

# **TARA INSTITUTE**

## **STUDY GROUP TEST - 7 November 2000**

Answer any four from question nos 1-6

Question no.7 is compulsory

Time allowed - one hour

1. How do the three stages of the Path differ in terms of motivation and goal? Is it necessary for one to follow these three in order to achieve the state of Buddhahood? If so, how can one combine the three in a single Path to Enlightenment?
2. Briefly describe each of the nine mental abidings.
3. Why is it essential to realise emptiness in order to be liberated from samsara?
4. What is the object of negation? Why is it important to identify this clearly?
5. Explain the essential point of Pervasion.
6. The ritual taking of vows is a means to further enhance the Bodhicitta mind. Describe the preparations needed for the two day Bodhisattva Vow ceremony. Must one have first generated Bodhicitta in order to take the vows? Discuss the difference between the aspiring and engaging forms of Bodhicitta.

### **Compulsory question**

Describe your experience of studying the Lam Rim. Which part of the Lam Rim have you found most beneficial 'o your life in bringing more peace and contentment, e.g. Death & Impermanence, Karma, Bodhicitta, etc. Which part of the Lain Rim helps you most in challenging your delusions?