

The Key Points of Trekchö

by Mipham Rinpoche

Dhīh! Before the wisdom-being Mañjuśrī, I reverently bow down.
Here I shall explain the key points of Trekchö—Thorough Cut.

Do not alter the mind but allow it to settle as it is.
And, in such a state, look naturally within.
There will unfold an experience that is indescribable,
Which has no fixed character as either this or that,
And the natural radiance of which will not cease.
This is the genuine state, the natural condition,
The actual *dharmatā*, beyond conception.
It is the insight born of natural luminosity,
The view: like a mountain, left as it is.

As you simply abide by that natural state,
There is neither meditation nor distraction.
Without suppressing, cultivating, evaluating or analysing,
Allow yourself to settle fully into the genuine state.
This is the natural concentration of *dharmatā*,
Uncorrupted by the bonds of deliberate action.
Abiding in the yoga that is the King of Space,
This is meditation: like the ocean, left as it is.

As you remain like this,
Any thoughts and impressions that stir within
And any appearances that occur without,
Should neither be prevented nor encouraged but left as they are.
As long as you do not stray from this natural state,
Whatever unfolds will bring neither benefit nor harm.
Without concern for good or bad, acceptance or rejection,
This is action: appearances, left as they are.

As you make progress, all that appears and exists
Will become a single all-embracing sphere of aware-emptiness,
Within which everything is entirely perfect and complete.
This happens effortlessly, is spontaneously accomplished.
Any striving to adopt or abandon simply fades away,
And hopes and fears for saṃsāra and nirvāṇa are no more.
The primordial nature is made manifest —
The fruition: awareness, left as it is.

This instruction, including the four ways of leaving things as they are,
Is the ultimate purport of the Thorough Cut.
With these key points, liberation will swiftly be attained
As the most glorious form of Mañjuśrī, Gentle Splendour.

This arose from the lake-like mind of Mipham Jampal Gyepa during the Water Snake year (1893-4).

| Translated by Adam Pearcey, 2018.

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