection of Wisdom, Chapter I, Part 2, folios 1B-16A*

Reading Three (classes five and six)

Subject: What is Nirvana?

Reading: Kedrup Tenpa Dargye: *Overview of the Perfection of Wisdom, Chapter I, folios 20B-24A*

Kedrup Tenpa Dargye: *Analysis of the Perfection of Wisdom, Chapter I, Part 1, folios 35B-40B*

Reading Four (class seven)

Subject: The Object we Deny

Reading: Kedrup Tenpa Dargye: *Overview of the Perfection of Wisdom, Chapter I*

Kedrup Tenpa Dargye: *Analysis of the Perfection of Wisdom, Chapter I*

Reading Five (classes eight and nine)

Subject: The Proofs for Emptiness

Reading: Kedrup Tenpa Dargye: *Overview of the Perfection of Wisdom, Chapter I, folios 12A-18B*

Kedrup Tenpa Dargye: *Analysis of the Perfection of Wisdom, Chapter I, Part 1, folios 24B-33A*

Reading Six (class ten)

Subject: Who is Maitreya?

Reading: Kedrup Tenpa Dargye: *Overview of the Perfection of Wisdom, Chapter I, folios 6A-9A*

Kedrup Tenpa Dargye: *Analysis of the Perfection of Wisdom, Chapter I, Part 1, folios 14A-19B*

The Asian Classics Institute
Course II: Buddhist Refuge
Reading One: The Three Kinds of Refuge

From the presentation on *The Three Refuges* found in the *Analysis of the Perfection of Wisdom*, by Kedrup Tenpa Dargye (1493-1568):

Here we will discuss the line of the root text which says, "The Three Jewels, the Buddha and the rest." Let us first consider the section of the middle-length sutra on the *Mother* which includes the lines:

Do not think that this very Knowledge of All Things is something which applies to what you can see, and do not think it is separate from what you can see. Just so, never view what you can see itself as being real.

These are the "Instruction on the Three Jewels," for they are words from the middle-length sutra on the *Mother* which give us the following advice:

These Three Jewels are no place of refuge for persons who seek an ultimate liberation. They are a place of refuge for persons who seek a liberation only in words.

Our analysis of this section will proceed in three parts: a refutation of our opponent's position, a presentation of our own position, and a rebuttal of their objections.

Here is the second section, in which we present our own position.

There is a specific reason why the Three Jewels are established as being the refuges for practitioners of the three classes. From the point of view of cause refuge, practitioners of all three classes take refuge in all three of the Jewels. But from the point of view of result refuge, those of the Listener class aspire chiefly to attain the state of a foe destroyer.

Those of the class of Self-Made Buddhas aspire chiefly to attain that meditative wisdom where they abide in a meditation of cessation, a state where all the obstacles of the mental afflictions have been eliminated.

Those of the Greater Way aspire chiefly to attain the Buddha Jewel, one who possesses that cause within him which will allow him to turn the wheel of the dharma, in its entirety, for disciples of all three classes. This then is the reason why the Three Jewels are established as being refuges for practitioners of the three classes.

The definition of the Buddha Jewel is "That ultimate place of refuge, the one which has completely satisfied both the needs." There are two kinds of Buddha Jewel: the apparent Buddha Jewel, and the ultimate Buddha Jewel.

This Buddha Jewel possesses eight different fine qualities, beginning with the quality of being uncaused. As the *Higher Line* states,

This is the One, the Buddha:
He is uncaused, He is spontaneous,
He is realized by no other way;
He has knowledge, and love, and power;
He has satisfied both the needs.

The definition of the Dharma Jewel is "The enlightened side of truth, either in the form of a cessation, or in the form of a path, or both." In name only this Jewel can be divided into two kinds: the ultimate Dharma Jewel, and the apparent Dharma Jewel.

The definition of the Sangha Jewel is "A realized being who possesses any number of the eight fine qualities of knowledge and liberation." In name only, this Jewel can be divided into two kinds: the ultimate Sangha Jewel, and the apparent Sangha Jewel.

The definition of an ultimate refuge is "Any refuge where the journey along the path has reached its final goal."

The definition of an apparent refuge is "Any refuge where the journey along the path has not reached its final goal."

The definition of taking refuge is "Any movement of the mind that acts of its own accord, and consists of hoping that some object outside of one's self will be able to render one assistance."

In name only, taking refuge may be divided into two: taking refuge in words, the expression of refuge; and taking refuge in thoughts, the reliance on refuge. An example of the first would be something like the words you use as you take refuge.

The latter is of two types: ordinary taking of refuge, and exceptional taking of refuge. The definition of the first is "Any movement of the mind which acts of its own accord, and consists of hoping that some ordinary type of refuge will render one assistance."

The definition of the latter is "Any movement of the mind which acts of its own accord, and consists of hoping that any one or number of the Three Jewels will render one assistance."

There are five different kinds of this extraordinary taking of refuge: the taking of refuge which is shared with practitioners of a lesser scope, the taking of refuge which is shared with practitioners of a medium scope, the taking of refuge which is shared with practitioners of a greater scope, cause refuge, and result refuge.

Here are their respective definitions. The first is defined as: "First, you feel a personal fear for the sufferings of the births of misery. Second, you believe that the Three Jewels possess the power to protect you from these sufferings. Finally you have a thought which acts of its own accord: it is a hope, or something of the type, that some one or number of the Three Jewels will render you assistance, to protect you from these sufferings.

The second is defined as: "First, you feel a personal fear for each and every suffering of the cycle of life. Second, you believe that the Three Jewels possess the power to protect you from these sufferings. Finally you have a movement of the mind which acts of its own accord: it is a hope, or something of the type, that some one or number of the Three Jewels will render you assistance, to protect you from these sufferings.

The third is defined as: "Any movement of the mind which acts of its own accord, and consists of hoping that any one or number of the Three Jewels will render assistance, to protect every living being from the sufferings of the cycle of life."

The fourth is defined as: "Any movement of the mind which acts of its own accord, and consists of hoping that any one or number of the Three Jewels, as already achieved in another person, will render assistance."

The fifth is defined as: "Any movement of the mind which acts of its own accord, and consists of hoping that any one or number of the Three Jewels, as they are to be achieved within ones self, will render assistance."

There is a specific purpose for taking refuge in the Three Jewels. A temporal purpose is that they can provide you the highest form of protection. The ultimate purpose is to attain the state of enlightenment. Taking refuge also serves as the foundation for all the different kinds of vows. When you take refuge, you thereby join the ranks of the "ones inside": you become a Buddhist. This taking refuge acts as well to slam shut the door to the births of misery. These and others are the purpose for taking refuge in the Three.

The Asian Classics Institute
Course II: Buddhist Refuge
Reading Two: The Wish for Enlightenment

From the presentation on *The Wish for Enlightenment* found in the *Overview of the Perfection of Wisdom*, by Kedrup Tenpa Dargye (1493-1568):

Here we will discuss the lines of the root text which begin with "The wish for enlightenment is, for the benefit of others..." First we will relate this concept to the original texts, and then we will analyze it in detail.

Here is the first. We find the following lines in sutra:

Sharibu, those who wish to gain total enlightenment, a knowledge of every kind of thing, must train themselves in the perfection of wisdom. Those who wish this, and that, must train themselves in the wisdom perfection.

The root text and commentary include other lines that begin with "The wish for enlightenment is" and continue up to "the twenty-two." The function of these latter sections is to clarify the hidden meaning of the words of the sutra, including as it does the essential nature of the wish for enlightenment.

As such, we can understand the definition of the wish for enlightenment as "The wish to achieve total enlightenment for the benefit of others."

Here is the section in which we present our own position. The definition of the greater way's wish for enlightenment is as follows.

First, it is that main mental awareness belonging to the greater way, which is focused on achieving total enlightenment for the benefit of others, and which is matched with a state of mind that is associated with it: the aspiration to achieve total enlightenment.

Secondly, it is a knowledge belonging to the greater way, which acts as a door for entering the greater way (or is something of the type), and which is included into the activity side of the standard division into the two of "view" and "activity."

Here next are the divisions of this wish. Nominally, the wish can be divided into the apparent wish for enlightenment and the ultimate wish for enlightenment. In essence, it can be divided into the wish of prayer and the wish of engagement. In terms of level, it can be divided into the four types that begin with "the wish that acts out of belief." In terms of how the wish is developed, there are three types, starting with the "king's wish."

The Asian Classics Institute
Course II: Buddhist Refuge
Reading Three: What is Nirvana?

From the presentation on *Nirvana* found in the *Analysis of the Perfection of Wisdom*, by Kedrup Tenpa Dargye (1493-1568):

Here secondly is the section in which we present our own position. The definition of nirvana is "A cessation which comes from the individual analysis, and which consists of having eliminated the mental-affliction obstacles in their entirety."

In name only, nirvana can be divided into the following four types: natural nirvana, nirvana with something left over, nirvana with nothing left over, and nirvana which does not stay.

The following all refer to the same thing: natural nirvana, the natural Mother, the natural perfection of wisdom, the natural Dharma Body, and ultimate truth.

The definition of nirvana with something left over is: "A cessation which comes from the individual analysis, and which consists of having eliminated the mental-affliction obstacles in their entirety, but where one still has the suffering heaps that are a result of his past actions and bad thoughts." A classical example of this would be the nirvana found in the mental stream of a listener who is a foe destroyer, and who has not yet shucked off the heaps he took on.

The definition of nirvana with nothing left over is: "A cessation which comes from the individual analysis, and which consists of having eliminated the mental-affliction obstacles in their entirety, and where one is free of the suffering heaps that are a result of his past actions and bad thoughts." A classical example of this would be the nirvana found in the mental stream of a listener who is a foe destroyer, and who has shucked off the heaps he took on.

The definition of nirvana which does not stay is: "A cessation which comes from the individual analysis, and which consists of having eliminated both kinds of obstacles in their entirety." A classical example of this would be the truth of cessation in the mental stream of a realized being who is a Buddha.

The nirvana we are describing here is not something that one can achieve by using any method at all. Rather, you must achieve it with the training of wisdom, which realizes that nothing has any self nature; this wisdom must be under the influence of the first two trainings, and with it you must habituate yourself to what you were already able to realize.

This fact is supported by the *King of Concentration*, which states:

Suppose you are able to analyze
One by one those things that have no self;
And after that you habituate
Yourself to what you analyzed individually.

This is what then leads you to
Achieve your freedom; nirvana beyond grief.
It is impossible for any other
Cause to bring this peace to you.

The Asian Classics Institute
Course II: Buddhist Refuge
Reading Four: The Object We Deny

From the presentation on *The Object We Deny* found in the *Overview of the Perfection of Wisdom*, by Kedrup Tenpa Dargye (1493-1568):

Next we will explain what it means when we say that the three of basic knowledge, path knowledge, and the knowledge of all things have no real nature of arising. This explanation has three parts: identifying what it is we deny with reasoning that treats the ultimate; introducing the various reasons used to deny this object; and, once we have established these two, detailing the steps to develop correct view.

The first of these has two sections of its own: a demonstration of why we must identify what it is we deny, and then the actual identification of this object. Before a person can develop within his mind that correct view which realizes emptiness, he must first identify the final object which is denied with reasoning that treats the ultimate. As the *Guide to the Bodhisattva's Way of Life* states,

Until you can find what you thought was there,
You can never grasp how it cannot exist.

Suppose that what you sought to deny was the existence of a water pitcher in a certain place. If before you started you had no mental picture of what a water pitcher looked like, you would never be able to verify with an accurate perception that it wasn't there. Here it's just the same. What we seek to deny is that things could really exist. If before we start we have no mental picture of what a thing that really exists would be like, then we can never have a clear idea of emptiness: the simple absence where the object that we deny isn't there.

Here now is the actual identification of the object we deny. Suppose something were to occur in some way that was opposite to the way that all the phenomena of physical form and so on exist deceptively. Anything that could occur this way would be precisely the final object we deny with reasoning that treats the ultimate. Therefore we must first explain how it is that all the phenomena of physical form and the rest exist deceptively.

The second part to the discussion of how things exist deceptively consists of an explanation of the various scriptural references. First we will give a brief treatment of these references, and after that talk about how this system establishes the two truths; this latter step will include an instructive metaphor. Here now is the briefer treatment.

There is a specific reason why we say that all these phenomena, physical form and the rest, exist deceptively. They are described this way because their existence is established by means of a deceptive state of mind, one which is not affected by a temporary factor that would cause it to be mistaken.

That state of mind which acts to establish the existence of physical form and other such things, and which is colored by seeing things as being real, and which is not affected by a temporary factor that would cause it to be mistaken, is only the deceptive mind. This deceptive state of mind though is not the actual grasping to real existence, for it holds its object in a way which is consistent with what the object actually is. The state of mind is *deceptive* in that the deceptive mind is affected by the tendency to grasp to things as being real.

Therefore any and every object whose existence is established by a consistent state of mind belonging to a

living being who is not a Buddha is said to exist "deceptively." The deceptive state of mind occurs by force of a deep mental seed which causes it to be mistaken; this is a seed for the tendency to grasp to things as being real, and it has been in our minds for time without beginning.

This seed makes every living creature who is not a Buddha see every existing phenomenon, physical form and the rest, look as if it were a pure, discrete entity. And so we call a state of mind "deceptive" when it holds that physical form and all other things purely exist, whereas in fact they are quite the opposite: they do not purely exist. We say it is "deceptive" [Sanskrit: *saw^ vr, ti*] because such a state of mind is itself blind to the way things really are, and also because it functions in a sense to screen [Sanskrit: *vr,*] or cover other things; it keeps us from seeing their suchness.

So now we can define the final object which we deny by reasoning that treats the ultimate. It is any object of the mind that could exist on its side through its own unique way of being, without its existence having to be established by the fact of its appearing to a state of mind that is not impaired. This is true because the final way in which physical form and all other such phenomena exist deceptively is that they are established as existing by force of a state of mind which is not impaired by any temporary factor that would cause it to be mistaken.

There is an instructive metaphor we can use for describing how physical form and other such phenomena are from our side established as existing, by the fact of their appearing to a state of mind which is not impaired; while at the same time these objects of our mind exist on their own side through their own way of being.

Suppose a magician is making a little piece of wood appear as a horse or cow. Seeing the piece of wood as a horse or cow comes from the side of the viewer, by the force of his own mind, as his eyes are affected by the spell of the magician. And yet the piece of wood, from its side, is appearing this way as well. Both conditions must be present.

There is a reason why the first condition must be present: the condition of being established from the side of the viewer, by force of his own mind, as his eyes are affected by the spell of the magician. If this condition didn't have to be present, then a spectator whose eyes were not affected by the spell would have to see the wood appear as the animal, whereas in actuality he does not.

At this same time the second condition, that the piece of wood appear from its own side as a horse or cow, must be present as well. If this condition didn't have to be present, then the piece of wood's appearing as a horse or cow would have to show up as well in places where there were no piece of wood, whereas in actuality it does not.

In this same way are the phenomena of physical form and the rest established by force of a state of mind which is not impaired. They are labeled with names, through an unimpaired state of mind and a name which is consistent with what they are.

They do not however exist on their side through their own unique way of being, without their existence having to be established by the fact of their appearing to a state of mind that is not impaired. If they were to exist this way, then they would have to be the ultimate way things are. And if they were, then they would have to be realized directly by a state of mind which was not mistaken; by the wisdom of a realized being who is not a Buddha, and who in a state of balanced meditation is directly realizing the way things are. In fact though they are not directly realized by such a wisdom.

Suppose a magician makes a little piece of wood appear as a horse or cow. Spectators whose eyes have

been affected by his spell both see the piece of wood as a horse or cow and believe that it really is. The magician himself only sees the horse or cow; he has no belief that it is real. A spectator who arrives later, who hasn't had the spell cast on him, neither sees the piece of wood as a horse or cow nor believes that it is.

Three different combinations of seeing and believing exist as well with physical form and other such phenomena. The kind of people we call "common" people, those who have never had a realization of emptiness, both see and believe that form and the rest really exist. Bodhisattvas who are at one of the pure levels see phenomena as really existing during the periods following emptiness meditation; but they do not believe it. Realized beings who are not yet Buddhas, and who are in the state where they are realizing the way things are directly, neither see physical form and other such phenomena as really existing, nor do they believe that they really exist.

The Implication and Independent branches of the Middle Way school are identical in asserting that to exist really, to exist purely, to exist just so, to exist ultimately, and the idea where you hold that things could exist these ways are all objects which are denied by reasoning that treats the ultimate.

The Independent branch though does not agree that to exist from its own side, to exist by nature, to exist in substance, to exist by definition, and the idea where you hold that form and other such phenomena could exist these ways are also objects which are denied by reasoning that treats the ultimate. They say that in fact anything that exists must exist these ways, with the exception of existing in substance. (There is some question though about things that are nominal.) They assert that any functional thing that exists must exist in substance.

Neither the Implication nor the Independent branches of the Middle Way school asserts that to exist as the way things are, to exist as ultimate truth, or to exist as the real nature of things is the final object which is denied by reasoning that treats the ultimate; for if something is ultimate truth, it always exists in all these three ways.

The Asian Classics Institute
Course II: Buddhist Refuge
Reading Five: The Proofs for Emptiness

From the presentation on *The Proofs for Emptiness* ["*The Emptiness of One or Many*"] found in the *Analysis of the Perfection of Wisdom*, by Kedrup Tenpa Dargye (1493-1568):

Here secondly is our own position.

Consider the three: basic knowledge, path knowledge, and the knowledge of all things.

They do not really exist;

For they exist neither as one thing which really exists, nor as many things which really exist.

They are, for example, like the reflection of a figure in a mirror.

The *Jewel of the Middle Way* supports this when it says,

The things of self and other
Are free of being purely one
Or being purely many,
And so they have no nature:
Just like a reflection.

Consider these same things.

They do not exist as one thing which really exists;

For they are things with parts.

The one always implies the other, for if something existed as one thing which really exists, then it could never be a thing which appeared one way but actually existed in a different way.

They do not exist as many things which really exist, because they do not exist as one thing which really exists. The one always implies the other, for many things come from bringing together a group of things that are one.

The implication in the original statement is true, for if something really existed, it would have to exist either as one thing that really existed or as many things that really existed. This is always the case, for if something exists it must exist either as one or as many.

Here is the "Sliver of Diamond" reasoning, for denying that things can come from causes:

Consider all inner and outer things that perform a function.

They do not arise ultimately,

For they do not arise from themselves, and they do not arise ultimately from something other than themselves, and they do not arise from both, and they do not arise without a cause.

These things do not arise from themselves, because they do not arise from a cause which is such that, if something were the cause, it would have to be the thing it caused.

They do not arise ultimately from something which is other than themselves, for they neither arise ultimately from a cause which is other than themselves and which is unchanging, nor do they arise ultimately from a cause which is other from themselves and which is changing.

They do not arise ultimately from both the above, because they do not arise ultimately from either one of them individually.

They do not arise without a cause, because that would be utterly absurd.

The implication in the original statement is true, for if something were to arise ultimately, it would have to arise ultimately through one of the four possibilities mentioned.

Here is the reasoning called "The Denial that Things which Exist or Do Not Exist could Arise," which we use for denying that things can come from results:

Consider results.

They do not arise ultimately,

For results which exist at the time of their cause do not arise ultimately, and results that do not exist at the time of their cause do not arise ultimately, and results that both exist and do not exist at the time of their cause do not arise ultimately, and results that neither exist nor do not exist at the time of their cause do not arise ultimately.

The implication is proven in the same way as above.

Here is the reasoning known as "The Denial that Things could Arise through Any of the Four Possibilities," which we use for denying that things can come from both causes and results:

Consider the functional things of causes and results.

They do not arise ultimately,

For multiple results of multiple causes do not arise ultimately, and single results of multiple causes do not arise ultimately, and multiple results of single causes do not arise ultimately, and single results of single causes do not arise ultimately.

[From the *Overview*.:] Here we will explain the fifth type of reasoning, the one based on interdependence, and known as the "King of Reasons." First we will present the reasoning, and then secondly prove the validity of its elements.

Consider all inner and outer things that perform a function.

They are not real,

For they are interdependent.

The reasoning can also be stated as:

Consider all inner and outer things that perform a function.

They do not arise really,

For they arise in dependence on other things which act as their causes and conditions.

Either way you state the reasoning, the following part should be added at the end:

They are, for example, like the reflection of a figure in a mirror.

This reasoning is correct, for it is spoken by the Protector [Nagarjuna]:

Anything that occurs in interdependence is also peace in its very essence.

It is also proven by the *Sutra Requested by Anavatapta*, which states:

Anything that arises from other factors does not arise;
It has no nature of arising in this way.

I teach that anything which relies on any other factor is empty.

He who understands emptiness acts rightly.

Now we will prove the various elements of this reasoning. This consists of two steps: proving the relationship between the subject and the reason, and proving the relationship between the reason and the characteristic asserted.

Here is the first:

Consider all inner and outer things that perform a function.

They are interdependent,

For they consist of a label applied to their parts; they exist in dependence on their parts.

The relationship between the reason and the characteristic asserted is proved as follows:

If something either consists of a label applied to its parts, or exists in dependence on its parts, then it cannot be real;

For if something were real, neither of these two could apply to it. This is true because, if something were real, it would have to exist without relying on anything else.

Proving the relationship between the subject and the reason in the latter version of the reasoning is simple. This is how we prove the relationship between the subject and the characteristic asserted in this same version:

If something arises in dependence on other things which act as its causes and conditions, it cannot arise really,

For if something were to arise really, it would have to arise without relying on anything else.

Both versions of the reasoning represent a type of logic where the presence of something which cannot coexist with something else is used to prove that inner and outer things which perform a function either do not exist really or do not have any nature of arising really. This is true because both of the reasons stated are such that they cannot coexist with existing really.

There is a specific reason why we refer to this reasoning, the one based on interdependence, as the "King of Reasons." First of all, each of the other reasonings here ultimately comes down to the reasoning of interdependence. Secondly, this reasoning allows one to eliminate, in one step, both the extreme of permanence and the extreme of ending focused towards this particular subject or basis of dispute.

The Asian Classics Institute
Course II: Buddhist Refuge
Reading Six: Who is Maitreya?

From the presentation on *The Text of Maitreya* found in the *Overview of the Perfection of Wisdom*, by Kedrup Tenpa Dargye (1493-1568):

Here is how these others make their argument. They say that "It is incorrect to relate the opening lines [of the *Jewel of Realizations*], the ones that are an offering of praise, to any need of the author himself. This is because Maitreya possesses no state of mind where he is aspiring to fulfill his own needs, and because the lines appear here only as a means to induce persons other than the author to follow the work."

Here secondly is our own position. It is incorrect to make the argument that appeared earlier, for such an argument only reveals that the person making it has failed to undertake exhaustive study and contemplation of the major scriptures of the greater way. How can we say this? Let us first ask the following: do you make this argument assuming that the Holy One [Maitreya] is a Buddha, or do you make it assuming that he is a bodhisattva?

Suppose you say that you are making the former assumption. Doing so represents a failure to distinguish between speaking in the context of the way which is shared, the way of the perfections, and speaking in the context of the way which is not shared; that is, the way of the secret word.

The teaching of the secret way says that the holy Maitreya is a Buddha. This is true because—according to the secret way—Manjushri is a Buddha, and the reasons for His being so apply equally to Maitreya in every respect.

It is correct for us to say that the way of the perfections is the way which is "shared," and that the way of the secret word is the way which is "not shared." This is because such a description is found in a great number of authoritative works. The *Steps of the Path to Buddhahood*, for example, speaks about "how to train oneself in the way which is shared—the way of the perfections, and how to train oneself in the way which is not shared—the way of the secret word." *The Concise Steps* as well includes the lines:

Thus is the path which is shared,
The one which is required
At both the stage of the cause
As well as the stage of result
In the higher way,
The path which is supreme.

There is another description that mentions the "way for common disciples" and the "way for unique disciples." It is apparent that these expressions, [which use the same Tibetan term,] have the same connotation as "shared" and "not shared" above.

Someone might assert that "In the context of the way of the perfections, the way of the secret word is not accepted." This though is incorrect, for the *Brief Commentary* includes a section where it states that presenting the bodies of a Buddha as being exactly four is moreover not inconsistent with the way of the secret word. This section reads: "Nor moreover is this inconsistent with the other division of the teachings."

There are other reasons too which prove that there is a way of the secret word. It is stated with authority that the ability to fly in the sky, and other such miraculous abilities described in the *Tantra of the Garuda*, occur through the power of the being who has *spoken* the tantra. This is true because the *Commentary on Valid Perception* states:

There do exist the ones who know
The tantra and can in cases
Use the secret word with success;
These are the proof. It's mainly the power
Of the one who taught it,
And following his precepts.

Beyond this type of reasoning, I personally am unable to accept all the other things that people say on this point.

Here next we will demonstrate that it is also incorrect to make the argument above under the assumption that Maitreya is a bodhisattva. We ask those who make such an argument: Are we to assume then that the definition of the wish for enlightenment presented in the *Ornament* is a definition which is less than comprehensive? Because isn't it true that, according to your argument, this definition would fail to cover the wish for enlightenment at the tenth bodhisattva level?

And wouldn't this be the case, because—according to you—wouldn't a person at the tenth bodhisattva level have fulfilled his own needs without having to stop his feeling of being satisfied with nothing more than putting a final end to the truth of suffering and the truth of its origin?

And wouldn't this be the case, because—according to you—doesn't such a person aspire to fulfill his own needs completely, and yet also fail to see that attaining the Dharma Body is necessary for him to do so?

The above statements should help you grasp a number of crucial points. Realize first of all that, if something is the greater way's wish for enlightenment, it must be linked with an associate state of mind, an aspiration to fulfill one's own needs, which means the Dharma Body. Realize secondly that, if something is that state of mind in which one aspires to fulfill his own needs—meaning the Dharma Body—then it is a state of mind in which one aspires to fulfill his own needs

The above arguments demonstrate then that the Maitreya who authored the *Ornament* is a bodhisattva who has one life to go. This is true since the *Mother* includes a line which says, "Go and ask Maitreya there; he is a bodhisattva who has one life to go." Moreover, the *Higher Line* states that Maitreya authored it in order to utilize the word of the Able One to purify himself of the obstacles to omniscience.