## Display Lama Atisha's Stupa

Lama Zopa Rinpoche made the following recommendation regarding a particular <u>image of the Atisha stupa</u>, which is downloadable for free from the FPMT Foundation Store.

Lama Zopa Rinpoche explained in August 2018:

"This is so important - everyone should have this in their house, room etc. This image is so important to protect from mental pollution.

It's very important the mantras are clear, and best if it is framed nicely.

Here are the benefits I explained before:

My dear students looking for liberation and enlightenment for sentient beings,

It is extremely important to have an image of this stupa with mantras because its benefits of giving protection come from Lama Atisha of Nalanda, where there were 300 great scholars and holy beings.

The purpose of keeping an image of this stupa in your house or in your room is to protect you from the mental pollution, not yet discovered in the West, from those who, in particular, have broken samaya with their guru, belittled their guru, given rise to heresy or anger towards their guru, or who, after making a Dharma connection through receiving a lung, commentary, initiation, or vows, gave up their guru. These create so much mental pollution, which is the heaviest negative karma.

If you meet, talk to, or receive teachings from that person, or bring other people to a place where that person has been, your mind gets polluted. You lose your spiritual achievements, your mind becomes more negative, it becomes more difficult for you to achieve realizations, and you get reborn in the lower realms. It is very dangerous. Also, the places where that person has been become polluted. The previous Kyabje Zong Rinpoche told us, during the First Dharma Celebration, that even the tap water in a place where that person has been becomes polluted. If you drink it, you get polluted, you lose any spiritual progression you have made, your mind degenerates, and you go to the lower realms.

The external pollution from a car doesn't cause you to be reborn in the lower realms, but this pollution does.

You can also wear the image of this stupa as a protection amulet so that wherever you go, you are protected from this pollution.

This is very important. It would be good for every FPMT center, service, and project to have this image in its gompa, office, or other public rooms, and on every level of its buildings.

If you are new to Buddhism and don't understand this, it doesn't matter; just keep it in your room for the benefit of other people.

Thank you,

## Lama Zopa"

The benefits were dictated by Lama Zopa Rinpoche at Tushita Meditation Center, Dharamsala, India, June 2015. Scribed by Ven. Tenzin Khunphen.