

༄༅། །གསུང་ངག་རིན་པོ་ཆའི་ལམ་རིམ་དང་འབྲེལ་བའི་
གསོལ་འདེབས་བསྐྱབ་བྱ་བོནྟི་རྟི་བུ་ལ་གནང་བ།

**Advice for Bodhibhadra:
A Supplication Prayer Connected to the
Graded Path of Precious Teachings**

Jamyang Khyentse Wangpo



KHYENTSE VISION
PROJECT

gsung ngag rin po che'i lam rim dang 'brel ba'i gsol 'debs bslab bya bod+hi d+ha dra la gnang ba

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Kabum, vol. 1 (ka), 488.6–489.6, Dzongsar 2014;

Kabum, vol. 23 ('a), 228.2–229.3, Dzongsar 2014.

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INTRODUCTION

This concise supplication prayer is given in the form of advice to a disciple named Bodhibhadra. Structured as five classic four-line stanzas, the Mahāyāna path is described in a very condensed way. After supplicating the lama, the prayer invokes the four thoughts that turn the mind: the preciousness of human birth, impermanence and death, the defects of saṃsāra, and karmic causality. Next, the motivational elements of love, compassion, and bodhicitta are mentioned, followed by the path-related elements of śamatha and vipaśyanā, and the fruition of simplicity beyond constructs. Moving to Vajrayāna, the prayer asks for ripened blessings from empowerments and to keep one's samaya, in order to realize the continua (tantras) of ground, path, and fruition, that is, the paradigm of the spiritual journey. The prayer ends with a verse of general aspirations for the practitioner's achievement.

བོ་རྒྱུ་བླ་པ་གནང་བ།

Advice for Bodhibhadra

Indivisible from all the conquerors and their heirs, Mañjughoṣa and the others,
You have discovered timeless awareness imbued with wisdom and love.
Glorious lama, learned and accomplished sovereign,
I supplicate you from the bottom of my heart—please grant your blessings! [489]

Please grant your blessings to see all realms of saṃsāra as trenches of fire,
To realize that the freedoms and advantages are difficult to obtain and the time of
death is uncertain,
To grasp deeply that the consequences of actions are inevitable,
And to exert myself properly in adopting and letting go.

Please grant your blessings to train in love, compassion, and aspiring and applied
bodhicitta,
To enter and emerge from the tranquil ocean of samādhi,
To perfect the profound wisdom of vipaśyanā,
And to see simplicity, the underlying nature beyond constructs.

Please grant your blessings to be ripened by empowerment and have completely
pure samaya,
To realize the continuum of the ground, the view of saṃsāra and nirvāṇa as
indivisible,
To actualize the continuum of the path, the wisdom of the two stages,
And to accomplish the continuum of fruition, the four kāyas.

In brief, from now until the essence of awakening,

Please grant your blessings so that I am accepted by the venerable lama and never
separate from him,
All obstacles are pacified, all thoughts and deeds are in accord with the Dharma,
And the twofold benefit is spontaneously accomplished!

The bhikṣu and virtuous spiritual guide Bodhibhadra expressed a need for a presentation such as this. As requested, with the condensed stages of the path of the precious oral teachings as a theme, this supplication prayer connected to points of training was composed by the renunciate Jamyang Khyentse Wangpo. May it be beneficial!

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Sonam Phuntsok, edited by Janine Schulz. Boulder: Shambhala, 2017.

GLOSSARY

all thoughts and deeds

བསམ་སྒྲུབ། • *bsam sbyor*

Everything one thinks of mentally and actually does verbally and physically.

Bodhibhadra

བོ་དྭ་བླ་བ། • *bo dhi bha dra*

Bodhibhadra was a student of Jamyang Khyentse Rinpoche who would later become the Dharma master (*chos rje*) at Dzongsar Monastery. See Dilgo Khyentse Rinpoche, *The Life and Times of Jamyang Khyentse Chökyi Lodrö*, 310.

continuum

རྒྱུད། • *rgyud* • tantra

This can also be translated as “continuity.” It indicates that ground, path, and fruitional tantra are continuities.

continuum of fruition

འབྲས་རྒྱུད། • *'bras rgyud*

The continuum (tantra or continuity) of fruition refers to the fact that the result of the path of tantra is a revelation or discovery of the fruitional qualities of buddha nature, which have been present continuously from the timeless ground.

continuum of the ground

གཞི་རྒྱུད། • *gzhi rgyud*

The ground continuum (tantra or continuity) refers to the fact that the ground of the path of tantra is a continuity, not a discreet entity with a beginning and end.

continuum of the path

ལམ་རྒྱུད། • *lam rgyud*

The path continuum (tantra or continuity) refers to the fact that the path of tantra concerns itself with the continuity of buddha nature that runs through all experience.

enter and emerge

འཇུག་ཅིང་ལུང་། • *'jug cing ldang*

To enter into and come out of states of samādhi.

grasp deeply

ཁོང་རྒྱུ། • *khong chud*

To thoroughly comprehend or inwardly assimilate.

simplicity, the underlying nature beyond constructs

སྤྱོད་བྲལ་གནས་ལུགས། • *spros bral gnas lugs*

The nonconceptual true nature, which is beyond being represented or described by any concepts or constructs.

sovereign

དབང་པོ། • *dbang po*

Connotes a powerful lord.

timeless awareness

ཡེ་ཤེས། • *ye shes*

Wisdom awareness that has always been present “from the beginning,” hence timeless.

tranquil ocean of samādhi

ཞི་གནས་ཏིང་འཛིན་རྒྱ་མཚོ། • *zhi gnas ting 'dzin rgya mtsho*

A metaphor for a state of meditative stability imbued with the calmness of samatha.

trenches of fire

མེ་འོབས། • *me 'obs*

A pit or trench filled with fire.

wisdom of the two stages

རིམ་གཉིས་ཡེ་ཤེས། • *rim gnyis ye shes*

The timeless awareness underlying and actualized by the two principal stages of tantric practice, development and completion. In the development stage, one meditates on the deity, establishing a strong sense of self-identification as such. In the completion stage, one moves beyond the form aspect of the deity and remains in self-awareness of emptiness; it also includes the harnessing of blissful experiences of the subtle body.