Essential Points of Buddhadharma

Key Points for Unfolding the Dharma in an Orderly and Unified Way

- Make bodhicitta the main and highest purpose of all life activities.
- Expand bodhicitta's intent by listening, reading, studying, contemplating, and meditating.
- Seek, find, and stay close to living masters of the Dharma.
- * Associate, receive personal guidance and listen to wise and compassionate beings.
- When possible, avoid being mentally and socially infected by deluded and harmful beings.
- Sincerely take up refuge, ethical precepts, and the bodhisattva vow.
- * Receive ripening empowerments, pith instructions, and practice instructions from Gurus that you have a heart connection with.
- Develop good skills in a body-breath-mind awareness/mindfulness discipline (Skt. sati) to open and refine the prana, nadi, and bindu. Keep them supple, open, and pure.
- ❖ Keep unfolding, expanding, and spreading loving-kindness and relative compassion for all beings.
- Persist in developing both presence-attentiveness/mindfulness and recollective awareness/mindfulness of all states and activities—awareness of cause and effect (Skt. karma).
- ❖ Continue to learn through recollectedness (Skt. sati), what to discard, and what to adopt in all aspects of life.

- ❖ Learn and practice the art of retreats, short and long, with and without the Lama. Seek out the most **supportive environments** in which to unfold—first peaceful, then challenging.
- Recite the bodhisattva vow every morning and evening.
- Strive to keep unfolding and perfecting the relative Parami into transcendent Parami, especially through generosity and wisdom.
- ❖ Gather and share the two accumulations of merit (Skt. punya) and wisdom (Skt. prajñā/jñāna).
- * Practice and take to heart The Preliminary Liberating Instructions or Non-dro from one's Lama and their lineage; seal all practices, including those without support with these prayers and contemplations.
- Seek and receive many introductions into mind's nature; the view, meditation, and conduct, by living qualified Lamas. Gain certainty of the essence continuum.
- ❖ With the view always foremost, practice the generation and completion stages to gather blessings, remove obstacles, and bring about supreme abilities in compassion-emptiness.
- ❖ Integrate the Mahamudra and Dzogchen view into all phases of practice, times, and life situations.
- * Abide continuously, effortlessly, and spontaneously in the essence continuum.
- * No matter what appears, keep refining the experience of appearance-emptiness.
- ❖ Allow all states, including doubt, to self-liberate, without clinging to tranquility.
- ❖ Don't succumb to hope and fear—bring forth great confidence and lucid faith.
- Let all stories, fixations, constructions, and fabrications of mind to naturally unbind.
- Effortlessly release any act of unbinding, naturally expressing primordial wisdom.
- Keep training deeply in Dharma for a whole life. Listen, study, reflect, contemplate, and meditate—as if refining gold from raw ore.