



The Asian Classics Institute



Diamond Mountain University

In-Depth Course 1
Teachings of the Future Buddha

Name _____

Place _____

Date _____

Track: E T S TS

Homework, Class Four: *The Sun of the Holy Dharma*

1) In a very famous verse from the fourth chapter of the *Commentary on the Latter Part*, Lord Maitreya uses the metaphor of a disease to explain the four arya truths. Explain the four parts of the metaphor. (Tibetan and Sanskrit tracks use these languages for the metaphor.)

(a)

(b)

(c)

(d)

2) Back to the first chapter: having discussed the Buddha Jewel, Arya Asanga then goes on to describe the Dharma Jewel. Gyaltsab Je compares the relationship between these two to a yawn. Explain!

3) Name the two parts of the “real” Dharma Jewel, and give examples of each.

(a)

(b)

(continued on back)

4) The truth of cessation itself includes two parts. Name them.

(a)

(b)

5) Give three qualities of the natural purity of the truth of cessation.

(a)

(b)

(c)

6) Lord Maitreya says that the purity which is achieved depends on the “light of wisdom”: the knowledge of an arya both during and just after the direct perception of emptiness. He bows down to this “sun,” because it destroys the darkness of ignorance and thus frees us from pain. Describe the six steps by which this freedom, according to Lord Maitreya, takes place.

(a)

(b)

(c)

(d)

(e)

(f)

Meditation assignment: 15 minutes per day, analytical meditation—think of the one thing or person which gives you the most trouble in your life, and how you might apply the six steps just mentioned in stopping this problem.

Debate assignment: Some time before the next class, discuss this class with one or more friends.