



Dza Patrul Rinpoche's Pith Instruction

Four sessions of ritual, devoid of generation and completion;
Clamor of cymbal and drum, with no recollection of purity;
Murmur of recitation, with no hint of samadhi—
These do not even come close to the path of liberation.

Even if they're present, the samadhis of generation and completion,
If they aren't paired with true bodhicitta
They won't help with attaining omniscience.
Instead, they'll just be seeds for roving in the confusion of samsara.

Any dharma that doesn't benefit your mind
Is Dharma in name only, not in truth.
If no change occurs within your mind,
A hundred years of practice in retreat is just toil.

Even when months and years of retreat are completed,
And a mantra count in the hundreds of millions has been reached,
If the mind's attachment, aversion, and stupidity do not decrease,
Such dharma practice is utterly pointless, don't you think?

So, instead of mimicking the look of the Dharma while missing its true meaning,
Or assuming the guise of a wandering monk while chasing the confused
appearances of this life,
Or imitating busy, petty lamas who gorge themselves on pious offerings,
Tame your own mind through the Dharma.



Translation Origin

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