



Basic Program Standard Texts and Commentaries

The ideal Basic Program recommended by Lama Zopa Rinpoche is comprised of a core curriculum representing the minimum requirement, plus three supplementary studies. The subjects of the curriculum have been chosen by Lama Zopa Rinpoche; the standard texts and commentaries were decided upon by the FPMT geshe, at Rinpoche's request.

Stages of the Path

Tsong Khapa, *Medium Exposition of the Stages of the Path* (Lam rim 'bring)

Heart Sutra

Root Text: Shakyamuni Buddha, *The Heart of Wisdom Sutra* (Skt. Prajnahrdayasutra; Shes rab snying po'i mdo)

Commentary: Tendar Lharampa, *Jewel Light Illuminating the Meaning: a Commentary to the Heart of Wisdom* (Shes rab snying po'i grel pa don gsal nor bu'i 'od)

Mahayana Mind Training

Dharmarakshita, *The Wheel of Sharp Weapons* (Blo sbyong mtshon cha kor lo)

Engaging in the Bodhisattva Deeds

Root Text: Shantideva, *Engaging in the Bodhisattva Deeds* (Skt. Bodhicaryavatara; bYang chub sems pa'i spyod pa la 'jug pa)

Commentary: Gyaltsab Je, *Commentary to (Shantideva's) 'Engaging in the Bodhisattva Deeds'* (Spyod 'jug tikka)

Mind and Cognition

part one: Awarenesses and Knowers

Yong Dzin Purbu Chok, *Explanation of the Presentation of Objects and Object-Possessors as well as Mind and Cognition* (Yul yul can dang blo rig gi nram par bshad pa)

part two: Minds and Mental Factors

Kachen Yeshe Gyaltsen, *Clear Exposition of the Modes of Minds and Mental Factors: a Necklace for those of Clear Mind* (Sems dang sems byung gi tshul gсар bar ston pa blo gsal mgul rgyan)

Tenets

Jetsun Chokyi Gyaltsen, *Presentation of Tenets* (Grub mtha'i nram bzhag)

Ornament of Clear Realizations - Fourth Chapter

Root Text: Maitreya, *Ornament of Clear Realizations* (Skt. Abhisamayalankara; mNgon rtogs rgyan)

Commentary: Jetsun Chokyi Gyaltsen, *General Meaning of the Fourth Chapter* (sKabs bzhi spyi don / Rol mtsho)

Sublime Continuum of the Mahayana - First Chapter: The Tathagata Essence

Root Text: Maitreya, *Sublime Continuum of the Mahayana* (Skt. Mahayana-uttaratantra; Theg pa chen po rgyud bla ma)

Commentary: Gyaltsab Je, *Commentary on (Maitreya's) 'Sublime Continuum of the Mahayana'* (Theg pa chen po rgyud bla ma'i tikka)

Grounds and Paths of Secret Mantra

Kirti Lobsang Trinley, *The Condensed Path of the Vajra Vehicle: The Essence of the Nectar of the Great Secret* (rDo rje theg pa'i lam gyi bsdus don gsang chen bdud rtsi'i snying po)

or:

Ngawang Palden, *The Illumination of the Texts of Tantra: The Principles of the Grounds and Paths of the Four Great Secret Classes of Tantra* (gSang chen rgyud sde bzhi' sa lam gyi nram bzhag gzhang gsal byed)

Supplements

- *Seventy Topics* (Don mdun cu) by Jetsun Chokyi Gyaltsen
- *The Lamp Thoroughly Illuminating the Presentation of the Three Basic Bodies* (gZhi'i sku gsum gyi nram gzhang rab gsal sgron me) by Yangchen Gawai Lodro
- A highest yoga tantra commentary