

BCA Chapter 1, Verse 29, Text Section 287

***Bodhicitta satisfies with all the varieties of happiness
And cuts free from all suffering
Those who are deprived of happiness
And those endowed with many sorrows.***

BCA 1-29, Text section 287

Beings are rich in misery and impoverished in happiness. *Destitute* means to be poor in the sense of being without happiness and the causes for happiness. The causes for happiness are roots of virtue, which beings lack. On top of that, they are endowed with suffering and the causes for suffering. The causes for suffering are negative deeds and non-virtuous actions. Of these beings have plenty. Therefore, such beings must be called *miserable ones*. These are the object of focus for the bodhisattva, since bodhicitta can bring all states of happiness to beings and cuts them loose from the stream of suffering in this and all future lifetimes. Bodhicitta grants *temporary happiness*, which refers to rebirth in the higher states of samsara, in the realms of humans and gods. It also grants *ultimate happiness*, which refers to the attainment of complete enlightenment. The ultimate happiness and bliss is an unchanging bliss, also called supreme bliss.

Thus, with *great kindness* and love bodhicitta cares for all these miserable ones, satisfying them with temporary and ultimate happiness. To *satisfy* beings with ultimate bliss means to establish them on the level of buddhahood. With *great compassion* bodhicitta cuts through the stream of suffering.