

Geshe la said it is good to refer to other texts as well. "If you have commentaries on this then that is fine, but other texts like the Lam Rim, also refer to these points. I could go into much more detail but that would take up much more time, and we do have to cover the whole text."

Week 1 (16 February 2010)

1.a) What is Nagarjuna known for? [2]

b) Why is it good for us to know a little bit of the background of Nagarjuna? [2]

2. Give a summary of the first verse of Precious Garland. [5]

Homage to all Buddhas and bodhisattvas
I bow down to the omniscient
Freed from all defects,
Adorned with all good qualities,
The sole friend of all beings

Week 2 (23 February 2010)

3. Explain the meaning behind the terms:

a) 'High status' [2]

b) 'Definite goodness'. [2]

4. Explain the four points, which consist of the purpose and the relationship. [4]

5a) Give the actual definition of *dharma*. [2]

b) Explain the *Dharma* referred to here (in the treatise.). [2]

Week 3 (2 March 2010)

1. Give a brief explanation of the meditation practice, which we can do when reciting the verse from the guru puja. [5]

2. How does faith work in relation to cause and effect? [4]

3. Give the characteristics of the suitable vessel who is endowed with faith. [4]

Week 4 (9 March 2010)

9. Name and discuss the four conditions that must be met for a virtuous or non-virtuous karma to be complete. "These are explained extensively in *The Lam Rim Chen Mo* or *The Graduated Path to Enlightenment*." A Lam Rim textbook will be a suitable source on which to base your discussion. [4]

10. Another point to discuss would be how to purify any negative karma that we might create. Discuss how a purification practice works. (Not in exam)

11. Of the sixteen practices of High status, name the thirteen that have to be abandoned and the three that have to be adopted. [8]