

हेब থ্যাথ্য থ্যায়ন্ত স্থিয়। The Twelve Links of Interdependence Lama Michel Rinpoche

Extracted from The Melody of a Noble Minded Proposal (by Penchen Lozang Chogyen) and from The Very Wholesome Questions Put Forth with an Extraordinary Attitude (by Lama Tsong Khapa)





हेव.उन्जापना.त्रमा.चर्यम्।

The Twelve Links of Interdependence

Through the study of the 12 Links we can understand how karma works the process that keeps us stuck in the cycle of suffering the wheel of life and how we can break this chain to set us free

Lama Michel Rinpoche

Teachings given at the Albagnano Healing Meditation Center May 24-25th 2014



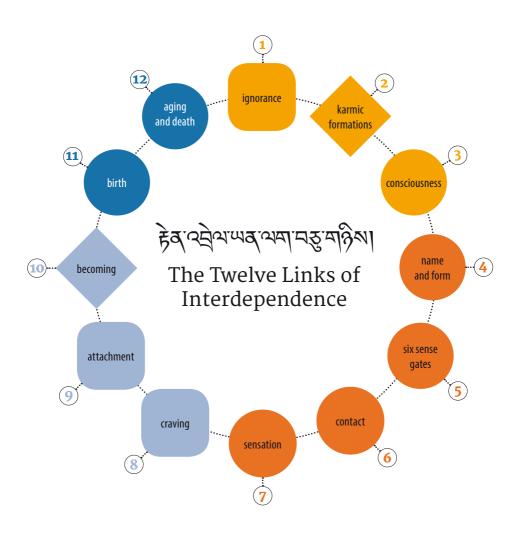
The Twelve Links of Interdependence

Extracted from The Melody of a Noble Minded Proposal (by Penchen Lozang Chogyen) and from The Very Wholesome Questions Put Forth with an Extraordinary Attitude (by Lama Tsong Khapa)

Kunpen Lama Gangchen Lama Gangchen Peace Publications 2014 lgpp.org

Table of Contents

The Twelve Links of Interdependence5
Table of Twelve Links: classification and outcome 10
Images of the Twelve Links



The Twelve Links of Interdependence

या क्र्याचा वर्ताचेटी क्ष्याचरानेश्वाचा श्रीत्या श्रीत्या स्वीत्या श्रीत्या वर्षेत्राचा श्रीत्या श्रीत्य श्

Ignorance, karmic formations, consciousness, name and form, six sense gates, contact, sensation, craving, attachment, becoming, birth and aging and death.

য়৽য়য়৾ঀ৾৾ৼড়ৄয়৻য়ৣ৾৾৽য়ড়য়৻য়ৣ৻য়য়ৼ৾ঀ৻য়ড়ৢয়৻য়য়ৼ৾ঀ৻য়ড়ৢয়৻য়য়য়ৼয়৻ ঽয়ৼ৻য়য়

From the 'Very Wholesome Questions Put Forth with an Extraordinary Attitude' by the incomparable dharma king, great Tsong Khapa:

क्री.ब्रिट.क्ष्यः क्ष्यश्चान्यात् व्री साक्ष्यः न्यात् व्रीत्रात्वा क्ष्यः स्वात् व्रात्ते स्वात् व्रात्ते स्वात् स्वात

Furthermore, there would be no way for us to reverse our attachment to samsara, to have a real sadness about it and to have a real wish to emerge definitely from it, without generating a vivid experience of how we transmigrate continuously from one rebirth to another rebirth in this samsara. That vivid

experience of how we wander in samsara occurs in dependence upon the meditation of how we wander in samsara due to the twelve links.

Therefore, what is the mode of wandering due to them, their number being twelve, of their order being definite, the way in which they are causes and results; and the way the guiding commentary on the three levels of beings comes within them?

ત્રલ્ટ-ત્રતું.સૈ.૨૭૨૪.તજા 1 તલ્ટ-જૂજા.તજા 1 ત્રાપ્ત ત્રાપત ત્રા

From the 'The Melody of Noble Minded Proposal' by Panchen Lozang Chogyen:

The way in which (the ordinary beings) wander in samsara in terms of the twelve links is as the following taught by the Supreme Arya Nagarjuna, "The three components are without beginning, middle and end. The circle of samsara is like the circle of a lighted piece of wood being spun in the sense that (those three components) cause each other to turn (constantly)."

They thus wander without any rest.

¹ न्तु'स'रेब'ळेब'झेट'नश्

² हें द:सॅट्स:लस:लस:लसुट:दे:लस:स्वा:नस्व:सुरा

ब्रास्थान्द्रवेतः श्रुवि प्रमान्य स्था । ब्राम्य स्था प्रमान्य स्था ।

As a branch of the Dependent Relation, it is definite as twelve. It is divided into that number because there is no need for more. (And this unit of twelve) is also free of the fault of not including (other branches), if there were fewer.

Their sequence is determined by way of those which throw and those thrown, and those which accomplish and those accomplished. If asked, then what are the throwing branches and the thrown branches?

सन्त्रीयः त्रात्ते । त्रित्रात्त्राः स्त्रीयः स्त्रात्त्राः त्रित्तः स्त्रात्त्रः त्रित्तः स्त्रात्त्रः त्रित् सक्ते द्वातः द्वातः द्वातः स्त्रात्त्रः स्त्रात्त्रः स्त्रात्तः स्त्रात्तः स्त्रः स्त्रात्तः स्त्रात्तः स्त्रा सक्ते स्त्रात्त्रः स्त्रोत्ते स्त्रात्ते स्त्रात्ते स्त्रात्ते स्त्रात्ते स्त्रात्ते स्त्रात्ते स्त्रात्ते स्त

With (the three throwing branches of) ignorance, karmic formation and consciousness (the four following) branches are thrown: name and form, six entrances, contact and feeling.

(The three) accomplishing branches are: craving, grasping and becoming from which come (the two) accomplished branches: birth and aging and death.

The supreme Arya Nagarjuna said,

"The first, eighth and the ninth are delusions.

The second and the tenth are karma.

The remaining seven are sufferings."

ट्रे.लश्रःर्जियाः यर्ज्यः पर्वेटः खुटा । खुश्रःयशिद्धः पर्वेशः पर्वे । कुर्यः सूटशःयशिषाः लशः तथः यश्चिशः दटा।

Regarding the way (that some of the branches are) causes and (some are) results

He said, "From the three delusions arise the two karmas.

From there (the two karmas), arise the seven sufferings.

व्राप्तर्न्त्रात्त्र्र्म्। व्यक्त्राय्याः विश्वराद्यः स्त्रात्त्र्यः स्त्रे। व्रित्रः व्यक्त्रः व्यक्त्रः व्यक्त्रः व्यक्त्रः व्यक्त्रः व्यक्त्रः व्यक्तिः विश्वरः विश्वर

From the seven arise again their own result, the three delusions. As long as it is like the spun wheel of a potter, there arise the two karmas from the three delusions. From the two, seven will come. And again from the seven arise the three. This very wheel of samsara will thus keep turning again and again."

Furthermore, there are the twelve branches of bad destiny (lower realm).

To think of them in forward process and reversed process is called the (meditation) of a lesser being.

To think of the twelve branches of happy destiny (upper realm) in reversed process and

forward process is called the (meditation) of an intermediate being.

म् लगमा । श्रीटाइं चिटाक्ष्यास्त्रसम् । पश्चीटाद्यमान्त्रसम् क्षीटादास्त्रसम् । विस्तराद्यसम् । विस्तराद्यसम्यसम् । विस्तराद्यसम् । विस्तराद्यसम् । विस्तराद्यसम् । विस्तराद्

So, basing oneself on one's own experience, (one can think about) also all mother sentient beings, about how they wander in the samsaric ocean by way of the twelve links (or branches).

Then to generate love, compassion and the mind of enlightenment and to train oneself in the practice of the Victor's son is (called that of) the great being.

Table of Twelve Links: classification and outcome

1	ignorance	impelling link	delusion
2	karmic formations	impelling link	karma
3	consciousness	impelling link	suffering
4	name and form	impelled link	suffering
5	six sense gates	impelled link	suffering
6	contact	impelled link	suffering
7	sensation	impelled link	suffering
8	craving	accomplishing link	delusion
9	attachment	accomplishing link	delusion
10	becoming	accomplishing link	karma
11)	birth	accomplished link	suffering
12	aging and death	accomplished link	suffering

Images of the Twelve Links



- **1 Ignorance** An old blind person groping for his way with a cane.
- 2 Karmic formations A potter shaping a vase on a wheel The pots the potter makes symbolise the actions of body, speech and mind with which he moulds his karma in the wheel of life. Karmic imprints or traces from actions in previous lives affect our present and future lives in the form of certain propensities, just as the potter's wheel keeps turning after a single push.
- **3 Consciousness** A monkey swinging from a tree The monkey represents our consciousness, the way we tend to spring from one thought to another in an uncontrolled manner.
- A Name and form A person (or people) on a boat. The five skandhas that make up our sense of 'self' need a physical body: form (the boat) and a psyche: name (the mental skandhas: feeling, perception, mental formations, consciousness).
- 5 Six sense gates A house with five windows and a door. This symbolises the six senses by which the outer world is perceived. In the wheel of life they are represented by an empty house because this is a time when the organs of the embryo are developing but not yet functioning.

- **6 Contact** A couple embracing.
- 7 Sensation A person with an arrow in their eye.
- 8 Craving A woman offering a drink to a man.
- 9 Attachment A man plucking fruit from a tree.
- **Becoming** A beautiful bride (sometimes depicted as a couple making love or a pregnant woman).
- **11 Birth** A woman giving birth.
- **12 Aging and death** Bearers with a corpse.

The Twelve Links of Interdependence				

The Twelve Links of Interdependence				

The Twelve Links of Interdependence				







KUNPEN LAMA GANGCHEN

INSTITUTE FOR THE STUDY AND DISSEMINATION OF VAIR AYANA BUDDHISM IN THE WEST

Affiliated to the Italian Buddhist Union

MILAN

Via Marco Polo, 13 20124 Milano (MI) Italy Tel +39 02 29010263 kunpen@gangchen.it kunpen.ngalso.net

ALBAGNANO • LAKE MAGGIORE

Via Campo dell'Eva, 5 28813 Albagnano di Bèe (VB) Italy Tel +39 0323 569601 reception@ngalso.net ahmc.ngalso.net