

THE KALAMA SUTTA SEMINAR

CONTENTS

PAGE	SUBJECT COVERED
1	'Thus have I heard at one time'
2	Kosala and Magadha A travelling community
3	'word of mouth' 'bho' as a term of respect sramaneras
4	Brahmins and sramaneras
5	Freedom of thought and action. 'terthikas' - teachers corresponding to Greek 'Sophists'
6	Pabajja - going forth. Standard descriptions in the Pali Canon.
7	The world with its beings. Mara and the fourfold Mara
8	The Buddhist world picture Abhi-jna.
9	The six abhijnas. The asravas
10	Seeing into the true nature of things
11	He then sets forth the dhamma 'Kalyana'
12	Spiritual friendship cannot be institutionalized Kalyana mitras. Responding to the dhamma aesthetically.
13	The Dhamma as the beautiful.
14	Distinction between the spirit and the letter.
15	Complete and perfect Dhamma
16	Brahmacarya, Dhammacarya, Bodhicarya. Buddhist cosmology
17	'Completely purified non polarized higher self'
18	Emotional polarization. Physical and mental celibacy.
19	The Buddha as illuminator
20	The 'need' to be dominant. Reliability/Reliance
21	"Polynesian time/Indian Time"
22	'The hallmark of the unintegrated person in relationships
23	Seeing/looking at a holy man - darshan
24	Exchanging joyful greetings. Etiquette when meeting a holy person.
25/6	The Buddha did not insist on any particular mode of showing respect. Circumambulating
27	The Kalamas' question. Addressing the Buddha as 'Bhante'
28	Repetition in the Pali Canon Pali Canon
29	The state of mind of the modern Hindu concerning 'conflicting' teachings
30	Vicikiccha - uncertainty
31	Cynicism as a response to religion
32	The appeal of Rajneesh. Searching for a group
33	The same terminology doesn't mean the same ideals. The positive group.
34	Why people avoid groups
35	Distinguishing between group, positive group, and spiritual community.
36	Upsetting traditional norms
37	The next section - criterion for rejection Positive uncertainty.

- 38 Not by repeated hearing
- 39 Passive acceptance of our opinions. Using the 'right' language
- 40 Hearing, assimilating, understanding and clarifying
- 41/3 'Objectivity' in the media.
- 44 Brainwashing/escapism/selfishness as criticisms of the FWBO.
- 45 'Conditioned is not necessarily a dirty word'.
Degrees of subjectivity and objectivity.
- 46 Being' entirely subjective.
- 47 The Buddha's transcendence of subject and object.
- 48 Underdeveloped but overestimated thinking
- 48/9 'Do not go upon tradition'
- 50 Cultural heritage - lineage
- 51 What actually goes back to the Buddha? - original texts.
- 52 Certificates of lineage. Purity of teaching.
- 53 Testing enlightenment. Having the 'same' experience.
- 54 Does belonging to a lineage really matter?
- 55 Being impressed by lineages/successions.
Your own experience and your communication with your teacher.
- 56 'Nor upon rumour'
- 57 Rumours about great spiritual teachers.
The rumour of the resurrection.
- 58 Christian relics
- 59 'Please deceive me!'
- 60 The chosen people
- 61 Don't automatically reject things - sift them.
'Do not go upon what is in a scripture'
- 62 'Blind faith' Infallible scriptures
- 63 The Vedas
- 64 'I hear and obey' A Buddhist Bible
- 65 'Divinely inspired' Buddhist scriptures carrying out God's word.
- 66/7 Messages from God
- 67/8 Abdication of responsibility
- 68 What are the Buddhist scriptures?
- 69 The 'right' use of the Buddhist scriptures
- 70 Inference
- 71/2 Empiricism, logic and inference
- 73 Sophistry. Radio chat shows
- 74 'Complete certainty through rational means is impossible to attain'.
- 75 Studying logic
- 76/7 De Bono's lateral thinking
- 78 What is thinking? Exploring a gestalt
- 79 The anti Semitic myth and the feminist myth.
Finding a 'true' myth.
- 80 Defining the Gestalt
- 81 Introducing people to myths
- 82 The Saddhammapundarika sutta myths
- 83 Selecting one's myth. The Nazi myth
- 84/5 The growth of the myth in Buddhism
- 85/6 The historical, the mythical/archetypal and the absolute

- 87 Symbols becoming really symbols
- 88 Transplanting Eastern symbols in the west.
- 89/90 Christmas in New Zealand (a recap of the preceding discussion)
- 91 'Nor upon specious reasoning/repeated consideration'
- 92 'Nor upon a bias towards a notion that has been pondered over.'
- 93 'Truth is not a trip'
- 94 Clarifying the use of the word 'truth
- 95 How to present ideals to people
- 96 'Nor upon another's seeming ability'
- 97 Being impressed by appearances. Yogi Shri George.
- 98 'Personalities' leading FWBO classes, Communication as a quality of the individual
- 99 'Nor upon the consideration - the monk is our teacher.
- 100 Being removed from a supportive environment
- 101 Authorities and 'experts'
- 102 You have to decide
- 103/4 Who are ' the wise '?
- 105 Common sense when dealing with exalted spiritual claims.
- 106 Balancing subjective experience and objective things
- 107 The wise would encourage one's verification of what they say.
"Greed, hatred and delusion" - text
- 108/9 Looking to the Kalamas' own experience.
What makes adultery so unskilful?
- 110 Is it possible to commit adultery?
- 111/2 Marriage from a Buddhist point of view.
Entering into exclusive sexual relationships
- 113 The wise are 'sensible people'
- 114 The four exalted dwellings - text (The Brahma Viharas)
- 115 The transition from ethical life to meditative life
- 116 The four solaces - text
- 117 Conclusion of the sutta
- 118 Unskilful actions and future states
- 120 The incest taboo - allowing variability and adaptability
- 121/2 Does the Buddha believe in rebirth?