

DISCUSSION

BLOCK:	5
WEEK:	5
	13TH AUGUST

Week One

1. Discuss the relationship between the 5 Paths, the 10 Perfections and the 10 Grounds.
2. Describe the special meditative ability that Bodhisattvas on the Seventh Ground possess.
3. What are the four aspects of the first noble truth? Discuss the logical statements that prove each one, and the misperceptions each aspect counteracts. For whom and when do these become 'truths'?

Week Two:

4. Why are 'Arhats' referred to as the root of the Buddha's Teachings?
5. What mode of emptiness realization is required to reach the path of preparation?
6. Discuss the difference between an act which is a 'Perfection' (resultant) and a 'Perfectionizer' (causal). Give a real life example.

Week Three:

7. Why did Arya Nargarjuna make a bodhisattva vow 'Holding that a person cannot eliminate desire and the rest by following the way of the Learner'? Discuss the debate about whether or not Hinayanists see emptiness directly?
8. Arya Nagarjuna said, "As long as one grasps at the aggregates, so long one definitely has grasping at 'I'. If grasping at 'I' exists then karma also, and then birth. The three paths are in mutual causation without beginning or middle. The wheel of cyclic existence turns, like the wheel of a firebrand. Because it is obtained from self, other, or both in nowhere in the three times, the grasping at 'I' ceases and from that karma and birth."

Why is this quote so vital? Discuss practical applications.

Week Four:

9. "Without wealth, there is no happiness for humans." Is this literal or figurative? Discuss
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