## Encouraging Ourselves - Handout for Saturday, July 6

July 6 & 7, 2024 at Kunzang Palchen Ling & Livestreamed 10:30 am – noon & 2:00 – 3:30 pm



The eternal knot (স্থামাইন্ত) symbolizes interdependence and the endless wisdom and compassion of the Buddhas.

Teaching description: It can be hard to find time to practice. Sometimes we lose touch with our motivation. At these times, it can help to remember why we began practicing in the first place. Setting the right intention, cultivating good habits, and relying on inspiring examples are some ways to encourage ourselves to continue moving in the right direction. We will ruminate on and discuss these topics this weekend.

#### Outline:

- 1) Setting the right intention
- 2) Cultivating good habits
- 3) Relying on inspiring examples
- 4) Overcoming obstacles

#### Breakdown:

- 1) Setting the right intention
  - a. Establishing an accurate understanding of our situation and that of all beings
  - b. Giving rise to the wish to help beings = Compassion, Bodhicitta & Meditation
- 2) Cultivating good habits
  - a. Wisely steering oneself in how to think and act

- 3) Relying on inspiring examples
  - a. Garnering wisdom from instructive stories and teachers
- 4) Overcoming obstacles
  - a. Learning how to overcome obstacles to practice

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In brief, whatever course of action one takes, one should I ask, "What is the state of my mind?" Accomplishing others' purpose through continually being mindful and vigilant is the bodhisattvas' practice.

(Verse 36, The Thirty-Seven Practices of a Bodhisattva)

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**Short Daily Practice** 

### **Refuge Prayer**

# **७७। । सरसः मुसः कें सः ५८: कें ग्रसः ग्री: सकें गः इससः य। ।**

SANG GYE CHÖ DANG TSHOK KYI CHOK NAM LA In the Buddha, the Dharma, and the Assembly Most Excellent,

JANG CHUP BAR DU DAK NI KYAP SU CHI I take refuge until I reach enlightenment.

DAK GI JIN SOK GYI PAY SÖ NAM KYI By the merit of generosity and other good deeds,

DRO LA PHEN CHIR SANG GYE DRUP PAR SHOK May I attain buddhahood for the sake of all beings.

Recite this 3x

#### The Four Immeasurables

SEM CHEN THAM CHE DE WA DANG DE WAY GYU DANG DEN PAR GYUR CHIK May all sentient beings gain happiness and the cause of happiness.

DUK NGAL DANG DUK NGAL GYI GYU DANG DREL WAR GYUR CHIK May they be free from suffering and the cause of suffering.

DUK NGAL ME PAY DE WA DAM PA DANG MI DREL WAR GYUR CHIK May they never be separated from the highest bliss, which is devoid of suffering.

NYEY RING CHAK DANG NYI DANG DREL WAY TANG NYOM CHEN PO LA NE PAR GYUR CHIK May they come to rest in the great impartiality, which is free of attachment and aversion.

Recite this 3x

Seven Branch Prayer

ଣ୍ଡଗ୍'ରର୍ଜ୍ୟ'ସ'ସ୍ଟ', ଅଧିକ୍ରିଟ'ସମ୍ପର୍ଷ୍ଟ'ସ'ସ୍ଟ' | CHAK TSEL WA DANG CHÖ CHING SHA PA DANG Whatever virtuous actions I have accumulated

ÈN'સુ'પો'રુદ'ગાર્સુભ'લેદ'ગાર્સભ'રા'પો|
JAY SU YEE RANG KÜL SHING SÖL WA DEB
Through prostrating, offering, confessing,

ସଷଷ'ତ୍ରମ୍'ହ୍ଲିସ୍ଷ'ସନ୍ଦି'ଗ୍ରମ'ଫ୍ଡିମ୍'ଫିନ୍'ସହୁଁମ୍ || ||
TAM CHAY DZOK PAY JANG CHUB CHIR NGO
I dedicate them to the full and perfect enlightenment of all beings.

Recite this 3x

The Four Thoughts that Turn the Mind (শ্লু'ৰ্ভুব্'ক্ক্'ব্ৰি)

*दे*ॱषी:दद्यां त्य:द्यां त्यां द्यां द्यां द्यां द्यां त्यां त्यां त्यां त्यां त्यां त्यां त्यां त्यां त्यां त्या

The first of these is contemplation of the difficulty of acquisition of leisure and resources:

KYE MA KYE HU DUK NGAL KOR WAY DAM DAL JOR TOP KYANG MI TSE TONG SAY GYUR Oh! In this swamp of suffering, samsara, even if I acquire leisure and resources my life is wasted.

DA NI JIK SHING LAY LA GYÖ PA KYE TÖN ME MI TANG GO SUM GE LA KUL Terrified, I now regret my actions. I will not let this go to waste! I will employ my three gates in virtue!

Second, repeated contemplation of impermanence:

JIK TEN CHÖ NYI NANG YANG GYU MAY PAY KAY CHIK TSAM YANG TAK PA ME SHIN LA This world's nature is appearance like a magical illusion. There is not even a moment's permanence.

RANG SHIN TAK PAR DZIN DI JI PAY LO DI LAY DOK CHIR LO KA LING GI LOK This fixation on it as permanent is infantile. I will completely turn my mind away from this.

|गश्च्यायाकुःत्व्यायश्च्यायाः

Third, with trust in the infallible results of actions:

# है'क्षेर'न्धुन'गुर-कु'न्द'रव्वश्राद्य'यश्रा ।न्यार'वयानहे'ववश्रान्धे'र्रुअ'अ'हेन्'गुर'।

JI TAR CHAY KYANG GYU DANG DRAY BU LAY KAR NAK JAY TAP PAY TSAM MA NYAY KYANG However much you look, you will never find even a single case of the results of virtuous and negative actions

DA DUNG NYING MAY DAM DZAP DI LA SHEN LU MAY LAY LA SAM SHIK YANG YANG JA being interchanged. In spite of that, I still crave this pointless swamp! I will repeatedly contemplate the infallibility of actions.

### |प्रविदाः वर्षेरः प्रदेः स्वाः स्वाः याप्रस्यः है।

Fourth, contemplate the suffering of samsara:

# मवश्रम्भवश्रम्भद्रात्वेदात्वेदायाकम्भावदीरावर्षेत्र। विश्चान्त्रीत्वेदायाद्रात्रात्वेदाया

NAY KAP NANG SHING SHEN LA CHAK DIR KOR LU DRI YIN KYANG RANG LA YI CHAY MAY Samsara is craving and attachment to appearances. Although I know this is deception, I lack self-confidence.

# रदःसर्वे रद्भावक्षेर्या क्षेत्र विद्या क्षेत्र विद्या क्षेत्र विद्या विद्या क्षेत्र विद्या विद्या विद्या विद्या

RANG GO RANG GI KOR DI YI RE KYO LO NA CHÖ LA GYUR SHING NGEN LAY SHOL I am saddened by my self-deception. I will turn my mind to dharma and cease wrongdoing!

- Short meditation session (5-10 minutes, seated or walking)

Simply be with your mind, your awareness.

Do not slip into thoughts of the past, present or future.

Stay with your awareness.

You are giving yourself a break from thoughts.

You may use your breath as an anchor if you wish.

- Custom aspiration for the day.

Ex. Today may I be patient and kind to my family and everyone I meet. May I be compassionate and put the needs of others before my own. May I apply my three gates in virtue and bring clarity and awareness to all I do

At the end, dedicate the merit:

# >>>। । पर्केन:वस्रकायने:धेकावस्रकाउन:ग्राचेगकाय:वेन। ।

SÖ NAM DI YI THAM CHE ZIK PA NYI By this merit, may all attain omniscience.

## र्वेयाव्याकेश्वायदेर्ग्याद्वस्यस्यस्य व्याव्या

THOP NE NYE PAY DRA NAM PAM JE NE May it defeat the enemy, wrongdoing.

KYE GA NA CHI BA LAP THRUK PA YI
From the stormy waves of birth, old age, sickness, and death,

## वर्श्वद्रायदेश्वर्क्षेत्वश्चर्त्वा वर्षेत्र वर्षेत्र ।

SI PAY TSO LE DRO WA DRÖL WAR SHOK From the ocean of samsara, may I free all beings.

<sup>\*</sup>Assume the proper position