

RADICAL REJECTION

DISPELLING PRIMITIVE BELIEFS ABOUT REALITY

The Adornment of the Middle Way
Part Two

The Refutation of Mind

Shantarakshita's Madhyamakalankara
With Commentary by Jamgon Mipham

Translation by the Padmakara Translation Group
Published by Shambhala Publications

11 Tuesdays, September 20 – December 13, 2011

For internal use only

*Exclusively for the use of the
Rime Shedra NYC Core Texts Program
A program of Shambhala Meditation Center of New York
First Edition - 2011*

RADICAL REJECTION

DISPELLING PRIMITIVE BELIEFS ABOUT REALITY

The Adornment of the Middle Way

Part Two

The Refutation of Mind Only

Shantarakshita's Madhyamakalankara
With Commentary by Jamgon Mipham
Translation by the Padmakara Translation Group
Published by Shambhala Publications

Eleven Tuesdays at 7:00 pm
September 20th to December 13th, 2011
(Omitting October 18 and November 20)

Class Dates:

- | | |
|-------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1. September 20 th | 6. November 1 st |
| 2. September 27 th | 7. November 8 th |
| 3. October 4 th | 8. November 15 th |
| 4. October 11 th | 9. November 29 th |
| 5. October 25 th | 10. December 6 th |
| | 11. December 13th |

Course Syllabus

- 1) **Class One: Major Arguments of the First Course**
 - A) **In Class Reading:**
 - i) Shantarakshita's "Neither One Nor Many" Argument from Madhyamakalamkraka (The Ornament of the Middle Way): A Classical Argument on the Ontological Status of Phenomena, by James Blumenthal in *Buddhist Philosophy: Essential Readings*, Ed. William Edelgrass and Jay L. Garfield; excerpt on pages 46-51.
- 2) **Class Two: Other Summaries & Commentaries on the Text**
 - A) **Reading:**
 - i) Later Madhyamikas Epistemology and Meditation, by Yuichi Kajiyama in *Mahayana Buddhist Meditation: Theory and Practice*, Ed. Minoru Kiyota; pp. 114-143.
- 3) **Class Three: Contradictions in Viewing Consciousness and External Objects as Unique**
 - A) **Reading:**
 - i) Refutation of Non Buddhist Schools, pp. 217-234

4) Class Four: Mind Only View and Initial Contradictions

A) Reading:

- i) Refutation of Outer Objects as Truly and Singularly Existent, pp. 234-5
- ii) Refutation of Causes as Truly and Singularly Existent, pp. 235-6
- iii) The Cittamatra system, pp. 236-246 (bottom)

5) Class Five: Pitfalls in Thinking that Mind Creates Reality

A) Reading:

- i) A Refutation of False Aspectarians, pp. 246 (bottom) -265

6) Class Six: True Appearance

A) Reading:

- i) A Demonstration that things exist on the relative level, pp. 265-285

7) Class Seven: Mere Appearance and Illogical Complaints

A) Reading:

- i) An explanation of the cause of mere appearance, pp. 285-293
- ii) Answers to objections made to this distinction of the two truths, 293-297

8) Class Eight: The True Nature is Beyond Thought and Speech

A) Reading:

- i) An explanation of the actual ultimate, free from all assertions, pp. 297-312
- ii) Answers to objections about the ultimate, pp. 312-314

9) Class Nine: Since Emptiness is Not Apparent, It's Imperceptible, Isn't It?

A) Reading:

- i) A reply to the second objection about the ultimate, pp. 314-328
- ii) A reply to the objections about relative truth, pp. 328-331

10) Class Ten: Clarifying How Things Seem to Appear

A) Reading:

- i) The proof of life after death, pp. 331-335
- ii) How to avoid the extreme views of eternalism and nihilism, pp. 335-337
- iii) Why it matters, pp. 337-355

11) Class Eleven: Conclusions and Colophons

A) Reading:

- i) The practical benefits, pp. 355-361
- ii) The conclusion, pp. 361-377
- iii) The colophon, pp. 377-383

The Adornment of the Middle Way
The Madhyamakalankara by Shantarakshita
Translated by the Padmakara Translation Committee

Summary Outline

- I) A demonstration that no entities exist on the ultimate level, verses 1-62
 - A) The main argument, verse 1
 - B) A refutation of a single, truly existent, pervasive entity, verses 2-10
 - C) A refutation of non-pervasive entities as single and truly existent, verses 11-62
 - 1) A refutation of the indivisible particle as a truly existent, single entity, verses 11-15
 - 2) The refutation of consciousness as a truly existent, single entity, verses 16-60
 - (a) Refutation of Vaibhashika, verses 16-21
 - (b) Refutation of Sautrantika, verses 22-34
 - (c) Refutation of Non Buddhist Systems, verses 35-43
 - (d) Refutation of the Chittamatra system, verses 44-60
 - (i) True Aspectarians, verses 44-51
 - (ii) False Aspectarians, verses 52-60
 - 3) Establishing the absence of many truly existent entities, verse 61
 - 4) Establishing the pervasion, verse 62
 - II) A demonstration that things exist on the relative level, verses 63-66
 - III) Answers to objections made to this distinction of the two truths, verses 67-82
 - A) A brief demonstration that no faults are incurred, verses 67-68
 - B) A detailed explanation, verses 69-76
 - C) Dealing with the objections about the relative truth, verses 77-82
 - IV) The benefits of understanding the two truths correctly, verses 83-90
 - V) The conclusion: a eulogy of this approach to the two truths, verses 91-97

The Adornment of the Middle Way's Section on Refutation of Ultimate Existence

Singularity v. 1-60	Pervasives v. 3-10a	Universals v. 10a	External Objects v. 10b-15	Indivisible Particles v. 11-15	Extra-mentalists v. 16-45	Mentalists v. 46-60	False Aspectarians v. 52-60
Singularity v. 1-60	Pervasives v. 3-10a	Universals v. 10a	External Objects v. 10b-15	Indivisible Particles v. 11-15	Extra-mentalists v. 16-45	Mentalists v. 46-60	False Aspectarians v. 52-60
Particulars v. 3-9	The Person v. 9	Extended Objects v. 10b			Vaibhashikas v. 16-21	Sautrantikas v. 22-34	True Aspectarians v. 46-51
Particulars v. 3-9	The Person v. 9	Extended Objects v. 10b			Vaibhashikas v. 16-21	Sautrantikas v. 22-34	True Aspectarians v. 46-51
Permanents v. 3-8					Non-Buddhist v. 35-45		False Aspectarians v. 52-60
Permanents v. 3-8					Non-Buddhist v. 35-45		False Aspectarians v. 52-60
					Perceptual Imparity v. 22-23	Split Eggists v. 24-30	Perceptual Parity v. 31-34
					Perceptual Imparity v. 22-23	Split Eggists v. 24-30	Perceptual Parity v. 31-34
						Perceptual Parity v. 49	Perceptual Parity v. 49
						Perceptual Parity v. 49	Perceptual Parity v. 49
						Perceptual Parity v. 50-51	Perceptual Parity v. 50-51

The Adornment of the Middle Way

Major Arguments Part One

1) 9. A refutation of a single, truly existent, pervasive entity 161

a) 11. A refutation of a single, truly existent, permanent pervasive entity 161

- i) 12. A refutation of a truly existent, permanent entity as presented by non-Buddhist schools
(stanza 2) 161

- ii) 12. A refutation of a truly existent, permanent entity as posited by Buddhist schools 165
 - (1) 14. The assertion that the object of a past moment of consciousness is also the object of a subsequent moment of consciousness is untenable (**stanza 4**) 167
 - (2) 14. To deny that the object continues coexisting with consciousness is also untenable 175
 - (a) 15. For if it does not coexist, it follows that the uncompounded object is momentary
(stanza 5) 175
 - (b) 15. What is wrong with the assertion that the object does not continue to coexist with different moments of consciousness? 175
 - (c) 16. If the uncompounded is dependent on conditions, it is compounded (**stanza 6**) 175
 - (d) 16. If the uncompounded does not depend on conditions, it must be either forever existent or forever nonexistent **(stanza 7)** 176
- b) 11. A refutation of the person considered as a truly existent, single entity (**stanza 9**) 180
- c) 10. A refutation of pervasive universals as being truly existent, single entities (**stanza 10a**) 184
- 2) 9. A refutation of nonpervasive entities regarded as single and truly existent 185

a) 11. A refutation of extended objects regarded as single and truly existent (*stanza 10b*)
186

b) 11. A refutation of the indivisible particle as a truly existent, single entity 187

- i) 14. If a particle has no parts, extended objects are ruled out (*stanzas 11b, 12*) 189
- ii) 14. If a particle has parts, it cannot be infinitesimal (*stanza 13*) 191

c) 12. A demonstration that the refutation of the existence of infinitesimal particles also entails the refutation of manifold phenomena 191

d) 11. The refutation of consciousness as a truly existent, single entity 194

i) 12. A refutation of consciousness as a truly existent, single entity as propounded in the system that ascribes existence to outer objects 194

(1) 15. A refutation of the Vaibhashikas, who hold that external objects are perceived without the mediation of a mental aspect 194

- (a) 16. It is untenable to say that consciousness can perceive external objects (*stanzas 18b, 19*) 204
- (b) 16. A demonstration that the Vaibhashika view of perception without the mediation of mental aspects is unacceptable 205
- (c) 17. The belief in perception without the mediation of mental aspects is an inferior view because with such a view it is impossible to explain the perception of objects even conventionally (*stanza 21*) 206

(2) 15. A refutation of the Sautrantika view 207

(a) 16. A refutation of the system of perceptual imparity 207

- (i) 17. The first unwanted consequence: just as there is only one consciousness, there must be only one apprehended aspect (**stanza 22**) 207
- (ii) 17. The second unwanted consequence: if the apprehended aspects are multiple, it follows that the consciousness must be also (**stanza 23a**) 208
- (iii) 17. To deny this drives a wedge between consciousness and the aspects (**stanza 23b**) 208

(b) 16. A refutation of the theory of the split-eggists 209

- (i) 19. Showing that the theory is inconclusive by an appeal to the manner in which sound is observed (**stanza 25**) 210
- (ii) 19. Showing that the split-eggist theory is inconclusive by an appeal to the way in which conceptual cognition engages its object (**stanza 26**) 211
- (iii) 19. Showing that the split-eggist theory is inconclusive by an appeal to the character of all cognitions (**stanza 27**) 212
- (iv) 18. A refutation of the example of the firebrand 212
- (v) 20. The object that is remembered and the object that is seen are incompatible (**stanza 29**) 213
- (vi) 20. If there is a joining together of past and subsequent moments (through memory), vivid, clear perception is impossible (**stanza 30**) 213

(c) 16. A refutation of the view of the proponents of perceptual parity 214

- (i) 18. All consciousnesses have many aspects (**stanza 32**) 215
- (ii) 18. Demonstrating that the true existence of one indivisible moment of consciousness is impossible 216
- (iii) 19. When an inanimate object is analyzed, it cannot be referred to as a single entity (**stanza 33**) 216
- (iv) 19. An analysis of the apprehending mind shows that there are no indivisible moments of cognition (**stanza 34**) 216

TA

**Graphic Representation of Śāntarakṣita's Differences with the
Alikākāra-vijñānavāda and the Satyākāra-vijñānavāda Schools**

Level of Knowledge		Characteristics of Knowledge and Its Images			
		Ālikākāra-vijñānavāda		Satyākāra-vijñānavāda	
Śāntarakṣita's Position	Knowledge = Image	Knowledge	Image	Knowledge	Image
Buddha	knowledge of the nonmanifestation of even nondual knowledge (<i>advayajñāna-nirabhāsa-jñāna</i>)	knowledge without duality (<i>advayajñāna</i>)		mind-only (<i>citta-mātra</i>)	
<i>Paramārtha-satyā</i>	true (<i>satya</i>), nonerror (<i>abhrānta</i>); images co-arise dependently	true and real	false and unreal (<i>avicāraikaramanīya</i>)	true and real	true and real (<i>tātvaika</i>)
Ordinary people	false (<i>alīka</i>), error (<i>bhrānta</i>); images co-arise dependently	true and real	false and unreal; the represented nature (<i>parikalpita</i>)	true and real	true and real
<i>Samurti-satyā</i>	production by nescience		production by error	production by error	endowed with an image

4

Śāntarakṣita's "Neither-One-Nor-Many" Argument from *Madhyamakālambākara* (*The Ornament of the Middle Way*)

A Classical Buddhist Argument on the Ontological Status of Phenomena

James Blumenthal

The central tenet of the Madhyamaka School of Mahāyāna Buddhist thought is that all phenomena are empty of any essential unchanging nature. The term "emptiness" is said to properly describe the ontological character of all things. One of the classical arguments used by philosophers of the Madhyamaka School to demonstrate this emptiness, this lack of any essence, any intrinsic nature, any enduring fixed identity, or any absolute mode of being in persons or phenomena whatsoever is the "neither-one-nor-many" argument. Though it has been utilized in slightly varying forms by a number of great Madhyamaka thinkers, including Śāṅgupta, and Atīsa, the quintessential exposition of the neither-one-nor-many argument is found in *The Ornament of the Middle Way* (*Madhyamakālambākara*), a text by the late period Indian Buddhist philosopher Śāntarakṣita (725–788).

The argument (stanza 1) posits that there can be no ultimate nature or essence in things because nothing has a fundamentally unitary or manifold nature. In other words, since anything that has a nature must have either an ultimately unitary or manifold nature—the two being inclusive of all possible alternatives for things with a nature—and since nothing has a unitary or manifold nature, therefore, phenomena must not have any nature at all. Following this broad-based statement of his argument, Śāntarakṣita proceeds to apply this reasoning to all instances in which his philosophical rivals, both Buddhist and non-Buddhist, have claimed that some things, such as persons or phenomena, do have a unitary, inherent nature (stanzas 2–60). Śāntarakṣita then turns (stanza 61) to the question of whether or not entities asserted by his

opponents to have a nature can possess a manifold nature. There he argues that since the existence of a manifold nature would depend on the aggregation of true singularities, and there are no true singularities, there must also be no true manifold nature in any entity either. Because singular and manifold natures are inclusive of all possibilities for entities that have a nature, one must conclude that no entity whatsoever has any inherent nature.

A Brief Analysis of the Application of the Argument

Śāntarakṣita first applies the neither-one-nor-many argument to the non-Buddhist Sāṃkhya system (stanza 2), which asserts the existence of *Prakṛiti*, a Fundamental Nature or creator God that is claimed to be the singular, permanent, uncaused, and unobstructed absolute cause of all that exists. Śāntarakṣita argues that if there is a singular, permanent, unobstructed cause of phenomena, then all phenomenal effects should exist at all times. There should be no periodic arising and ceasing of objects, since the cause of their existence would always be present and never change. If the cause of their existence never ceases, it would be illogical for the effects, the existent phenomena of the world, to ever cease, to be impermanent, or to only occasionally arise since the unchanging, unobstructed cause of such effects would always be present. But we know from direct experience that phenomena arise and cease over time. Thus, the existence of such an inherently singular and unchanging absolute cause of the phenomenal world is contradicted by our direct experience.

Śāntarakṣita then uses the neither-one-nor-many argument to critique the Vaibhāṣika assertion of three types of truly singular phenomena: uncompounded objects of wisdom known by the knowledge that arises in the meditative equipoise of a yogi, uncompounded space, and uncompounded infinitesimally small partless particles (stanzas 3–15). With regard to the first example, the object of wisdom of the meditative equipoise of a yogi could not be permanent and singular and also related to successive moments of consciousness, as Vaibhāṣikas claim, because successive moments of consciousness are changing and distinct. If the object of wisdom were enduring and related to multiple distinct moments of consciousness, then it could not be truly or inherently singular since there would be part related to moment number 1 of consciousness, part related to moment number 2 of consciousness, and so on.¹

1. Such objects of knowledge could even fall into the logical fallacy of being cognized out of temporal order if they are truly singular, since what is cognized in moment number 2 of consciousness would be the same as what is cognized in moment number 1 of consciousness and moment number 3 of consciousness. This is the case because if such an object of wisdom is inherently singular, it cannot have a relationship with different moments in time since that would entail the object having parts relating to distinct moments, thus undermining its true singularity.

Śāntarakṣita again uses a related line of reasoning to refute the existence of inherently singular and infinitesimally small partless particles that are asserted by the Vaibhāśika school to be the building blocks of gross phenomena (stanzas 11–15). Śāntarakṣita's examination begins by questioning precisely how inherently singular particles can combine with one another. The three exhaustive alternatives for ways of combining, according to Śāntarakṣita, are that the first particle has others joining it from various directions, surrounding it and touching, or surrounding it and not touching. Each of these alternatives requires that the central particle have others around it in various directions in order for them to combine into gross objects. Thus, there must be a particle above, one below, one to the east, one to the west, and so on. If they combine from various directions in this way, then the central particle must have a part facing above, a part facing below, a part facing to the east, and so on. And if that were the case, it could not be truly singular, due to the presence of parts. The only way truly singular partless particles could combine is to occupy the exact same inherently singular point in space—they must be directionally partless—and that would undermine the possibility of gross, spatially expansive objects such as books, chairs, land, and water, and so on. Therefore, there must be no inherently existent partless particles, and thus, partless particles must not be the building blocks of the gross phenomenal world.

Śāntarakṣita then (stanzas 16–21) introduces his analysis of the relationship between subjects, or consciousness, and objects by examining the topic of self-cognizing cognition (*svasaṃvedana, rang rig*).² This analysis of the Sautrāntika manner of accepting self-cognizing cognition begins by defining this self-cognizing or reflexively aware quality as the very nature of consciousness (stanza 16). Śāntarakṣita then critiques the Sautrāntika view of consciousness as self-cognizing, partless, and inherently singular and also distinct from external objects. Śāntarakṣita finds both assertions—the inherently unitary quality of the mind, and the externality of objects of consciousness—to be problematic. He argues that, if a consciousness that is self-cognizing is also truly singular, then the known (i.e. the consciousness), the act of knowing, and the known (i.e. the object of consciousness) must all truly be one. Even the known, the objects of consciousness that are said to be distinct from it, must be indistinct from consciousness, since consciousness is partless and they have a relationship with consciousness. That which is truly singular cannot be related with something from which it is distinct, because then it would be manifold, having parts related to that which is distinct from it. Maintaining such a position would therefore be illogical.

It holds something explicitly explained to be three (knower, knowing, and known), and determined to necessarily be manifold on analysis, to be one. And it demands a relationship of identity between that which is distinct from consciousness and consciousness itself. Śāntarakṣita, thus, is criticizing both the inherent singularity and the tenability of external objects in one sweeping argument.

Śāntarakṣita goes on (stanzas 22–34) to investigate and criticize the assertions of three different interpretations or subschools of Sautrāntika, which assert the true existence of aspects or representations (*akāra, mām pa*).³ described by his commentators as the Non-Pluralists, the Half-Eggists, and the Proponents of an Equal Number of Consciousnesses and Objects. The Sautrāntika Non-Pluralists claim that there is an inherently singular consciousness that recognizes a multiplicity of objects. Śāntarakṣita argues that this notion is absurd, since the unitary consciousness would have to have multiple parts related to the cognition of multiple real representations or images of objects like colors, shapes, and so on.⁴

The next opponent, the Sautrāntika Half-Eggists (24–30), are said to claim that they avoid the faults of the Non-Pluralists by asserting that though multiple representations or aspects of objects seem to appear simultaneously with consciousness, we are mistaken in that assumption because they in fact appear one by one in rapid succession. Thus, the singular consciousness actually only recognizes one representation or image at a time. For example, when we see a painting, we do not see all the colors at once, but rather see the blue image, then green, then red, and so on, but in such rapid succession that we think that we see a painting all at once. In response, Śāntarakṣita turns our attention from the visual consciousness to the aural consciousness and asks why aural cognitions do not seem to arise simultaneously as visual images do. He uses the example of two Sanskrit words: *latā* and *tāla*. If their aspects or aural representation appeared as rapidly as visual images are claimed to, then the two words would be indistinguishable since the syllables would be heard simultaneously.

Śāntarakṣita identifies an additional fallacy in stanzas 26 and 27. The opponent claims that consciousness is momentary like the representations it perceives, but also, inconsistently, that consciousness endures for some time. The assumption of duration is necessary in order to explain how

3. In order to clarify what is meant by *aspect, representation or image*, we can use the example of a red mug. One aspect of the mug would be its redness; another might be its shape, or its size. Each of these three subschools of Sautrāntika asserts that such images or aspects truly exist.

4. Moreover, Śāntarakṣita argues that external objects with multiple true aspects could not be established as actually existent by an inherently singular consciousness since being related to the multiple aspects or images of the objects by virtue of cognizing it would undermine the tenability of that consciousness being truly singular. Thus, Śāntarakṣita rejects both their assertion of the true singularity of consciousness and their assertion of the existence of external objects.

2. The term has also been translated as "reflexive awareness," "reflexive consciousness," "self-awareness," and "self-knowing consciousness," among many others. Each of these terms captures nuances of the meaning of this difficult technical term, and depending on context and specific usage, one may be more appropriate than the other.

consciousness pieces together, however erroneously, the distinct consecutive images or representations, and comes to the incorrect conclusion that they are perceived simultaneously. A momentary singular conceptual consciousness could not piece together such successive images.

The system of Sautrāntika Proponents of an Equal Number of Consciousnesses and Representations, who attempt to avoid these problems by claiming that as many truly singular minds arise as there are images or representations in their objects of perception, is the next view addressed by Śāntarakṣita (stanzas 31–34). The basic criticism leveled here is quite similar to the critique of partless particles. In order for there to be as many truly singular consciousnesses as there are representations of objects, the representations must be truly singular as well. If we take the example of a painting with multiple representations of various colors, the question arises as to where the truly singular representations are. If the patch of blue is taken to be truly singular, and so analogous to a representation that corresponds to a truly singular consciousness, then the patch of blue must not have parts, such as a part bordered by a red patch and another part bordered by a green patch. If it did, then by analogy, a consciousness apprehending such a representation would also have parts and would not be truly unitary.

Śāntarakṣita then continues his analysis of subjects, or consciousness, and their relation to objects of consciousness by briefly examining seven classical non-Buddhist Indian philosophical schools: Vaisesika, Naṭyāyika, Jain, Mimāṃsaka, Lokāyata, Saṃkhyā, and Vedānta (stanzas 35–40).⁵ Faults are found with each of the first six because each asserts, in varying ways, a truly singular consciousness that perceives objects that are manifold. Such an assertion is incoherent: if the objects of perception have parts, then the consciousness cognizing them also must have parts, since it is related to all the parts of its objects. A unitary consciousness is incompatible with a manifold object. Vedāntas argue that they avoid this difficulty because they deny the existence of external objects. Śāntarakṣita, however, still finds their claim of a conventional multiplicity of objects in the world that appear to consciousness contradicts their assertion of a nondual unitary consciousness.

The final third of the neither-one-nor-many argument addresses the claims of several subschools of Yogācāra/Cittamātra thought. The subschools are divided into Proponents of True Representations and Proponents of False Representations. The Proponents of True Representations are further divided into three subschools, corresponding to the three Sautrāntika subschools: the Non-Pluralists, the Half-Eggists, and the Proponents of an Equal Number of Consciousnesses and Objects. The primary difference between these schools and their Sautrāntika corollaries is that while Sautrāntikas assert that objects are external to consciousness, the Yogācārins claim that they are not truly distinct from the consciousness perceiving them. Śāntarakṣita begins (stanza 46) with a

general critique of Yogācāra tenets before addressing specific subschools in the following stanzas. He raises the question of how consciousness could be truly singular if, as Yogācārins claim, it exists in a nondual relationship with a multiplicity of objects and aspects of those objects. Either the consciousness does not have a truly unitary nature, due to its relationship with multiple aspects of objects, or those aspects are all identical, which contradicts direct perception.

Many of his criticisms of the three subschools of Yogācāra Proponents of True Representations are quite similar to those he leveled against the Sautrāntika Proponents of True Representations. In both cases, they hold that representations, like colors and shapes, do truly exist. According to Śāntarakṣita, if the Yogācāras hold these representations to truly exist, even if not separately from consciousness, the same kind of reasoning that refutes the Sautrāntikas would also apply to the Yogācāra Proponents of True Representations.

The refutation of Yogācāra Proponents of False Representations (stanzas 52–60) consists of eight *reductio ad absurdum* arguments. Śāntarakṣita begins by presenting their position (stanza 52) before moving into his eight redactions. According to Śāntarakṣita, the Proponents of False Representations claim to avoid the faults of their Yogācāra counterparts, who accept truly existent representations, because they say the singular consciousness does not actually apprehend a multiplicity of representations, since such representations are actually false.

An assortment of criticisms of this view arises in the eight redactions.

In the first, Śāntarakṣita questions how one could have a clear experience of the representations of an object if those representations do not actually exist.

Moreover, the second *reductio* relies on the claim that if representations of objects are false, and thus the red representation of a red mug does not exist, one could not correctly perceive that mug itself, which is absurd. It would not even be correct to call our perceived information “knowledge,” since it would merely correspond to things that do not exist. Furthermore, consciousness could not perceive representations at all if they were nonexistent, since nonexistent phenomena could not cause one to perceive. For these reasons, among others, Śāntarakṣita finds the views and positions of the Yogācāra Proponents of False Representations to be irreparably incoherent.

Since thorough analysis of his Buddhist and non-Buddhist opponents has revealed that no singular or unitary nature actually exists, and since a manifold nature would depend upon the aggregation of unitary natures, Śāntarakṣita concludes that there is no inherent nature in anything at all, since single and manifold natures are inclusive of all possibilities of inherent natures in phenomena.⁶

Representations are quite similar to those he leveled against the Sautrāntika Proponents of True Representations. In both cases, they hold that representations, like colors and shapes, do truly exist. According to Śāntarakṣita, if the Yogācāras hold these representations to truly exist, even if not separately from consciousness, the same kind of reasoning that refutes the Sautrāntikas would also apply to the Yogācāra Proponents of True Representations.

The refutation of Yogācāra Proponents of False Representations (stanzas 52–60) consists of eight *reductio ad absurdum* arguments. Śāntarakṣita begins by presenting their position (stanza 52) before moving into his eight redactions. According to Śāntarakṣita, the Proponents of False Representations claim to avoid the faults of their Yogācāra counterparts, who accept truly existent representations, because they say the singular consciousness does not actually apprehend a multiplicity of representations, since such representations are actually false.

An assortment of criticisms of this view arises in the eight redactions. In the first, Śāntarakṣita questions how one could have a clear experience of the representations of an object if those representations do not actually exist. Moreover, the second *reductio* relies on the claim that if representations of objects are false, and thus the red representation of a red mug does not exist, one could not correctly perceive that mug itself, which is absurd. It would not even be correct to call our perceived information “knowledge,” since it would merely correspond to things that do not exist. Furthermore, consciousness could not perceive representations at all if they were nonexistent, since nonexistent phenomena could not cause one to perceive. For these reasons, among others, Śāntarakṣita finds the views and positions of the Yogācāra Proponents of False Representations to be irreparably incoherent.

Since thorough analysis of his Buddhist and non-Buddhist opponents has revealed that no singular or unitary nature actually exists, and since a manifold nature would depend upon the aggregation of unitary natures, Śāntarakṣita concludes that there is no inherent nature in anything at all, since single and manifold natures are inclusive of all possibilities of inherent natures in phenomena.⁶

6. The subject headings in square brackets have been inserted to help facilitate an easier reading of the text. They are not part of Śāntarakṣita's original. This translation is a revised version of selections from Blumenthal 2004, which includes complete translations and a detailed study of Śāntarakṣita's *Ornament of the Middle Way* and Gyālisab's *Remembering "The Ornament of the Middle Way."* I thank Snow Lion Publications for permission to reprint portions of this book.

Later Mādhyamikas on Epistemology and Meditation

Yuichi Kajiyama

The later Indian Mādhyamika school or the Yogācāra-mādhyamika, represented by Śāntarakṣita and Kamalaśila, may be characterized in two ways: as a philosophy, it is syncretic; as a religion, it teaches gradual enlightenment. The merit of the school lies in combining these two characteristics.

The major schools of Indian Buddhist philosophy came to completion by the fifth century A.D. Up to that time, the philosophical tradition of Hinayāna had continued to be maintained in a perfectly systematized form by the Sarvāstivādin. It had, however, been epistemologically more developed by the representation theory of the Sautrāntika. The Mādhyamika, the earliest Mahāyāna school, founded by Nāgārjuna, had continued to flourish in the fifth century, while the subtlest philosophy of radical idealism, developed by the other Mahāyāna school, the Yogācāra, was given its final touch by Vasubandhu in the fifth century. Until its very end in the twelfth century, Indian Buddhism was represented by these four schools.

Soon after Vasubandhu, the Sautrāntika and the Yogācāra philosophies were synthesized by Dignāga (sixth century A.D.)

and Dharmakīrti (seventh century A.D.), who both believed that these two schools shared the same spirit of criticizing Sarvāstivāda realism. Thus, Dharmakīrti carried on the systematizing of a new school, sometimes called Sautrāntika-yogācāra. The other form of syncretism, with which we are now mainly concerned, appeared in the eighth century. Śāntarakṣita and his student, Kamalaśila, incorporated Yogācāra doctrines and practices into the Mādhyamika system. This new school was called Yogācāra-mādhyamika.

The theory and practice of gradual enlightenment, the other characteristic of the later Mādhyamika Buddhism, may be best illustrated by a historical event which took place in Tibet around 791 A.D. Tibet was then in a period in which it was greatly influenced by Chinese and Indian cultures, among which was early Chinese Zen Buddhism. During the eighth century in Tibet, a Chinese Zen monk called Hva-shan (Mahāyāna) was propounding the theory of sudden enlightenment which maintained that one can attain perfect emancipation instantaneously by means of mystic intuition and without the accumulation of learning, moral merits, and gradual training in meditation. The contemporary Tibetan king, Khri-song sde-tsang, invited Śāntarakṣita, and later Kamalaśila, to come from India to Tibet. As a result of the Indian acceptance of this imperial invitation, Kamalaśila, representing the Indian theory of gradual enlightenment, had a public debate with Hva-shan in the monastery of Sam-ye. Kamalaśila won the debate, causing the waning within Tibet of influences of Chinese Zen in particular, and Chinese culture in general.¹ In the debate, Kamalaśila argued that a bodhisattva can attain the highest enlightenment only by combining compassion (*karuṇā*), means of approach (*upāya*), and wisdom (*prajñā*), and that it will not occur all of a sudden without a preceding and prolonged training. Closely interrelated with one another, the three ideas of *karuṇā*, *upāya*, and *prajñā* show the way in which an Indian Buddhist trained himself.² Compassion in Buddhist terminology does not mean only sympathy or benevolence, but more importantly stresses the

bodhisattva's ideal of saving all sentient beings; he vows to remain in the world of misery until the last living being is emancipated by his teaching, even though he has already attained to enlightenment and is thereby able to pass into nirvāna at any time he wishes. Compassion, however, prevents a bodhisattva from being satisfied with lesser types of enlightenment with which he could save only a limited number of people. Instead, compassion urges him on to pursue unstintingly an ever-higher enlightenment. Naturally, this pursuit presupposes the spirit of a discerning attitude, by which he discriminates between the lower and higher doctrines of emancipation. This, in its turn, leads to the idea of the stages of Buddhist training, in which a bodhisattva climbs, criticizing and transcending a lower enlightenment in order to reach a higher one. This process of gradual progress is none other than the development of *upāya*, the means of approach.

Critical examination of all religious and philosophical doctrines, Buddhist and non-Buddhist alike, is referred to also by the term *cintāmayaī prajñā*, or wisdom gained by investigation. This is the second of the three kinds of wisdom which have been taught since the time of early Buddhism, the first and the third being *śrutamayaī prajñā* (wisdom gained by learning) and *bhāvanāmayaī prajñā* (wisdom gained by meditation). The three kinds of wisdom, moreover, form the steps of Buddhist practice. Investigation, as the second step, can accommodate the critical spirit of the Mahāyana and, therefore, the theory of the threefold wisdom is as much favored by later Mahāyāna as by the Hīnayāna. Investigation is carried on in two ways: according to the authority of scripture (*agama*), and according to reasoning (*yukt*). This idea of investigation came to be modified by Mahāyāna into a more elaborate theory called the "four kinds of reliance" (*caturh-pratisarana*). A Buddhist student has to rely on the teaching (dharma), but not on a person, i.e., the personality of a teacher; on meaning (*arthā*), but not on letters (*vyanjana*); on a sūtra teaching explicitly what it aims at (*nītārtha*), but not on a sūtra the teaching of which implies a hidden intention

(*neyārtha*); and on penetrating knowledge (*ūnāna*), but not on ordinary cognition (*vijñāna*).³

In the days of Śāntarakṣita, when all Indian Buddhist philosophical systems had already appeared, a Buddhist student was usually confronted with the problems of which of the four powerful philosophical schools of Buddhism he should choose to follow and how he could create a system in which the four schools would be arranged in the proper order of merit. An important aspect of this tendency was that lower doctrines were not simply rejected, but admitted as steps leading to understanding of the highest one.

Śāntarakṣita begins his *Madhyamakālamkāra* by declaring that entities accepted as real and promulgated by Buddhist and non-Buddhist philosophical schools have in reality no intrinsic nature (*svabhāva*), and are like a reflection, because they are possessed of neither a unitary nor a plural nature, and because apart from these two kinds of natures there is no other one. What is devoid of an intrinsic nature is nonexistent (cf. v. 1).⁴

Next, he proceeds critically to analyze the following: atman, which is said to be permanent and unitary; nirvāṇa which the Sarvāstivāda Buddhist regards as an unconditioned (*asamskrta*), unitary reality; *pudgala*, which the Vatsiputriya Buddhist maintains to be an undefinable self neither identified with nor different from the five components of individuality (*skandha*); ether (*ākāsa*) which the Vaiśeṣika and Naiyāyika hold to be a unitary and all-pervading (*vyāpin*) reality; a gross entity called "whole," (*avayavī*) which the same schools consider to be a reality inherent in a gross thing, say a jar, while different from all its parts; atoms (*paramāṇu*) which are not only found in many non-Buddhist schools, but also are accepted by both the Sarvāstivāda and Sautrāntika Buddhists, who maintain them to be the minimum, indivisible units of matter; and so forth. Śāntarakṣita points out that these so-called "real entities" turn out, on examination, to have neither a unitary nor plural nature, and that they are therefore nonexistent (cf. vv. 2-13). We shall

not be concerned here with details of his arguments against the existence of these entities but will rather refer briefly to some of his criticisms which have direct bearing on our main subject.

Permanent entities such as *ātman*, *pradhāna* (primordial matter which the Sāṃkhya asserts to be the world-cause), and *nirvāṇa* as it is maintained by the Sarvāstivādin, can be all repudiated also from the point of view of causal efficiency (*arthakriyā*), besides which they are pursued by the logic of the dichotomy of unity and plurality. Since Dharmakīrti, it has been an established truth that the criterion of existence is causal efficiency. What is permanent and unchangeable is incapable of action (i.e., has no causal efficiency) and, therefore, it is not existent (cf. v. 8).

The Sarvāstivādin regards *pratisamkhyānirodha* (cessation obtained by thorough knowledge) or *nirvāṇa* as an unconditioned, unitary reality which permanently exists independently of cognition grasping it, but which, however, can be intuitively known by the true wisdom a yogin acquires through meditation practice. Śāntarakṣita, however, contends that *nirvāṇa* cannot be single, insofar as it is related to the flux of successively arising momentary cognitions. If the nature of *nirvāṇa*, which has been known by an intuitive cognition, continues to exist even when another intuitive cognition occurs following the former, then these two cognitions, having the same object, would not be distinguishable from each other. On the contrary, if one and the same nature of *nirvāṇa* is not known by these two successive cognitions, *nirvāṇa* would be as much momentary as ordinary cognition. How then could it be called an unconditioned entity, which is to say, a permanent, unchangeable entity? (cf. vv. 3–5).

As for the view regarding atoms as unitary, minimum units of matter, there are various theories about the way in which atoms are united together to form a gross body. Some say that they are in contact with one another; some say that they are gathered together with intervals remaining between them; others say that they are in close contiguity, there being

neither contact nor intervals between them. Irrespective of the way in which atoms are gathered together, Śāntarakṣita argues, the existence of atoms cannot be established. When an atom is surrounded by other atoms in the ten directions, is the atom in the center of a unitary nature or of a plural nature? If it faces the atom in the front by the single nature, at the same time facing the other nine atoms by the same nature, then all the ten atoms would occupy one and the same spot (i.e., the front spot). Resulting from this view, a gross thing such as a mountain would be reduced to the size of one atom, which is ridiculous. If the opponent wishes to avoid this absurdity, saying that the atom in the center faces the ten surrounding atoms by its ten natures (i.e., its ten segments), then the atom would have a plural nature (or many segments). Thus, the unity of the nature of an atom as well as its indivisibility would not stand careful scrutiny. This view goes against the idea of the atom which considers it as the minimum unit of matter (cf. vv. 11–13).⁵

All substances and ultimate factors which opponent schools claim to be unitary, noncomposite realities are, by critical scrutiny, seen to be plural in nature. Since unity forms the very essence of the idea of ultimate realities, the opponents are not in a position to admit their plurality or compositeness. As a result, ultimate realities prove to be neither unitary nor plural in nature, which means that they are not existent at all. Many of Śāntarakṣita's arguments are based upon those made by preceding Yogācāra philosophers, especially Vasubandhu and Dharmakīrti.

The Sarvāstivādin maintains the eighteen cognitive categories (*astādasāśadhatu*, or six organs of cognition, six kinds of objects, and six kinds of consciousness) as rigorously comprehending all phenomena. Śāntarakṣita criticizes the Sarvāstivādin position, saying that if atoms do not exist, ten out of the eighteen categories are condemned to be nonexistent, because the five sense organs and the five kinds of external objects are said by the Sarvāstivādin to consist of atoms. If they are nonexistent, the other eight (mental faculty, its ob-

jects or ideas, and six kinds of consciousness) are also unreal, since their reality is recognized only in relation to the foregoing ten categories. Thus, all their preferred realities do not withstand the scrutiny of the Mādhyamika (cf. vv. 14–15).

Now, Śāntarakṣita classifies philosophical systems under two groups: one is dualism (*dvaya-naya*) in which the grasping (*grāhaka*, cognition) and the grasped (*grāhya*, cognitum) or mind and matter, respectively, are both admitted to be real. This categorization includes the Sarvāstivāda and Sautrāntika philosophies. The other group is nondualism (*advaya-naya*) represented by the Yogacāra philosophy which maintains the existence of mind only. Śāntarakṣita further subdivides dualism into the theory of cognition without images (*anākārajñānavāda*) as is maintained by the Sarvāstivāda, and that of cognition with images as is represented by the Sautrāntika.⁶

The principle of the Sarvāstivāda philosophy is an analysis of a whole into its constituents. It maintains that only elemental factors are real, whereas a whole composed of those factors is unreal. For example, individual trees which constitute a forest are alone real, while the forest is not. In the same way, the world as it is cognized by us is dissected into three factors, viz., consciousness, cognitive faculty, and object of cognition. An ultimate reality is an elemental factor which possesses one particular nature and function. It never has two or more natures and functions; if so, it could be further divided. Thus, consciousness only illuminates; the cognitive organ merely perceives; and the object, having its form, is merely cognized. The Sarvāstivādin is led to the conclusion that consciousness is pure illumination and that, like a clean crystal, it does not undergo any morphological transformation, that is to say, it does not contain an image or representation when it cognizes an external object.⁷ The form of a cognition belongs not to consciousness, but to an external object. If we cognize a book, for example, the book is seen as having the form of a book, our visual faculty sees it, and our consciousness illuminates or understands. In the terminology

of Indian philosophy, this kind of theory is called *anākāra-jñānavāda*, or a theory that knowledge is not endowed with an image.

What is contrary to this is the Sautrāntika theory that knowledge is endowed with the image of its object. This is called *sākārajñānavāda*. The Sautrāntika admits the existence of the external world, but, he says, it is not perceptible. Its existence is postulated or inferred since, when a cognition takes place, there must be something external that causes or stimulates the cognition. An external object, as a cause, throws its form into our consciousness or knowledge, which is the effect. What knowledge knows is the image of the object, or a representation in our mind itself. When we see a book, what we are actually seeing as the book is in reality the representation in our own mind, since the book external to us is never seen, remaining always as "something." The reason the Sautrāntika believes in the existence of an imperceptible external world is that unless something is externally existent, we cannot explain why a particular cognition occurs only at a particular place and time, and not always and everywhere. To the Sautrāntika, what determines a cognition in nature, space, and time is an external reality.

When examining the Sarvāstivāda's *anākārajñānavāda*, Śāntarakṣita points out the essential difference between knowledge and matter. Matter, being insentient and unconscious, requires something else—a sentient being having consciousness—in order to be known. On the other hand, knowledge is a quality of consciousness and does not depend on other things for its manifestation, but is illuminated by its own self, being likened unto a lamp. Moreover, the self-illuminating function of knowledge is not construed as a relation of the agent and its action, since there are in reality no parts such as cognizer, cognition, and cognition in knowledge. Thus, cognition is not that which occurs from the interaction of two or three different things, but rather is of itself self-cognition (*svasamvedana*). If, as the Sarvāstivādin says, consciousness has no image of its object, how can a

material object be known? Since matter is totally different in nature from consciousness, the Sarvāstivādin can establish no relation whatsoever between the two. Besides, if consciousness always remains the selfsame amorphous state when it recognizes various objects, how can we distinguish between the cognition of a blue object and that of a yellow one? (cf. vv. 16–17).⁸

To give a decisive blow to the *anākārajñānavāda*, Śāntarakṣita refers to the *sākārajñānavāda*, which, he thinks, surpasses the former in merit. According to the latter theory, the cognition of an external object, as a cause, throws its image into knowing. This image, as an effect, is part and parcel of knowing. The image, which belongs to knowing, is recognized by the same knowledge. Thus, what is figuratively called the cognition of an external object is none other than the self-cognition of knowledge (cf. vv. 20–21).⁹

With regard to the Sautrāntika theory of *sākārajñāna*, however, Śāntarakṣita sets forth a question. Whereas it is an established fact that knowledge is a unitary, incomposite modality, and the image thrown into it by an external reality is always manifold like a varicolored picture, how can the Sautrāntika claim an identical relationship between the unitary knowledge and the plural image? (cf. vv. 22–23).¹⁰ Without proving the case for making such an identity, he cannot assert that the image is recognized by knowledge. Śāntarakṣita insists that since knowledge is unitary, an image in it cannot be plural in nature, which contradicts our experience, and that if an image is variegated, knowledge cannot be unitary, which is again not the case.

Regarding this difficult problem, opponents of Śāntarakṣita, including the Sarvāstivādin and Sautrāntika, try to solve the contradiction by resorting to similes. Their arguments can be outlined as follows. When a needle rapidly penetrates many petals of a lotus flower, it seems to have done so at once, although in actuality it has pierced one petal after another in succession. A torch that is whirled quickly gives rise to the untrue conception (*bhrānti*) of a circle of fire

(cf. v. 24).¹¹ In the same way, no matter how variegated an image may be, we nonetheless come to have the wrong conception of a single image because its parts are seen in quick succession. Śāntarakṣita, however, makes his opponent silent by citing contrary examples. Even if the words *lata* and *tālah* or *sarah* and *rasah* are pronounced in quick succession, they are heard separately and distinctly without being heard simultaneously and understood confusedly in meaning (cf. v. 25).¹² Purely conceptual cognitions not accompanied by perceptions occur in rapid succession, each lasting only for a moment. Why do they not form one unitary cognition if a rapid succession gives the wrong concept of simultaneity?¹³ The same thing can be said of all cognitions (cf. v. 26).¹⁴ The examples of a whirled torch and needled lotus petals are not warrantable either. The erroneous cognition of a circle of fire is not a creation of memory joining together the past perceptions, because the circle is seen very clearly, whereas the object of memory cannot be seen clearly. Therefore, the error is made not by conceptual cognition or memory but by the sense organ which has been confused by the quick succession of objects. In the case of needled lotus petals, the wise will easily determine that they are pierced not simultaneously but successively, just as many copper plates can only be pierced one after another. Thus, the opponents should not say that a quick succession of perceptions gives birth to the wrong conception (*vikalpa*) of a single perception (cf. vv. 27–30).¹⁵

Some of the Sautrāntikas contend that just as different kinds of perceptions—visual, auditory, and so forth—occur at the same time, even many of the same kind of perceptions can occur simultaneously. That is to say, while we see a picture, as many visual perceptions as there are colors in the picture (e.g., blue, white, red) arise at once. Each perception, having a part of the varicolored picture as its object, manifests a single image, and many perceptions occurring simultaneously form the whole of the varicolored picture. Thus, there is no incompatibility between the plurality of the image and the unity of the cognition (cf. v. 31).¹⁶

Śāntarakṣita argues against them as follows. If you once begin to divide an image into components of white, blue, and so forth, then you have to continue to divide even the part of white into many sections until you reach the minimum units, which are nothing less than atoms. But atoms are perceived by none of us (cf. vv. 32–33).¹⁶ The Sautrāntika cannot elude this difficulty, because he himself has an established theory that the five kinds of sense cognition have aggregates (of atoms) as their object.¹⁷ The sixth, or mental cognition (*manovijñāna*) cognizes feeling (*vedanā*), ideation (*samjnā*), or volition (*samskāra*) always together with consciousness (*citta*); as the result, a mental cognition is also plural in nature (cf. v. 34). After all, the Sautrāntika cannot solve the problem of the incompatibility between the singleness of cognition and the plurality of its image.

The Yogācārin, a radical idealist, asserts that the Sautrāntika postulation of an external reality is an unnecessary complication. We can explain cognition without supposing the existence of matter. Just as some cognitions appear to us in a dream without there being any external things causing those cognitions, so latent impressions (*vāsanā*) accumulated in our mind since the beginningless past, when they ripen, can give rise to representations in our knowledge. What we usually consider as an external object is in reality none other than an image in knowledge. Mind perceives its own image, which is caused not by an external reality, as the Sautrāntika holds, but by the preceding moments of mind. However, the Yogācārin's epistemology is not very different from the Sautrāntika doctrine of *sākāra-jñāna*, except that the former does not postulate the imperceptible external reality, preferring instead the doctrine of the preceding moments of mind.

Śāntarakṣita greatly appreciates the Yogācāra doctrine as based both on scripture and reasoning.¹⁸ Candidly, he admits that he himself owes many of his arguments to the Yogācārins. This opinion seems to be one of the reasons he is called a Yogācāra-mādhyamika. So long as he argues against both non-Buddhist and Buddhist dualists, Śāntarakṣita freely

employs Yogacāra theories. However, he is not completely satisfied with the Yogācāra standpoint of philosophy. Śāntarakṣita asks: Is an image or representation in mind real or not? If this image is real and true, the Yogācārin cannot escape the same dilemma into which the Sautrāntika has fallen, which is to say, he is confronted by the problem of how unitary knowledge can have a variegated image which is plural in nature as its perceptual object (cf. v. 46).

Whether an image in mind is real or not is a decisive problem which caused a schism in the Yogācāra school. One group, named Satyākāravādin ("one who asserts images to be true"; also called Sākāravādin), claimed that an image is as real and true as the essence of knowledge or the two are inseparable on the grounds that an absolutely unreal image cannot come into existence. The other group, named Alīkāravādin ("one who asserts images to be false"; also called Anākāravādin), dividing cognition into essential and subordinate parts, held that what is absolutely real is only the illuminating function (*prakāśamātra*) that is the essence of cognition; moreover, an image illuminated by it is a false fiction which disappears when one is enlightened. For example, we need only but consider the case in which a cognition is erroneously produced when we look at a shell on the beach and mistake it for silver, and then our mistake is sublated a moment later by a correct image of the shell coming to mind. An image in a dream is cancelled when one awakes. If an image can be negated by another, we must reason that the image must be in general untrue. The illuminating function of cognition, on the other hand, is never contradicted by any other thing, because it always remains the same illumination whether images illuminated by it are cancelled or not.

Ratnākaraśānti (eleventh century A.D.), who is a later exponent of this theory, further argues that if all images are essential to cognition and are as true as the pure illumination, all people cognizing real images become, as a result, Buddhas, and that no distinction between enlightened and deluded persons would be possible.¹⁹ The Satyākāravādin, like Jñāna-

śrīmitra (eleventh century A.D.), contends that a deluded person always interprets an image by conceptual thinking (*adhyavasāya = vikalpa*), whereas an enlightened one is bereft of concepts which are the cause of erroneous cognition; and that, therefore, a discrimination can be made between a Buddha and an ordinary man despite the fact that both have images in common.²⁰

To return to Śāntarakṣita's criticism of the Satyākārvāda-yogācārin, he questions whether images caused by the ripening of latent impressions in mind are as much real as the essence of cognition. The Yogācārin is also driven to a dilemma in which he has to admit either the plurality of cognition or the unity of the image. Suppose that cognition and an image are inseparable; if the image is not manifold, movement in one part of the world of cognition would cause the whole world to move, and yellow in one part would dye all the rest yellow (cf. v. 47). If the Yogācārin tries to escape this absurdity, he has to contradict the unity of cognition by confessing the manifoldness of its image, which is inseparable from the essence of cognition. Since either case involves incompatibility, we should conclude that cognition and its image are separate and distinct things (cf. v. 46).

Some of the Satyākārvādins contend, as the Sautrāntikas have done, that many of the same kind of perceptions, which are images, can occur at one and the same time, just as different kinds of cognitions arise simultaneously. And since many cognitions, each of which has one image, occur at once, the manifoldness of the image is explained without contradicting the singleness of cognition.²¹

Śāntarakṣita, however, points out that their theory is contrary to canonical traditions. One sūtra says that it is impossible for two minds to occur simultaneously;²² another sūtra, that every sentient being is but one stream of cognition. The opponent may contend that these passages refer to the *ālayavijñāna* (basic consciousness) which exists singly in each sentient being, but not to ordinary cognitions (*pravṛttivijñāna*), two or more of which can arise simultaneously. Śān-

taraksīta says that the Yogācārin cannot refer to the *ālāyavijñāna* as a single entity because, according to his own tradition, it manifests itself as a body with cognitive organs, their objects, and environments.²³ Moreover, Dharmakīrti, the most revered master of Yogācāra philosophy, says that cognitions of the same kind, such as two visual perceptions or two concepts, never arise together, although different kinds of cognitions may occur simultaneously.²⁴ And, finally, the opponent should not have recourse to a random argumentation disregarding his own tradition.²⁵

Regarding the sūtra passage, however, the Yogācārin proposes another interpretation. The word "one" in the passage can be synonymous with "mere" or "only" without meaning a numeral. Hence, what the passage intends to say is that every sentient being consists of mind only, being bereft of a soul (*ātman*) and those things which belong to it (*ātmiya*), or being bereft of the dichotomy of the grasping and the grasped (*grāhaka, grāhya*). With the passage being so understood, there is no incompatibility in the *ālayavijñāna* manifesting itself as various forms, since no idea of "one-mind" which may contradict variety is found there.²⁶

Against this improved interpretation, Śāntarakṣita demonstrates a unique critique which has added much to his credit. If knowledge were admitted by the Satyākārvādin to consist of parts as many as the number of its variegated forms, then it would be difficult for him to avert the same kind of criticism which is made regarding the reality of atoms (cf. v. 49). A dilemma ensues from the idea of atoms: an atom, if it is combined with other atoms situated around it by its many natures (or segments), presupposes its being many-natured (or many-sided), which contradicts the idea of atom as a unitary entity. On the contrary, if an atom has only one nature (or does not have many segments), a number of atoms collected together would occupy one and the same spot, which would reduce a gross thing to the size of an atom (cf. note 5). In the Yogācārin's argument, many images in knowledge must be further divided until they finally become cognitive atoms, the

idea of which necessarily faces exactly the same dilemma as material atoms. The Yogācārin, who maintains the reality of images, cannot contend that cognition is bodiless (*amūrtta*) and that, therefore, a criticism directed to material bodies should not be applied to cognition. Since the Yogācārin recognizes the reality of cognition alone, a cognition which appears having extended images is not different from a bodily thing.²⁷

Having refuted the Satyākaravāda-yogācārin, Śāntarakṣita deals next with the Alikākāravāda-yogācārin's theory. According to the latter, in the highest truth (*paramārtha*) cognition is, like a clean crystal, not stained by images;²⁸ images are manifested erroneously by the force of the ripening of perverted latent impressions accumulated in the mind, just as visions of a horse and an elephant are conjured up from a lump of clay by uttering a magical formula (cf. v. 52). Since an image is an unreal or false manifestation, this school seems to succeed in freeing itself from the incompatibility between a unitary cognition and a plural image.

Śāntarakṣita, however, puts forward a question. If images are unreal, how can they be perceived so clearly as experienced by us? In other words, how does one explain the fact that aside from images, we do not perceive illuminating cognition alone (cf. v. 53)? Where there is no object, we do not obtain its cognition. An unreal image neither has the nature of knowledge nor the efficiency to cause knowledge endowed with its image, and is like a flower in the sky and the horns of a horse (cf. vv. 55–56). Thus, the Alikākāravādin's assertion that unreal images are manifested is simply untenable. Furthermore, we do not find any relation which connects the real but unmanifested illumination of cognition and the unreal but manifested images. If the relation of identity (*svabhāva*) is admitted, it would follow that the image is as real as the illumination of cognition, or that the illumination is unreal as much as the image. Nor is a causal relation (*tadutpatti*) possible between the two, because this relation presupposes difference in time of a cause and its effect,

whereas the illumination and the image occur simultaneously (cf. v. 57). If an image has no cause, it is difficult to explain why it is only manifested from time to time, and not continuously. But if it has a cause, then it is as real as the *ālayavijñāna* which also has the nature depending on its cause or its preceding moments (*paratantrasvabhāva*). The image appearing because of latent impressions is not entirely unreal, just as a white shell will appear as yellow to one who suffers from jaundice, in which case the perceived shell is not totally unreal (cf. v. 60).

Neither the Satyākaravāda- nor the Alikākāravāda-yogācārin has been able to explain the reason a unitary cognition appears with a plural image. Having scrutinized the so-called realities proposed by the Sarvāstivādin, Saṃvatrāṇīka, and Yogācārin by means of the dichotomy of unity and plurality, Śāntarakṣita declares that everything, mental as well as material, turns out on examination to have neither a unitary nor a plural nature, and that no entity is real in the sense of the highest truth, though its existence may be admitted in the sense of conventional truth (*saṃvṛti*) (cf. vv. 62–63).

An opponent raises a question. If everything is empty of an intrinsic nature, would not even unwise people understand the truth, as they easily know the absence of a jar from a particular place? Śāntarakṣita answers: Because they are deluded by their wrong habit of imagining things as real, they cannot understand the truth by perception, just as they do not perceive that everything is in actuality perishing at every moment (*kṣanikatva*). The truth of emptiness, therefore, is to be understood through inference based on sound probans by those who have shaken off false imagination, unless they are yogins who, being endowed with supernormal insight, can grasp the truth by perception (cf. vv. 73–75).

The opponent further contends that if everything is empty of an intrinsic nature, a syllogism, its component members, and its verbal expression are not established. Unless Śāntarakṣita states a proof for his thesis of emptiness, the thesis remains unproved; but if such a proof is stated, then his

assertion that everything is nonexistent fails, since the proof least must be existent.

To this objection, Śāntarakṣita replies as follows: Insofar as logic is concerned, he does not have recourse to a particular doctrine of his own school, but he uses terms as they are generally understood by the wise and the unwise equally. An inference must be manipulated in the domain of ordinary verbal usage (*vyavahāra*), otherwise two parties engaged in discussion would not have a common ground of discourse. Logic is demonstrated and has its effect in the world of practical knowledge, and the Mādhyamika does not deny the practical function of logic if he knows that probans and probandum are not existent in the sense of the highest truth (cf. vv. 76–77).

The question of the incompatibility between universal emptiness and its demonstration by logic and words is an old one which all Mādhyamikas since Nāgārjuna have met with.²⁹ Another traditional criticism of the philosophy of emptiness is that the Mādhyamika, in denying everything, is identical with a nihilist (*nāstika*) who denies causality, both moral and physical.

Śāntarakṣita briefly but persuasively argues against the criticism. Although everything is in reality free from the manifold fiction of human ideas (*prapañca*), unwise people are attached to both imagined existence and nonexistence. This fact itself makes us infer that in the minds of people there are seeds or latent impressions accumulated by the succession of deeds and rebirths occurring since the beginningless past, and that it is those seeds, and not external things, which cause ideas and images of both an existent and a nonexistent to appear. As is known to us all, ideas arise not at once, but in succession. This fact is contrary to the nihilist opinion that things occur without cause as much as it is against the metaphysical opinion that there is a permanent cause of the world such as *iśvara* (god) or *pradhāna* (the world-cause of the Sāṃkhya), because things arising gradually cannot be produced accidentally without causes, nor have they a permanent, self-identical cause. The existence of such

seeds postulates our past and future lives. Therefore, the Mādhyamika, unlike nihilists and those who maintain the existence of an ultimate cause, can establish causal relation by logic in the domain of conventional truth. The possibility of emancipation by means of insight into emptiness is proved by the Mādhyamika (cf. vv. 79–83).

With regard to moral and physical entities established in the sense of conventional truth by the Mādhyamika, it is asked if they are to be considered as ideas or as external realities. Śāntarakṣita on this occasion introduces the interpretative positions of two divisions of the Mādhyamika. The one group, whom Kamalaśila, the commentator on the *Mādhyamakālamkārvṛtti*, explains as followers of Bhāvaveka, maintains that the Buddhas have taught the theory of mind-only to repudiate the existence of a soul which is conjured up by non-Buddhist philosophers as the subject of actions (*kartṛ*) and the enjoyer of their fruits (*bhoktṛ*). This opinion of the one group of Mādhyamikas is tantamount to saying that external things can be as real as mind insofar as conventional truth is concerned, although the soul must be denied. Therefore, this group of Mādhyamikas is closer to a Buddhist dualist, in this case, to the Saṃvatrāntika, in admitting the existence of an external reality in the sense of conventional truth.

The other group is in favor of Yogācāra doctrine, arguing that an object of cognition is not an external reality, and that the Saṃvatrāntika postulation of the external world as the cause which bestows an image into mind is untenable. They follow the Yogācārin who has replaced such an external reality by the immediately preceding moment of mind containing an impression or seed as the cause of the image of the present moment of mind; furthermore, they think that sutras such as the *Samdhinirmocana*, the fundamental scripture of Yogācāra philosophy, must be relied on by the Mādhyamika, too. This group of Mādhyamikas wishes to interpret the world of conventional truth according to the Yogācāra idealism (cf. vv. 91–93).³⁰

Even the standpoint of Yogācāra philosophy, however,

must be transcended by people with deeper insight when the highest truth is in question. It is necessary for them to examine the doctrine of mind-only by the logic of unity and plurality in order to know the unreality of mind from the view of the highest truth.

Śāntarakṣita summarizes the process of his investigation of Buddhist philosophies in verse:

Based on [the standpoint of] mind-only, one must know the nonexistence of external entities; based on this [standpoint of emptiness], one must know that an intrinsic nature (*svabhāva*) is really lacking even in mind. (v. 92)

The three stages of epistemological investigation counted in this verse can be increased to five when the whole process of the foregoing discussions is taken into account: (1) the Sarvāstivāda stage, in which external realities are recognized as much as mental ones; (2) the Sautrāntika stage, in which mental images are regarded as objects of cognition and the external world is reduced to the imperceptible cause of cognition; (3) the Satyākārvāda-yogācāra philosophy, which, replacing the external world by impressions in mind, asserts that the image in mind is as real as the illumination of mind; (4) the Alkākārvāda-yogācāra epistemology, which admits the reality of the illumination of mind alone, rejecting images as false; (5) the Mādhyamika theory of emptiness, which denies even the existence of the illumination of mind.

Śāntarakṣita traces his own theory back to the following two verses of Nāgārjuna:

Here nothing is produced, nothing is annihilated either; appearance and disappearance take place only in our knowledge. The four material elements (*mahābhūta*) taught [by philosophers] are in fact reduced to cognition. If seen from [a standpoint in which] cognition is shaken off, is it not true that it [or cognition] is human imagination too?³¹

A talented disciple of Śāntarakṣita, Kamalaśīla, who spent the latter half of his life in Tibet, wrote three *Bhāvanā-*

kramas, in which he gave a succinct summarization of the philosophy and meditation practice of his teacher. The following is a translation of some important portions of the first *Bhāvanākrama*, together with interpretations.

... Or one should examine [various theories] by reasoning (*yukti*) in the following way. All existent things are either material or mental. Of these, material things, such as a jar, have no single nature since they are characterized as being [composed of] different [particles when examined] in view of atoms. But it is neither possible that they, being a collection of many atoms, are of a plural nature, for atoms surrounding [an atom in the center] in the front, in the back, and so forth, must be necessarily divided into many sides like the front, the back, and so on, and cease to be atoms [since they lose indivisibility as the essential nature of an atom]. Apart from a single and plural nature, there is no other which can be called the intrinsic nature of a thing. Therefore, seen from the standpoint of the highest truth, these material things are empty of any intrinsic nature just like things seen in a dream and other [illusory cognitions] [p. 202, 1.12, to p. 203, 1.2] ...

Mental things also, when examined in the same way, prove to be empty of any intrinsic nature. For the fact that external things such as blue are nonexistent leads us necessarily to admit that the mental groups, beginning with cognition, are manifested in the forms of a blue thing, etc. [p. 203, 1.6-10] ...

Then, these [mentals] cannot be of a single nature because they appear with various images such as blue, etc., or with the dichotomized images of subject and object. Since unity and plurality are incompatible, [a mental] which is single cannot have a plural image. And when a nature of unity is not established, a nature of plurality cannot possibly be [ascribed to the mental], for plurality means the collection of single entities. Or one may suppose that all these images of color-form, and so on, appear in it [i.e., in mind], although they are actually unreal (*alikā*). If so, however, cognition itself would be judged as unreal, because cognition is not separated from the nature of these [images]. Aside from the nature of the [images] manifested from [cognition] itself, no other nature of cognition is to

be found. And color-form, and so on, are not manifested by themselves [since they do not exist as separate things from cognition]. When these things which by nature belong to cognition are unreal, we must admit that all cognitions are unreal as well. This is the reason why the Blessed One taught that cognition is like illusion.

Thus it is concluded that everything in the world is unreal as seen from the standpoint of the highest truth, because every thing is empty of an intrinsic nature, either unitary or plural. [p. 203, 1.12, to p. 204, 1.3]

It is obvious that Kamalaśīla, following Śāntarakṣita, criticizes Bahirarthaśādins (those who admit the existence of external things) or the Sarvāstivādin and the Saṃvṛtiṇika on the one hand, and the Yogācārin on the other. It is also clear that the Yogacārin is classified into Satyakāravādin and Alikāravādin. While arguing in this way, Kamalaśīla cites many verses from the *Lankāvatāra-sūtra* as an authority, a reliance on which he shares with Śāntarakṣita and Ratnākaraśanti. It seems that this sūtra, which was compiled after the establishment of basic Yogacāra doctrines and which was written with an intention to synthesize Mādhyamika and Yogacāra doctrines, suggested to later Mādhyamika philosophers a method whereby to accord a proper rank to each of the Buddhist philosophical systems.

Śāntarakṣita, in writing the *Madhyamakālambāravitti*, did not say much about meditation practice, because the work was primarily concerned with philosophical viewpoints. Kamalaśīla, on the other hand, wrote his *Bhāvanākramas* with intentions to initiate Tibetan Buddhists into the stages of meditation practice whereby to climb up gradually one stage after another in order, finally, to attain perfect enlightenment. Besides, the *Bhāvanākramas* were written just after Kamalaśīla had won the famous controversy at Sam-ye mentioned earlier. Thus, the books mainly consist of descriptions of the meanings and methods of meditation practice.

In brief, the process of the practice of Mahāyāna Buddhists is as follows: A yogin is exhorted to acquire three kinds of

wisdom: *śrutamayī* (wisdom by learning), *cintāmayaī* (wisdom by investigation), and *bhāvanāmayaī prajñā* (wisdom by meditation). The second kind of wisdom (*cintāmayaī*) consists of investigation by reasoning (*yukti*) and by reference to authority of scripture (*āgama*), and discrimination between the implicit (*neyārtha*) and explicit meaning (*nītartha*) of the teachings in the sūtras, and so on. Meditation, the basis of the third kind of wisdom, is practiced in the following way: (1) by mastering *śamatha* or the tranquilization of mind through the observation of moral and yogic rules, nine stages of *śamatha*, four dhyānas, and so on; then (2) by *vipākyanā* (analysis of the object of meditation from the point of view of what has been studied by investigation). The importance of *vipākyanā* has been stressed especially by Mahāyānists. In the practice of tranquilization, they say, there is not much difference between non-Buddhists, Hinayānists, and Mahāyānists alike, but what makes Mahāyāna meditation different from others is the doctrine that is investigated and the analysis of the meditative object. Furthermore, Mahāyāna Buddhists believe that obstructions to emancipation consisting of moral defilements and false knowledge cannot be annihilated merely by tranquilization, and that analysis is also necessary. When a yogin succeeds in mastering both tranquilization and analysis, he proceeds to practice both simultaneously. This is called (3) *śamathavipākyanāyuganaddha*. When he succeeds in this last meditation, he is placed in the preliminary stage called *adhimukticaryābhūmi* for the ten stages of bodhi-sattva. In each of the following ten stages, he repeats *śamatha*, *vipākyanā*, and *yuganaddha* to annihilate his defilements more completely and to attain to wisdom regarding various doctrines and supernatural powers. After completing these ten stages of a bodhisattva, he finally attains Buddhahood.

The investigations of various philosophical systems, Buddhist as well as non-Buddhist, are made chiefly in two places of the foregoing process. The yogin does it when he strives for acquiring *cintāmayaī prajñā* before entering into meditative

practice itself. In this stage, he, as a philosopher, uses his knowledge of epistemology and logic to criticize different doctrines of non-Buddhist and Hīmāyāna systems of philosophy and, in so doing, becomes sure of the supremacy of Mahāyāna, especially Mādhyamika philosophy. Secondly, when he practices *vipaśyanā*, he meditates on each of the doctrines of the four Buddhist schools, according to a method taught in the *Lankāvatāra-sūtra*³² and other sūtras. He visualizes the whole world as consisting of the eighteen categories of factors, (i.e., six objects, six cognitive organs, and six cognitions) according to the Sarvāstivāda and Sautrāntika systems which recognize the existence of external realities. Then, transcending this theory, he enters into that of the Yogācāra school and sees the world as the representations of his own mind alone. Lastly he goes beyond this theory, seeing that even the mind is empty of an intrinsic nature and realizing that the world is nonexistent in the sense of the highest truth, as the Mādhyamika teaches.

Besides this lucid description of the combination of philosophy and meditation, we owe another matter to Kamalaśīla that is very important to our present study. His interpretation throws much light on the just-mentioned three verses from the *Lankāvatāra-sūtra*, no matter how different it may be from the original meaning of the verses. As cited by Kamalaśīla, the verses read:

22

cittamātram samāryuhya bāhyam arthan na kalpayet;
tathatālam-bane (1) sthitvā cittamātram atikramet. (v. 256)
cittamātram atikramya nirābhāsam (2) atikramet;
nirābhāse (3) sthito yogī mahāyānam sa paśyati. (v. 257)
anābhogagatih sāntā pranidhānair viśodhitā;
jñānam nirātmakam śrestham nirābhāsenā (4)
paśyati. (v. 258)

In the *Lankāvatāra-sūtra* and the *Madhyamakālambāravṛtti*—if the Tibetan translation is correct in the latter—v. 258d reads: *nirābhāse na paśyati*. And when it is cited

by Ratnākaraśānti in his *Prajñāpāramitopadeśa*, it reads: *the pa chen pos [po?] mthon bar ḥgyur = mahāyānam sa paśyati*.³³

As will be seen from the following translation of Kamalaśīla's interpretation, he reads particular meanings at least in four words in these verses. According to him, *tathatālam-bane* in v. 256c means *advaya-lakṣaṇe tathatālam-bane* (1); *nirābhāsam* in v. 257b, *dwayanirābhāsam* (2); *nirābhāse* in v. 257c, *advaya-jñānanirābhāse jñāne* (3); and *nirābhāsenā* in v. 258d, *advaya-nirābhāsenā jñānenā* (4). Here (1) *tathatālam-bana* and (2) *dwayanirābhāsa* refer to the illumination bereft of images (*prakāśamātra*) maintained by the Alīkākāravādayogācāra school, while *advaya-(jñāna)-nirābhāsa-jñāna* that appears in (3) and (4) refers to the absolute emptiness asserted by the later Mādhyamika as meaning that which exceeds the *prakāśamātra* of the Alīkākāravādin, in spite of the same *nirābhāsa* that recurs in the sūtra itself.

If we understand the progress in epistemological stages according to Kamalaśīla's interpretation, it becomes clear that *cittamātra* at the very beginning of v. 256 must mean not *Yogācāravāda* in general, but rather the standpoint of the Satyākāravāda. The original verses could be interpreted in this way; but we cannot ascribe such an intention to the author of the *Lankāvatāra-sūtra*, the compilation of which occurs centuries before the controversy between the Satyākāravādin and Alīkākāravādin.

Interpreting in this way, Kamalaśīla succeeds in making these three verses correspond to the theory of gradual transcendence of Buddhist epistemologies, which he as well as his teacher maintains. This will be clear from the following translation.

Concerning this, the stages of meditation on wisdom are taught in brief in the *Lankāvatāra-sūtra*:

Having ascended [the truth of] mind-[with-images] only, the Yogi should not imagine external objects [to be existent]; abiding in the meditation having as its object suchness [or il-

lumination marked by the absence of cognizer- and cognitum-parts], he ought to go beyond mind-[with]-images] only. (v. 256)

Having thus gone beyond even mind-[with]-images] only, he should go also beyond [the illumination] without the manifestation [of the two parts]; abiding thus in the nonmanifestation [of the illumination without the two parts], the yogin intuits [the truth of] the Great Vehicle. (v. 257)

He attains an effortless state [of mind], quiescent and purified by his vows; by means of the nonmanifestation [of the illumination without the two parts] he regards what was [formerly considered] the highest knowledge as devoid of its nature. (v. 258)

The meaning of these lines is as follows: In the first stage, the yogin should examine those material things which other people imagine to be external objects. Are they different from cognition or are they mere manifestations of cognition itself, as it is the case with [images seen] in the state of a dream? If they are external to cognition, examine them in view of atoms. When the yogin investigates, analyzing atoms into their segments, he does not find [the existence of] those objects. It occurs to him who is not seeing [the reality of atoms] that all things [in the world] are mind-only, external objects being totally nonexistent. This is the reason why it is said: Having ascended to [the truth of] mind-only, the yogin should not imagine external objects [to be existent]. It advises him to abandon [the habit of] imagining the existence of material things, because all conditions of their perception being satisfied, they are not seen because of his [careful] examination.³⁴

Having revealed [the unreality of] material things, he then should consider immaterial things. As for what is called "mind-only," he should think that when there is no object, the subject which is in relation to the object cannot exist either; and, therefore, that the mind is devoid of subject and object, that is to say, the mind is without duality [*advaya*]. Abiding thus in the [meditation] having "suchness" as its object and being characterized by nonduality, he should go beyond that "mind-only" too. It means that he should, surpassing the image of subject, abide in the knowledge of nonduality in which the two [subject and object-parts] are not manifested. Having thus surpassed "mind-only," he would go beyond

even the knowledge without manifestations of the two [images]. For this he should think that things arise neither from their own selves nor from other things and that when subject and object are unreal [*alikal*], the mind, being not different [from the two], cannot be true, either. Here, too, he must abandon attachment to ascribing reality to the cognition of nonduality [*advaya*], and he must abide in the knowledge of nonduality [*bhāsa-jñāna*].

In this way he becomes established in the understanding of the lack of intrinsic nature of everything. Abiding in it, he enters into the nonconceptual concentration [*intvikalpa-samādhi*] because he enters into the highest truth. When the yogin abides in the knowledge of nonmanifestation of nondual knowledge, he, being established in the highest truth, sees [the truth of] the Great Vehicle. (p. 210, 1.7-p. 211, 1.20)

... Concentration [*samādhi*] is not of the nature of complete darkness, but marked [only] by one-pointedness of mind. Since it is said that one in the state of concentration intuits things as they really are, concentration is surely in accordance with insight [*prajñā*], but it is not contrary [to insight, i.e., it is not of the nature of ignorance]. Therefore, when one in the state of concentration examines with insight, he intuits the nonmanifestation of all things; this is the highest nonmanifestation [*paramo'nupalambhī*]. The yogin's stage so characterized is called an effortless state [*anabhoga-gati*], because in it he has nothing more to see beyond it. It is called quiescent, because there manifold discourse [*prapañca*], marked by concepts such as existence and nonexistence, totally cease. (p. 214, 11.3-10)

... Again, how is this stage of the yogin purified? Reply: It is purified by his vow. The bodhisattva, because of his great compassion, has made a vow that he will do everything for the benefit of all sentient beings; because of the force of this vow he strives for doing always more and more good deeds, such as benevolence. By this habit, his stage is so purified by the [vow] that although he knows the nonexistence of an intrinsic nature in all things, his consideration for all sentient beings does not subside and he stays in this world of transmigration so long as it lasts, and without his being stained by the faults of the world.

Again, how is [his state] effortless and quiescent? The reason for it is given [in the answer]: By means of [insight into] non-manifestness, he regards even what has been [formerly considered] the highest knowledge as devoid of an intrinsic nature.

For by means of the knowledge of normmanifestation of even nondual¹ knowledge, the yogin sees as devoid of a kernel or devoid of an intrinsic nature even that knowledge marked by nonduality as the highest or the supreme truth. Thus, [his state is] effortless, because nothing more to be seen is existent; quiescent, since it is free from all concepts. (p. 217, 1.14, to p. 218, 1.6)

In the foregoing sections taken from Kamalaśīla's *Bhāvanākrama I*, four stages are plainly distinguishable: (1) the preliminary stage in which external realities admitted in the systems of the Sarvāstivāda and Sautrāntika are presented as the object of criticism; (2) the stage in which only the mind with manifested images is admitted—the system of the Satyākāravāda-yogacāra school forms the object of meditation; (3) the meditation stage in which the images of cognition as well as the duality of subject and object are condemned to be unreal and in which the knowledge without duality is proclaimed to be real—this being the standpoint of the Alikākāravāda-yogacārin; (4) the stage in which even the nondual knowledge (*adayañjāna*) or the pure illumination of cognition (*prakāśamātra*) is declared to be empty of an intrinsic nature. This latter stage is the highest one proclaimed by the Mādhyamika. Kamalaśīla's description of the method of gradual transcendence of Buddhist philosophies for the attainment of the final truth of emptiness perfectly corresponds to that of his master, Śāntarakṣita.

Mādhyamakālamkāra and related texts has been done by my colleagues, especially Professors Ichigo, Kazuhumi Oki, Shōryū Katsura, and others. I regret that I cannot incorporate the results of their studies in this paper, due to limitations of space and time.

1. The controversy of Sam-ye and its historical and philosophical background have been studied by many modern scholars, such as P.-Demiéville, G.-Tucci, H.-Sato, D.-Ueyama, and others. See especially Paul Demiéville, *Le concile de Lhasa* (Paris: Bibliothèque de l'Institut des Hautes Études Chinoises, vol. VII, 1952); and G. Tucci, *Minor Buddhist Texts*, "Introduction."

2. Kamalaśīla's argument in the debate in Sam-ye is reflected in his three *Bhāvanākramas*, Peking reprint edition vol. 102, mos. 5304, 5310, and 5311; and *Bhāvanākrama I* in G. Tucci, *Minor Buddhist Texts*, Part II (Rome: Istituto Italiano per il Medio ed Estremo Oriente, 1958).

3. Cf., for example, Ratnākaraśānti, *Prajñāpāramitopadeśa*, Peking reprint edition vol. 114, no. 5579, 237.3.6-8 (f.153,a).

4. Śāntarakṣita, *Mādhyamakālamkāra*, Peking reprint edition vol. 101, no. 5284. In the following, main arguments in *Mādhyamakālamkāra* are introduced in the form of free exposition. At the end of an argument I add in parentheses the number(s) of the kārikā(s) of *Mādhyamakālamkāra* which contain the argument. In so doing, I use freely Śāntarakṣita's own commentary, as well as Kamalaśīla's commentary, without giving pages and lines, except in important cases. See Śāntarakṣita, *Madhyamakālamkāravṛtti*, Peking reprint edition vol. 101, no. 5285; and Kamalaśīla, *Mādhyamakālamkāravṛtti*, Peking reprint edition vol. 101, no. 5286.

5. In his *Vimsatikā Sylva*in Lévi, ed. (Paris: H. Champion, 1925), Vasubandhu analyzes atoms quantitatively: if an atom is combined with another six atoms situated around it, it must be six-sided (i.e., have six segments), which contradicts the idea of an atom as an indivisible minimum unit of matter; if, on the contrary, an atom does not have segments, a number of atoms collected together would occupy one and the same spot, which would reduce a gross thing into the size of an atom—this being ridiculous. Śāntarakṣita, on the other hand, criticizes atoms qualitatively rather than quantitatively, changing the idea of the segments of an atom into that of intrinsic natures. This distinction, however, is not strictly observed by him when, for example, he says that a mountain would be reduced to the size of an atom.

... *alamkāra* vv. 11-13 are almost identical with vv. 1989-90 of Śāntarakṣita, *Tattvasaṃgraha*, with the *commentary* *Paṭijika of Kamalaśīla*, edited by Swami Dwarikadas Shastri (Varanasi: Buddha Bharati, 1968). In the following notes, the sign = means that the verses are identical or almost identical.

6. Cf. ... *alamkāravṛtti* 4.2.2-4 (f. 56, bl-4); ... *alamkāravṛtti* 20.2.8 (f. 96, b8) ff.

NOTES

I thank Professor Masamichi Ichigo, my academic colleague, to whom I owe many of the identifications of verses in the *Mādhyamakālamkāra*. I also express my heartfelt gratitude to Professor Louis O. Gomez who, having read a portion of this paper, gave me useful suggestions, and to Messrs. Leslie Kawamura and Kenneth O'Neill for their correction of the English text. Since the present paper was written in 1972, much work regarding the

7. Cf. . . . alamkāraṛtti 4.2.3 (f. 56, b3); *mam par zhes pa ni zhel gong dag pa lta bu yul gyi rnām pa mi 'dsin par briod pa ste.*
8. . . . alamkāra vv. 16-17 = *Tattvasamgraha* vv. 1999-8000.
9. . . . alamkāra vv. 20-21 = *Tattvasamgraha* vv. 2004-5. For sākāra-jñānavāda and *andakāra-jñānavāda*, see Yuichi Kajiyama, *An Introduction to Buddhist Philosophy: An Annotated Translation of the Tarkabhaśa of Moksākaragupta*. (Kyoto: Memoirs-of-the-Faculty-of-Letters,-Kyoto-University, no. 10, 1966), paragraph 8.1 and note 148.
10. . . . alamkāra vv. 22-23 = *Tattvasamgraha* vv. 2036-37.
11. . . . alamkāra v. 24 = *Tattvasamgraha* v. 1246.
12. . . . alamkāra v. 25 = *Tattvasamgraha* v. 1250.
13. . . . alamkāra v. 26 = *Tattvasamgraha* v. 1251.
14. . . . alamkāra vv. 27-30 = *Tattvasamgraha* vv. 1252-55.
15. See Kamalasīla's *Pañjikā* on the *Tattvasamgraha*, p. 696, 1.17-697, 1.2.
16. *Ibid.*, p. 697, 11.2-6.
17. Cf. Manorathanandin's commentary of Dharmakīrti's *Pramāṇavārttika*, edited by Rāhula Sāṅkirtiyājana, Appendix to the *Journal of the Bihar and Orissa Research Society* XXIV, XXV, XXVI (Patna, 1938-40), II, v. 194: "saṃcittālambanāḥ pañcavijñānakāyāḥ."
18. Cf. . . . alamkāraṛtti on v. 45.
19. Cf. the *Prajñāpāramitopadeśa* 243.3.6-7 (f. 168, a6-7): *de dag gi ltar na gsal ba thmas cad phyin ci ma log pa'i rang gi ngo bo myong ba'i phyir, thams cad 'khrul pa med par 'gyur ro. des na sems can thmas cad rtag tu grol bar 'grul la, rtag tu yang dag par rdsogs pa'i sangs ryges nyid du 'gyur ro.* See also Y. Kajiyama, *An Introduction to Buddhist Philosophy* (Kyoto: Memoirs of the Faculty of Kyoto University, 1966).
20. For a more detailed description of the Sākāravāda-yogācārins and Anākāravāda-yogācārins, see Kajiyama, *Buddhist Philosophy*, paragraph 32.1 and note 418 = Appendix II. I prefer the terms "Sākāravādin" and "Anākāravādin" to "Sākāravādin" and "Anākāravādin," respectively, since in so terming them we can easily distinguish these two schools of the Yogācāra from the Sautrāntika as a Sakarajñānavādin and the Sarvāstivādin as an Anākāravādin. Śāntarakṣita himself, however, uses the terms "Sākāravādin" and "Anākāravādin" more frequently.
21. Cf. . . . alamkāraṛtti 6.3.8-6.4.1 = f. 62, a8-b1.
22. Manorathanandin, commenting on the *Pramāṇavārttika* II, v. 502, cites the passage: *asthanam etad yad due citte yugapat sampratipadyeyā-tām.*
23. Cf. Nago, *Madhyāntavibhāgabhāṣya*, p. 48, 11.7.8; *nimittam pratishṭhādehabhogasemghitam*; and A. Thakur, ed., *Ratnakritinibandhāvali*, Tibetan Sanskrit Works Series vol. III (Patna: K. P. Jayaswal Research Institute, 1957), p. 122, 11.7-8; . . . *pratisantānam ca svapnavaḍyavasthitā*.

24. Cf. *Pramāṇavārttika* II, v. 502, with Manorathanandin's commentary.

25. Cf. . . . alamkāraṛtti 6.4.1-5 = f. 62, b1-5.

26. Cf. *ibid.*, 6.4.5 ff. = f. 62, b5 ff.

27. Śāntarakṣita's argument here is cited in Moksākaragupta's *Tarkabhaśā*; see Kajiyama, *Buddhist Philosophy*, pp. 150-51. The argument is lacking in the Sanskrit text, but is found in its Tibetan translation.

28. See also Kamalasīla's *Pañjikā* on the *Tattvasamgraha*, in which Śubhagupta cites Vasubandhu's *Madhyāntavibhāga* I, v. 16cd: *ab-dhātu kanakasāsuddhitvac chuddhir isyate (buddhiḥ)* as a doctrine of the Anākāravāda-yogācārin's.

29. See, for example, Nagārjuna, *Vigrahavyāvartanī*. Buddhist Sanskrit Texts no. 10 (Darbhaga: The Mithila Institute, 1963), vv. 1-2 (the opponent's questions) and 21-24 (Nagārjuna's answer).

30. Tibetan Buddhists classify the Madhyamikas first under Prāsatṅika and Sarvāntikā; and they divide the latter into Yogācāra-mādhyamika-svāntikā, represented by Śāntarakṣita, and Sautrāntika-mādhyamika-svāntikā, represented by Bhāvaviveka. Śāntarakṣita is a follower of Bhāvaviveka, the founder of the Sarvāntikā school, in that he, unlike the Prāsatṅika, gives importance to logic and manipulates categorical syllogisms. But he is closer to the Yogācāra than to the Sautrāntika, in that he does not admit the reality of the external world even in the sense of conventional truth. The Prāsatṅika, represented by Candrakīrti, follows the Sarvāstivāda dualism in interpreting conventional truth. The foregoing classification made by Tibetans is based on Śāntarakṣita's argument in this part of the *Madhyamakālamkāra*.

31. Nagārjuna, *Yuktisāstikā*, Peking reprint edition vol. 95, no. 5225, vv. 21 and 34. As cited by Śāntarakṣita, v. 21 reads: *'di la skye ba ci yang med, gag par 'gyur ba ci yang med, skye ba dang ni 'gug pa dag, shes pa 'ba 'zhig kho na'o.* The Sanskrit texts of these two verses are found in Jñānaśrīmitrānibandhāvali, A. Thakur, ed., *Tibetan Sanskrit Works Series* vol. 5 (Patna: K. P. Jayaswal Institute, 1959), p. 545, v. 25 and v. 27. Śāntarakṣita changes the original reading so that the verses may be interpreted according to his own theory. I believe that my translation of v. 34 is supported by Kamalasīla, who says, "it or cognition does not appear in true wisdom," in . . . *alamkārapañjikā* 37.1 (f. 138.b).

32. See D. T. Suzuki, trans., *Lankāvātarasūtra* (London: Routledge and Kegan Paul, 1956), ch. 10, vv. 256-58.

33. P. L. Vaidya, ed., *Saddharmalankāvatārasūtra*, Buddhist Sanskrit Texts no. 3 (Darbhaga: The Mithila Institute, 1963), p. 124; . . . *alamkāra-vṛtti* 13.3.3-4 (f. 79, b3-4); and Ratnākaraśānti, *Prajñāpāramitopadeśa* 249.4.2 (f. 183, b2).

34. Vicaryard, p. 211, 1.3, should be corrected in such a form as *vicārayātā*.