

COURSE VII The Vows of the Bodhisattva

Name:		
Date:		
Grade:		

## Final Examination

1) Name the principal commentary that we will be using for our study of the vows of the bodhisattva; give the author's full name and dates. (Tibetan track in Tibetan.)

2) Summaries of the precepts contained in the three sets of vows are a standard type of book in Tibetan monasteries. Name the summary we will use, its author and his approximate dates. (Tibetan track in Tibetan.)

3) Give the short definition of bodhichitta taught by Maitreya.

4) Name and describe three sufferings, and explain their cause. (Tibetan track name in Tibetan and describe in English.)

a) b) c)

cause

(Please see the next page)

5) Name and describe the three different types of morality. (Tibetan track name in Tibetan and describe in English.)

a)

b)

c)

6) Describe Je Tsongkapa's reaction to the idea that practitioners of the secret way do not need to follow the other two sets of vows.

7) Describe the kind of person who can grant the vows of a bodhisattva.

8) Describe the kind of person who can take the vows of the bodhisattva.

9) List the eighteen root downfalls of the bodhisattva vows, using the short verse forms. (Tibetan track in Tibetan.)

(1)

- (2)
- (3)
- (4)
- (5)
- (6)
- (7)
- (8)
- (9)
- (10)
- (11)
- (12)
- (13)
- (14)
- (15)
- (16)
- (17)
- (18)

Course VII: Final Examination, cont.

10) Describe the result which is required for the 11th root downfall to occur.

11) The 18th root downfall, and one other before it, are particularly serious and occur whether or not the four mental afflictions called the "chains" are all present. Name this other root downfall and describe it briefly. (Tibetan track in Tibetan.)

12) Name the four "chains": the four mental afflictions that bind you, and which must all be present in order for a "major" instance of these afflictions to occur-- which destroys one's root vow. (Tibetan track in Tibetan.)

a) b) c) d)

13) Describe the difference between shame and consideration. (Tibetan track name in Tibetan and describe in English.)

14) Why is it wrong to be overly comforted by the fact that, if you destroy a root vow, you can take it over again?

15) Name three different ways that a person can lose his or her bodhisattva vows.

a) b) c)

16) Name five instances in which you do not commit a secondary offense if you fail to reply to a question.

a) b) c) d) 17) Describe the kind of person you must be to break one of the rules of body and speech out of compassion in certain very extraordinary circumstances.

18) Name and describe the five kinds of wrong livelihood taught in the *String of Precious Jewels,* and then describe the additional general kind of wrong livelihood mentioned by Master Bodhibhadra. (Tibetan track name the five in Tibetan and describe all in English.)

a) b) c) d) e)

Master Bodhibhadra:

19) Name the four points of the practice of virtue. (Tibetan track in Tibetan.)

a) b) c)

d)

20) Describe the kind of bodhisattva who can engage in serious study of hinayana and non-Buddhist teachings without breaking a bodhisattva vow.

21) Describe the four ways in which a person may make the mistake of rejecting a mahayana teaching.

a) b) c) d)

22) Explain what the Protector, Maitreya, advises us to do if we find that some Buddhist teaching doesn't suit us for now.

23) Name the "two states of mind" and "the other two states of mind" that often occur as motivations for committing the secondary offenses. (Tibetan track in Tibetan.)

- a) b) c)
- d)

Course VII: Final Examination, cont.

24) Name the four white deeds, and for each explain the black deed for which it acts as an antidote. (Tibetan track name white deeds in Tibetan, explain the black deed in English.)

a) b) c) d)

25) Can a person break a secondary vow out of a mere forgetfulness, or does the motivation have to be one of the mental afflictions?

26) Name the four typical causes why a person might break their bodhisattva vows.

a) b) c) d) 27) Name the four antidotes for these four causes. (Tibetan track in Tibetan.)

a)

b)

- c)
- d)

\*\*\*\*\*

Please PRINT your name clearly, exactly as you would like it to appear on your certificate, and the address to which the certificate should be sent.

Please circle one or specify other: Mr. Ms. Mrs. Miss Venerable

Name as you would like it to appear on the certificate:

Mailing name, if different:		
Address		
City	_State	_ Zip code

Country \_\_\_\_\_