

SOURCE OF ALL MY GOOD

HOW TO TAKE A LAMA

(1)

The source of all my good
Is my kind Lama, my Lord;
Bless me first to see
That taking myself to them
In the proper way
Is the very root of the path
Bless me then
To serve and follow them
With all my strength and reverence.

ADVICE TO TAKE THE ESSENCE OF LIFE

(2)

Bless me first to realize
That the excellent life
Of leisure I've found
Just this once
Is ever so hard to find
And ever so valuable;
Grant me then
To wish, and never stop to wish,
That I could take
Its essence night and day.

(3,4)

My body and the life in it
Are fleeting as the bubbles
In the sea froth of a wave.
Bless me first thus to recall
The death that will destroy me soon;
And help me find sure knowledge
That after I have died
The things I've done, the white or black,
And what these deeds will bring to me,
Follow always close behind,
As certain as my shadow.

Grant me then
Enter to be careful
To stop the slightest
Wrongs of many wrongs we do,
And try to carry out instead
Each and every good
Of the many that we may.

LEARNING HOW TO WANT FREEDOM

(5)

Bless me to perceive
All that's wrong
With the seemingly good thing
Of this life.
I can never get enough of them.
They cannot be trusted.
They are the door
To every pain I have.
Grant me then
To strive instead
For the happiness of freedom.

FINDING THE RIGHT PATH TO FREEDOM

(6)

Grant that these pure thoughts
May lead me to be watchful
And to recall
What I should be doing,
Grant me to give
The greatest care
To make the vows of morality
The essence of my practice;
They are the root of the Buddha's teaching

DEVELOPING THE WISH FOR ENLIGHTENMENT

(7)

I have slipped and fallen
Into the sea
Of this suffering life;
Bless me to see
That every living being,
Every one my own mother,
Has fallen in too.
Grant me then
To practice this highest
Wish for enlightenment,
To take on myself
The task of freeing them all.

GENERATING TRAINING IN BODHISATTVA ACTIVITIES

(8)

Bless me to see clearly
That the Wish itself
Is not enough,

For if I'm not well trained
In the three moralities,
I cannot become a Buddha.
Grant me then
A fierce resolve
To master the vows
For children of the Victors.

TRAINING IN THE FINAL TWO PERFECTIONS

(9)
Grant that I may quickly gain
The path where quietude
And insight join together;
One which quiets
My mind from being
Distracted to wrong objects,
The other which analyzes
The perfect meaning
In the correct way.

ENTERING THE VAJRA WAY

(10)
Grant that once I've practiced well
The paths shared and become
A vessel that is worthy,
I enter with perfect ease
The Vajra Way,
Highest of all ways,
Holiest door to come inside
For the fortunate and the good.

KEEPING VOWS AND PLEDGES PURE

(11)
Bless me to know
With genuine certainty
That when I've entered thus,
The cause that gives me
Both the attainments
Is keeping my pledges
And vows most pure.
Grant me then
To always keep them
Even if it costs my life.

MEDITATING ON THE TWO SECRET STAGES

(12)
Bless me next

To realize precisely
The crucial points'
Of both the stages,
The essence of
The secret ways.
Gran me then to practice
As the Holy One has spoken,
Putting all my effort in
And never leaving off
The practice of the Four Times,
Highest that there is.

A REQUEST FOR GOOD CIRCUMSTANCES

(13)

Bless me, grant me that
The spiritual Guide
Who show me this good road,
And all my true
Companions in this quest
Live long and fruitful lives.
Bless and gran me that
The rain of obstacles,
Things within me
Of outside me
That could stop me now,
Stop and end forever.

(14)

In all my lives
May I never live
Apart from my perfect Teachers,
May I bask in the glory of the dharma!
May I fulfil perfectly
Every good quality
Of every level and path,
And reach then quickly
The place where I
Become myself Vajradhara
- The keeper of the Vajra!