Tara Institute 'Shantideva's Bodhicharyavatara' Study Group 2016

Exam

Block: 2

Week: 18

Assigned: 9/08/16

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1. Why is it inappropriate to look angrily at sentient beings after having committed to benefit other sentient beings?

2. Are degenerated ethics the fault of the individual? Explain what these faults are due to.

144ab. Ethics, view and faults Are out of our contrc

3. Explain verse 148

148. I shall make my qualities clear By any means to all the transitory worlds, And I shall take care That nobody hears about his qualities 4.a. In order to engage in exchanging self with other what is the way of checking the mind that the *bodhisattvas advise themselves*?

b. And what is the way of putting that into practice?

5. Explain how we can implement our understanding of karma in a profound way?

6. Respond to the hypothetical argument/question "Since one wishes to work for others one should support the body on the basis of craving".

7. a. What is the way to familiarise one's mind with love and compassion.

b. What is the value or importance of developing love and compassion?

8. a Before one can generate superior insight what does one need to do?

b. What is the definition of calm abiding?

The definition of calm abiding is: a concentration that is able to focus single-pointedly on a chosen object for as long as one wishes, and which I pliancy.

9. Explain this verse from Nagarjun

For as long as there is grasping For that long there is grasping For as long as there is grasping One creates the karma

10.a. Clarify the difference between deluded obscuration and obscuration to omniscience.

b. Give an illustration

11. Give the definition of conventional truth and the definition of ultimate truth as presented here in the *Bodhisattvacharyavatara* and those that are presented in the *Madhyamaka*.¹

12. If there is no inherent existence, then there would be no point in training in generosity and so forth to attain the result of enlightenment. How do the Madyamika answer this argument from the Realists?