

# Twenty Benefits of Giving Dharma

“...You will come to have (1) recollection, (2) intelligence, (3) understanding, (4) stability, (5) wisdom, (6) supra-mundane wisdom. (7) little desire, (8) little hatred, and (10) little ignorance. Also, (10) demons will not find an opportunity to harm you, (11) the bhagavan buddhas will think of you as precious, (12) nonhumans will guard you, (13) deities will bestow charisma and power on you, (14) enemies will find no opportunity to harm you, (15) friends will remain steadfast, (16) your words will be trusted, (17) you will attain fearlessness, (18) you will have abundant happiness, (19) you will be praised by the wise, and (20) your gift of the teaching will be worthy of remembrance.” [The Great Treatise..., Vol. 1, p. 63]

# How to Explain the Dharma (p. 26-29)

1. Contemplating the Benefits of Explaining the Dharma
2. Generating Respect for the Teacher and the Dharma
3. The Proper Attitude and Behavior with which to Explain the Dharma
4. Differentiating Those to Whom the Explanations Should be Given
  - How to Conclude the Session

# The Stages of Guiding Students

4. The stages by which a student should be guided through the actual instructions (Chapters 4-27)

1) Relying on a Spiritual Teacher, the Root of the Path (Chapters 4-5)

a. The somewhat elaborate explanation for generating certainty

b. Condensed presentation of how to practice

2) The stages of training the mind once you have relied on a teacher (Chapters 6-5)

## a. Elaborate Explanation

1. Characteristics of the one to be relied on, the virtuous friend
2. Characteristics of the one who relies, the student
3. The way to rely
4. The benefits of reliance
5. The faults of improper reliance
6. A summary of the meaning of these points

# Ideal Characteristics of a Teacher

1. Disciplined—higher training in ethics\*
2. Calm—higher training in concentration\*
3. Complete peace—higher training in wisdom\*
4. Superior qualities
5. Diligent
6. Rich in scriptures
7. Understands suchness\*
8. Eloquent
9. Loving\*
10. Never disheartened

\* The five most important qualities

At least find a teacher who has 1) more good qualities than faults, 2) more concern for others than for him/her-self, and 3) more concern for future lives than this life.

# Ideal Characteristics of Disciples

Aryadeva:

1. Impartial
2. Intelligent
3. Interested

Chandrakirti:

4. Respect for the Dharma and its teacher
5. An attentive mind