

Outline short notes for Bro Teoh's Sunday class dated 9th June 2019

Brother Teoh's transcript book: Cultivating the Bodhisattva Way, pages 103-113

Audio : <https://broteoh.com/wp-content/uploads/15-Cultivating-the-Bodhisattva-Way-9-June-2019.mp3>

Whiteboard : <https://broteoh.com/wp-content/uploads/15-Cultivating-the-Bodhisattva-Way-9-June-2019.jpg>

Youtube Video : [Understanding the Bodhisattva Way](https://youtu.be/G9sc9E8BRa4) <https://youtu.be/G9sc9E8BRa4>

1. The **importance of taking the Bodhisattva vows** to walk this **way** was **re elaborated** by Bro Teoh as a **reminder** to all kalyanamittas. Bro Teoh re explained in detail the **process of taking this Bodhisattva vows** by guiding all kalyanamittas on how to take the Bodhisattva vows again.
2. Only with **appropriate conditions, can a pure wish manifest into reality**. Unless there are **causes and conditions**, the **pure wish cannot manifests** even if it was made for one's own family member.
3. **True cultivation** has **nothing to do** with the **selfish mundane mind**. Only with **faith, sincerity and perseverance**, can our **vows and aspirations** be fulfilled. These **vows and aspirations** can help take us along to walk the Bodhisattva way successfully. With **affinity established** with **Great Beings**, their **special nature** can **bless, protect and guide us along** because **their nature are ever radiating** for the **trucultivators of the way**.
4. Brother Teoh shared stories about his **earlier Kalyanamittas' Taiwan spiritual trip**.
5. Realizing the **importance of generosity** or **dana parami**, Bro Teoh set up the **myKalyanamitta Fund** to help kalyanamittas so that all Kalyanamittas can **partake** in all the **wholesome activities** performed by this fund. For more detail on the **uniqueness** of this **kalyanamitta fund** please do listen to the **audio file** at <https://broteoh.com/wp-content/uploads/15-Cultivating-the-Bodhisattva-Way-9-June-2019.mp3>
6. Our **nature never dies**. What comes **to pass** is only the **form and mind (body and the consciousness trapped inside)** after they separate.
7. Brother Teoh asked, whether as kalyanamitta have we **ever reflected** on how **bless we are**, to be able to be part of our this **kalyanamitta family or grouping?** How over the past 14+ years our kalyanamitta grouping had **evolved** so beautifully, dhammawise. Not only **our grouping** with its **kalyanamitta fund, weekly and yearly dhamma activities firmly established**. We had also developed our broteoh.com website with all our audio and video files, transcript notes and books, etc. incorporated. This **website** is a **repository** of very **good and useful dhamma material and resources**. Brother Teoh shared that when he reflected on what we have **established and achieved** thus far, is **really amazing** and the **joy in his heart is immense**. For **more detail** on this, please **do listen** to the audio file at <https://broteoh.com/wp-content/uploads/15-Cultivating-the-Bodhisattva-Way-9-June-2019.mp3> from **1 hour: 35 minutes onwards** (the sharing was very beautiful indeed).
8. Brother Teoh **reminded** us (kalyanamittas) **not to miss** this '**special window of opportunity**' (the Sakyamuni's Sasana) to **plant the seed of Bodhi** firmly to **go this way**.
9. The **whole process** are as follows:
 - **First**, we make the **aspiration** for the below **right understanding** to walk the **Bodhisattva Way**. The reason for making this aspiration is to have these **understanding life after life** – so

that this **understanding will not be lost**. The **right understanding we aspire** to have are:

(1) Have **right views with regards to the Law of Karma, the Law of Dependent Origination and the Four Noble Truths**. We need to **reflect, inquire and contemplate** on these **right views** to develop the **second turning wisdom**.

(2) To **understand the two aspects of the 5 aggregates of form and mind clearly**. To also understand that they are all **conditions arising**, therefore **not a permanent unchanging entity, not me, non-self and empty**. The 5 aggregates of form and mind are empty and it is just a **karmically conditioned vehicle and tool** for us to come into this existential world.

(3) To keep the **3 sets of pure precepts**, i.e. (i) Avoid all evil and understand what constitutes evil clearly; (ii) To cultivate all virtues and blessings (via the 4 Right Efforts) leading to the perfection of them all so that when we come again, we will understand straight away when we hear this advice again; and (iii) To cultivate wisdom to help liberate and take across all sentient beings.

- **Second**, we make the **actual Bodhisattva vows**:

(1) This **nature of mine vows to liberate the countless living beings from samsara and take them all across** to the other shore;

(2) This **nature of mine vows to endure and sever all vexation/suffering**;

(3) This **nature of mine vows to cultivate and penetrate all dharma to realize the perfection of all wisdom**;

(4) This **nature of mine vows to perfect the 10 pāramitās (or perfections) to realize the unsurpassed Samma Sambuddha hood**.

- **Third**, we make **additional vows to break karmic obstructions**, i.e. **through seeking forgiveness, repentance and vowing etc.** (page 108).

- **Fourth**, we make **miscellaneous vows to help enhance our cultivation**:

(1) To be successful in fulfilling all my above vows soonest possible;

(2) To **cultivate strong affinity with all Buddha and Bodhisattvas** and to request **their nature's constant blessing, protection and guidance always**;

(3) To strengthen my **5 spiritual faculties of saddhā, vīriya, sati, samādhi and panna** until they **become balas or powers, life after life** so that all the **above vows can be successfully fulfilled with ease**. Reason is for our spiritual faculties to be **unshakable** so that **we do not need to train again** in future lives.

(4) To **cultivate extensively all virtues, blessings and merits to help support** my cultivation so that **they will shine forth to aid this nature of 'mine' when needed in times of trials, difficulties and tribulations while walking the Bodhisattva way**.

10. As a revision, Bro Teoh **goes through the Ten Perfections** with us again. For details please read through pages 111-113.

(Above draft outline short notes are prepared by Sister Mun Yuen)