



Gaya Ethaniel: Hello Dao :)

Dao Yheng: hi gaya!

Dao Yheng: nice to be back in our old digs

Gaya Ethaniel: :D

Gaya Ethaniel: Hello Tim :)

Gaya Ethaniel: How are you Dao?

Dao Yheng: Hi Timbo!

Timbo Quan: Hello Gaya Hi Dao

Timbo Quan: Didn't realise this place is up in the air ....

Gaya Ethaniel: mhm it is :)

Timbo Quan: interesting

Gaya Ethaniel: :)

Dao Yheng: is it? raised on a platform?

Gaya Ethaniel: No like a skybox, it's floating in the air.

Timbo Quan: rather fairly high up - never looked over the edge before

Gaya Ethaniel: 250m high ... it says.

Gaya Ethaniel: Hello maria24 :)

Dao Yheng: oh, funny! Is that why you can see the sea underneath when everything is first rendering?

Timbo Quan: yes

Gaya Ethaniel: I don't see the sea ... not sure.

Gaya Ethaniel points to her new T-shirt.

Dao Yheng: I was going to ask...

Gaya Ethaniel: ?

Gaya Ethaniel: Hello again maria24 :)

maria24 Murfin: hi gaya

Gaya Ethaniel: Have you been here before maria?

maria24 Murfin: yes is there a mtg here at 2pm slt

Gaya Ethaniel: Yes, it will start shortly. The meeting is open for anyone to join. For more information, please see <http://ways-of-knowing.wik.is/>

Gaya Ethaniel: Hello Mitsu :)

Gaya Ethaniel: Please feel free to take a seat if you'd like maria.

Timbo Quan: hello Mitsu

Mitsu Ishii: hello

Dao Yheng: thanks!

Gaya Ethaniel: :)

Dao Yheng: So patience has been good to you, Gaya?

Gaya Ethaniel: hm ... thinks.

Gaya Ethaniel: Patience is good ... :)

Gaya Ethaniel: You mean if I have been patient?

Dao Yheng: If you've enjoyed working with patience as homework

Gaya Ethaniel: ah :)

Gaya Ethaniel: Yes it is a good topic for me.

Gaya Ethaniel: How about you?

Dao Yheng: to be honest, I find that I tend to turn it into something else

Gaya Ethaniel: ?

Dao Yheng: acceptance, compassion, etc

Gaya Ethaniel: Well patience requires all those qualities I think ...

Dao Yheng: it's been a little difficult to stay with patience as such

Gaya Ethaniel: If patience is approached from anger ... compassion is needed.

Gaya Ethaniel: To be patient with someone, sometimes one needs to accept and also trust ...

Gaya Ethaniel: It's a complex topic I think.

Dao Yheng: yes, I think so too

Mitsu Ishii: Zen's interpretation of patience seemed to focus on time, i.e., waiting

Dao Yheng: there's the issue of what one is being patient with, too...

Dao Yheng: oh, yes, that was an illuminating aspect of his report, I thought

Mitsu Ishii: but the paramita has more to do with acceptance of things like people being angry or attacking you etc.

Gaya Ethaniel: Yes Eliza also associated patience with time.

Mitsu Ishii: i.e., such as the Tibetans being patient with the Chinese

Dao Yheng: You don't think attitudes about time are related?

Dao Yheng: to me, that sense of "this needs to be corrected" definitely plays out in time

Mitsu Ishii: yes, I think time is related

Mitsu Ishii: but it isn't just patience as in waiting for something to happen in the future

Dao Yheng: oh I see what you mean

Mitsu Ishii: the word "patience" might not be quite the right translation

Gaya Ethaniel: I saw a Dalai Lama's quote re: patience, being able to stand firm under fear.

Gaya Ethaniel: So impatience -> sense of self under threat?

Dao Yheng: a sense of confidence too, then

Gaya Ethaniel: How do you see this?

Gaya Ethaniel: Yes confidence and trust ...

Gaya Ethaniel: Hello Zen :)

Dao Yheng: Hi Zen, good to see you again!

Gaya Ethaniel: I will make a notecard of what we've said Zen.

Timbo Quan: hello Zen

Mitsu Ishii: hi Zen

Zen Arado: Hi Gaya, Mitsu, Timbo, Dao

maria24 Murfin: sorry i crashed

Zen Arado: amria

Gaya Ethaniel: wb maria

maria24 Murfin: ty

Zen Arado: Maria sorry

maria24 Murfin: hi zen

Zen Arado: ty Gaya

Gaya Ethaniel: :)

maria24 Murfin: ty gaya for the nc

Gaya Ethaniel: :)

Mitsu Ishii: confidence and trust that there is something already supportive about the situation even in the worst circumstances

Gaya Ethaniel: Then natural patience ...

Dao Yheng: yes -- patience in the sense that things can be quite dire and may never be "fixed"

Zen Arado: suggests being contented with the way things are

Gaya Ethaniel: This is why I thought wisdom is also related to patience.

Zen Arado: then you don't need patience

maria24 Murfin: would you say patience is natural or is it something that is learned

Zen Arado: children don't have much patience :)

Gaya Ethaniel: I thought about that :) Crouching in the bush ... ^^;;

Dao Yheng: maybe patience is the way wisdom is expressed?

Mitsu Ishii: I think patience is not quite exactly the same as being contented with the way things are

Mitsu Ishii: for example, let's say the way things are includes someone causing great suffering to others

Mitsu Ishii: the point of the paramita is not that we sit back and don't think there's anything wrong, that there's nothing that deserves to be corrected or changed

Mitsu Ishii: but that we accept that things are the way they are, even if we need to move to correct them

Zen Arado: but, sometimes, like the Dalai Lama and China situation, we have to sit back

Mitsu Ishii: even there, the Dalai Lama makes strenuous efforts constantly with the Chinese.

Mitsu Ishii: there's a big difference between acceptance and passivity

Zen Arado: maybe we need patience to wait for the right time to act

Mitsu Ishii: one can act with patience or act without it

Mitsu Ishii: or not act with patience or not act without it

Zen Arado: acceptance can include action though

Mitsu Ishii: exactly

Gaya Ethaniel: I think when time factor is involved, practical level of patience helps especially when situations can cause strong reactions.

Zen Arado: I seem to find it impossible to disconnect the time factor from patience

Zen Arado: 'waiting patiently' for something

Gaya Ethaniel: Also when a situation is quite stuck, I may decide to bite my tongue in order not to make the situation worse.

Dao Yheng: what happens if you strike the waiting part from patience, though?

Mitsu Ishii: there's a quality of patience which is right here

Gaya Ethaniel: idk ... I enjoy waiting, I don't normally see as 'waiting'.

Mitsu Ishii: something happens, that is negative, and we can be reactive to it or we can appreciate the larger context

Zen Arado: it seems to be future oriented though?

Mitsu Ishii: that's sort of "instant patience"

Zen Arado: hmmm yes

Zen Arado: but putting off doing something to a later time?

Dao Yheng: :) I guess it matters what we're being patient with

maria24 Murfin: i looked up one definition and it said good-natured tolerance of delay or incompetence so wouldn't the word delay involve the time element

Zen Arado: should forget the 'doing' part maybe ?

Mitsu Ishii: it doesn't have to be about time at all

Gaya Ethaniel: Yes Mitsu, that's why I did wonder if patience in this context can be developed directly.

Mitsu Ishii: for example, something goes wrong and you get upset with whatever it is

Mitsu Ishii: like a flat tire

Gaya Ethaniel: :)

Gaya Ethaniel: On the way to the cinema?

Mitsu Ishii: I was in India and it's quite a difficult place

Gaya Ethaniel: heheheh

Mitsu Ishii: very strange place

Mitsu Ishii: but anyway, on my way to the airport to leave, I had called a taxi

Mitsu Ishii: the taxi arrived on time and everything was fine

Mitsu Ishii: it was an expensive (for India) taxi service

Mitsu Ishii: but as we were headed to the airport, the taxi got a flat

Mitsu Ishii: so we pulled over

Mitsu Ishii: and the taxi driver got out and I could see he was getting out the jack

Mitsu Ishii: he didn't say anything. In India there are big class differences

Mitsu Ishii: so I think he was worried I was going to get irritated at him or yell

Gaya Ethaniel: hm ... he saw you as an upper class person even if you are a foreigner?

Mitsu Ishii: but I just got out and started to help him change the tire

Mitsu Ishii: yes

Mitsu Ishii: well most foreigners are upper class by Indian standards

Mitsu Ishii: he was a little weirded out that I was helping him but he accepted it because he knew we could change it faster

Gaya Ethaniel: ok interesting ...

Mitsu Ishii: so we change the tire and we get back in and drive to the airport

Mitsu Ishii: at the end he starts to apologize profusely

Mitsu Ishii: seeming a bit nervous

Mitsu Ishii: and I just told him it was fine and things like that happen

Gaya Ethaniel: Hello Tronky :)

Zen Arado: brb

Mitsu Ishii: so he was SO relieved

Tronky Niki: hello

Mitsu Ishii: and he made small talk after that

Gaya Ethaniel: I will IM Tronky with an introduction ...

Mitsu Ishii: but I was thinking that in India there are many situations of conflict and strife

Mitsu Ishii: where simply being more accepting of a situation as it is would help immensely, without being resigned to it

Mitsu Ishii: that is, we needed to change the tire, we leapt into action, together

Mitsu Ishii: but at the same time, no rancor or anger or impatience..

Mitsu Ishii: just calmly working with the situation as it is

Mitsu Ishii: then we can bridge the gap between classes and between foreigners and locals and so on

Mitsu Ishii: anyway that's my little story

Gaya Ethaniel: Hello varan024 :) I will IM you to introduce our group.

varan024 Aristocrat: ok

varan024 Aristocrat: hi for all

varan024 Aristocrat: i am from serbia

Mitsu Ishii: I think of patience as a paramita as more about how one responds to situations

Gaya Ethaniel: Why don't you grab a seat ... varan.

Mitsu Ishii: you're in a hurry, or you are frustrated with a broken machine or whatever

Mitsu Ishii: or someone is attacking you and so on

varan024 Aristocrat: i dont set when smoke

Mitsu Ishii: how do you respond to that situation now

Zen Arado: ha ha just had a fire alarm in my block of apartments

Mitsu Ishii: haha

Dao Yheng: :)))

Zen Arado: woman next door was smoking

Gaya Ethaniel: Well my experience of showing acceptance is that most of the time I get a bad service.

Gaya Ethaniel: ah ... :)

Zen Arado: is patience related to tolerance then?

Zen Arado: are they the same?

Gaya Ethaniel: You know I find tolerance somewhat problematic.

Gaya Ethaniel: It implies inequality.

Zen Arado: if you tolerate a situation it seems like patience?

Zen Arado: true Gaya

Gaya Ethaniel: By a long thread, this I think relates to patience being patchy sometimes.

Zen Arado: does patience imply inequality too?

Zen Arado: inequality in Mitsu's story

Zen Arado: sorry I'm going off into word definitions

Gaya Ethaniel: Someone once told me how he can't teach his wife anything while he was very well liked by his students.

Gaya Ethaniel: So my thoughts would be ... why patient with his students while not with his wife?

Zen Arado: good point Gaya

Gaya Ethaniel: So being impatient is a shade of anger I think.

Dao Yheng: :) wives are a tough audience

Gaya Ethaniel: And sometimes we refrain from being angry at some people ... while not others.

Gaya Ethaniel: lol

Zen Arado: harder to be patient with those closer to you isn't it?

Zen Arado: why is that?

Dao Yheng: I think that is a traditional understanding of patience -- it is an alternative to anger

Mitsu Ishii: wives don't like to be taught things by husbands

Gaya Ethaniel: So the patchy quality here points to ... perhaps contrived patience rather than spontaneous expressions.

Mitsu Ishii: that is my experience :)

Dao Yheng: It could just be that wives are holding their husbands to a higher standard

Timbo Quan: wives rarely exhibit patience would be my experience

Zen Arado: maybe patience is always contrived

Dao Yheng: and that husbands should be more patient about that :)

Gaya Ethaniel: Yes expectation ...

Zen Arado: requires effort...

Gaya Ethaniel: I don't think that's the case always Zen.

Zen Arado: you might not notice it then?

Dao Yheng: although I guess there's no reason to be prejudiced against effort either

Gaya Ethaniel: I wouldn't say Mitsu's example is born out of efforts.

Zen Arado: we always want people to notice our patience

Gaya Ethaniel: Yes that's what I meant by different levels.

Gaya Ethaniel: Refraining oneself from reacting requires efforts for example.

Gaya Ethaniel: And of course catching it before ...

Gaya Ethaniel: See? Being patience isn't so straight forward :)

Zen Arado: but you could say Mitsu's action had some impatience in it too

Zen Arado: he wanted to get to the airport faster

Gaya Ethaniel: Well it was rather a shared intention?

Gaya Ethaniel: With the driver?

Zen Arado: speed things up

Zen Arado: ?

Gaya Ethaniel: Shared aim I mean ...

Gaya Ethaniel: A shared aim with the driver rather than impatience ... sorry I'm a bit tired here.

Dao Yheng: Hmm, noticing that the next paramita is "Joyous effort" / vigor, something like that

Gaya Ethaniel: Is it? :)

Zen Arado: think I'm getting too philosophical and too much into concepts

Dao Yheng: maybe Zen is keying in on the natural next step with all this?

Gaya Ethaniel: Yes perhaps :)

Zen Arado: no I wasn't :)

Mitsu Ishii: but this is what I mean: patience doesn't mean not doing things to make things go faster :)

Dao Yheng: you're modest, Zen!

Zen Arado: but maybe I should :)

Gaya Ethaniel: :)

Mitsu Ishii: for example, you might want to accelerate the end of slavery

Mitsu Ishii: or the end of poverty

Mitsu Ishii: or the end of the subjugation of women

Gaya Ethaniel: But driving such an aim from anger isn't sustainable.

Mitsu Ishii: but you can do that in a patient or an impatient way

Gaya Ethaniel: Anger can give a boost of energy - can be addictive.

Zen Arado: impatience can be a good motivator

Gaya Ethaniel: But I think genuine patience can give much more and less harmful ... :)

Zen Arado: impatient wqith slavery?

Zen Arado: patience could prolong bad things

Dao Yheng: yes, it does feel like there is a way to be patient with impatience too

Gaya Ethaniel: :)

Mitsu Ishii: I'm trying to distinguish between changing things or acting to change things

Dao Yheng: recognize impatience's strengths

Mitsu Ishii: and doing so in a way which is contrary to the paramita of patience

Mitsu Ishii: wanting to change something isn't the same as being impatient with it

Zen Arado: sometimes we change things for the worse

Gaya Ethaniel: True, one can get angry about stuff but do nothing.

Mitsu Ishii: if a surgeon is operating on you

Mitsu Ishii: you certainly don't want him to be operating "impatiently"

Zen Arado: the world is so complex - how do we know the right action?

Mitsu Ishii: even if the surgeon is trying to change something in you physically

Mitsu Ishii: that I think is the point of practice, even doing things like taiji and qi gong

Dao Yheng: I think we can know what might be the right way of acting, even if we don't know how we're going to get to a specific end

Mitsu Ishii: you can learn to feel things in a better way

Zen Arado: we have to act anyway

Mitsu Ishii: to be more in accord with Tao as the Taoists would say

Mitsu Ishii: it's not necessarily a matter of knowing intellectually

Dao Yheng: right, so even being impatient with slavery, it doesn't mean now we go around stomping on people

Gaya Ethaniel: ack

Zen Arado: learn to be more attuned to what might be a better way

Mitsu Ishii: we seem to be at the end of our session

Mitsu Ishii: what is next week's topic?

Mitsu Ishii: virya?

Mitsu Ishii: Vīrya pāramitā : energy, diligence, vigor, effort

Dao Yheng: we could consider patience and virya together, or did we just do that?

Mitsu Ishii: let's do virya

Mitsu Ishii: perhaps we should try to reminds some folks more directly

Gaya Ethaniel: Vīrya (Sanskrit; Pāli: viriya; Tibetan: brtson-'grus) is "effort," "vigor," "diligence," "zeal," or "energy."

Dao Yheng: ok, sounds good

Mitsu Ishii: that we are starting up again, like Calvino and Agatha

Gaya Ethaniel: Yes I have ...

Mitsu Ishii: ok cool

Gaya Ethaniel: I think I did ... at PaB.

Gaya Ethaniel: I will send out a notice the day before anyway. They should have received Kira notices as well.

Dao Yheng: sounds good

Zen Arado: yes

Mitsu Ishii: okay, see you guys next week then!

Dao Yheng: It's lovely to see you all again!

Gaya Ethaniel: Hello Vic. You're too late, we have finished our meeting :P

Gaya Ethaniel: Thanks everyone :)

Timbo Quan: Bye all - have good week!

Dao Yheng: Bye all!

Zen Arado: yes it it's good to be back

maria24 Murfin: ok ty

Gaya Ethaniel: :)

Zen Arado: bye all

Gaya Ethaniel: I will post the log.

maria24 Murfin: bye for now