

2022 Margha Program

Textual Outline of *Entering the Way of the Bodhisattva**

by Shantideva



Chapter 1: Benefits - The Inspiration for Bodhichitta

Opening verses (verses 1.1 – 1.5)

Seen and unseen benefits of bodhichitta (verses 1.6 – 1.14)

Aspirational and engaged bodhichitta (verses 1.15 – 1.36)

Chapter 2: Confession - Preparing for the Bodhisattva Vow

Offerings (verses 2.1 – 2.25)

Going for refuge (verse 2.26)

Confession with the four powers (verses 2.27 – 2.65)

Chapter 3: Embracing Bodhichitta - Taking the Bodhisattva Vow

Rejoicing (verses 3.1 – 3.4)

The request and supplication (verses 3.5 – 3.6)

Dedications (verses 3.7 – 3.22)

The bodhisattva vow (verses 3.23 – 3.24)

Taking delight (verses 3.25 – 3.34)

Chapter 4: Carefulness - The Basis of Practice

Opening verse (verse 4.1)

Being careful to keep the promise of bodhichitta (verses 4.2 – 4.12)

Being careful to keep the precepts (verses 4.12 – 4.48)

*Amongst the multiple translations of *Bodhicaryavatara* by Shantideva referred to in the Margha Program, this textual outline is derived from the table of contents and text of *Entering the Way of the Bodhisattva: A New Translation and Contemporary Guide* by Khenpo David Karma Choephel.

Chapter 5: Awareness - The Essence of Discipline

Opening verses (verses 5.1 – 5.22)

Developing mindfulness and awareness (verses 5.23 – 5.33)

Training in the conduct of guarding the mind (verses 5.34 – 5.96)

- The discipline of refraining from harmful actions (verses 5.34 – 5.58)

- The discipline of gathering virtuous qualities (verses 5.59 – 5.83)

- The discipline of benefiting beings (verses 5.84 – 5.96)

Enhancing the practice of discipline (verses 5.97 – 5.109)

Chapter 6: Overcoming Anger

Opening verses (verses 6.1 – 6.11)

Being patient with pain and harm (verses 6.12 – 6.63)

Practicing patience for those who harm loved ones (verses 6.64 – 6.75)

Rejoicing in adversaries' good fortune (verses 6.76 – 6.86)

Being patient when desires are frustrated (verses 6.87 – 6.126)

The results of practicing patience (verses 6.127 – 6.134)

Chapter 7: Diligence - Enthusiasm for practice

Opening verses (verses 7.1 – 7.2)

Overcoming laziness (verses 7.2 – 7.30)

The four forces (verses 7.31 – 7.68)

Increasing diligence (verses 7.69 – 7.77)

Chapter 8: Meditation - Cultivating Bodhichitta

Opening verses (verses 8.1 – 8.2)

Solitude of body - leaving society (verse 8.3 – 8.37)

Solitude of mind - giving up discursive thoughts (verses 8.38 – 8.88)

Meditating on the equality of oneself and others (verses 8.89 – 8.110)

Meditating on exchanging oneself for others (verses 8.111 – 8.184)

Dispelling the obscurations to meditation (verses 8.185 – 8.187)

Chapter 9: Prajna - Understanding the True Nature

Opening verse (verse 9.1)

The two truths (verses 9.2 – 9.55)

- Introduction (verses 9.2 – 9.5)
- Foundation vehicle objections to the two truths (verses 9.6- 9.15)
- Mind only objections to the two truths (verses 9.16 – 9.29)
- Fruition of meditating on the illusoriness of appearances (verses 9.30 – 9.39)
- The legitimacy of the Mahayana (verses 9.40 – 9.55)

Methods for meditating on emptiness (verse 9.56 – 9.110)

- Meditating on the selflessness of the individual (verses 9.56 – 9.77)
- Meditating on the selflessness of phenomena (verses 9.78 – 9.110)

Eliminating attachment to things (verses 9.111 – 9.151)

The results of meditating on emptiness (verses 9.151 – 9.167)

Chapter 10: Dedication - Transcending Our Limited Vision

Opening verses (verses 10.1 – 10.3)

Dedications for beings in the lower realms (verses 10.4 – 10.17)

Dedications for humans (verses 10.18 – 10.41)

Dedications for dharma practitioners (verses 10.42 – 10.58)

