Tara Institute Study Group 2004 - 'Introduction to the Middle Way'



BLOCK: WEEK:

5

ASSIGNED: 31ST AUG 04

- 1. What faults would arise if the self and the aggregates were intrinsically one?
- 2. Discuss the purpose behind the famous sevenfold reasoning of Chandrakirti.
- 3. Point out the contradiction the Realists fall into by saying the chariot is an imputed existent labelled on imputed parts.
- 4. When an imputed object is sought in the seven ways and not found, what conclusions are drawn by the lower schools and what conclusions are drawn by the Prasangika School?
- 5. Explain the following verse in which Prasangika goes on to say:

It is of course not established in seven ways Within suchness or the world. Without investigation in accordance with the mere world It is labelled in dependence on its parts. [6.158]

- 6. Briefly describe how you would practice the meditation using the seven-point analysis of Chandrakirti?
- 7. What is the reason for listing 'form' first amongst the five aggregates?
- 8. Explain Prasangika's response to the lower schools' qualm: you say that without a part-possessor there are no parts, but when a chariot is dismantled there is no chariot and, therefore, no part-possessor yet we still see the parts of the chariot, the wheels, axle, and so forth.
- 9. Describe the self that is the basis of bondage and liberation as shown in the verse:

The self that continually gives rise to intense 'I' – grasping-Awareness in migrators and that gives rise to awareness Grasping whatever belongs to it as mine, Is from ignorance, uncritical and conventional. [6.164]

- 10. Explain the nature of the "mine" and how its inherent existence is refuted.
- 11. Why do the Prasangika refer to the self as 'established from ignorance to the mind of those uncritical and conventional?