Song of Victory – The Wonderful Sound of the Celestial Drum

By His Holiness Jigme Phuntsok Rinpoche

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A1: Opening

B1: Title

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B2: Homage

The embodiment of the wisdom of all the buddhas, who are the protectors of all sentient beings,

Venerable Manjughosha, who appears as a young boy,

May you abide forever in my heart, the stamens of the eight-petalled lotus,

Bless me, such that my words will benefit all sentient beings.

A2: Main Text

B1: Encourage to Practice Vajrayana

C1: The Merit of Practicing Unsurpassed Vajrayana

The Great Perfection, profound and luminous, Just upon hearing its verses allows one to break the roots of samsara, And through the six-month practice of its essence to achieve liberation, May you all engrave this in your hearts.

C2: The Causes and Conditions for Practicing Vajrayana

Those who with the great fortune encounter such supreme teaching,
Must have been accumulating merit in their previous lives through numerous eons
And possess the same conditions for achieving enlightenment with Buddha
Samantabhadra.

Dharma friends, may you all be joyful for yourselves.

B2: Encourage to Arouse the Mind of Bodhichitta

C1: The Reasons for Arousing Bodhichitta

For the sake of all sentient beings submerged in the fearful ocean of samsara, In order to help them attain the eternal happiness of Buddhahood, You shall shoulder the responsibility of benefiting others, And discard the poisonous food of attachment to yourselves.

C2: The Merit of Arousing Bodhichitta

This blocks the gate to lower realms,
Allows you to attain the happiness of higher realms,
And eventually leads you to the ultimate liberation from samsara,
You shall practice this essential teaching without being distracted at all.

B3: Encourage to Arouse the Mind of Renunciation

C1: The Merit of Observing Precepts

For all kinds of grand events in samsara,
Do not have any thought of desire.
Do observe the pure precepts, the magnificent adornment in the world,
To which human and gods make supreme offerings.

C2: The Fault of Breaking Precepts

Since all the temporary and ultimate happiness result from observing the pure precepts,
And breaking precepts leads one to take rebirth in lower realms,
You must make the right choices and not fall into confusion.

B4: Encourage to Develop Virtuous Personality

C1: The Reasons for Developing Virtuous Personality

Always comply with your friends in word and deed Be a person of integrity filled with kindheartedness. In order to benefit yourselves in the long term, the pith instruction is to benefit others at the present moment.

C2: The Merit of Maintaining Virtuous Personality

These are the pure standards for being a good person, And the skillful means of all buddhas of the past, present and future, Also the essence of the four dharmas of attraction, Each of you, my disciples, should never forget!

A3: Ending

B1: Dedication

I dedicate this virtue to all sentient beings, May they transcend the abyss of samsara. May all my heart disciples be joyful And take rebirth in the western pure land of ultimate bliss.

B2: The Background of Composing the Song

In the seventeenth cycle of the Tibetan calendar and the year of the fire rat, the teacher and the disciples had overcome all the external, internal, and secret hindrances. On this auspicious day, Ngawang Lodro Tsungmed celebrated the victory, and sang extemporaneously among the almost five thousand monastic persons, Sādhu!