



The Asian Classics Institute



Diamond Mountain University

Name:
Date:
Location:
Track:
Grade:

## IN-DEPTH COURSE II

### Master Shantideva's Guide to the Bodhisattva's Way of Life

#### The Chapter on Killing Anger

##### *Homework, Class Ten*

1) How does Master Shantideva advise that we repay the kindness of the Buddhas—those he calls our “closest friends”? Quote a verse from his text to answer. (Tibetan and Sanskrit tracks in those languages.)

2) How, according to Master Shantideva, do all living beings play a role in our repaying the kindness of the Buddhas?

3) Master Shantideva says that “even the one that I consider my Master has disregarded even his own holy body” for the sake of living beings, but that we refuse to act the same. How does he characterize our refusal? Quote the relevant half of a verse. (Sanskrit and Tibetan tracks in those languages.)

4) Describe, in a famous half-verse, the connection between what we do to all the other beings around us, and what we do to the Buddhas themselves. (Sanskrit and Tibetan tracks in these languages.)

5) Master Shantideva uses a certain metaphor to describe how it feels to the Buddhas whenever we respond in a negative way to someone who hurts us. Describe.

6) When we finally realize how much it hurts the Buddhas when we hurt other people, we feel a natural wish to ask all these enlightened beings to forgive us for all the pain we have caused them in the past. Describe the two offerings which Master Shantideva mentions we can make, and which incidentally possess a tremendous power to remove much of the bad karma of hurting the Buddhas.

7) The Buddhas are the embodiment of compassion itself; and the Buddhas themselves are embodied in someone else. Who is that, and how?

8) Name what it is that Master Shantideva describes as “the one thing which pleases all the Buddhas, and which is the one way to accomplish ones own goals, and moreover the very method to remove the pain of the entire world.”

9) Give the five parts of the illustration of the king and his worker.

(a)

(b)

(c)

(d)

(e)

10) Master Shantideva points out that the metaphor comparing kings to Buddhas breaks down in two important aspects. Name them.

(a)

(b)

11) The final result of practicing the perfection of patience is, of course, that we achieve enlightenment, becoming a deathless angel who can serve every living being. Master Shantideva, in the final verses of the patience chapter, also lists eight benefits that come to us even before we escape the cycle of pain. List them, in two groups as he does.

(a)

(b)

(c)

(d)

(e)

(f)

(g)

(h)

*Meditation assignment:* 15 minutes a day, analytical meditation on just *how* each living creature in the universe is an actual embodiment of the Buddhas.