

Clinging to Philosophy is Not Mahamudra

It is possible to cling to any one of the [philosophical schools] by holding onto your system as the only valid one, not seeing that all these tenets are mere conceptual imputations, a great network of labels. These assertions are based on attachment to your own philosophical position; however, the philosophical position of the mahamudra is beyond this kind of conceptualizing.

When you cling to a position, taking it to be truly established (an enervating, totally exhausting endeavor), your ability to see the fundamental nature of the mind becomes obscured. In sum, when you assert or cling to your own philosophical view, that in itself obscures the true nature of the mind, the very thing you are trying to realize. The problem is the grasping, this prejudice towards your own standpoint or understanding.

—From *Mahamudra Shamatha and Vipashyana, Karmê Chöling, Summer, 1991*, p.18.
Translated by Michele Martin.

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