Tara Institute 'Shantideva's Bodhicharyavatara' Block 1, Study Group 2013

The login username is "studygroup", the password is "bwol" (just remember "Bodhisattva's Way of Life").

Discussion Week 5 (12.03.2013)

Week: 1 (12 February 2013)

Having extensively explained the importance and great advantages of love and compassion, we now turn to the techniques of how to develop the genuine wish to benefit others based on love and compassion. This is precisely explained in the text we have chosen to study.

- 1.a) What is the name of the text we have chosen to study?
- b) Who composed it?
- 2. We will be studying a commentary on this text.
- a) What is the title and who wrote it?
- b) What is the meaning of the title?
- ${\it 3. The Sanskrit\ title\ of\ the\ text\ is\ \it Bohdisattvacharyavatara.}$

The English translation of **bodhi** is **enlightenment**. The Tibetan translation of **Bodhi** is **jang chub a)** What is the connotation of **jang**?

- b) What is the connotation of *chub*?
- c) What does sempa tib. (sattva skt.) mean?
- 4. a) What is the definition of charya?

Week: 2 (19 February 2013)

- b) What are the three stages the action can be divided into?
- 5. Defilements fall into two main categories. What are they and give a brief explanation of each.
- 6. In accordance with a decree by a Tibetan king all translations have to begin with a salutation.

There are three 'baskets ' of teachings.

- a) Name each basket and give the salutation that idicates each.
- b) Which of the three trainings does each basket relate to.
- 7. What is the purpose of paying homage?
- 8. What does the Sanskrit word **Sugata** mean?

Week: 3 (26 February 2013)

9. 'The second half of the refuge prayer indicates the generation of Bodhicitta.'

Give a brief explanation of the following lines;

'from the virtuous merit that I collect,'

'to be able to benefit all sentient beings

'may I attain the state of Buddha to be able to benefit all sentient beings'

10." 1c. ...to the discipline of the tathagatas' children"

What does the word 'discipline' refer to here?

Week: 4 (6 September 2011)

- 11. How can we come to a point where we can rejoice about the fact that there is no question that we have created the causes for a good rebirth in the next lifetime? [Pg 2, col 2, para 2]
- 12. What is the point of reflecting on the realities of death and impermanence.? [Pg 4, col 1, para 1]
- 13. It is good for us to have an understanding of the general definition of Dharma as well as the Dharma that is one of the three jewejs. Explain the two. [Pg 4, col 1, para 7 to col 2,para 4]