

# **Bodhisattvas Vows**

As provided to San Antonio students by Geshe Nima in January, 2020

## **Eighteen root transgressions of the Bodhisattvas Vows.**

- 1 Praising oneself and belittling others.
- 2 Not giving material aid or teachings of dharma.
- 3 Not listening when someone declares his or her offenses.
- 4 Abandoning the teachings of Mahayana and preaching false doctrine akin to the Mahayana.
- 5 Misusing offerings of the three jewels not given to oneself.
- 6 Abandoning sublime Dharma.
- 7 Evicting monks and nuns.
- 8 Committing any of five extreme actions.
- 9 Holding wrong views.
- 10 Destroying place of worship or pilgrimage.
- 11 Teaching Emptiness to improper Receptacles.
- 12 Turning people away from working for enlightenment.
- 13 Abandoning the vows of individual liberation.
- 14 Mistreating the Hinayana doctrine.
- 15 Lying exorbitantly Of superhuman attainments.
- 16 Misappropriation of the property of the three jewels.
- 17 Holding corrupt ethical discipline.
- 18 Abandoning of the Mind of Enlightenment.

## **The forty-six secondary transgressions of Bodhisattva vows**

### **Seven associated with the perfection of giving:**

- 1 Not making offerings to the three jewels every day by means of body, speech, and mind.
- 2 Indulging in worldly pleasures such as in talking by means of attachments.
- 3 Being disrespectful to the senior trainees and those are knowledgeable.
- 4 Not giving answers to those who ask questions relating to Dharma.
- 5 Declining an invitation without good reason extended in good faith.
- 6 Refusing to accept offerings of gold and the like when it is said to be permissible to accept them with a mind free of attachment.
- 7 Not giving dharma to those who desire it.

### **Nine Associated with the perfection of morality:**

- 1 Neglecting those who have broken their moral commitments.
- 2 Not using one's three door of activities to effect trainings that cause others to generate faith.
- 3 Not making efforts to benefit others in order to help others even to the extent of carrying their luggage and the like.
- 4 Refusing to do negative actions even though it's taught that these are free of negativities when motivated by compassion.
- 5 Practicing wrong livelihood.
- 6 Indulging frivolous activities by body, speech and mind.
- 7 Thinking without good reason that a bodhisattva can attain enlightenment solely by being in the midst of samsaric household life.
- 8 Not avoiding bad reputation.
- 9 Not helping someone to avoid a situation when you know others do it forced by their negativities.

**Four associated the perfection of patience:**

- 1 The four such as retaliating a harm with harm and so on.
- 2 Neglecting to apologize those who were incited into anger by oneself.
- 3 Not accepting other's sincere apologies.
- 4 Letting oneself be carried out by anger against others.

**Three associated with the perfection of effort.**

- 1 Gathering a circle of followers out of desire for profit or reputation.
- 2 Not trying to eliminate habits such as laziness that are obstacles to the practicing dharma.
- 3 Indulging in gossip out of attachment other than in conversation to help others.

**Three associated with perfection of concentration:**

- 1 Not making efforts to find the meaning of concentration.
- 2 Not overcoming the five obstacles to concentration.
- 3 Being attached to the taste or ecstatic suppleness of meditative concentration.

**Eight associated with the perfection of wisdom:**

- 1 Abandoning the Lower Vehicle.
- 2 Putting great effort in studying the doctrine of the Lower Vehicle and other subjects even though they serve no significant purpose for one has already embarked on to the study and practice of the Greater Vehicle.
- 3 Although it's necessary to study other subjects for good reasons, but being engrossed in them with pleasure.
- 4 Not making effort in the study and practice of Greater Vehicle teaching and Abandoning them.
- 5 Praising oneself and criticizing others with negligence.
- 6 Making no effort to study or practice dharma.
- 7 Neglecting the study and practice of dharma and preferring to read other non dharma materials.
- 8 Criticizing the words of the teacher without trying to understand the meaning of what has been said.

**Twelve associated with not giving assistance and care to others:**

Of these there are four for not not giving assistance to others, which are:

- 1 Not going to the assistance of those seeking help for their purpose.
- 2 Neglecting to offer service to the sick.
- 3 Not acting to dispel sufferings of others although one is capable of giving help.
- 4 Not helping others to overcome their bad habits knowingly.

Six faults for not benefiting others:

- 1 Not returning help of those who benefit oneself.
- 2 Not relieving the distress of others.
- 3 Not giving material help to those who seek charity out of laziness even though one lacks miserliness.
- 4 Not giving assistance to one's disciples to fulfill their temporary benefits.
- 5 Not acting in accordance with the inclinations of others when these do not contradict dharma.
- 6 Not praising the good qualities of others unless there is special purpose of turning their mind to Dharma.

Two faults for not subduing an evil person:

- 1 Not subduing others with wrathful actions when is harmonious to their evil conduct.
- 2 Performing miracles and threatening actions or so on.