

Eight Dissolutions of the 25 Coarse Phenomena

| Dissolution | Aggregate | Wisdom | Element | Source | Object | Internal Sign |
|-----------------------------------|--|--|--|---|---|---|
| | <i>External Signs</i> | | | | | |
| 1st Dissolution | Form ¹⁻⁵ Limbs smaller, body weak and powerless. | Mirror-like Wisdom ¹⁻⁵ (Our ordinary consciousness that clearly perceives many objects simultaneously) Sight unclear and dark. | Earth ¹⁻⁵ Body heavy, thin, limbs loose. Sensation that body is sinking under the earth. | Eye sense power ¹⁻⁵ Unable to open and close eyes. | Colors and Shapes ¹⁻⁵ Body luster and strength diminish and sight becomes unclear and dark. | Mirage (bluish appearance) |
| 2nd Dissolution | Feeling ⁶⁻¹⁰ Not aware of feelings (happiness, suffering, neutral) related to sense consciousnesses. | Wisdom of Equality ⁶⁻¹⁰ (Our ordinary consciousness mindful of happiness, suffering, and neutral feelings as being feelings) No feelings related to mental consciousness. | Water ⁶⁻¹⁰ Bodily fluids dry up. | Ear sense power ⁶⁻¹⁰ Unable to hear internal and external sounds. | Sounds ⁶⁻¹⁰ 'Ur' or buzzing sound ceases. | Smoke (like blue puffs of smoke billowing from a chimney in the midst of a mass of smoke) |
| 3rd Dissolution | Discrimination ¹¹⁻¹⁵ Not mindful of affairs of close persons. | Wisdom of Investigation ¹¹⁻¹⁵ (Our ordinary consciousness mindful of the individual names, purposes, and so forth of close persons) Unable to remember names. | Fire ¹¹⁻¹⁵ The warmth of the body diminishes, whereby the capacity to digest food and drink is lost. | Nose sense power ¹¹⁻¹⁵ Inhalation weak, exhalation strong and lengthy. | Odors ¹¹⁻¹⁵ Unable to smell odors. | Fireflies (like burning red sparks seen within puffs of smoke rising from a chimney) |
| 4th Dissolution | Compositional Factors ¹⁶⁻²² Unable to perform physical actions. | Wisdom of Activities ¹⁶⁻²² (Our ordinary consciousness mindful of external activities, purposes, etc.) Not mindful of worldly activities. | Wind ¹⁶⁻²² Root and branch winds move to the heart. Breath ceases. | Tongue sense power ¹⁶⁻²² Tongue thick, short, and base blue. Body sense power ¹⁶⁻²² Unable to feel roughness and smoothness. | Tastes ¹⁶⁻²² Unable to experience tastes. Tactile ¹⁶⁻²² Unable to experience tangible objects. | Sputtering butter lamp about to go out. |

| Dissolution | Aggregate | Wisdom | Source | Factor Dissolving | Internal Sign | Cause of Appearance |
|--|--------------------------------|---|-------------------------------------|--|--|---|
| | <i>External Signs</i> | | | | | |
| 5th Dissolution | Consciousness ²³⁻²⁵ | Wisdom of the Sphere of Phenomena ²³⁻²⁵ (the nature of phenomena) | Mental sense power ²³⁻²⁵ | Dissolution of the eighty indicative conceptions and the winds that serves as their mount. | The arisal of a brilliant white appearance, like moonlight pervading a vacuous autumn sky, and the empty appearance. | All the winds in the right and left channels above the heart enter the central channel's upper opening, causing the knots of the crown and throat to loosen and the white drop at the crown to descend. When the drop arrives at the top of the knots above the heart, the internal sign appears. |
| 6th Dissolution | Consciousness ²³⁻²⁵ | Wisdom of the Sphere of Phenomena ²³⁻²⁵ (the nature of phenomena) | Mental sense power ²³⁻²⁵ | Dissolution of the mind of white appearance and the wind that serves as its mount. | The arisal of a vivid red appearance, like sunset pervading a clear autumn sky, and the very empty appearance. | All the winds in the right and left channels below the heart enter the central channel's lower opening, causing the knots of the secret place and navel to loosen and the red drop to ascend from the navel. When the drop arrives below the knots beneath the heart, the internal sign appears. |
| 7th Dissolution | Consciousness ²³⁻²⁵ | Wisdom of the Sphere of Phenomena ²³⁻²⁵ (the nature of phenomena) | Mental sense power ²³⁻²⁵ | Dissolution of the mind of red increase and the wind that serves as its mount. | The arisal of a radiant black vacuity, like thick darkness pervading an autumn sky at night, and the great empty appearance. | Due to the gathering of the winds in the central channel, both above and below the heart, the heart chakra's six knots loosen. The white drop descends and the red drop ascends. They meet at the indestructible drop and encapsulate it, causing the internal sign to appear. |
| 8th Dissolution | Consciousness ²³⁻²⁵ | Wisdom of the Sphere of Phenomena ²³⁻²⁵ (the nature of phenomena) | Mental sense power ²³⁻²⁵ | Dissolution of the mind of black near-attainment and the wind that serves as its mount. | The arisal of an appearance of a space-like vacuity, like the natural color of the sky, free from the three polluting appearances, and the all empty appearance. | When the red and white drops dissolve into the white and red eternal indestructible drop and the winds dissolve into the very subtle life-bearing wind, the very subtle wind and mind are made manifest, giving rise to the internal sign. |
| The final three coarse phenomena weaken during the 5 th , 6 th , and 7 th dissolutions and dissolve completely in the 8 th . | | | | | | |

*1-25 from the division into 25 coarse phenomena.

Source: Yangchen Gaway Lodro – *Lamp Thoroughly Illuminating the Presentation of the Three Basic Bodies*