Tara Institute `Shantideva's Bodhichanyavatana' Discussion



Block 1 Week 14 19.05.2015)

Week: 1(17 Feb 2015)

1. Geshe Chengawa summarizes the entire dharma in two lines. What are they? Give their meaning.

Week: 2 (24 Feb 2015)

2. Explain how conviction in karma enables us to interpret our experience of suffering, together with how we might regard those whom inflict suffering upon us differently.

Week: 3 (3 March 2015)

3. Why is it unsuitable to crave for gain?

Week: 4 (10 March 2015)

4. As ordinary people, what do we believe is the source of a happy life? And, for such non-practitioners, *when* is it especially revealed that this belief was fraudulent?

Week: 5 (17 March 2015)

5. How can one purify the causes for hell by tolerating small sufferings? Answer using a bodily analogy.

Week 6 (24 March 2015)

6. Why does Geshe-la regularly emphasise the importance of the outline in Tibetan Buddhist texts? Elaborate on your answer by giving an analogy.

Week 7 (31 March 2015)

7. What are the three subdivisions for "Impatience with obstacles to the harm of one's enemies is unsuitable"?

Week 8 (7 April 2015)

8. What are the methods and practices for overcoming the eight worldly dharmas? Give an example of what this means in relation to praise and criticism.

Week 9 (14 April 2015)

9. The line *praise, reputation and gain distract one from the virtuous object,* presents an extremely significant point about meditation practice. Explain this point.

Week 10 (21 April 2015)

10. The root text gives the analogy that a beggar is not an obstruction to generosity. Explain the meaning of this analogy, and then describe how it relates to an *enemy* and *patience*.

Week: 11 (28 April 2015)

2. a) Why is it suitable to meditate on faith in both enlightened beings and sentient beings?

b) Give an example of how we can take a personal instruction from this.

Week: 12 (5 May 2015)

1.'Thus, when one harms any living being, then that definitely displeases the Buddhas.' Why?

Week 13 (12 May 2015)

13. 'Having defined what laziness is, it (the commentary) asks 'what is enthusiasm?''

a) Define laziness.

b) Define and explain what enthusiasm is.