

Advice from the Tradition October 22-24, 2013 Bodh Gaya

Day Three: Concluding Remarks from Professor Sempa Dorji

(Speech in Tibetan, Translated into English)

Under the leadership of the two Kyabje Rinpoches, this project is a not small project. It is vast and it is profound. In terms of time also, it is time consuming. And it is kind of like a dream project on which we need to be working for a long time, not for a short time. So in this regard, right now under the leadership of two Rinpoches, there are individuals who are already into this work. I would like to request all to take responsibility. Taking responsibility is very important, not only in spiritual terms, but also in worldly terms. Therefore it is very important to take responsibility, and the project may not finish in one generation but it has to continue until completion. In order to make this project successful, we need participation, responsibility, hard work, and patience – everything is needed. So I request everybody to to do whatever is possible in order to make this into a reality.

Different Types of Responsibility to Make the Project A Success

When it comes to responsibility, there are different levels, different types of responsibility: (i) administrative responsibility; (ii) taking responsibility for the meaning when it comes to translation – the meaning that needs to be perfectly conveyed in the targeted language, that kind of responsibility is very much needed when you enter into this project; (iii) about the work plan; and then (iv) in terms of research. In all areas the responsibility should be there, so that the work actually becomes a success. Of course it is very difficult but it is not something impossible. Because as Shantideva says, "Nothing is impossible if you are used to it. If you make an effort, even enlightenment is possible." Therefore, it may be difficult but it is not impossible.

Translation of Other Collections of Buddha's Teachings Outside of the Kangyur

After we succeed to translate whatever texts there are in the Kangyur collection, after that we can think of translating those words of Buddha that are not included in Kangyur. It would be good if the next would be the *rnying ma rgyud 'bum*, a collection of tantras according to the Nyingma tradition. They are separate from the Kangyur. It would be good if we could translate other teachings of the Lord Buddha which are not included in Kangyur, including the *rgyud 'bum*. And then when it comes to the *rgyud 'bum* translation, it would be very helpful if research could be done on the words, the meaning, the source of texts in those areas.

The Different Aspects and Facilities Required for Project to Succeed

My request is in order to make this project successful, the effort and the enthusiasm right now that we now have should not be temporary. It should continue until the completion of the project and then to the next project. For that, I think even if it takes generations, we can pass it from one generation to another, if it is not completed. If the system of how we work is good, then we can pass it on from one generation to another generation. It would definitely help in the successful completion of the project. Another thing is, I feel it is important to have a particular place or office, a main office where there is a physical place where people can work. Another aspect is funding, and yet another aspect is administration. So in all areas, I request that there will be all possible efforts to make sure that all the ingredients, all the facilities that are needed for the project to be successful are being met. That is my prayer and hope.

I thank all those who are responsible in making this seminar or workshop happen. Because in today's world time for everybody is so busy, we don't have time to sit down and discuss about these things, like about the nature of reality, about academics, and especially about the words of the Buddha, and especially about Buddhist texts and how to translate them and so forth. So, I thank you for giving this opportunity to actually participate in this kind of workshop and share my views. I think it is very beneficial and it is something very precious. I thank all those who put effort in making this workshop happen. Also, I am thankful because personally I felt this discussion was very open and lively, where we shared ideas and challenges, whatever was faced in this work of translation. I also learned very many new ideas, new insights which will definitely help in the future. For that, personally I am thankful, and with this I conclude my speech.