

Orientation for Week 6 KTS 384-86

We have spent the first five weeks of this program reading one section of KTS, called “Shaping the Known.” Now we are moving on to a new section, called “Knowledge Ability.”

I mentioned at the start of the program that one of the characteristics of KTS is that it presents many different ideas, approaches, and insights, some of which may only be loosely connected with one another. But this does not mean that we should now put our focus on the ‘field’ away, and turn to something completely new. Even though Rinpoche will not mention the field in the readings from now on, we can build on our field explorations as we move forward.

In particular, keep in mind as we proceed the suggestion that all the various fields we engage or establish, including the fields of the senses, shape the known in particular ways. As for the fields themselves, as we saw last week, the ‘feel’ of the field—the feeling dimension of the field totality—shapes the knowledge available within the field. It ‘determines’ field dynamics and structures, an activity that we are ‘determined’ to take credit for. This is a good starting point for this week’s reading.

In the previous section, we spoke of fields and field determinations. Now the vocabulary shifts to feedback, projection, and possession. There is a suggestion at the end of this week’s reading that the intimacy of known and knowing. If you reflect on this, you realize that it leads you back to the unified feel of the field.

In the phone call, we worked with the exercise of ‘peeling away’ the feel of each field, picking out an emotional situation or working with something we greatly desire or wish for. Please continue with this exercise. Love of Knowledge has an exercise related to this practice: Ex. 21: Protecting and Projecting. Actually, there are several exercises in LOK that deal with themes similar to the ones we are working with, including one called “Field Of Feeling.” If you have time, you may like to look at them.

The exploration of the edges of space is also really valuable for the whole approach we are taking here, since it makes the usual known identities more transparent. You can review again the next-to-last paragraph on 383 for a discussion of how these two approaches are related to one another.