Terton Lama: Jigme Gyatso, Rime Rinpoche 10aug22a



Máy this mind relax into the union

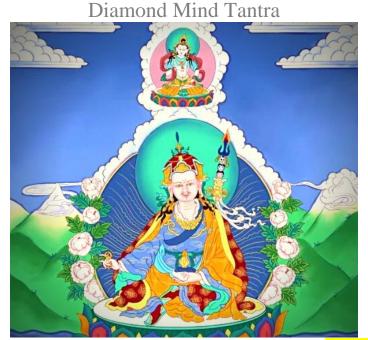
of awareness and letting-go!

Right Mindfulness & Meditation's Seventh & Eighth Folds Calling the Lama from Afar – an Antidote to Obstacles

Tikle drop – First Centering CHANT – <u>Bliss</u> & Release

also known as Essence-mahamudra, Completion-stage, or Anu-yoga





Óh Lama please come to this **CROWN** and aid this training in

awareness & letting-go!

three repetitions

Twenty-eight passage

Thé noble teacher has the nature of all Búd-dhas, ánd of all Bud-dhas, it is he (or she) who is the kíndest.

Séeing the teacher as (if) inseparable from Kun-tu-zang-po Yáb Yum, with great enthusiasm, recite this six-syllable mántra.

Right Mindfulness & Meditation's Seventh & Eighth Folds of

Silent Meditation

slicing-through: the duality of hope and fear that are also known as obscuring emotions

also known as Trekchöd, Sutra-mahamudra, Mahasandhi, Great-completion-stage, or Ati-yoga



Notice me/ relaxing!

This actee/ relaxing!

Diamond Mind Tantra

Notice mind/relaxing!

What actor?/ **Relaxing**!

How perceive?/ **Relaxing**! Who perceives?/ **Relaxing**!

Observant inhalation:

Notice form/ relaxing!

What action?/ **Relaxing**!

What perceive?/ **Relaxing**!

This... (Notice this...)

yes! (relaxing!) **Releasing** exhalation:

128 rounds

Count sixteen rounds upon the LEFT little, ring, middle, & index fingers' lower, middle, & higher creases and tips. Count sixteen sets upon RIGHT little, ring, middle, index, & little finger's lower, middle, & higher sets of creases & tip.

Ngöndro's <u>Sutric Literal</u> Contemplations



Right View's First Fold of Contemplating the Four Thoughts that Turn the Mind to the <u>Teachings from</u> a certain point of view

Résistance exacerbates all <u>stress</u>, <u>independence</u> is but an illúsion, thére is nothing <u>permanent</u> cling to; so let's train in love and <u>lettíng-go!</u>

Right View's First Fold of Bringing the Four Mental Poisons into Wisdom's Path of Contemplating **Stress**

Observant inhalation: How hating...

Relaxing exhalation: quite stressful?

Observant inhalation: How craving...

Relaxing exhalation: quite stressful?

Observant inhalation: How vying...

(competing)

Relaxing exhalation:

quite stressful?

Observant inhalation: How clinging...

Relaxing exhalation: quite stressful?

Right View's First Fold of Bringing the Four Bases of Mindfulness into Wisdom's Path of Contemplating **Interdependence**

Observant inhalation: How are lots... (circumstances)

Relaxing exhalation: dependent?

Observant inhalation: How are forms... (bodies)

Relaxing exhalation: dependent?

(communication/)

Observant inhalation: How is speech... (relationships)

Relaxing exhalation: dependent?

(our minds could perceive: sensations, flavors, scents, sounds, sights, and the like)

our minds could also perceive & generate: emotion, intention, thought, memory, & imagining

Observant inhalation: How are minds...

Relaxing exhalation: dependent?

Right View's First Fold of Bringing the Four Bases of Mindfulness into Wisdom's Path of Contemplating Impermanence

Observant inhalation: How could lots... (circumstances)

Relaxing exhalation: always change?

Observant inhalation: How could forms... (bodies)

Relaxing exhalation: always change?

(communication/)

Observant inhalation: How could speech... (relationships)

Relaxing exhalation: always change?

(our minds could perceive: sensations, flavors, scents, sounds, sights, and the like)

(our minds could also perceive & generate: emotion, intention, thought, memory, & imagining)

Observant inhalation: How could minds...

Relaxing exhalation: always change?

Right View's First Fold of Bringing the Four Bases of Mindfulness into Wisdom's Path of Contemplating **NOT-self**

Observant inhalation: How could lot... (circumstance)

Relaxing exhalation: NOT be "me"?

Observant inhalation: How could form... (body)

Relaxing exhalation: NOT be "me"?

Count four <mark>rounds</mark> upon the LEFT tittle**, ring**, middle, & index fingers' lower, middle, & higher creases and tips.

Count one set upon RIGHT middle finger's tip.

(communication/)

Observant inhalation: How could speech... (relationships)

Relaxing exhalation: NOT be "me"?

our minds could perceive: sensations, flavors, scents, sounds, sights, and the like

(our minds could also perceive & generate: emotion, intention, thought, memory, & imagining)

Observant inhalation: How could mind...

Relaxing exhalation: NOT be "me"?

Right Intention's Second Fold of Practicing the Antidote to Elitism also known as a Ngöndro or Preliminary Practice

Throúgh the cause and effect of my practice of love and lettíng-go máy each sentient being of each world, of each universe now practice with me in uníson.



Right Intention's Second Fold Exploring the Four Immeasurables also known as Ngöndro or Preliminary Practice

Máy everyone be free from stress.

thus no need to hate

May everyone be háppy.

thus no need to crave

Máy NO one be separated from their happíness.

thus no need to cling

Máy everyone have balance: FREE from the tyranny of hating, craving, & clínging.

Right Communication, Conduct, and Commerce's Third, Fourth, & Fifth Folds – Ethics

Máy each beings' practice of KIND: communication, conduct, and commerce flow spontaneous and uncóntrived.



Ngöndro's Tantric Figurative Contemplations



Right Enthusiasm's Sixth Fold and Right Aspiration's Second Fold

Refuge and Bodhichitta—Antidotes for Fear, Hatred, and Competition

also known as Ngöndro or Preliminary Practice

Máy I, like Dor-Je Sem-pa: liberate all beings by relying úpon Búd-dha, Dhar-ma and Sang-ha to master the Eight-fóld path!

three repetitions









Twenty-fourth passage

The ónly never-failing, constant refuge is the Thrée Jewels; thé Three Jewels' single essence is (their ambassador: the) Ben-za Gú-ru. Wíth total, unshakable zeal for his (or her) wisdom, énthusiastic and decisive, recite this six-syllable mántra.

Twenty-fifth passage

Thé basis of the Ma-ha-ya-na path is the *enlightened míndset*; thís sublime thought (of wishing and acting love) is the one path trodden by all the Búddhas. Néver leaving this noble path of the *enlightened míndset* (Bo-dhi-chit-ta), with compassion for all beings, recite this six-syllable mántra.

Right Intention's Second Fold Confession – an Antidote to Guilt

also known as Ngöndro or Preliminary Practice

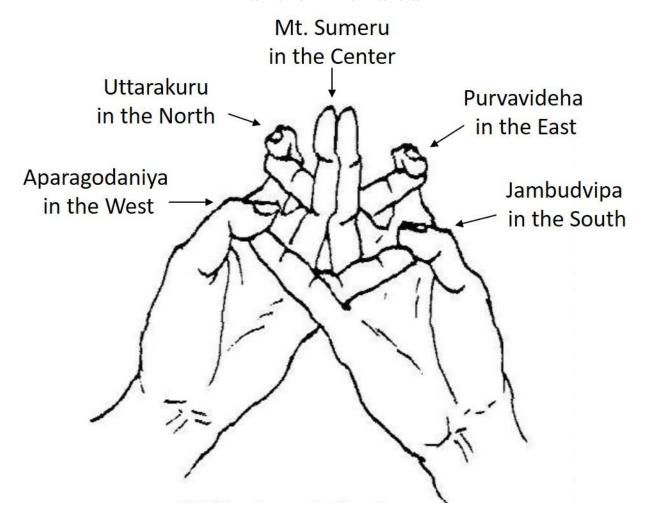
Óh <u>lama</u> I <u>regret</u> the stress I've caused OTHERS and therefore <u>resolve</u> to máster thé Buddha's eight-fold path to benefit ALL:

Om Ben-za Sat-tó Hoong.! one repetition

- 1) Support
- 2) Regret
- 3) Resolve
- 4) Antidote

Twenty-sixth passage

Wándering in Sam-sa-ra from beginningless time untíl now, whát you have done (that) was wrong will lead to further wandéring. Fróm your heart acknowledge all wrongdoing and downfalls, (as well as) conféss them, with the four powers complete, recite this six-syllable mántra.



Right Enthusiasm's Sixth Fold of Mandala Offering — an Antidote to Craving also known as Ngöndro or Preliminary Practice

Í offer a universe full of delights ALL of mine and those imágined tó ALL the denizens of Nir-va-na and Sam-sá-ra!

one repetition



Twenty-seventh passage

Thé mind, holding on to (*the illusion*) of "*me*," clings to everything this is the cause of Sam-sá-ra; só, as offerings to the exalted in Nir-va-na and charity to the lowly in Sam-sá-ra, gíve everything body, possessions, and virtue and dedicate the merit tó all; cásting all attachments far away, recite *this* six-syllable mántra.

Máy this mind coalesce into the union of bliss and letting-go!

Right Mindfulness & Meditation's Seventh & Eighth Folds Guru Yoga – an Antidote to Confusion Tikle drop – Second Centering CHANT – Bliss & Release

also known as Ngöndro or Preliminary Practice



Diamond Mind Tantra



Oh lama please blend with this mind as seed syllable Hoong at this HEART that I may master bliss and letting-go!

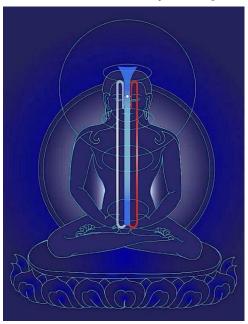
three repetitions

Twenty-ninth passage

Púrifying the obscurations, initiating the practice of the path and actualizing the four Ká-yas, thé essence of the four empowerments is (reliance upon) the teacher (who is like) Dor-je Sem-pa Yáb Yum; if you recognize your own mind as (like) the teacher's, all four empowerments are cómplete; réceiving innate empowerment by yourself, recite this six-syllable mántra.

Right Mindfulness & Meditation's Seventh & Eighth Folds Tikle drop — Centering MEDITATION — <u>Bliss</u> & Letting-go

also known as Essence-mahamudra, Completion-stage, or Anu-yoga



Observant inhalation: [Notice this...]

Releasing exhalation: **yes!** (relaxing!)

128 rounds

Count sixteen rounds upon the LEFT little, ring, middle, & index fingers' lower, middle, & higher creases and tips.

Count sixteen sets upon RIGHT little, ring, middle, index, & little finger's lower, middle, & higher sets of creases & tip.

Notice me/ relaxing!

Diamond Mind Tantra

Notice mind/relaxing!

What actor?/ **Relaxing**! This actee/ relaxing!

What perceive?/ **Relaxing**! How perceive?/ **Relaxing**! Who perceives?/ **Relaxing**!

This... (Notice this...)

yes! (relaxing!) **Observant** inhalation:

Releasing exhalation:

Notice form/ relaxing!

What action?/ **Relaxing**!

128 rounds

Count sixteen rounds upon the LEFT little, ring, middle, & index fingers' lower, middle, & higher creases and tips. Count sixteen sets upon RIGHT little, ring, middle, index, & little finger's lower, middle, & higher sets of creases & tip.

Right View's First Fold of

Mantra Meditation's <u>Figurative</u> Contemplations

Compassionately Bringing All Sufferings of All Beings into the Path of Releasing in the Most Wonderful way thus Leaping-over Confusion's Obstructions to Omniscience

also known as Tantra-mahamudra, Creation-stage, or Maha-yoga



Máy this mind relax into the union of love and letting-go!

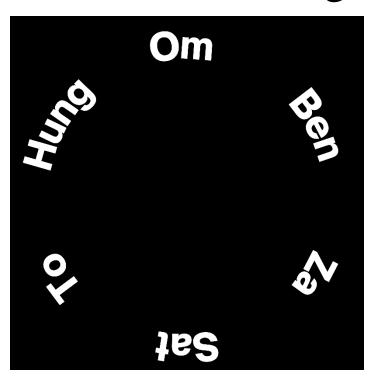
The Mantra's Meaning



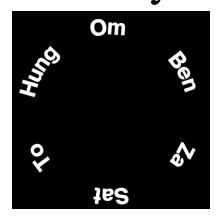
om I invoke
the Ben-za diamond-like strength
of a Sat-to mind
well trained in love and letting-go

súpplicating with Hoong "may love & letting-go be mastered bý all!"

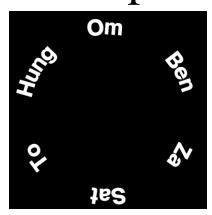
Mantra Mala Yoga



Ás we chant the mantra it could feel as if diamond rays were emitting from á thumb-nail sized, horizontal, six syllable mantra rosary at óur heart



lávishing ALL circumstances, bodies, speech, ánd minds wíth good fortune, health, love, and wisdom: centered and spontanéous.



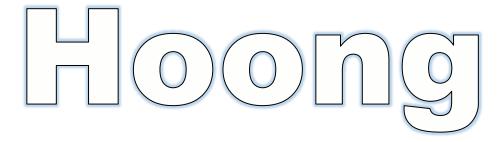
Right Intention's Second fold of

Mantra Meditation's Figurative Contemplations

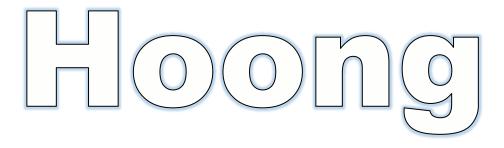
Lovingly Intend to Bring Every Good Thing to Every Being of Every World in the Most Wonderful way thus Leaping-over Confusion's Competitiveness which serves as an Obstruction to Omniscience also known as Tantra-mahamudra, Creation-stage, or Maha-yoga



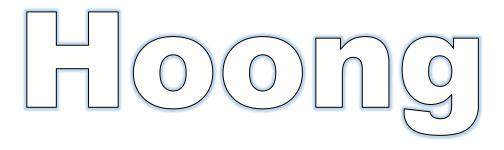
Consider all the unfulfilled mental needs and desires of all beings of all worlds



Máy each mind (or Chit-ta)
now be lavished with every good thing
in the most wonderfúl way



ás if it was a Buddha's mind symbolized by a real or imagined seed (or Bi-ja) mántra!





Observant inhalation: Bi-ja wise

Relaxing exhalation: for ALL minds!

Count four breaths upon the LEFT little, ring, middle, & index fingers' lower, middle, & higher creases and tips.

Count one set upon RIGHT little, ring, middle, index, & little finger's lower, middle, & higher sets of creases & tip.

Observant inhalation:

Bi-ja wise

for ALL minds...

Relaxingly chant:

Ben-za Sat-to Hoong!

Ben-za Sat-to Hoong!

Ben-za Sat-to Hoong!

Ben-za Sat-tó Hoong!

Four mantras per breath for three breaths. Count four breaths upon the LEFT little, ring, middle, & index fingers' lower, middle, & higher creases and tips. Count one set upon RIGHT little, ring, middle, index, little, & ring finger's lower, middle, & higher sets of creases & tip.

Consider all the unfulfilled <u>interpersonal</u> needs and desires of all beings of all worlds



Máy ALL relationships (communication or speech) now be lavished with every good thing in the most wonderfúl way



ás if it was a Buddha's voice symbolized by a real or imagined full (or Ma-ha) mántra!





Observant inhalation: Mantra love...

Relaxing exhalation: for ALL speech!

Count four breaths upon the LEFT little, ring, middle, & index fingers' lower, middle, & higher creases and tips.

Count one set upon RIGHT little, ring, middle, index, & little finger's lower, middle, & higher sets of creases & tip.

Observant inhalation: Man-tra love

for ALL speech...

relaxingly chant: Om Ben-za Sat-to Hoong!

Om Ben-za Sat-to Hoong!

Om Ben-za Sat-to Hoong!

Om Ben-za Sat-tó Hoong!

Four mantras per breath for three breaths.

Count four breaths upon the LEFT little, ring, middle, & index fingers' lower, middle, & higher creases and tips.

Count one set upon RIGHT little, ring, middle, index, little, & ring finger's lower, middle, & higher sets of creases & tip.

Diamond Mind Tantra
Consider all the unfulfilled <u>physical</u> needs and desires of all beings of all worlds



Máy ALL bodies (or forms)
now be lavished with every good thing
in the most wonderfúl way



ás if they were the real or imagined forms of an enlightened archetype (or Yí-dam)!



Diamond Mind Tantra



Observant inhalation:

Relaxing exhalation:

Yi-dam health... for ALL forms!

Count four breaths upon the LEFT little, ring, middle, & index fingers' lower, middle, & higher creases and tips.

Count one set upon RIGHT little, ring, middle, index, & little finger's lower, middle, & higher sets of creases & tip.

Observant inhalation: Yi-dam health for ALL forms...

relaxingly chant: Óm Ben-za Sat-to Hoong!

Om Ben-za Sat-to Hoong!

Om Ben-za Sat-to Hoong!

Om Ben-za Sat-tó Hoong!

Four mantras per breath for three breaths.

Count four breaths upon the LEFT little, ring, middle, & index fingers' lower, middle, & higher creases and tips.

Count one set upon RIGHT little, ring, middle, index, little, & ring finger's lower, middle, & higher sets of creases & tip.

Sixtieth passage

Bélieving the body to be solid is what causes servítude;

if you recognize it as (*like*) the *archetype*, <u>sensual</u> yet void, your body is (as NON-graspable as) Dor-je Sem-pa Yab Yum (of light) it is none other than (*like*) the great purifier.

In the recognition of the *archetype's* body, (as) <u>sensual</u> yet void, recite this six-syllable mantra.

Consider all the unfulfilled <u>circumstantial</u> needs and desires of all beings of all worlds



Máy ALL circumstances (or lots) now be lavished with every good thing (or boon) in the most wonderfúl way



ás if they were a Buddha's real or imagined paradise, pure land, (or vá-ti)!





Observant inhalation:

Relaxing exhalation:

Va-ti boon...
for ALL lots!

Count four breaths upon the LEFT little, ring, middle, & index fingers' lower, middle, & higher creases and tips.

Count one set upon RIGHT little, ring, middle, index, & little finger's lower, middle, & higher sets of creases & tip.

Observant inhalation: Va-ti boon, for ALL lots...

relaxingly chant: Om Ben-za Sat-to Hoong!

Om Ben-za Sat-to Hoong!

Om Ben-za Sat-to Hoong!

Om Ben-za Sat-tó Hoong!

Four mantras per breath for three breaths.

Count four breaths upon the LEFT little, ring, middle, & index fingers' lower, middle, & higher creases and tips.

Count one set upon RIGHT little, ring, middle, index, little, & ring finger's lower, middle, & higher Sets of creases & tip.

Right View's First Fold of

Mantra Meditation's Figurative Contemplations

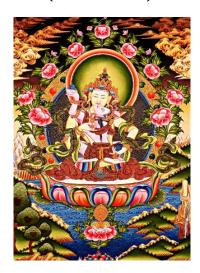
Compassionately Bringing All Sufferings of All Beings into the Path of Releasing in the Most Wonderful way thus Leaping-over Confusion's Clinging which serves as an Obstruction to Omniscience also known as Tantra-mahamudra, Creation-stage, or Maha-yoga



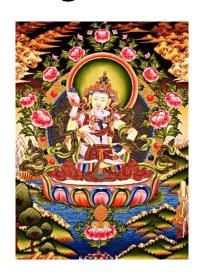
Diamond Mind Tantra



Máy I let go of ALL circumstances (or lots) as if they looked as NON-graspable (ór void)



ás a Buddha's real or imagined paradise, pure land, (or Va-ti) comprised only óf light!





Observant inhalation: How lots seen yet...

Relaxing exhalation: void like Va-ti?

Count sixteen breaths upon the LEFT little, ring, middle, & index fingers' lower, middle, & higher creases and tips.

Count one set upon RIGHT little, ring, middle, index, & little finger's lower, middle, & higher sets of creases & tip.

Observant inhalation: How lots seen yet...

void like Va-ti?

Relaxingly chant: Om Ben-za Sat-to Hoong!

Om Ben-za Sat-to Hoong!

Om Ben-za Sat-to Hoong!

Om Ben-za Sat-tó Hoong!

Four mantras per breath for four breaths.

Count four breaths upon the LEFT little, ring, middle, & index fingers' lower, middle, & higher creases and tips.

Count one set upon RIGHT little, ring, middle, index, & little finger's lower, middle, & higher sets of creases & tip.

Thirtieth passage

Sam-sa-ra is nothing other than how things <u>appear</u> to you; if you recognize every *circumstance* as (*non-graspable as*) the *Pure-land* (*of light*), the good of others is consummated. Seeing the purity of everything confers the four empowerments on all beings at once; dredging the depths of Sam-sa-ra, recite *this* six-syllable mántra.

Diamond Mind Tantra



Máy I let go of ALL bodies (or forms) as if they felt as NON-graspable (ór void)



ás a real or imagined archetype (or Yi-dam) comprised only óf light!



Diamond Mind Tantra



Observant inhalation: How forms felt yet...

Relaxing exhalation: void like Yi-dam?

Count sixteen breaths upon the LEFT little, ring, middle, & index fingers' lower, middle, & higher creases and tips.

Count one set upon RIGHT little, ring, middle, index, & little finger's lower, middle, & higher sets of creases & tip.

Observant inhalation: How forms felt yet...

void like Yi-dam?

relaxingly chant: Óm Ben-za Sat-to Hoong!

Om Ben-za Sat-to Hoong!

Om Ben-za Sat-to Hoong!

Om Ben-za Sat-tó Hoong!

Four mantras per breath for four breaths.

Count four breaths upon the LEFT little, ring, middle, & index fingers' lower, middle, & higher creases and tips.

Count one set upon RIGHT little, ring, middle, index, & little finger's lower, middle, & higher sets of creases & tip.



Máy I let go of all relationships (or speech) as if they sounded as NON-graspable (ór void)



ás a Buddha's real or imagined full (or Ma-ha) mantra comprised only óf light!





Observant inhalation: How speech heard yet...

Relaxing exhalation: void like Man-tra?

Count four breaths upon the LEFT little, ring, middle, & index fingers' lower, middle, & higher creases and tips.

Count one set upon RIGHT little, ring, middle, index, & little finger's lower, middle, & higher sets of creases & tip.

Observant inhalation: How speech heard yet void like Man-tra?

Relaxingly chant: Óm Ben-za Sat-to Hoong!

Om Ben-za Sat-to Hoong!

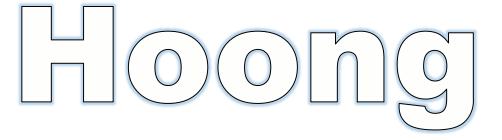
Om Ben-za Sat-to Hoong!

Om Ben-za Sat-tó Hoong!

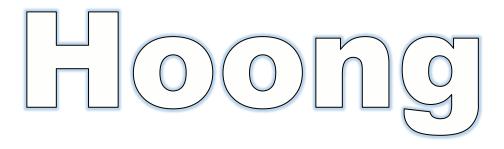
Four mantras per breath for four breaths.

Count four breaths upon the LEFT little, ring, middle, & index fingers' lower, middle, & higher creases and tips.

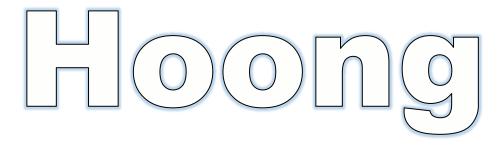
Count one set upon RIGHT little, ring, middle, index, little, & ring finger's lower, middle, & higher Sets of creases & tip.



Máy I let go of ALL minds (or Chit-ta) as if they seemed as NON-graspable (ór void)



ás a Buddha's real or imagined seed (or Bi-ja) mantra comprised only óf light!



Hoong

Observant inhalation: How minds clear yet...

Relaxing exhalation: void like Bi-ja?

Count four breaths upon the LEFT little, ring, middle, & index fingers' lower, middle, & higher creases and tips.

Count one set upon RIGHT little, ring, middle, index, & little finger's lower, middle, & higher sets of creases & tip.

Observant inhalation: How minds clear yet void like Bi-ja?

Relaxingly chant: Óm Ben-za Sat-to Hoong!

Om Ben-za Sat-to Hoong!

Om Ben-za Sat-to Hoong!

Om Ben-za Sat-tó Hoong!

Four mantras per breath for four breaths.

Count four breaths upon the LEFT little, ring, middle, & index fingers' lower, middle, & higher creases and tips.

Count one set upon RIGHT little, ring, middle, index, little, & ring finger's lower, middle, & higher sets of creases & tip.

Right View's First fold of

Chanting's Figurative Contemplations

Bringing the Four Bases of Mindfulness into the Path of Wisdom Leaping over the illusions of permanence and independence

also known as Tantra-mahamudra, Creation-stage, or Maha-yoga



Diamond Mind Tantra



ÁLL places could blissfully melt into rainbow light that absorbs into ALL bódies,

(Each <u>lot</u> melts...)

(into forms!)

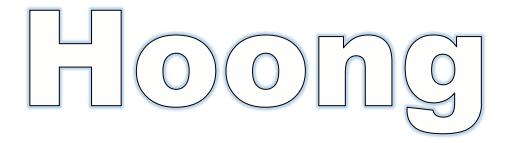




ÁLL bodies could blissfully melt (Each form melts...)
into rainbow light (into speech!)
that absorbs into ÁLL speech,



ÁLL speech could blissfully melt(All speech melts...)
into rainbow light (into minds!)
that absorbs into ÁLL minds,



ÁLL minds could blissfully melt (Each mind melts...) into rainbow light (into void!) that absorbs into infinite emptiness,

Right Mindfulness & Meditation's Seventh & Eighth Folds of

Silent Meditation

slicing-through: the duality of hating and craving that are also known as obscuring emotions also known as Sutra-mahamudra, Mahasandhi, Great-completion-stage, or Ati-yoga

Vast... (Notice this...)

void! (relaxing!) Observant inhalation:

Releasing exhalation:

16 rounds

Count sixteen rounds upon the LEFT little, ring, middle, & index fingers' lower, middle, & higher creases and tips. Count sixteen sets upon RIGHT little, ring, middle, & index finger's

lower, middle, & higher sets of creases & tip.

Notice mind/relaxing!

Notice me/ relaxing!

What action?/ **Relaxing**!

What actor?/ **Relaxing**!

This actee/ relaxing!

What perceive?/ **Relaxing**!

Notice form/ relaxing!

How perceive?/ **Relaxing**!

Who perceives?/ **Relaxing**!

Observant inhalation:

This... (Notice this...)

yes! (relaxing!)

Releasing exhalation:

128 rounds

Count sixteen rounds upon the LEFT little, ring, middle, & index fingers' lower, middle, & higher creases and tips. Count sixteen sets upon RIGHT little, ring, middle, & index finger's lower, middle, & higher sets of creases & tip.

Right Intention's

Sharing our Positive Vibrations with All



Diamond Mind Tantra

Accomplishing Mastery of the Eight-fold Path



Máy all beings, like Dor-Je Sem-pa master the Buddha's eight-fold path and liberate ALL óthers.

Diamond Mind Tantra Accomplishing Auspicious Rebirth



Máy all who have perished over the last forty-nine days take immediate and auspicious rebirth in A-mi-ta-bha's Joyful púre land.

Diamond Mind Tantra

Accomplishing Auspicious Rebirth



Át the very end of their current lives may each sentient being be born in the Joyful pure land of Su-kha-vá-ti.

Right Intention's Second Fold of Dudjom <u>Jigdral</u> Rinpoche's **Prayer for World Peace**

Át THIS very moment, for the peoples and the nations of the earth, may NOT even the names disease, famine, war, *or* suffering bé heard.



Ráther may their moral conduct, merit, wealth, and prosperity increase, and may supreme good fortune and well-being always arise fór them.

Diamond Mind Tantra
Right Intention's Second Fold of Auspicious Prayer





Béginning with Kun-tu-zang-po and great Dor-je Chang, down to my own kindest root láma,

Diamond Mind Tantra



whátever wishes they have made to benefit beings, may I accomplish thém all.

V. Appendix

The Mantra's Benefits



by Khenchen Jigme Phuntsok found in the colophon of his Terma:

"The Cintamani (wish-fulfilling jewel) Instruction
a Sadhana of the Glorious Vajrasattva,
a Method of Purification and Accomplishment for Both Self and Others"

In this life, one will be able to eliminate, all dangers, and extend one's lifespan, increase one's wealth, remove illness etcetera, attaining all that one wishes.

In the next life, one will definitely take rebirth in the pure land of Amitabha, or whichever pure land one aspires to be born in.

This practice, which removes obstacles, can be practiced by anyone, whether he is following the exoteric Mahayana schools, Secret Mantra (Vaj-ra-ya-na) schools, or even if he has yet to receive initiation.

Everyone should understand this clearly.
This is authenticated by Jigme Phuntsok,
at the Larong Buddhist University
in the presence of some tens of thousands of ordained monastics.
May auspiciousness increase!

A. Two Paths

In the Tao Te Ching we read of two paths in any endeavor, Lao Tzu warned against the former and encouraged the latter:

the path of yang or the path of yin, the path of patriarchy or the path of matriarchy, the path of rigidity or the path of flexibility, the path of elitism, or the path of egalitarianism,

the path of control or the path of permissiveness, the path that craves certitude or the path that embraces ambiguity, the path with authority as the source of truth or the path with truth as the source of authority,

the direct path or the circuitous path, the active path or the passive path, the path of competition or the path of cooperation, the path or cruelty or the path of compassion...

the path of pride or the path of love, the path of ego or the path of NO-self (aka NOT-self), the path of scatteredness or the path of centeredness, the path of contrivance or the path of spontaneity, the path of effort or the path of ease.

B. Four Levels of Practice

Browsers – come to class but do NO homework

and see NO transformation.

Students – come to class AND do their homework every morning AND every evening;

they evolve.

Yogis – students who perform one-day retreats

every quarter, month or week,

practicing four times that day (i.e.: 6am, 10am, 2pm & 6pm).

Monastics – students who live as if on permanent retreat,

practicing four times every day (i.e.: 6am, 10am, 2pm & 6pm).

Twenty minutes of formal silent meditation

for First Level Students – those who are seeking a "life lubricant"

Forty minutes of formal silent meditation

for Second Level Students – those who desire a "profound evolution" such as healing PTSD, overcoming a tragic past, or transcending a disempowering and oft repeated pattern

Sixty minutes of formal silent meditation

for Third Level Students – those who yearn to rapidly master sagehood's simplicity, patience, and compassion to the point of practicing them: spontaneously, habitually, easily and effectively.

C. The Path of Mastery

Unconscious Incompetence Conscious Incompetence Conscious Competence Unconscious Competence

When have we mastered the sages' path?



When we practice their techniques: spontaneously, habitually, easily and effectively; and their practice has so defined us that we no longer chase a goal...

but are so content to practice the path that we no longer even feel the need to ask whether or not we have mastered it.



D. The Means of Mastery

Ten thousand hours of regular, lucid, strategic practice is often the minimum required to accomplish mastery needed to teach others. Any student who enthusiastically practices their homework every morning AND every evening for sixteen consecutive weeks could be considered an apprentice.

A <u>Journeyman</u> is an apprentice who has accumulated 5,000 hours of study and 5,000 hours meditation; ideally for eight hours daily over the course of three and a half years...

<u>and</u> has demonstrated intellectual comprehension and emotional **evolution**.

A <u>Master</u> is a journeyman who has accumulated an additional 5,000 hours of study and an additional 5,000 hours of meditation; ideally for eight hours daily...

over the course of an additional three and a half years and has demonstrated intellectual and emotional **mastery**. The 10,000 hours is a minimum, for some folks require 20,000 hours, 30,000 hours or more to demonstrate intellectual and emotional mastery.

Although this path of mastery can be long, it is neither mysterious nor occult.