

Mangala Shri Bhuti

Staying in Step with the Lineage

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Dedication of Merit & Reducing Karmic Debts



Nyingma Summer Seminar

July 19, 2008

Talk 9 (afternoon talk)

Student: Rinpoche, the other night several of us had a conversation about karmic debt. The question came up that when somebody gives you a gift, do you then owe them a subtle karmic debt?

Rinpoche: Absolutely.

Student: So what can you do to repay that karmic debt without having to wait for future lifetimes?

Rinpoche: On receiving the gift, it is very helpful to dedicate the merit of the person who gave the gift. If you can truly appreciate their gen-

erosity—by generating a heartfelt appreciation—that will also reduce the karmic debt. Make good use of the gift, for example by donating it to a worthy cause. If you cannot make good use of it because you need to use to use it personally, then dedicate other merits of yours on behalf of the person. As a practitioner, it's quite helpful to do the the dedication prayer called the *The King of Aspiration Prayers* every day. I think we have it. It's not listed with our other dedications of merit, but it is something we could find. Khyentse Rinpoche once said to all of us who depend on offerings that we must do this prayer daily, as a means to reduce karmic debts.