

RADICAL REJECTION

DISPELLING PRIMITIVE BELIEFS ABOUT REALITY

The Adornment of the Middle Way

Part One: The Refutation of Materialism

Shantarakshita's Madhyamakalankara
With Commentary by Jamgon Mipham

Translation by the Padmakara Translation Group
Published by Shambhala Publications
10 Tuesdays, April 5 - June 7, 2011

Course Syllabus

1) Class One: Overview and Introduction

A) Teachers' Reading:

- i) Author, Audience, Orientation, pp. 79-95
- ii) Translator's Introduction: Shantarakshita and Mipham's Commentary, pp. 1-5
- iii) Translator's Introduction: Translation, Outline, Etc., pp. 43-47

2) Class Two: Delineating The Two Truths

A) Reading:

- i) The Two Truths, pp. 95-106

B) Optional Reading:

- i) Translator's Introduction: Mipham and the Svatantrika-Prasangika Distinction, pp. 6-19

3) Class Three: Internalizing the Two Truths

A) Reading:

- i) How to Internalize the Two Truths, pp. 106-120
- ii) Need, pp. 120

B) Optional Reading:

- i) Translator's Introduction: A Rival Interpretation, pp. 20-25

4) Class Four: Achieving Certainty in the Mahayana

A) Reading:

- i) How this text gives certainty to the Mahayana, p. 120-122
- ii) Valid Cognition, Self-knowing Mind and Mind Only, pp. 122-125
- iii) Approximate and Actual Ultimate Truth, p. 125-135

B) Optional Reading:

- i) Translator's Introduction: Cittamatra, pp. 26-32

5) Class Five: Introducing the Main Argument - Verse 1

A) Reading:

- i) The two kinds of valid reasoning upheld in establishing the approximate ultimate, p. 135-141
- ii) What is meant when it is said that the approach of this text is easy, pp. 141-143
- iii) How great enlightenment is achieved through the approach thus propounded, pp. 143-145
- iv) The introduction to the root verses pp. 147-151
- v) The main argument of the *Madhyamakalankara* pp. 151-153

B) Optional Reading:

- i) Translator's Introduction: The Madhyamakalamkara and the Pramana Tradition, pp. 32-35

6) Class Six: An Investigation of the Argument

A) Reading:

- i) An Investigation of the argument, p. 153-157
- ii) The nature of the analogy, p. 157-160
- iii) A refutation of a single, truly existent, pervasive entity as presented by Non-Buddhist Schools, pp. 161-165
- iv) Translator's introduction: Universals and Exclusions, p. 35-39
- v) Translator's introduction: The Argument of Neither One nor Many, pp. 39-42

7) Class Seven: Refutation of Pervasive Entities - Verses 2-8

A) Reading:

- i) A refutation of a single, truly existent, pervasive entity as presented by Buddhist Schools, pp. 165-180

8) Class Eight: Refutation of Non-Pervasive Entities - Verses 9-15

A) Reading:

- i) A refutation of non-pervasive entities regarded as single and truly existent pp. 180-194

9) Class Nine: Refutation of Materialism Part One - Verses 16-21

A) Reading:

- i) A refutation of Vaibhashikas, who hold that external objects are perceived without the mediation of a mental aspect, pp. 194-207

10) Class Ten: Refutation of Materialism Part Two - Verses 22-34

A) Reading:

- i) A refutation of the Sautrantika systems of perceptual imparity and parity, pp. 207-217