TARA INSTITUTE

STUDY GROUP DISCUSSION NIGHT 8 Aug 2000

Covering discourses 12/07/2000 – 1/08/2000

1. The meditation at the end of the 4-point analysis is known as space-like contemplation on Emptiness.

What does the term -space-like- refer to?

Discuss the 2 qualities of this contemplation on Emptiness.

What is the object of the meditation?

2. The analogy of the magician's illusions is used to explain the meaning of Emptiness.

How does it do this?

What similarities are there between the 3 categories of people described in each circumstance?

- 3. Discuss how the example of a sprout is used to establish the emptiness of true existence by reason of its dependent arising
- 4. Discuss the different interpretations of the meaning. of dependent arising by the different schools of tenets.

How does this affect their understanding of Emptiness?

5. How do the views of Selflessness of Compounded Phenomena and Uncompounded Phenomena differ?

What reasonings may be used to establish the view of Selflessness of form?

- 6. Discuss what is meant by "The Relativity of All Objects", for example, a vase
- 7. What is "consciousness"?

How does one apply the Reasoning of Lacking Oneness and Many to consciousness?

8. What are "non-associated compound phenomena"?

What is space? How is space not inherently existent?

Compulsory question

9. Nagarjuna's Fundamental Wisdom dedication translated by Jay L Garfield says

I prostrate to the Perfect Buddha,
The best of teachers who taught that
Whatever is dependently arisen is
Unceasing, unborn,
Unannihilated, not permanent,
Not coming, not going,
Without distinction, without identity,
And free from conceptual construction