

The Bodhisattva Path

***The Treasury of Precious Qualities* by Jigme Lingpa**

Condensed by Kangyur Rinpoche

Course Overview

At the core of the traditional Buddhist path are the three wheels - Shila, Samadhi and Prajna. The Indo-Tibetan Buddhist system of education expands the three wheels into five topics or areas of study: gaining certainty in the view (Madhyamaka); fully understanding the methods and stages of the path (Prajnaparamita as presented in the Abhisamayalamkara); sharpening the logical mind (Pramana); discriminating the elements of our experience (Abhidharma); and fully understanding the various precepts for practice (the Three Vows). The Shambhala Core Texts Program will present this wealth of material in segments spanning a number of years in weekly and weekend courses using materials that range from compendiums of the material, to the commentarial literature to finally the most profound, the actual root texts themselves.

The first series of courses will focus on the methods and stages of the path. The root text for this topic is *The Ornament of Higher Realization* by Maitreya as recorded by Noble Asanga. We will begin to access this profound text through one of the most beautiful and comprehensive of the many compendiums of the bodhisattva path, *Treasury of Precious Qualities* by Jigme Lingpa (others include *The Jewel Ornament of Liberation* and *The Words of My Perfect Teacher*). This long work has been skillfully condensed into one volume by Kangyur Rinpoche and masterfully translated by the Padmakara Translation Group.

Source Texts:

1. *Treasury of Precious Qualities, A Commentary on the Root Text of Jigme Lingpa* by Longchen Yeshe Dorje, Kangyur Rinpoche, translated by the Padmakara Translation Committee, Shambhala 2001.
2. Excerpts from *The Jewel Ornament of Liberation*, by Gampopa, translated by Khenpo Konchok Gyaltsen, Snow Lion 1998.
3. Other miscellaneous charts and so forth to be handed out....

Schedule of Classes

Schedule of Classes	Date	RP
1. Introduction & Overview	September 18	DK
2. The Common Level of Motivation	September 25	CS
3. The Foundational Motivation for Liberation	October 2	DK
4. The Vast Motivation for Enlightenment	October 9	CS
5. Refuge and the Three Jewels	October 16	DK
6. Bodhicitta	October 23	CS
7. Precepts of Bodhicitta	October 30	CS
8. Precepts of Bodhicitta (continued)	November 6	DK
9. The Result – Perfect Buddhahood	November 13	DK

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Syllabus

I. Introduction

A. Topics:

1. The Shambhala Shedra Program
2. The Abhisamayalankara by Maitreya and Asanga
3. The Bodhisattva Path as presented in the ASA
4. The Seven Treasures and the Treasury of Precious Qualities
5. The Three Levels of Motivation

B. Optional Reading:

1. TPQ, Introduction, pp. 1-14
2. TPQ, Prologue, pp. 17-23

II. The Common Level of Motivation

A. Topics:

1. Setting the General Motivation
2. Precious human birth
3. Impermanence
4. General causes and conditions for entering the path

B. Requested Reading:

1. TPQ, The Value of Human Existence, pp. 27-32
2. TPQ, Impermanence, pp. 35-39
3. JOL, Homage and Introduction, pp. 44-46
4. JOL, The Primary Cause: Buddha Nature, pp. 49-55

III. The Foundational Motivation for Liberation

A. Topics:

1. Minimal level of motivation – Karma
2. Three levels of motivation
3. Karma
4. The Four noble truths
5. Suffering

B. Requested Reading:

1. TPQ, The Law of Karma, pp. 43-51
2. (Omit TPQ, Negative Actions, pp. 52-61)
3. TPQ, Virtuous Actions, pp. 61-64
4. TPQ, Sufferings of Samsara, pp. 67-71
5. (Omit TPQ, The Hells and other realms, pp. 71-77)
6. TPQ, The Suffering of Human Beings, pp. 78-83

C. Optional Reading:

1. The four truths, pp. 283-286

IV. Continuing on the Path

A. Topics:

1. Origin, Cessation and Path
2. Dependent origination
3. The four wheels

B. Requested Reading:

1. TPQ, Origin, Path and Cessation, pp. 83-85
2. TPQ, The Twelve Links of Dependent Arising, pp. 85-93
3. TPQ, The Four Wheels, pp. 97-103 (middle)
4. (Omit TPQ, False Teachers and the remainder of Reliance on a Spiritual Master section, pp. 104-117)
5. TPQ, The Four Wheels, from “Perfect Aspiration” on, pp. 118-122

C. Optional Reading:

1. TPQ, The Five Aggregates, pp. 287-296

V. Refuge and the Three Jewels

A. Topics:

1. Reasons for taking refuge
2. The Qualities of the Buddha
3. The Qualities of the Dharma
4. The Qualities of the Sangha

B. Requested Reading:

1. TPQ, The Foundation of the Path: Refuge, pp. 123-148

C. Optional Reading:

1. TPQ, A Buddha’s qualities of realization, pp. 297-300
2. TPQ, The Five Paths and the Thirty Seven Elements Leading to Enlightenment, pp. 301-305
3. JOL, The Aspects of the Five Paths, pp. 256-261

VI. Bodhicitta

A. Topics:

1. Four boundless attitudes
2. What is bodhicitta?
3. How to cultivate bodhicitta
4. Aspirational bodhicitta
5. Bodhicitta in action
6. Generosity

B. Requested Reading:

1. TPQ, Cleansing the Mind, pp. 149-155
2. TPQ, The Vow of Bodhicitta, pp. 157-165 (top)
3. (Omit TPQ, Ritual for Taking the Vow of a Bodhisattva, pp. 165-180)
4. TPQ, Precepts of Bodhicitta in Aspiration and Action (read thru Generosity), pp. 181-194 (middle)

VII. Precepts of Bodhicitta

A. Topics:

1. Discipline
2. Patience
3. Diligence
4. Concentration

B. Requested Reading:

1. TPQ, Discipline (part), pp. 194-197 (middle)
2. (Omit TPQ, The Levels of Ordination, pp. 197-225)
3. TPQ, Discipline (cont'd), pp. 226-229
4. TPQ, Patience, Diligence and Concentration, pp. 229-244

VIII. Precepts of Bodhicitta (Continued)

A. Topics:

1. Wisdom

B. Requested Reading:

1. TPQ, Wisdom, pp. 245-268

C. Optional:

1. TPQ, The Two Truths, pp. 307-321
2. TPQ, The Madhyamaka School, pp. 323-339

IX. The Result – Perfect Buddhahood

A. Topics:

1. Buddhahood
2. Three kayas
3. Three doors to liberation

B. Requested Reading:

1. JOL, The Result: Perfect Buddhahood, pp. 281-293
2. JOL, The Activities: Activities of the Buddha, pp. 297-300
3. TPQ, The Twenty-one Qualities of Dharmakaya Wisdom, pp. 341-345
4. TPQ, The Three Doors of Liberation, pp. 347-348