

Discussion (07.06.2011)

Week: 1 (10 May 2011)

1. Explain what the term *stainless prayers* refers to. What does *stainless* actually mean? [4]

2. a) While there are particular causes for all of the eighty minor marks, what is the concordant cause for all of them? [2]

- b) After having practiced for a long time, we might even complain, ‘Why am I not closer to becoming enlightened? Why am I not a Buddha yet?’ This is because...? [2]

Week: 2 (17 May 2011)

3. Give an explanation of the four lines of the refuge prayer. [4]
- ‘To the Buddha, the Dharma and the supreme assembly,**

I go for refuge until I reach enlightenment.

From the merit that I accumulate from generosity and so forth,

May I attain Buddhahood for the sake of all sentient beings.’

4. What won’t help us and what will help us unfailingly at the time of death? [4]

5. How can simply using the word ‘I’ help one’s practice? [2]

6. **Verse 211: ‘If the causes of all things are small
But they produce extensive effects,
The thought that the measureless causes of Buddhahood
Have measureable effects should be eliminated.’**

- a) What are the four attributes of karma? [4]

- b) What does Verse 211 particularly relate to? [2]

Week: 3 (24 May 2011)

7. Name the further two subdivisions of the form body and give an explanation of each. [4]

8. a) Explain the supreme emanation body. [2]

- b) Explain the truth body. [2]

9. Give the syllogism that indicates the collections of both merit and wisdom. Give a brief explanation. [4]

Week 4 (31 May 2011)

10. a) On a more profound level what does the accumulation of merit refer to? [2]

- b) What can we understand from this presentation, as the ultimate means to remove all levels of physical suffering in this life and in future lifetimes? [2]

- c) What is the accumulation of wisdom a means to? [2]