

On Television and NANG DRAG RIG SUM...

Part 2

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That the nature of all form is enlightened body doesn't mean that everything is flat or everything is the same. Saying that all form is the deity's body doesn't mean everything becomes one color. Look at all the deities—they are flexible! So many colors, so many shapes, so many styles—peaceful, enriching, powerful, and wrathful. Wrathful doesn't mean you need to bare your fangs. If you understand the nature of peaceful and wrathful, then you understand that there is no solid peaceful and there is no solid wrathful. Then you don't need to hold to those. Then that is the real peaceful; that is the real wrathful. But we don't understand that. Bottom line is, we don't understand the nature of our own mind or our own phenomena. We put peaceful over here, different from enriching over there, and powerful over there, and wrathful over there. We make each deity, each enlightened body, each appearance completely separate, each one in its own corner. Not only that, we say the deity is only male or only female, only peaceful or only wrathful. We have so many such concepts! Who made those concepts, who made those differences solid? We did. That is ordinary mind.

Is a wrathful deity only wrathful, only ugly and scary, only good for conquering demons or evil spirits? No. The wrathful deities are peaceful, too. They can be anything. They can appear any way. That is the quality of enlightened body. It is not stuck being anything, one thing or one side. All appearances, all you see, its nature is enlightened body. You are watching, and whatever comes, that is your experience. That is enlightened body if you recognize it.

Likewise, what are you hearing? Whatever that sound is, its nature is enlightened speech, enlightened sound. Nice sound, same; ugly sound, same. Big sound, noisy, same; quiet sound, same. Television, you can get any sound, any appearance. Therefore, you can watch! Watching the television, watching the nature, watching your own mind. Not just cowboys and go-go ladies; watch that nature.

And of course the nature of everything is awareness, your rigpa. Sounds and voices, appearances, all your concepts—everything is awareness. Peaceful, enriching, powerful, wrathful, all deities—that is your awareness, nothing different from that.

You can say your awareness or you can say your buddhanature, it's the same thing. Peaceful? Buddhanature is peaceful. Enriching? Buddhanature is enriching. Powerful, wrathful? Buddhanature is powerful, buddhanature is wrathful, buddhanature is any

kind of appearance. All the deities, all appearances of samsara and enlightenment, sure you can say they are just one. One nature. Or sure you can say there are millions or countless of them—we have so many concepts!

We make such a big deal of our many concepts, our many passions, our many poisons. We call them the three poisons, the five poisons, 84,000 poisons, blah-blah-blah. We complain about them and say they are so terrible! They will never run out! Actually, whose problem are they? Your own.

All appearances, if they are a problem, they are your problem. If they are wisdom appearances, that is your wisdom. If someone is a buddha or deity, that's you. If someone is a sentient being or demon, that's you. If there is one, that's you. If there are billions, that's you. If male, that's you. If female, that's you. Your awareness, the nature of your mind—slowly, slowly, watch that. Focus on that, instead of all the blah-blah-blah and screaming and crying and complaining. That's all a lie, anyway. Slowly, slowly, let your habits go. Just let them be. They are not your enemy or anything, you don't need weapons or to kill them. Just put them down. Then you will start to improve.

Look at this lady on the television. You say, "She's wonderful!" Actually, nothing's wonderful. Or you say, "She's very bad! The worst! Terrible!" Actually, nothing is terrible. She didn't do anything. Maybe she never existed.

Like that, all phenomena are like this television movie exactly. All phenomena that arise, all appearances that you see, they are not your enemy. Don't hold them as your enemy. Watch, slowly, slowly.

(to be continued...)

This is the prayer Rinpoche refers to in this teaching:

སྒྲུང་གྲགས་རིག་གསུམ་ལྷ་སྒྲགས་ཚོས་སྐྱེ་ངང་། །

NANG DRAG RIG SUM LHA NGAK CHÖ KÜ NGANG

Appearances, sounds, and awareness are experienced as the deity, mantra, and dharmakaya.

སྐྱེ་ངང་ཡི་ཤེས་རོལ་པར་འབྱམས་གྲས་པ། །

KU DANG YESHE ROL PAR JAM LE PA

Within this vast display of enlightened embodiments and primordial wisdom,

ཟབ་གསང་རྣལ་འབྱོར་ཆེན་པོའི་ཉམས་ལེན་པ། 1

ZAB SANG NAL JOR CHEN PÖ NYAM LEN PA

by practicing the great yoga of the profound secret

དབྱེར་མེད་སྤྱགས་ཀྱི་ཐིག་ལེར་རོ་གཅིག་ཤོག 1

YER MED TUK KYI TIG LER RO CHIG SHOG

may we remain indivisible with the essence of the one taste of enlightened mind.

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