

A flash of lightning in the dark night guide to bodhisattvas way life dalai l

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Enlightened Beings: Understanding Bodhisattvas and the Dalai Lama**

What is a Bodhisattva According to the Dalai Lama?

According to the 14th Dalai Lama, His Holiness Tenzin Gyatso, a bodhisattva is an enlightened being who has chosen to postpone their own perfect enlightenment to guide others on their spiritual path. They are compassionate individuals who strive to liberate all sentient beings from suffering.

What Bodhisattva is the Current Dalai Lama an Incarnation of?

The Dalai Lama is considered the reincarnation of the bodhisattva Avalokiteshvara, also known as the Buddha of Compassion.

Why is Buddha Called a Bodhisattva?

Before his enlightenment, the historical Buddha, Shakyamuni, was a bodhisattva who vowed to achieve enlightenment and free all beings from suffering.

Moral of the Bodhisattva

The bodhisattva ideal emphasizes the values of selfless love, compassion, and service to others. Bodhisattvas embody the aspiration to attain enlightenment not solely for personal benefit but to benefit all sentient beings.

Does the Dalai Lama Believe in God?

The Dalai Lama believes that all major religions offer different paths to the same universal truth. He does not subscribe to the concept of a creator God as portrayed in Western religions but acknowledges the existence of various divine forces.

Can the Dalai Lama Marry?

The Dalai Lama has traditionally taken vows of celibacy and cannot marry.

What is the 14th Dalai Lama Famous For?

The 14th Dalai Lama is renowned for his teachings on Tibetan Buddhism, interfaith dialogue, and promoting peace and compassion worldwide. He is also known for his advocacy for the preservation of Tibetan culture and autonomy.

Best Definition of a Bodhisattva

"A bodhisattva is one who aspires to attain enlightenment, not for his or her own sake, but for the sake of all beings." - Dalai Lama

Meaning of Bodhisattvas

The term "bodhisattva" comes from the Sanskrit words "bodhi" (enlightenment) and "sattva" (being). It refers to beings who have awakened to the potential for enlightenment and are committed to attaining it for the benefit of all.

Difference Between a Buddha and a Bodhisattva

Both Buddhas and bodhisattvas are enlightened beings, but the key distinction is that Buddhas have fully realized enlightenment and are liberated from the cycle of rebirth, while bodhisattvas remain in the world to help others until all beings are free from suffering.

Bodhisattva Ideal in Tibetan Buddhism

In Tibetan Buddhism, the bodhisattva ideal is central to the path of spiritual practice. Tibetan Buddhists believe that by cultivating compassion, wisdom, and service, individuals can embody the qualities of a bodhisattva and ultimately attain enlightenment for the benefit of all.

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