

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***
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*Eleven Tuesdays at 7:00 pm
September 20th to December 6th, 2011
(Omitting October 18 and November 20)*

Course Syllabus

1) Class One: Summary Recap of the First Course

A) Teachers' Reading:

- i) Translator's Introduction, pp. 1-42:
 - (a) Shantarakshita and Mipham's Commentary, pp. 1-5
 - (b) Mipham and the Svatantrika-Prasangika Distinction, pp. 6-19
 - (c) A Rival Interpretation, pp. 20-25
 - (d) Cittamatra, pp. 26-32
 - (e) The Madhyamakalamkara and the Pramana Tradition, pp. 32-35
 - (f) Universals and Exclusions, p. 35-39
 - (g) The Argument of Neither One nor Many, pp. 39-42

2) Class Two: Contradictions in Viewing Consciousness and External Objects as Unique

A) Reading:

- i) Refutation of Non Buddhist Schools, pp. 217-235

3) Class Three: Mind Only View and Initial Contradictions

A) Reading:

- i) Refutation of Outer Objects as Truly Existent, pp. 234-6
- ii) The Cittamatra system, pp. 236-246

4) Class Four: Pitfalls in Thinking that Mind Creates Reality

A) Reading:

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

5) Class Five: True Appearance

A) Reading:

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

6) Class Six: 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

7) Class Seven: 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, pp. 312-314

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

A) Reading:

- i) A reply to the third objection, pp. 314-328
- ii) It is generally acceptable to speak of proof and predicate to be proved, pp. 328-331

9) Class Nine: Clarifying How Things Seem to Appear

A) Reading:

- i) A specific explanation of how the causal interdependence of past and future lives is acceptable, pp. 331-335
- ii) A concluding eulogy of this teaching, which avoids the views of eternalism and nihilism, pp. 335-337
- iii) The benefits of understanding the two truths correctly, pp. 337-355

10) Class Ten: Conclusions and Colophons

A) Reading:

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

11) Class Eleven: Review, Exam and Celebration