



# The Way of Awakening: A Commentary on Shantideva's Bodhicharyavatara

*Geshe Yeshe Tobden*

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# The Way of Awakening: A Commentary on Shantideva's Bodhicharyavatara

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**The Way of Awakening: A Commentary on Shantideva's Bodhicharyavatara** Geshe Yeshe Tobden  
One of the great classics of Buddhist literature, the *Bodhicharyavatara*, or *Way of the Bodhisattva*, is required reading for understanding Tibetan Buddhism. Shantideva was a seventh-century Buddhist master who taught at the great monastic university of Nalanda. Presented in the form of a personal meditation in verse, the *Bodhicharyavatara* outlines the path of the bodhisattvas--those who renounce the peace of their own salvation, vowing instead to attain enlightenment for the sake of all others. The Dalai Lama once remarked that his own understanding of the bodhisattva path is based entirely upon Shantideva's text.

*As long as space endures,  
As long as sentient beings remain,  
May I likewise remain  
To dispel the sorrows of the world.*  
--Shantideva

*The Way of Awakening* is without question the most comprehensive single commentary on this text available. Expounded by an accomplished scholar and deeply realized meditator, it is a resource for a lifetime of study. Chapter by chapter and verse by verse, it maps the *Bodhicharyavatara*, helping us to deepen our understanding of its teachings and apply them to our lives.

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