

## *Phenomena Are Like Children's Games*

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Phenomena are all like children's games.

Experiences are like the playing of children.

They arise like games and they subside like games. They dawn like play and collapse like play.

Their arising is a lie and their ceasing is a lie.

When they rise up, it's like children playing—nothing more heavy than that. When they recede, their receding is nothing more than that either. Rise up and recede, arise and cease. That's samsara. That's enlightenment. That's what has not yet come, too.

Such a big deal! Samsara, blah, blah, big deal. Enlightenment, blah, blah, big deal. Samsara being pure, big deal; being impure, big deal. Pure, impure—blah, blah, blah.

We say samsara is impure, making such a big deal—but if we ignore it instead, actually it's not there. We say samsara is pure, making such a big deal—but if we ignore it instead, actually it's not there either. Its purity is also impure; its impurity is also pure. The contributing condition of all phenomena is focus—if you focus on them, they're there.

We focus on samsara, samsara, samsara.

Therefore, we need to recite MANI mantras, don't we? Focus on that?

Everybody has buddha nature, but we don't use it nicely.

We don't recognize it nicely. We don't respect it nicely. We don't value it nicely.

Who is our buddha nature?

It is buddha.

Who is that?

Your own nature.

What is the benefit of that being your own nature?

The benefit is that you can be liberated!

If we want to be liberated, we need to clear away our obscurations (which is the purity referred to by the *sang* in *sangye*, the Tibetan word for buddha) and bring our qualities to full blossom (which is the flowering referred to by the *gye*).

Who is going to do that purification? Who is going to bring forth that blossoming? How does that happen?

Nobody is going to if you don't. It doesn't happen if you don't do it.

Who is going to do it?

It looks like nobody, because we are all busy going upside down instead of going to our buddha nature. That is the real reason for saying, "OM MANI PEME HUNG!"

We are such stupid sentient beings!

Everybody recite MANI mantra, or Vajrasattva, or BENZAR GURU, or whatever mantra you want. Just recite with faith, okay? Otherwise, how are we ever going to buddha? Everybody try. Everybody's time is short, so everybody please practice sincerely. Practice with faith. Practice with focus. That is the best!

Tashi delek!

*-Gyatral*