

Source of All Good Qualities

Tsongkhapa (1357-1419)

1.

My kind and venerable guru, you are the source of all good qualities.
Correct devotion to you is the root of the path.
Bless me that I may see this clearly and wholeheartedly exert myself
to rely upon you with great respect!

2.

This precious birth of freedom is found only once,
is greatly meaningful, and is hard to find again.
Bless me that I may realize this and generate the mind that unceasingly,
day and night, takes essence!

3.

This life is as impermanent as a water bubble;
Remember how quickly it decays and death comes.
After death, just like a shadow follows the body,
The results of black and white karma follow.

4.

Bless me that I may find firm and definite conviction in this,
abandon even the slightest negativities and
accomplish all virtuous acts!

5.

Seeking samsaric pleasure is the door to all suffering.
I never be satisfied with or rely upon.
Bless me that I may recognize these shortcomings and
generate the strong wish for the bliss of liberation!

6.

Led by this pure thought,
mindfulness, alertness, and great caution arise.
The root of the teachings is keeping the pratimoksha vows.
Bless me that I may make this my essential practice!

7.

Just as I have fallen into the sea of samsara,
So have all beings, my mothers.
Bless me that I may see this and train in sublime bodhicitta,
bearing the responsibility of freeing beings!

8.

Even if I merely develop bodhicitta,
but I don't train in the three types of morality,
I will not awaken.

Bless me that I may clearly recognize this and
train in the bodhisattva vows with great vigor!

9.

Once I have pacified distractions to wrong objects
and correctly proved the meaning of reality,
Bless me that I may generate quickly within my mindstream
The unified path of calm abiding and special insight!

10.

Having become a pure vessel by training in the general path,
Bless me that I may effortlessly enter the holy gateway of the fortunate ones,
the vajra vehicle, the highest of all the vehicles!

11.

At that time, the basis of accomplishing the two attainments
Is keeping pure vows and samaya.
Bless me that I may gain genuine conviction in this and
protect these vows and pledges like my life!

12.

Then, having understand the key points of the two stages,
The essence of the Vajrayana,
Bless me that I may never give up the four sessions with great vigor
and practice exactly as the words of my holy guru!

13.

May my spiritual teachers who show the noble path like that
and my dharma friends who practice it live long!
Bless me that I may pacify completely
all outer and inner hindrances!

14.

In all my lives, may I never be parted from my authentic gurus
and enjoy the splendor of the teachings!
Fully completing the qualities of the paths and levels,
May I swiftly reach the state of Vajradhara!