

Advice After a Center was Robbed

What has happened at the center is an incredible teaching for us, not just a teaching by words, but a teaching by experience, which reminds us of practice, it reminds us how Buddha practiced and what he taught, especially in the sense of those whom you have benefitted so much and in return from whom you only receive harm. For this reason we should have even greater compassion.

In a recent experience we had the same kind of teaching, and I am trying to practice kindness and bodhicitta with these people. I am trying to remember their kindness. So this is the same for you, you need to remember their kindness and how precious they are, and use this for your practice, with the understanding that they are helping you to finish past negative karma. They are persuading us to practice.

Then we need to make charity of whatever they took, in our minds we offer sincerely to them, for the benefit of all sentient beings. Then we pray to free them from all sufferings as well as free all sentient beings and bring them to highest enlightenment by ourselves achieving enlightenment.

So in this way they are extremely kind, helping us to achieve enlightenment quicker, also it encourages us to practice the paramita of patience, it helps us to overcome the inner enemy, anger, which in turn helps us to not have any outer enemy, from whom we receive harm.

So many times we make prayers to receive the suffering of others and to be free of all obstacles, now we can think how fortunate we are that our prayers have been answered. Obstacles have ripened in the form of them breaking in, stealing money etc. so now we have had small success with our prayers.

It says in *Lama Chopal*: “May I receive all negative karmas, may they ripen on me right now, may I give away all my happiness and virtue to others and may all sentient beings have happiness. Please bless me to achieve this right now.”

So now please rejoice as we have succeeded in our prayers.

With much love and prayers,

Lama Zopa

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