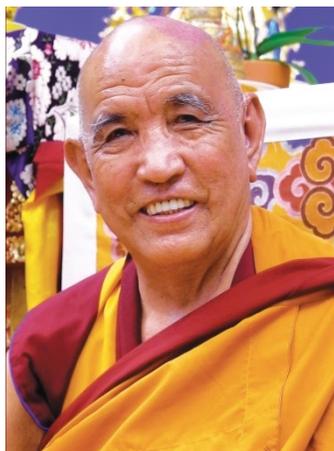


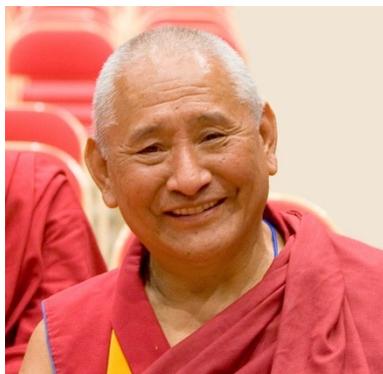
Deer Park Summer Program 2018

Monday, June 18th through Friday, July 13th

Three Amazing Teachers – Three Important Texts



[Ganden Tri Rinpoche](#)



Geshe Tenzin Dorjee



Geshe Tenzin Sherab

June 18 – 29 (weekdays only): Ganden Tri Rinpoche Jetsun Lobsang Tenzin will give a commentary on the Second Chapter of the *Pramanavarttika* by Dharmakirti based on Gyaltsab-Je's commentary on the same chapter. [Tri Rinpoche](#) is the head of the Gelug school of Tibetan Buddhism. Rinpoche will teach during the morning sessions. Geshe Tenzin Sherab will review the morning teachings, expand as needed, and take questions during the afternoon sessions.

June 30: Tri Rinpoche will confer the Amitayus Long Life Initiation.

July 2 – 5 & 7: Geshe Tenzin Dorjee, Deer Park's abbot, will teach Lama Tsongkhapa's *Three Principal Aspects of the Path* based on the commentary by Pabongka Rinpoche. (July 6 is a celebration of His Holiness the Dalai Lama's birthday)

July 9 - 13: Geshe Tenzin Sherab, one of Deer Park's excellent resident teachers, will review and then continue his commentary on Nagarjuna's *Suhrillekha, Letter to a Friend (A Friendly Letter)*, based on Ven. Rendawa's commentary.

Notes on the Texts:

- The Second Chapter of the *Pramanavarttika* is a commentary on Dignaga's homage to Sakyamuni Buddha in the first two lines of the *Compendium on Authoritativeness*. The primary purpose of the chapter is to establish Shakyamuni Buddha as the supreme valid and reliable Guide. Dharmakirti "sets forth a rational demonstration that past and future lives are real, mind is separable from the body, mind's nature is such that enlightenment is possible, and the achievement of enlightenment requires the attainment of the uniquely Buddhist realization of no-self." (Snow Lion newsletter - 1994)

Suggested Reading:

- An English translation of Dharmakirti's root text and Gyaltsab-Je's commentary is included in *Is Enlightenment Possible?* by Roger R. Jackson. Unfortunately, this book is out of print though some copies may be found in used book stores or online. Electronic versions of the book will be available for students attending the course.
- Electronic versions of other full or partial translations may be available for students attending the course if permissions are granted.
- A hardcopy of one of these sources may be available for purchase by attendees (depending on permissions).
- In *Three Principal Aspects of the Path* Lama Tsongkhapa explains that renunciation, bodhicitta and a correct view of emptiness (voidness) are the three pathways of mind essential for reaching enlightenment through the sutra and tantra vehicles of practice. This text is often taught. However, not nearly so often is it taught based on the commentary by Pabongka Rinpoche, one of the leading scholar-practitioners of Tibetan Buddhism in the 20th century.

Suggested Reading:

- An English translation of Pabongka's commentary by Sermei Khensur Rinpoche Geshe Lobsang Tharchin is available at [Principal Teachings](#).
- Translations of the root text will be available at the course. Translations of the root text are also available at many sites online including: [Three Principal Aspects](#).



- Nagarjuna's *Suhrillekha, A Letter to a Friend*, is a "poetic presentation of the fundamental teachings of the Great Vehicle, or Mahayana, and is remarkable for its concise style and memorable imagery, making it one of the most widely quoted sources in other commentaries on the Mahayana path. The great Indian Buddhist master Nagarjuna (first-second century C.E.) wrote his celebrated poem "Letter to a Friend" as a gift of advice to a South Indian king, and it has since become a monument in the Indian shastra tradition." "Despite its short length (only 123 verses), it covers the whole Mahayana path ...".

Suggested Reading:

- Translations of the root text are available at: [Nagarjuna's Letter to a Friend \(A. Berzin\)](#) and [Letter to a Friend \(Sakya Center\)](#).
- A translation of Venerable Rendawa's commentary on *A Letter to a Friend* by Geshe Lobsang Tharchin and Artemus Engle is available at the Library of Tibetan Works & Archives and potentially at [Mahayana Sutra & Tantra Press](#). (Though it says "Out of Stock", there may be some copies. Call 732-367-5898 to find out.)

Prerequisites: Everyone is welcome to attend this program, though a familiarity with Mahayana Buddhist study and practice would be helpful.

Schedule (Weekdays and July 7): For the Pramanavarttika course, Tri Rinpoche will teach **9:30 AM - 11:30** and Geshe Tenzin Sherab will teach **1:30 PM – 3:30 PM***.

For the second and third courses, Geshe Tenzin Dorjee and Geshe Tenzin Sherab will teach **10:00 AM - 12:00 noon** and **2:00 PM – 4:00 PM***.

During the first course some days may have a discussion session from 3:45 to 4:45 PM hosted by a senior sangha member or layperson.

* These times may change slightly.

Sangha Housing: Very limited housing is available for sangha at Deer Park.** Ordained monks should contact Ven. Lhundub Sherab (608-835-5572 or Lsherab@hotmail.com). Ordained nuns should contact Cathy Kennedy (ck621@hotmail.com). Please see the list provided for other housing options in the Madison area. *Please send in a completed registration form even if you speak to someone else at Deer Park regarding your intention to attend the course.*

Housing for Laypeople: Lay students are asked to make their own housing arrangements. Please see the list provided for housing options in the Madison area.

Suggested Donation: The suggested donation for **laypeople**, including lunch*, is **\$31/day**. Early deposit is not necessary. **The suggested donation for ordained sangha is zero. No one is refused for inability to pay.**

***Lunch:** A hot lunch (veg./non-veg.) is provided daily as part of the program so attendees have the opportunity to visit and have discussions while sharing and enjoying a delicious meal.

****Donations for Sangha:** Donations are welcome to help those sangha members most needing assistance in paying for housing at Deer Park.

To help with planning and to receive notifications sent only to registrants, please register as soon as possible by completing and either emailing or mailing the Registration Form.

If mailing, send to: Deer Park Buddhist Center
Summer Course Registration
4548 Schneider Drive
Oregon, WI 53575

If emailing: deerparkcourse@gmail.com

Please let us know as soon as possible if you register but then are not able to attend.

We sincerely hope that you can join us for this very auspicious program. Questions should be emailed to deerparkcourse@gmail.com; or call Cathy or Frank at 608-572-2527. Updated information will also be available on Deer Park's website: <http://www.deerparkcenter.org>.



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