
Sharp Weapons. Verse 54 reads:

Hum, Hum! Show all your powers, O mighty
protector.

Dza, Dza! Tie up this enemy; do not let him loose.

In the first line, the mantra or magic word 'Hum' is repeated to indicate the two types of bodhicitta - conventional and ultimate bodhicitta. The 'mighty protector' refers to the wrathful deity or protector, Yamantaka; the verse says 'show all your powers', which is a prayer to the protector to manifest his miraculous powers, and destroy the two enemies [self-cherishing and self-grasping].

In the next line, the words 'Dza, Dza' also refer to the two types of bodhicitta. Generally, the mantra 'Hum' hasn't got a definite meaning, in the sense that it doesn't symbolise anything specific. Rather, 'Hum' can symbolise many things - the holy mind, exulted wisdom, and so on. But 'Dza' has the meaning 'to bring back, or hook back'. In this context, the author is praying to the protector [Yamantaka], asking him bring back the two enemies, tie them up, and not let them loose.

The third line says:

P'a, P'a! Set us free by your might, O great Lord over
Death.

This mantra 'P'a' has different meanings in Tibetan, depending on the context. In this context, the meaning is 'to destroy'. The repetition of this mantra in the third line has the same implication as the mantra repetitions in the previous two lines. The repetition implies the two types of bodhicitta, as well as freeing us from the two enemies, especially the self-cherishing mind.

That's all the teaching for tonight. We are going to chant some mantras. As at the start of the session, could people sit in a meditation posture, relaxing and stabilising the mind inward. Tonight, we'll first chant the Buddha's mantra seven times and then Tara's mantra seven times.

TAYATHA OM MUNI MUNI MAHA MUNAYE SOHA
OM TARA TUTTARE TURE SOHA

*Transcribed from the tapes by Rita Feldmann
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Edited Version*

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