Chanting Book · Volume One

Morning and Evening Chanting (Pūjā) and Reflections Pāli and English

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PART 1

Morning Chanting

Dedication of Offerings

[Yo so] bhagavā araham sammāsambuddho

To the Blessed One, the Lord, who fully attained perfect enlightenment,

Svākkhāto yena bhagavatā dhammo

To the Teaching which he expounded so well,

Supațipanno yassa bhagavato sāvakasaṅgho

And to the Blessed One's disciples who have practised well,

Tam-mayam bhagavantam sadhammam sasangham

To these — the Buddha, the Dhamma, and the $\widehat{\text{Sangha}}$ —

Imehî sakkārehi yathāraham āropitehi abhîpūjayāma

We render with offerings our rightful homage.

Sādhû no bhante bhagavā sucira-parinibbutopi

It is well for us that the Blessed One, having attained liberation,

Pacchimā-janatānukampa-mānasā

Still had compassion for later generations.

Ime sakkāre duggata-paṇṇākārâ-bhūte paṭiggaṇhātu

May these simple offerings be accepted

Amhākam dīgharattam hitāya sukhāya

For our long-lasting benefit and for the happiness it gives us.

Araham sammāsambuddho bhagavā

The Lord, the Perfectly Enlightened and Blessed One -

Buddham bhagavantam abhivademi

I render homage to the Buddha, the Blessed One.

[BOW]

[Svākkhāto] bhagavatā dhammo

The Teaching so completely explained by him -

Dhammam namassāmi

I bow to the Dhamma.

[BOW]

[Supaṭipanno] bhagavato sāvakasaṅgho

The Blessed One's disciples who have practised well -

Sangham namāmi

I bow to the Sangha.

[BOW]

Preliminary Homage

[Handa mayam buddhassa bhagavato pubbabhāga-namakāram karomase]

[Now let us pay preliminary homage to the Buddha.]

Namo tassa bhagavato arahato sammāsambuddhassa

[THREE TIMES]

Homage to the Blessed, Noble, and Perfectly Enlightened One.

[THREE TIMES]

E

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Homage to the Buddha

[Handa mayam buddhabhitthutim karomase]

[Now let us chant in praise of the Buddha.]

Yo so tathagato araham sammasambuddho

The Tathāgata is the Pure One, the Perfectly Enlightened One.

Vijjācaraṇa-sampanno

He is impeccable in conduct and understanding,

Sugato

The Accomplished One,

Lokavidū

The Knower of the Worlds.

Anuttaro purisadamma-sārathi

He trains perfectly those who wish \hat{to} be trained.

Satthā deva-manussānam

He is Teacher of \widehat{gods} and humans.

Buddho bhagavā

He is awake and holy.

Yo imam lokam sadevakam samārakam sabrahmakam

In this world with its gods, demons, and kind spîrits,

Sassamaṇa-brāhmaṇiṃ pajaṃ sadeva-manussaṃ sayaṃ abhiññā sacchikatvā pavedesi

Its seekers and sages, celestial and human beings, he has by deep insight revealed the Truth.

Yo dhammam desesi adi-kalyanam majjhe-kalyanam pariyosana-kalyanam

He has pointed out the Dhamma: beautiful in the beginning, beautiful in the middle, beautiful in the end.

Sāttham sabyañjanam kevala-paripuṇṇam parisuddham brahma-cariyam pakāsesi

He has explained the Spiritual Life of complete purity in its \widehat{e} ssence and conventions.

Tam-aham bhagavantam abhipūjayāmi tam-aham bhagavantam sirasa namāmi

I chant my praise to the Blessed One, I bow my head to the Blessed One.

[BOW]

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Homage to the Dhamma

[Handa mayam dhammābhitthutim karomase]

[Now let us chant in praise of the Dhamma.]

Yo so svākkhāto bhagavatā dhammo

The Dhamma is well expounded by the Blessed One,

Sandiṭṭhiko

Apparent here and now,

Akāliko

Timeless,

Ehipassiko

Encouraging investigation,

Opanayiko

Leading inwards,

Paccattam vedîtabbo viññūhi

To be experienced individually by the wise.

Tam-aham dhammam abhipujayami tam-aham dhammam sirasa namami

I chant my praise to this Teaching, I bow my head to this Truth.

[BOW]

Homage to the Sangha

[Handa mayam saṅghābhitthutim karomase]

[Now let us chant in praise of the Saṅgha.]

Yo so supaṭipanno bhagavato sāvakasaṅgho

They are the Blessed One's disciples, who have practised well,

Ujupatipanno bhagavato sāvakasaṅgho

Who have practised directly,

Ñāyapaṭipanno bhagavato sāvakasaṅgho

Who have practised insightfully,

Samīcipaṭipanno bhagavato savakasaṅgho

Those who practise with integrity —

Yadidam cattāri purisayugāni aṭṭha purisapuggalā

That is the four pairs, the eight kinds of noble beings —

Esa bhagavato sāvakasaṅgho

These are the Blessed One's disciples.

Āhuneyyo

Such ones are worthy of gifts,

Pāhuneyyo

Worthy of hospitality,

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Dakkhineyyo

Worthy of offerings,

Añjali-karanīyo

Worthy of respect;

Anûttaram puññakkhettam lokassa

They give occasion for incomparable goodness to arise in the world.

Tam-aham sangham abhipujayami tam-aham sangham sirasa namami

I chant my praise to this Saṅgha, I bow my head to this Saṅgha.

[BOW]

Salutation to the Triple Gem

[Handa mayaṃ ratanattaya-paṇāma-gāthayo c'eva saṃvega-parikittana-pāṭhañca bhaṇāmase]

[Now let us chant our salutation to the Triple Gem and a passage to arouse urgency.]

Buddho susuddho karuṇā-mahaṇṇavo

The Buddha, absolutely pure, with ocean-like compassion,

Yo'ccanta-suddhabbara-ñāṇa-locano

Possessing the clear sight of wisdom,

Lokassa pāpūpakilesa-ghātako

Destroyer of worldly self-corruption —

Vandāmi buddham aham-ādarena tam

Devotedly indeed, that Buddha I revere.

Dhammo padīpo viya tassa satthuno

The Teaching of the Lord, like a lamp,

Yo magga-pākāmata-bheda-bhinnako

Illuminating the Path and its Fruit: the Deathless,

Lokuttaro yo ca tad-attha-dīpano

That which is beyond the conditioned world —

Vandāmi dhammam aham-ādarena tam

Devotedly indeed, that Dhamma \widehat{I} revere.

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Sangho sukhettabhyati-khetta-saññito

The Sangha, the most fertile ground for cultivation,

Yo diṭṭha-santo sugatānubodhako

Those who have realized peace, awakened after the Accomplished One,

Lolappahīno ariyo sumedhaso

Noble and wise, all longing abandoned -

Vandāmi saṅghaṃ aham-ādarena taṃ

Devotedly indeed, that Sangha I revere.

Iccevam-ekantabhipūja-neyyakam vatthuttayam vandayatābhisankhatam

This salutation should be made to that which is worthy.

Puññaṃ mayā yaṃ mama sabbupaddavā mā hontu ve tassa pabhāva-siddhiyā

Through the power of such good action, may all obstacles disappear.

Idha tathagato loke uppanno araham sammasambuddho

One who knows things as they are has come into this world; and he is an Arahant, a perfectly Awakened being,

Dhammo ca desito niyyāniko upasamiko parinibbāniko sambodhagāmī sugatappavedito

Purifying the way leading out of delusion, calming and directing to perfect peace, and leading to enlightenment — this Way he has made known.

Mayan-tam dhammam sutvā evam jānāma

Having heard the Teaching, we know this:

Jātip<u>i</u> dukkhā

Birth is dukkha,

Jarāpi dukkhā

Ageing is dukkha,

Maraṇampi dukkhaṃ

And death is dukkha;

Soka-parideva-dukkha-domanass'upāyāsāpi dukkhā
Sorrow, lamentation, pain, grief, and despair are dukkha;

Appiyehi sampayogo dukkho

Association with the disliked is dukkha;

Piyehi vîppayogo dukkho

Separation from the liked is dukkha;

Yamp'iccham na labhati tampi dukkham

Not attaining one's wishes is dukkha.

Sankhittena pañcupādānakkhandhā dukkhā

In brief, the five focuses of identity are dukkha.

Seyyathīdaṃ

These are as follows:

Rūpūpādānakkhandho

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Attachment to form,

Vedanūpādānakkhandho

Attachment to feeling,

Saññupadanakkhandho

Attachment to perception,

Sankharūpādanakkhandho

Attachment to mental formations,

Viññāṇūpādānakkhandho

Attachment to sense-consciousness.

Yesam pariññāya

For the complete understanding of this,

Dharamāno so bhagavā evam bahulam savake vineti

The Blessed One in his lifetime frequently instructed his disciples in just this way.

Evaṃ bhāgā ca panassa bhagavato sāvakesu anusāsanī bahulā pavattati In addition, he further instructed:

Rūpam aniccam

Form is impermanent,

Vedanā aniccā

Feeling is impermanent,

Sañña anicca

Perception is impermanent,

Sankhārā aniccā

Mental formations are impermanent,

Viññāṇam aniccam

Sense-consciousness is impermanent;

Rūpam anattā

Form is not-self,

Vedanā anattā

Feeling is not-self,

Sañña anatta

Perception is not-self,

Sankhārā anattā

Mental formations are not-self,

Viññāṇaṃ anattā

Sense-consciousness is not-self;

Sabbe sankhārā aniccā

All conditions are transient,

Sabbe dhammā anattā'ti

There is no self in the created or the uncreated.

Te mayam otinnāmha jātiyā jarā-maranena

All of us are bound by birth, ageing, and death,

14

Sokehi paridevehi dukkhehi domanassehi upāyāsehi

By sorrow, lamentation, pain, grief, and despair,

Dukkhotinnā dukkha-paretā

Bound by dukkha and obstructed by dukkha.

Appeva nāmimassa kevalassa dukkha-kkhandhassa antakiriyā paññāyethā'ti

Let us all aspire to complete freedom from suffering.

[THE FOLLOWING IS CHANTED ONLY BY THE MONKS AND NUNS.]

Cîrâ-parinibbutampî tam bhagavantam uddissa arahantam sammāsambuddham

Remembering the Blessed One, the Noble Lord, and Perfectly Enlightened One, who long ago attained Parinibbāna,

Saddhā agārasmā anagāriyam pabbajitā

We have gone forth with faith from home to $\widehat{\text{homeless}}$ ness,

Tasmim bhagavati brahma-cariyam carāma

And like the Blessed One, we practise the Holy Life,

Bhikkhūnam/Sīladharānam sikkhāsājīva-samāpannā

Being fully equipped with the bhikkhus'/nuns' system of training.

Taṃ no brahma-cariyaṃ imassa kevalassa dukkha-kkhandhassa antakiriyāya saṃvattatu

May this Holy Life lead us to the end of this whole mass of suffering.

[AN ALTERNATIVE VERSION OF THE PRECEDING SECTION, WHICH CAN BE CHANTED BY LAYPEOPLE AS WELL.]

Cîra-parinibbutampî tam bhagavantam saranam gatā

The Blessed One, who long ago attained Parinibb \widehat{a} na, is our refuge.

Dhammañca sanghañca

So too are the Dhamma and the Sangha.

Tassa bhagavato sāsanaṃ yathā-sati yathā-balaṃ manasikaroma anupaṭipajjāma

Attentively we follow the pathway of that Blessed One, with \underline{all} of our mindfulness and strength.

Sā sā no paṭipatti

May then the cultivation of this practice

Imassa kevalassa dukkha-kkhandhassa antakiriyaya samvattatu Lead us to the end of every kind of suffering.

16 Closing Homage

[Araham] sammāsambuddho bhagavā

The Lord, the Perfectly Enlightened and Blessed One -

Buddham bhagavantam abhivademi

I render homage to the Buddha, the Blessed One.

[BOW]

[Svākkhāto] bhagavatā dhammo

The Teaching, so completely explained by him —

Dhammam namassāmi

I bow to the Dhamma.

[BOW]

[Supatipanno] bhagavato sāvakasaṅgho

The Blessed One's disc \hat{i} ples, who have practised well —

Saṅghaṃ namāmi

I bow to the Saṅgha.

[BOW]

PART 2

Evening Chanting

18 Dedication of Offerings

[Yo so] bhagavā araham sammāsambuddho Svākkhāto yena bhagavatā dhammo Supaṭipanno yassa bhagavato sāvakasaṅgho Tam-mayam bhagavantam sadhammam sasangham Imehî sakkārehi yathāraham āropitehi abhîpūjayāma Sādhu no bhante bhagavā sucira-parinibbutopi Pacchimā-janatānukampa-mānasā Ime sakkāre duggata-paṇṇākāra-bhūte paṭiggaṇhātu Amhākam dīgharattam hitāya sukhāya Araham sammāsambuddho bhagavā Buddham bhagavantam abhivademi [BOW] [Svākkhāto] bhagavatā dhammo Dhammam namassāmi [BOW] [Supaṭipanno] bhagavato sāvakasaṅgho Sangham namāmi [BOW]

Dedication of Offerings

19

[To the Blessed One,] the Lord, who fully attained perfect enlightenment,

To the Teaching, which he expounded so well,

And to the Blessed One's disciples who have practised well,

To these — the Buddha, the Dhamma, and the Saṅgha —

We render with offerings our rightful homage.

It is well for us that the Blessed One, having attained liberation,

Still had compassion for later generations.

May these simple offerings be accepted

For our long-lasting benefit and for the happiness it gives us.

The Lord, the Perfectly Enlightened and Blessed One -

I render homage to the Buddha, the Blessed One. [Bow]

[The Teaching,] so completely explained by him -

I bow to the Dhamma. [Bow]

[The Blessed One's disciples,] who have practised well -

I bow to the Saṅgha. [Bow]

20

Preliminary Homage

[Handa mayam buddhassa bhagavato pubbabhāga-namakāram karomase]

Namo tassa bhagavato arahato sammasambuddhassa

[THREE TIMES]

Recollection of the Buddha

[Handa mayam buddhanussatinayam karomase]

Taṃ khô pana bhagavantaṃ evaṃ kalŷāṇo kittisaddo abbhuggato Itipi so bhagavā arahaṃ sammāsambuddho Vijjācaraṇā-sampanno sugato lokavidū Anuttaro purisadamma-sārathi satthā deva-manussānaṃ buddho bhagavā'ti

Preliminary Homage

21

[Now let us pay preliminary homage to the Buddha.]

Homage to the Blessed, Noble, and Perfectly Enlightened One.

[THREE TIMES]

Recollection of the Buddha

[Now let us chant the recollection of the Buddha.]

A good word of the Blessed One's reputation has spread as follows:

He, the Blessed One, is indeed the Pure One,

the Perfectly Enlightened One;

He is impeccable in conduct and understanding,

the Accomplished One, the Knower of the Worlds;

He trains perfectly those who wish to be trained;

he is Teacher of gods and humans; he is Awake and Holy.

22

Supreme Praise of the Buddha

[Handa mayaṃ buddhābhigītiṃ karomase]

Buddhivārahanta-varatādigūṇābhiyutto
Suddhābhiñāṇa-karūṇāhi samāgatatto
Bodhesi yo sujanataṃ kamalaṃ va sūro
Vandāmiahaṃ tam-araṇaṃ sirasā jinendaṃ
Buddho yo sabba-pāṇīnaṃ saraṇaṃ khemam-uttamaṃ
Paṭhamānussatiṭṭhānaṃ vandāmi taṃ sireniahaṃ
Buddhassāhiasmi dāso/dāsī va buddho me sāmi-kissaro
Buddho dukkhassa ghātā ca vidhātā ca hitassa me
Buddhassiahaṃ niyyādemi sarīrañ-jīvitañ-cidaṃ
Vandantoihaṃ/Vandantīhaṃ carissāmi buddhassieva sūbodhitaṃ
Natthi me saraṇaṃ aññaṃ buddho me saraṇaṃ varaṃ
Etena sacca-vajjena vaḍḍheyyaṃ satthu-sāsane
Buddhaṃ me vandamānena/vandamānāya
yaṃ puññaṃ pasūtaṃ idha
Sabbepi antarāyā me māhesūṃ tassa tejasā

[BOWING]

Kāyena vācāya va cetasā vā Būddhe kukammaṃ pakataṃ mayā yaṃ Būddho paṭiggaṇhātu accayantaṃ Kālantare saṃvarituṃ va būddhe

Supreme Praise of the Buddha

Now let us chant the supreme praise of the Buddha.

The Buddha, the truly worthy one, endowed with such excellent qualities,

Whose being is composed of purity, transcendental wisdom, and compassion,

Who has enlightened the wise like the sun awakening the lotus — I bow my head to that peaceful chief of conquerors.

The Buddha, who is the safe, secure refuge of all beings —

As the First Object of Recollection, I venerate him with bowed head.

I am indeed the Buddha's servant, the Buddha is my Lord and Guide.

The Buddha is sorrow's destroyer, who bestows blessings on me.

To the Buddha I dedicate this body and life,

And in devotion I will walk the Buddha's Path of Awakening.

For me there is no other refuge, the Buddha is my excellent refuge.

By the utterance of this <u>Truth</u>, may I grow in the Master's Way.

By my devotion to the Buddha, and the blessing of this practice — By its power, may all obstacles be overcome.

[BOWING]

By body, speech, or mind,

For whatever wrong action I have committed towards the Buddha,

May my acknowledgement of fault be accepted,

That in future there may be restraint regarding the Buddha.

24 Recollection of the Dhamma

[Handa mayam dhammanussatinayam karomase]

Svākkhāto bhagavatā dhammo Sandiṭṭhiko akāliko ehipassiko Opanayiko paccattaṃ veditabbo viññūhī'ti

Supreme Praise of the Dhamma

[Handa mayam dhammābhigītim karomase]

Svākkhatat'adiguņa-yoga-vasena seyyo

Yo magga-pāka-pariyatti-vimokkha-bhedo

Dhammo kuloka-patanā tada-dhāri-dhārī

Vandām'aham tama-haram vara-dhammam-etam

Dhammo yo sabba-pāṇīnaṃ saraṇaṃ khemam-uttamaṃ

Dutiyānussatiṭṭhānaṃ vandāmi taṃ siren'ahaṃ

Dhammassāh'asmi dāso/dāsī va dhammo me sami-kissaro

Dhammo dukkhassa ghātā ca vidhātā ca hîtassa me

Dhammass'āham niyyādemi sarīrañ-jīvitañ-cidam

Vandantoham/Vandantīham carissāmi dhammass'eva sudhammatam

Natthi me saraṇaṃ aññaṃ dhammo me saraṇaṃ varaṃ

Etena sacca-vajjena vaḍḍheyyaṃ satthu-sasane

Dhammam me vandamānena/vandamānāya

yam puññam pasutam idha

Sabbepi antarāyā me māhesum tassa tejasā

25

Recollection of the Dhamma

[Now let us chant the recollection of the Dhamma.]

The Dhamma is well expounded by the Blessed One,
Apparent here and now, timeless, encouraging investigation,
Leading inwards, to be experienced individually by the wise.

Supreme Praise of the Dhamma

[Now let us chant the supreme praise of the Dhamma.]

It is excellent because it is 'well expounded,'
And it can be divided into Path and Fruit, Learning and Liberation.
The Dhamma holds those who uphold it from falling into delusion.
I revere the excellent Teaching, that which removes darkness —
The Dhamma, which is the supreme, secure refuge of all beings —
As the Second Object of Recollection, I venerate it with bowed head.
I am indeed the Dhamma's servant, the Dhamma is my Lord and Guide.
The Dhamma is sorrow's destroyer, and it bestows blessings on me.
To the Dhamma I dedicate this body and life,
And in devotion I will walk this excellent way of Truth.
For me there is no other refuge, the Dhamma is my excellent refuge.
By the utterance of this Truth, may I grow in the Master's Way.
By my devotion to the Dhamma, and the blessing of this practice —
By its power, may all obstacles be overcome.

26

[Bowing]

Kāyena vācāya va cetasā vā Dhamme kukammam pakatam mayā yam Dhammo paṭiggaṇhātu accayantam Kālantare saṃvaritum va dhamme

Recollection of the Sangha

[Handa mayam saṅghānussatinayam karomase]

Supaṭipanno bhagavato sāvakasaṅgho
Ujupaṭipanno bhagavato sāvakasaṅgho
Ñāyapaṭipanno bhagavato sāvakasaṅgho
Sāmīcipaṭipanno bhagavato sāvakasaṅgho
Yadidaṃ cattāri purisayugāni aṭṭha purisapuggalā
Esa bhagavato sāvakasaṅgho
Āhuneyyo pāhuneyyo dakkhiṇeyyo añjali-karaṇīyo
Anuttaraṃ puññakkhettaṃ lokassā'ti

Supreme Praise of the Sangha

[Handa mayam saṅghābhigītim karomase]

Saddhammajo supaṭipatti-guṇādiyutto
Yo'ṭṭhabbidho ariyapuggala-saṅgha-seṭṭho
Sīlādidhamma-pavarāsaya-kāya-citto
Vandām'ahaṃ tam-ariyāna-gaṇaṃ susuddhaṃ
Saṅgho yo sabba-pāṇīnaṃ saraṇaṃ khemam-uttamaṃ
Tatiyānussatiṭṭhānaṃ vandāmi taṃ siren'ahaṃ

[BOWING]

By body, speech, or mind,

For whatever wrong action I have committed towards the Dhamma,

May my acknowledgement of fault be accepted,

That in future there may be restraint regarding the Dhamma.

Recollection of the Sangha

[Now let us chant the recollection of the Sangha.]

They are the Blessed One's disciples, who have practised well,
Who have practised directly,
Who have practised insightfully,
Those who practise with integrity —
That is the four pairs, the eight kinds of noble beings —
These are the Blessed One's disciples.
Such ones are worthy of gifts, worthy of hospitality,
worthy of offerings, worthy of respect;
They give occasion for incomparable goodness to arise in the world.

Supreme Praise of the Sangha

[Now let us chant the supreme praise of the Saṅgha.]

Born of the Dhamma, that Sangha which has practised well,
The field of the Sangha formed of <u>eight</u> kinds of noble beings,
Guided in body and <u>mind</u> by excellent morality and virtue.
I revere that assembly of noble beings perfected in purity.
The Sangha, which is the supreme, secure refuge of all beings —
As the Third Object of Recollection, I venerate it with bowed head.

28

Saṅghass'āhasmi dāso/dāsī va saṅgho me sāmi-kissaro
Saṅgho dukkhassa ghātā ca vidhātā ca hitassa me
Saṅghass'āhaṃ niyyādemi sarīrañ-jīvitañ-cidaṃ
Vandanto'haṃ/Vandantī'haṃ carissāmi saṅghassopaṭipannataṃ
Natthi me saraṇaṃ aññaṃ saṅgho me saraṇaṃ varaṃ
Etena sacca-vajjena vaḍḍheyyaṃ satthu-sāsane
Saṅghaṃ me vandamānena/vandamānāya
yaṃ puññaṃ pasutaṃ idha
Sabbepi antarāyā me māhesuṃ tassa tejasā

[BOWING]

Kāyena vācāya va cetasā vā Saṅghe kukammaṃ pakataṃ mayā yaṃ Saṅgho paṭiggaṇhātu accayantaṃ Kālantare saṃvarituṃ va saṅghe

[AT THIS TIME MEDITATION IS PRACTISED IN SILENCE, SOMETIMES FOLLOWED BY A DHAMMA TALK, AND ENDING WITH THE FOLLOWING:]

Closing Homage

[Arahaṃ] sammāsambuddho bhagavā

Buddhaṃ bhagavantaṃ abhivādemi [Bow]

[Svākkhāto] bhagavatā dhammo

Dhammaṃ namassāmi [Bow]

[Supaṭipanno] bhagavato sāvakasaṅgho

Saṅghaṃ namāmi [Bow]

I am indeed the Saṅgha's servant, the Saṅgha is my Lord and Guide. The Saṅgha is sorrow's destroyer and it bestows blessings on me. To the Saṅgha I dedicate this body and life,
And in devotion I will walk the well-practised way of the Saṅgha.
For me there is no other refuge, the Saṅgha is my excellent refuge.
By the utterance of this Truth, may I grow in the Master's Way.
By my devotion to the Saṅgha, and the blessing of this practice —
By its power, may all obstacles be overcome.

[BOWING]

By body, speech, or mind,

For whatever wrong action I have committed towards the Saṅgha,

May my acknowledgement of fault be accepted,

That in future there may be restraint regarding the Saṅgha.

[AT THIS TIME MEDITATION IS PRACTISED IN SILENCE, SOMETIMES FOLLOWED BY A DHAMMA TALK, AND ENDING WITH THE FOLLOWING:]

Closing Homage

[The Lord,] the Perfectly Enlightened and Blessed One —

I render homage to the Buddha, the Blessed One.

[Bow]

[The Teaching,] so completely explained by him —

I bow to the Dhamma.

[Bow]

[The Blessed One's disciples,] who have practised well —

I bow to the Saṅgha.

[Bow]

Reflections & Recollections

SHARING AND ASPIRATION

32 Verses of Sharing and Aspiration

 $\left[\,\widehat{\text{Ha}}\text{nda}\,\text{mayam}\,\text{uddissanā}\text{dhiṭṭhāna-gāth}\widehat{\bar{\text{a}}}\text{yo}\,\text{bhaṇāmase}\,\right]$

| Iminā puññakammena | upajjhāyā guṇuttarā Ācariyūpakārā ca mātāpitā ca ñātakā Suriyo candimā rājā guņavantā narāpi ca Brahma-mārā ca indā ca lokapālā ca devatā Yamo mittā manussā ca majjhattā verikāpi ca Sabbe sattā sukhī hontu puññāni pakatāni me Sukhañca tividham dentu khippam pāpetha vomatam Iminā puññakammena iminā uddissena ca Khipp'āhaṃ sulabhe ceva taṇhūpādāna-chedanaṃ Ye santāne hīnā dhammā yāva nibbānato mamaṃ Nassantu sabbadā yeva yattha jāto bhave bhave Ujucittam satipaññā sallekho viriyamhinā Mārā labhantu nokāsaṃ kātuñca viriyesu me Buddhādhipavaro nātho dhammo nātho varuttamo Nātho paccekabuddho ca saṅgho nāthottaro mamaṃ Tesottamānubhāvena mārokāsam labhantu mā.

Verses of Sharing and Aspiration

[Now let us chant the verses of sharing and aspiration.]

Through the goodness that arises from my practice,

May my spiritual teachers and guides of great virtue,

My mother, my father, and my relatives,

The Sun and the Moon, and all virtuous leaders of the world,

May the highest gods and evil forces,

Celestial beings, guardian spirits of the Earth, and the Lord of Death,

May those who are friendly, indifferent, or hostile,

May all beings receive the blessings of my life,

May they soon attain the threefold bliss and realise the Deathless.

Through the goodness that arises from my practice,

And through this act of sharing,

May all desires and attachments quickly cease

And all harmful states of mind.

Until I realize Nibbāna,

In every kind of birth, may I have an upright mind,

With mindfulness and wisdom, austerity and vigour.

May the forces of delusion not take hold nor weaken my resolve.

The Buddha is my excellent refuge,

Unsurpassed is the protection of the Dhamma,

The Solitary Buddha is my noble guide,

The Sangha is my suprême support.

Through the supreme power of all these,

May darkness and delusion be dispelled.

SHARING OF MERIT

Verses on the Sharing of Merit

[Handa mayam sabba-patti-dana-gathayo bhanamase]

Puññass'idāni katassa yān'aññāni katāni me Tesañca bhāgino hontu sattānantāppamāṇakā

May whatever living beings,
Without measure, without end,
Partake of all the merit,
From the good deeds Î have done:

Ye piyā guṇavantā ca mayhaṃ mātā-pitādayo Diṭṭhā me cāpyadiṭṭhā vā aññe majjĥatta-verino

Those loved and full of goodness,

My mother and my father dear,

Beings seen by me and those unseen,

Those neutral and averse,

Sattā tiṭṭhanti lokasmim te-bhummā catu-yonikā Pañc'eka-catu-vokārā saṃsarantā bhavābhave

Beings established in the world,
From the three planes and four grounds of birth,
With five aggregates or one or four,
Wand'ring on from realm to realm,

Ñātaṃ ye patti-dānam-me anumodantu te sayaṃ Ye c'imaṃ nappajānanti devā tesaṃ nivedayuṃ

REFLECTIONS & RECOLLECTIONS

Those who know my act of dedication,
May they all rejoice in it,
And as for those yet unaware,
May the devas let them know.

Mayā dinnāna-puññānam anumodana-hetunā Sabbe sattā sadā hontu averā sukha-jīvino Khemappadanca pappontu tesāsā sijjhatam subhā

By rejoicing in my sharing,
May all beings live at ease,
In freedom from hostility,
May their good wishes be fulfilled,
And may they all reach safety.

36

The Buddha's Words on Loving-Kindness

[Now let us chant the Buddha's words on loving-kindness.]

[Karaṇīyam-attha-kusalena]
Yan-taṃ santaṃ padaṃ abhisamecca
Sakko ujū ca suhujū ca
Suvaco c'assa mudu anatimānī

Santussako ca subharo ca Appakicco ca sallahuka-vutti Sant'indriyo ca nipako ca Appagabbho kulesu ananugiddho

Na ca khuddam samācare kiñci Yena viññū pare upavadeyyum Sukhino vā khemino hontu Sabbe sattā bhavantu sukhit'attā

Ye keci pāṇa-bhūt'atthi
Tasā vā thāvarā vā anavasesā
Dīghā vā ye mahantā vā
Majjhimā rassakā aṇuka-thūlā

Diṭṭhā vā ye ca adiṭṭhā Ye ca dūre vasanti avidūre Bhūtā vā sambhavesī vā Sabbe sattā bhavantu sukhit'attā

The Buddha's Words on Loving-Kindness

37

[Now let us chant the Buddha's words on loving-kindness.]

This is what should be done By one who is skilled in goodness
And who knows the path of peace:
Let them be able and upright,
Straightforward and gentle in speech,

Humble and not conceited,
Contented and easily satisfied,
Unburdened with duties and frugal in their ways.
Peaceful and calm, and wise and skilful,
Not proud and demanding in nature.

Let them <u>not</u> do the slightest thing That the wise would later reprove, Wishing: In gladness and in safety, May all beings be at ease.

Whatever living beings there may be,
Whether they are weak or strong, omitting none,
The great or the mighty, medium, short, or small,

The seen and the unseen,
Those living near and far away,
Those born and to be born,
May all beings be at ease.

REFLECTIONS & RECOLLECTIONS

38

Na paro paraṃ nikubbetha Nātimaññetha katthaci naṃ kiñci Byārosanā paṭighasaññā Nāññam-aññassa dukkham-iccheyya

Mātā yathā niyam puttam Āyusā eka-puttam-anurakkhe Evam'pi sabba-bhūtesu Mānasam-bhāvaye aparimāṇam

Mettañca sabba-lokasmiṃ Mānasam-bhāvaye aparimāṇaṃ Uddhaṃ adho ca tiriyañca Asambādhaṃ averaṃ asapattaṃ

Tiṭṭhañ-caraṃ nisinno vā Sayāno vā yāvat'assa vigata-middho Etaṃ satiṃ adhiṭṭheyya Brahmam-etaṃ vihāraṃ idham-āhu

Diṭṭhiñca anupagamma Sīlavā dassanena sampanno Kāmesu vineyya gedhaṃ Na hi jātu gabbha-seyyaṃ punaretī'ti

REFLECTIONS & RECOLLECTIONS

Let none deceive another
Or despise any being in any state.
Let none through anger or ill-will
Wish harm upon another.

Even as a mother protects with her life
Her child, her only child,
So with a boundless heart
Should one cherish all living beings,
Radiating kindness over the entire world:

Spreading upwards to the skies And downwards to the depths, Outwards and unbounded, Freed from hatred and ill-will.

Whether standing or walking, seated,
Or lying down — free from drowsiness —
One should sustain this recollection.
This is said to be the sublime abiding.

By not holding to fixed views,

The pure-hearted one, having clarity of vision,
Being freed from all sense-desires,
Is not born again into this world.

UNIVERSAL WELL-BEING

40 Reflection on Universal Well-Being

[Handa mayam mettapharaṇaṃ karomase]

[Aham sukhito homi]

Niddukkho homi

Avero homi

Abyāpajjho homi

Anīgho homi

Sukhī attānam pariharāmi

Sabbe sattā sukhitā hontu

Sabbe sattā averā hontu

Sabbe sattā abyāpajjhā hontu

Sabbe sattā anīghā hontu

Sabbe sattā sukhī attānam pariharantu

Sabbe sattā sabbadukkhā pamuccantu

Sabbe sattā laddha-sampattito mā vigacchantu

Sabbe sattā kammassakā kammadāyādā kammayonī

kammabandhū kammapaţisaraṇā

Yaṃ kammaṃ karissanti

Kalyāṇaṃ vā pāpakaṃ vā

Tassa dāyādā bhavissanti

UNIVERSAL WELL-BEING

Reflection on Universal Well-Being

41

[Now let us chant the reflections on universal well-being.]

[May I abide in well-being,]
In freedom from affliction,
In freedom from hostility,
In freedom from ill-will,
In freedom from anxiety,
And may I maintain well-being in myself.

May everyone abide in well-being,
In freedom from hostility,
In freedom from ill-will,
In freedom from anxiety, and may they
Maintain well-being in themselves.

May <u>all</u> beings be released from all suffering.

And may they not be parted from the good fortune they have attained.

When they act upon intention,

<u>All</u> beings are the owners of their action and inherit its results. Their future is born from such action, companion to such action, And its <u>results</u> will be their home.

All actions with intention,
Be they skilful or harmful —
Of such acts they will be the heirs.

DIVINE ABIDINGS

Suffusion With the Divine Abidings

[Handa mayam caturappamañña-obhasanam karomase]

[Mettā-sahagatena] cetasā ekam disam pharitvā viharati
Tathā dutiyam tathā tatiyam tathā catuttham
Iti uddhamadho tiriyam sabbadhi sabbattatāya
Sabbāvantam lokam mettā-sahagatena cetasā
Vipulena mahaggatena appamānena averena abyāpajjhena
pharitvā viharati

Karuṇā-sahagatena cetasā ekaṃ disaṃ pharitvā viharati
Tathā dutiyaṃ tathā tatiyaṃ tathā catutthaṃ
Iti uddhamadho tiriyaṃ sabbadhi sabbattatāya
Sabbāvantaṃ lokaṃ karuṇā-sahagatena cetasā
Vipulena mahaggatena appamāṇena averena abyāpajjhena pharitvā viharati

Muditā-sahagatena cetasā ekam disam pharitvā viharati
Tathā dutiyam tathā tatiyam tathā catuttham
Iti uddhamadho tiriyam sabbadhi sabbattatāya
Sabbāvantam lokam muditā-sahagatena cetasā
Vipulena mahaggatena appamānena averena abyāpajjhena pharitvā viharati

Suffusion With the Divine Abidings

43

[Now let us make the Four Boundless Qualities shine forth.]

[I will abide] pervading one quarter with a heart imbued with loving-kindness;

Likewise the second, likewise the third, likewise the fourth; So above and below, around and everywhere; and to <u>all</u> as to myself.

I will abide pervading the all-encompassing world with a heart imbued with loving-kindness; abundant, exalted, immeasurable, without hostility, and without ill-will.

I will abide pervading one quarter with a heart imbued with compassion;

Likewise the second, likewise the third, likewise the fourth; So above and below, around and everywhere; and to <u>all</u> as to myself.

I will abide pervading the all-encompassing world with a heart imbued with compassion; abundant, exalted, immeasurable, without hostility, and without ill-will.

I will abide pervading one quarter with a heart imbued with gladness;

Likewise the second, likewise the third, likewise the fourth;
So above and below, around and everywhere; and to <u>all</u> as to myself.

I will abide pervading the all-encompassing world with a heart

imbued with gladness; abundant, exalted, immeasurable, without hostility, and without ill-will.

DIVINE ABIDINGS

REFLECTIONS & RECOLLECTIONS

44

Upekkhā-sahagatena cetasā ekam disam pharitvā viharati
Tathā dutiyam tathā tatiyam tathā catuttham
Iti uddhamadho tiriyam sabbadhi sabbattatāya
Sabbāvantam lokam upekkhā-sahagatena cetasā
Vipulena mahaggatena appamānena averena abyāpajjhena pharitvā viharatī'ti

REFLECTIONS & RECOLLECTIONS

DIVINE ABIDINGS

I will abide pervading one quarter with a heart imbued with equanimity;

Likewise the second, likewise the third, likewise the fourth;

So above and below, around and everywhere; and to all as to myself.

I will abide pervading the all-encompassing world with a heart imbued with equanimity; abundant, exalted, immeasurable, without hostility, and without ill-will.

45

THE HIGHEST BLESSINGS

46

The Highest Blessings

[Now let us chant the verses on the Highest Blessings]

[<u>Thus</u> have I <u>heard</u> that the Blessed One] Was staying at Savatthi, <u>Residing</u> at the Jeta's Grove In Anathapiṇḍika's Park.

Then in the dark of the night, a radiant deva Illuminated <u>all</u> Jeta's Grove.

She bowed down low before the Blessed One Then standing to one side she said:

'Devas are concerned for happiness
And ever long for peace.
The same is true for humankind.
What then are the highest blessings?'

'Avoiding those of foolish ways,
Associating with the wise,
And honouring those worthy of honour.
These are the highest blessings.

'Living in places of suitable kinds,
With the fruits of past good deeds
And guided by the rightful way.

<u>These</u> are the highest blessings.

THE HIGHEST BLESSINGS

REFLECTIONS & RECOLLECTIONS

'Accomplished in learning and craftsman's skills, With discipline, highly trained,
And speech that is true and pleasant to hear.

These are the highest blessings.

'Providing for mother and father's support And cherishing family, And ways of work that harm no being, These are the highest blessings.

'Generosity and a righteous life,
Offering help to relatives and kin,
And acting in ways that leave no blame.
These are the highest blessings.

'Steadfast in restraint, and shunning evil ways,
Avoiding intoxicants that dull the mind,
And heedfulness in all things that arise.

These are the highest blessings.

'Respectfulness and being of humble ways,
Contentment and gratitude,
And hearing the Dhamma frequently taught.
These are the highest blessings.

'Patience and willingness to accept one's faults,
Seeing venerated seekers of the truth,
And sharing often the words of Dhamma.

These are the highest blessings.

REFLECTIONS & RECOLLECTIONS

48

'Ardent, committed to the Holy Life, Seeing for oneself the Noble Truths And the realization of Nibbāna. These are the highest blessings.

'Although in contact with the world, Unshaken the mind remains Beyond all sorrow, spotless, secure. These are the highest blessings.

'They who <u>live</u> by following this path
Know victory wherever they go,
And every <u>place</u> for them is safe.

<u>These</u> are the highest blessings.'

Reflection on the Unconditioned

49

[Handa mayam nibbāna-sutta-pāṭham bhaṇāmase]

Atthi bhîkkhave ajātam abhūtam akatam asankhatam

There is an Unborn, Unoriginated, Uncreated and Unformed.

No cetam bhikkhave abhavissa ajātam abhūtam akatam asankhatam

If there was not this Unborn, this Unoriginated, this Uncreated, this Unformed,

Na yidam jātassa bhūtassa katassa sankhatassa nissaranam paññāyetha

Freedom from the world of the born, the originated, the created, the formed would not be possible.

Yasmā ca kho bhikkhave atthi ajātam abhūtam akatam asankhatam

But since there is an Unborn, Unoriginated, Uncreated and Unformed,

Tasmā jātassa bhūtassa katassa sankhatassa nissaraṇaṃ paññāyati

Therefore is freedom possible from the world of the born, the originated, the created and the formed.

JUST AS RIVERS

Just as Rivers

Yathā vāri-vahā pūrā paripūrenti sāgaram

Just as rivers full of water entirely fill up the sea

Evam-eva îto dinnam petānam upakappati

So will what's here been given bring blessings to departed spirits.

Icchitam patthitam tumham

May all your hopes and all your longings

Khippam-eva samijjhatu

Come true in \widehat{no} long time.

Sabbe pūrentu sankappā

May all your wishes be fulfilled

Cando paṇṇaraso yathā

Like on the fifteenth day the moon

Maṇi jotiraso yathā

Or like a bright and shining gem.

Sabb'ītiyo vivajjantu

May all misfortunes be avoided,

Sabba-rogo vinassatu

May all illness be dispelled,

Mā te bhavatv-antarāyo

May you never meet with dangers,

Sukhī dīgh'āyuko bhava

May you be happy and live long.

Abhivādana-sīlissa niccam vuḍḍhāpacāyino

For those who are respectful, who always honour the elders,

Cattāro dhammā vaḍḍhanti Āyū vaṇṇo sukhaṃ balaṃ

> Four are the qualities which will increase: Life, beauty, happiness and strength.

Bhavatu sabba-maṅgalaṃ

May every blessing come to be

Rakkhantu sabba-devatā

And all good spirits guard you well.

Sabba-bûddhānûbhāvena

Through the power of all Buddhas

51

JUST AS RIVERS

52

Sadā sotthī bhavantu te

May you always be at ease.

Bhavatu sabba-mangalam

May every blessing come to be

Rakkhantu sabba-devatā

And all good spirits guard you well.

Sabba-dhammanubhavena

Through the power of all Dhammas

Sadā sotthī bhavantu te

May you always be at ease.

Bhavatu sabba-mangalam

May every blessing come to be

Rakkhantu sabba-devatā

And all good spirits guard you well.

Sabba-sanghānubhāvena

Through the power of all Sanghas

Sadā sotthī bhavantu te

May you always be at ease.

Reflection on the Four Requisites

[Handa mayam tankhanika-paccavekkhana-patham bhanamase]

[Paṭisaṅkhā] yoniso cīvaraṃ paṭisevāmi, yāvadeva sītassa paṭighātāya, uṇhassa paṭighātāya, ḍaṃsa-makasa-vātātapa-siriṃsapa--samphassānaṃ paṭighātāya, yāvadeva hirikopina-paṭicchādanatthaṃ

Wisely reflecting, I use the robe: only to ward off cold, to ward off heat, to ward off the touch of flies, mosquitoes, wind, burning and creeping things, only for the sake of modesty.

[Paṭisaṅkhā] yoniso piṇḍapātaṃ paṭisevāmi, neva davāya, na madāya, na maṇḍanāya, na vibhūsanāya, yāvadeva imassa kāyassa ṭhitiyā, yāpanāya, vihiṃsūparatiyā, brahmacariyānuggahāya, iti purāṇañca vedanaṃ paṭihaṅkhāmi, navañca vedanaṃ na uppādessāmi, yātrā ca me bhavissati anavajjatā ca phāsuvihāro cā'ti

Wisely reflecting, I use almsfood: not for fun, not for pleasure, not for fattening, not for beautification, only for the maintenance and nourishment of this body, for keeping it healthy, for helping with the Holy Life; thinking thus, 'I will allay hunger without overeating, so that I may continue to live blamelessly and at ease.'

[Paṭisaṅkhā] yoniso senāsanaṃ paṭisevāmi, yāvadeva sītassa paṭighātāya, uṇhassa paṭighātāya, ḍaṃsa-makasa-vātātapa-siriṃsapa--samphassānaṃ paṭighātāya, yāvadeva utuparissaya vinodanaṃ paṭisallānārāmatthaṃ

Wisely reflecting, I use the lodging: only to ward off cold, to ward off heat, to ward off the touch of flies, mosquitoes, wind, burning and creeping things, only to remove the danger from weather, and for living in seclusion.

[Paṭisaṅkhā] yoniso gilāna-paccaya-bhesajja-parikkhāraṃ paṭisevāmi, yāvadeva uppannānaṃ veyyābādhikānaṃ vedanānaṃ paṭighātāya, abyāpajjha-paramatāyā'ti

Wisely reflecting, I use supports for the sick and medicinal requisites: only to ward off painful feelings that have arisen, for the maximum freedom from disease.

FIVE SUBJECTS

Five Subjects for Frequent Recollection

55

[Handa mayam abhinha-paccavekkhana-pāṭham bhanāmase]

[Jarā-dhammomhi] jaraṃ anatīto

Men Chant

[Jarā-dhammāmhi] jaram anatītā

Women Chant

I am of the nature to age, I have not gone beyond ageing.

Byādhi-dhammomhi byādhim anatīto

m.

Byādhi-dhammāmhi byādhim anatītā

w.

I am of the nature to sicken, I have not gone beyond sickness.

Maraṇa-dhammomhi maraṇaṃ anatīto

m.

Maraṇa-dhammāmhi maraṇaṃ anatītā

w.

I am of the nature to die, I have not gone beyond dying.

Sabbehi me piyehi manapehi nanabhavo vinabhavo

All that is mine, beloved and pleasing, will become otherwise, will become separated from me.

Kammassakomhi kammadāyādo kammayoni kammabandhu kammapaṭisaraṇo

m.

Yam kammam karissāmi, kalyāṇam vā pāpakam vā, tassa dāyādo bhavissāmi

w. Kammassakāmhi kammadāyādā kammayoni kammabandhu kammapaţisaraņā

Yaṃ kammaṃ karissāmi, kalyāṇaṃ vā pāpakaṃ vā, tassa dāyādā bhavissāmi

I am the owner of my kamma, heir to my kamma, born of my kamma, related to my kamma, abide supported by my kamma.

Whatever kamma I shall do, for good or for ill, of that I will be the heir.

Evam amhehi abhinham paccavekkhitabbam

Thus we should frequently recollect.

Ten Subjects for Frequent Recollection by One Who Has Gone Forth

57

[Handa mayam pabbajita-abhinha-paccavekkhana-patham bhanamase]

[Dasa ime bhikkhave] dhammā pabbajitena abhinham paccavekkhitabbā, katame dasa

Bhikkhus, there are ten dhammas which should be reflected upon again and again by one who has gone forth. What are these ten?

Vevaṇṇiyamhi ajjhūpagato'ti pabbajitena abhiṇhaṃ paccavekkhitabbaṃ

'I am no longer living according to worldly aims and values.'
This should be reflected upon again and again
by one who has gone forth.

Parapaṭibaddhā me jīvikā'ti pabbajitena abhiṇhaṃ paccavekkhitabbaṃ

'My very life is sustained through the gifts of others.' This should be reflected upon again and again by one who has gone forth.

Añño me ākappo karaṇīyo'ti pabbajitena abhinham paccavekkhitabbam

'I should strive to abandon my former habits.' This should be reflected upon again and again by one who has gone forth. **TEN SUBJECTS**

Kacci nu kho me attā sīlato na upavadatī'ti pabbajitena abhinham paccavekkhîtabbam

'Does regret over my conduct arise in my mind?' This should be reflected upon again and again by one who has gone forth.

Kacci nu kho mam anuvicca viññū sabrahmacārī sīlato na upavadantī'ti pabbajitena abhinham paccavekkhitabbam

'Could my spiritual companions find fault with my conduct?'
This should be reflected upon again and again
by one who has gone forth.

Sabbehi me piyehi manāpehi nānābhāvo vinābhāvo'ti pabbajitena abhiṇhaṃ paccavekkhitabbaṃ

'All that is mine, beloved and pleasing, will become otherwise, will become separated from me.'

This should be reflected upon again and again by one who has gone forth.

Kammassakomhi kammadāyādo kammayoni kammabandhu kammapaṭisaraṇo, yaṃ kammaṃ karissāmi, kalyāṇaṃ vā pāpakaṃ vā, tassa dāyādo bhavissāmī'ti pabbajitena abhiṇhaṃ paccavekkhitabbaṃ

'I am the owner of my kamma, heir to my kamma, born of my kamma, related to my kamma, abide supported by my kamma; whatever kamma I shall do, for good or for ill, of that I will be the heir.'

This should be reflected upon again and again by one who has gone forth.

'Kathambhūtassa me rattindivā vītipatantī'ti pabbajitena abhiņham paccavekkhîtabbam

'The days and nights are relentlessly passing; how well am I spending my time?'

This should be reflected upon again and again by one who has gone forth.

Kacci nu kho'haṃ suññagāre abhiramāmī'ti pabbajitena abhinhaṃ paccavekkhitabbaṃ

'Do I delight in solitude or not?'
This should be reflected upon again and again by one who has gone forth.

Atthi nu kho me uttari-manussa-dhammā alamariya-ñāṇa-dassana-viseso adhigato, so'haṃ pacchime kāle sabrahmacārīhi puṭṭho na maṅku bhavissāmī'ti pabbajitena abhiṇhaṃ paccavekkhitabbaṃ

'Has my practice borne fruit with freedom or insight so that at the end of my life I need not feel ashamed when questioned by my spiritual companions?'

This should be reflected upon again and again by one who has gone forth.

Ime kho bhikkhave dasa dhammā pabbajitena abhiṇhaṃ paccavekkhitabbā'ti

Bhikkhus, these are the ten dhammas to be reflected upon again and again by one who has gone forth.

59

THIRTY-TWO PARTS

REFLECTIONS & RECOLLECTIONS

60

Reflection on the Thirty-Two Parts

Handa mayam dvattimsākāra-pāţham bhanāmase

[Ayaṃ kho] me kāyo uddhaṃ pādatalā adho kesamatthakā tacapariyanto pūro nānappakārassa asucino

This, which is my body, from the soles of the feet up, and down from the crown of the head, is a sealed bag of skin filled with unattractive things.

Atthi imasmim kāye

In this body there are:

kesā hair of the head

lomā hair of the body

nakhā nails

dantā teeth

taco skin

mamsam flesh

nahārū sinews

atthī bones

aṭṭhimiñjaṃ bone marrow

vakkam kidneys

hadayam heart

yakanam liver

kilomakam membranes

pihakam spleen

papphāsam lungs

REFLECTIONS & RECOLLECTIONS

THIRTY-TWO PARTS

antam bowels

antaguṇaṃ entrails

udariyam undigested food

karīsam excrement

pittam bile

semham phlegm

pubbo pus

lohitam blood

sedo sweat

medo fat

assu tears

vasā grease

khelo spittle

singhāṇikā mucus

lasikā oil of the joints

muttam urine

matthalungan'ti brain

Evam-ayam me kāyo uddham pādatalā adho kesamatthakā tacapariyanto pūro nānappakārassa asucino

This, then, which is my body, from the soles of the feet up, and down from the crown of the head, is a sealed bag of skin filled with unattractive things.

61

Reflection on the Off-Putting Qualities of the Requisites

[Handa mayam dhātu-paṭikūla-paccavekkhaṇa-pāṭhaṃ bhaṇāmase]

[Yatha paccayam] pavattamanam dhatu-mattam-ev'etam

Composed of only $\widehat{elements}$ according to causes and conditions

Yad îdam cīvaram tad upabhuñjako ca puggalo

Are these robes and so is the person wearing them;

Dhātu-mattako

Merely elements,

Nîssatto

Not a being,

Nijjīvo

Without a soul

Suñño

And empty of self.

Sabbāni pana imāni cīvarāni ajigucchanīyāni

None of these robes are innately repulsive

Imam pūti-kāyam patvā

63

But touching this unclean body

Ativiya jigucchanīyāni jāyanti

They become disgusting indeed.

Yathā paccayam pavattamānam dhātu-mattam-ev'etam

Composed of only elements according to causes and conditions

Yad îdam piṇḍapāto tad upabhuñjako ca puggalo

Is this almsfood and so is the person eating it;

Dhātu-mattako

Merely elements,

Nîssatto

Not a being,

Nijjīvo

Without a soul

Suñño

And empty of self.

Sabbo panāyam piņdapāto ajigucchanīyo

None of this almsfood is innately repulsive

OFF-PUTTING QUALITIES OF THE REQUISITES

64

Imam pūti-kāyam patvā

But touching this unclean body

Ativiya jigucchanīyo jāyati

It becomes disgusting indeed.

Yatha paccayam pavattamanam dhatu-mattam-ev'etam

Composed of only elements according to causes and conditions

Yad idam senāsanam tad upabhuñjako ca puggalo

Is this dwelling and so is the person using it;

Dhātu-mattako

Merely elements,

Nissatto

Not a being,

Nijjīvo

Without a soul

Suñño

And empty of self.

Sabbāni pana imāni senāsanāni ajigūcchanīyāni

None of these dwellings are innately repulsive

Imam pūti-kāyam patvā

65

But touching this unclean body

Ativiya jigucchanīyāni jāyanti

They become disgusting indeed.

Yatha paccayam pavattamanam dhatu-mattam-ev'etam

Composed of only elements according to causes and conditions

Yad îdam gilāna-paccaya-bhesajja-parikkhāro tad upabhuñjako ca puggalo

Is this medicinal requisite and so is the person that takes it;

Dhātu-mattako

Merely elements,

Nissatto

Not a being,

Nijjīvo

Without a soul

Suñño

And empty of self.

Sabbo panāyam gilāna-paccaya-bhesajja-parikkhāro ajigucchanīyo

None of this medicinal requisite is innately repulsive

Imam pūti-kāyam patvā

But touching this unclean body

Ativiya jigucchanīyo jāyati

It becomes disgusting indeed.

Reflection on Impermanence

[Handa mayam aniccānussati-pāṭham bhaṇāmase]

[Sabbe sankhārā aniccā]

All conditioned things are impermanent;

Sabbe sankhārā dukkhā

All conditioned things are dukkha;

Sabbe dhammā anattā

Everything is void of self.

Addhuvam jīvitam

Life is not for sure;

Dhuvam maranam

Death is for sure;

REFLECTIONS & RECOLLECTIONS

REFLECTION ON IMPERMANENCE

Avassam mayā maritabbam

It is inevitable that I'll die;

Maraṇa-pariyosanam me jīvitam

Death is the culmination of my life;

Jīvitam me anivatam

My life is uncertain;

Maraṇaṃ me niyataṃ

My death is certain.

Vata

Indeed,

Ayaṃ kāyo

This body

Aciram

Will soon

Apeta-viññāṇo

Be void of consciousness

Chuddho

And cast away.

REFLECTION ON IMPERMANENCE

REFLECTIONS & RECOLLECTIONS

68

Adhisessati

It will lie

Paṭhaviṃ

On the ground

Kalingaram iva

Just like a rotten log,

Nirattham

Completely void of use.

Aniccā vata sankhārā

Truly conditioned things cannot last,

Uppāda-vaya-dhammino

Their nature is to rise and fall,

Uppajjitvā nirujjĥanti

Having arisen things must cease,

Tesam vūpasamo sukho

Their stilling is true happiness.

True and False Refuges

69

[Handa mayam khemakhema-sarana-gamana-paridīpikā-gāthayo bhanāmase]

Bahuṃ ve saranaṃ yanti pabbatāni vanāni ca Ārāma-rukkha-cetyāni manussā bhaya-tajjitā

To many refuges they go —

To mountain slopes and forest glades,

To parkland shrines and sacred sites —

People overcome by fear.

N'etaṃ kho saraṇaṃ khemaṃ n'etaṃ saraṇam-uttamaṃ N'etaṃ saraṇam-āgamma sabba-dukkhā pamuccati

Such a refuge is not secure,
Such a refuge is not supreme,
Such a refuge does not bring
Complete release from suffering.

Yo ca Buddhañca Dhammañca sanghañca saraṇaṃ gato Cattāri ariya-saccāni sammappaññāya passati

Whoever goes to refuge
In the Triple Gem
Sees with right discernment
The Four Noble Truths:

TRUE AND FALSE REFUGES

REFLECTIONS & RECOLLECTIONS

70

Dukkham dukkha-samuppādam dukkhassa ca atikkamam Ariyañ-c'aṭṭh'aṅgikam maggam dukkhūpasama-gāminam

Suffering and its origin

And that which lies beyond —

The Noble Eightfold Path

That leads the way to suff ring's end.

Etaṃ kho saraṇaṃ khemaṃ etaṃ saraṇam-uttamaṃ Etaṃ saraṇam-āgamma sabba-dukkhā pamuccati

Such a refuge is secure,
Such a refuge is supreme,
Such a refuge truly brings
Complete release from all suffering.

Verses on the Riches of a Noble One

71

[Handa mayam ariya-dhana-gathayo bhanamase]

Yassa saddhā tathāgate acalā supatiṭṭhitā

Sīlañca yassa kalyāṇaṃ ariya-kantaṃ pasaṃsitaṃ

One whose faith in the Tathāgata Is unshaken and established well, Whose virtue is beautiful, The Noble Ones enjoy and praise;

Sanghe pasado yass'atthi uju-bhūtanca dassanam

Adaliddo'ti tam āhu amogham tassa jīvitam

Whose trust is in the Sangha,
Who sees things rightly as they are,
It is said that not in vain
And undeluded is their life.

Tasmā saddhañca sīlañca pasādaṃ dhamma-dassanaṃ
Anuyuñjetha medhāvī saraṃ buddhāna sāsanaṃ

To virtue and to faith,

To trust to seeing truth,

To these the wise devote themselves,

The Buddha's teaching in their mind.

VERSES ON THE THREE CHARACTERISTICS

Verses on the Three Characteristics

[Handa mayam ti-lakkhan'adi-gathayo bhanamase]

Sabbe sankhārā aniccā'ti yadā paññāya passati Atha nibbindati dukkhe esa maggo visuddhiyā

'Impermanent are all conditioned things' — When with wisdom this is seen One feels weary of all dukkha;

This is the path to purity.

Sabbe sankhārā dukkhā'ti yadā paññāya passati Atha nibbindati dukkhe esa maggo visuddhiyā

'Dukkha are all conditioned things' — When with wisdom this is seen One feels weary of all dukkha; This is the path to purity.

Sabbe dhammā anattā'ti yadā paññāya passati Atha nibbindati dukkhe esa maggo visuddhiyā

'There is no self in anything' — When with wisdom this is seen One feels weary of all dukkha; This is the path to purity.

VERSES ON THE THREE CHARACTERISTICS

Appakā te manussesu ye janā pāra-gāmino
Athāyam itarā pajā tīram-evānudhāvati

Few amongst humankind
Are those who go beyond,
Yet there are the many folks
Ever wand'ring on this shore.

Ye ca kho sammad-akkhāte dhamme dhammānuvattino
Te janā pāram-essanti maccu-dheyyaṃ suduttaraṃ

Wherever Dhamma is well-taught,
Those who train in line with it
Are the ones who will cross over
The realm of death so hard to flee.

Kaṇhaṃ dhammaṃ vippahāya sukkaṃ bhāvetha paṇḍito
Okā anokam-āgamma viveke yattha dūramaṃ
Tatrābhiratim-iccheyya hitvā kāme akiñcano

Abandoning the darker states,
The wise pursue the bright;
From the floods dry land they reach
Living withdrawn so hard to do.
Such rare delight one should desire,
Sense pleasures cast away,
Not having anything.

73

VERSES ON THE BURDEN

REFLECTIONS & RECOLLECTIONS

Verses on the Burden

[Handa mayam bhāra-sutta-gāthāyo bhanāmase]

Bhārā have pañcakkhandhā bhāra-hāro ca puggalo

Bhār'ādānaṃ dukkhaṃ loke bhāra-nikkhepanaṃ sukhaṃ

The five aggregates indeed are burdens,

The beast of burden though is man.

In this world to take up burdens is dukkha.

Putting them down brings happiness.

Nikkhipitvā garum bhāram anādiya

Samūlam tanham abbuyha nicchāto parinibbuto

A heavy burden cast away,

Not taking on another load,

With craving pulled out from the root,

Desires stilled, one is released.

Verses on a Shining Night of Prosperity

[Handa mayam bhadd'eka-ratta-gathayo bhanamase]

Atītaṃ nānvāgameyya nappaṭikaṅkhe anāgataṃ

Yad'atītam pahīnan-tam appattanca anāgatam

One should not revive the past

Nor speculate on what's to come;

The past is left behind,

The future is un-realized.

Paccuppannañca yo dhammam

tattha tattha vipassati

Asamhiram asankuppam

tam viddhām-anubrūhaye

In every presently arisen state

There, just there, one clearly sees;

Unmoved, unagitated,

Such insight is one's strength.

Ajj'eva kiccam-ātappaṃ

ko jaññā maraṇam suve

Na hi no saṅgaran-tena

mahā-senena maccunā

Ardently doing one's task today,

Tomorrow, who knows, death may come;

Facing the mighty hordes of death,

Indeed one cannot strike a deal.

VERSES ON A SHINING NIGHT OF PROSPERITY

REFLECTIONS & RECOLLECTIONS

76

Evam vihārim-ātāpim aho-rattam-atanditam

Taṃ ve bhadd'eka-ratto'ti santo ācikkhate muni

To dwell with energy aroused

Thus for a night of non-decline,

That is a 'night of shining prosperity.'

So it was taught by the Peaceful Sage.

Verses on Respect for the Dhamma

[Handa mayam dhamma-gārav'ādi-gāthayo bhanāmase]

Ye ca atītā sambuddhā ye ca buddhā anāgatā

Yo c'etarahi sambuddho bahunnam soka-nāsano

All the Buddhas of the past,
All the Buddhas yet to come,
The Buddha of this current age —
Dispellers of much sorrow.

Sabbe saddhamma-garuno viharimsu viharanti ca

Atho pi viharissanti esä buddhana dhammata

Those having lived or living now,

Those living in the future,

All do revere the True Dhamma —

That is the nature of all Buddhas.

Tasmā hi atta-kāmena mahattam-abhikankhatā

Saddhammo garū-kātabbo saraṃ buddhāna sāsanaṃ

Therefore desiring one's own welfare,

Pursuing greatest aspirations,

One should revere the True Dhamma —

Recollecting the Buddha's teaching.

REFLECTIONS & RECOLLECTIONS

78

Na hi dhammo adhammo ca ubho sama-vipākino

Adhammo nirayam neti dhammo pāpeti suggatim

What is true Dhamma and what not
Will never have the same results,
While lack of Dhamma leads to hell-realms —
True Dhamma takes one on a good course.

Dhammo have rakkhati dhamma-cāriṃ Dhammo suciṇṇo sukham-āvahāti Esānisaṃso dhamme suciṇṇe

The Dhamma guards who lives in line with it

And leads to happiness when practised well —

This is the blessing of well-practised Dhamma.

Verses on the Training Code

79

 $\left[\, \widehat{\text{Handa mayam ovada-patimokkha-gathayo bhanamase}} \, \right]$

[VERSION ONE]

Sabba-pāpassa akaraṇaṃ

Avoidance of all evil ways;

Kusalassūpasampadā

Commitment to what's wholly good;

Sacitta-pariyodapanam

Purification of one's mind:

Etam buddhāna sāsanam

Just this is what the Buddhas teach.

Khantī paramam tapo tītikkhā

Patience is the cleansing flame;

Nibbānam paramam vadanti buddhā

Nibbāna's suprême, the Buddhas say.

Na hi pabbajito parūpaghātī

Harming others, you're no recluse;

VERSES ON THE TRAINING CODE

REFLECTIONS & RECOLLECTIONS

80

Samaņo hoti param vihethayanto

A trouble-maker's no samana.

Anūpavādo anūpaghāto

To neither insult nor cause wounds;

Pāṭimokkhe ca saṃvaro

To live restrained by training rules;

Mattaññutā ca bhattasmim

To know what's enough when taking food;

Pantañca sayan'āsanam

To dwell alone in a quiet place;

Adhicitte ca āyogo

And devotion to the higher mind:

Etaṃ buddhāna sāsanaṃ

Every Buddha teaches this.

REFLECTIONS & RECOLLECTIONS

VERSES ON THE TRAINING CODE

[VERSION TWO]

Sabba-pāpassa akaranam

Not doing any evil;

Kusalassūpasampadā

To be committed to the good;

Sacitta-pariyodapanam

To purify one's mind:

Etam buddhāna sāsanam

These are the teachings of all Buddhas.

Khantī paramam tapo tītikkhā

Patient endurance is the highest practice, burning out defilements;

Nibbānam paramam vadanti buddhā

The Buddhas say Nibbāna is supreme.

Na hi pabbajito parūpaghātī

Not a renunciant is one who injures others;

Samaņo hoti param viheṭhayanto

Whoever troubles others can't be called a monk.

81

VERSES ON THE TRAINING CODE

REFLECTIONS & RECOLLECTIONS

82

Anūpavādo anūpaghāto

Not to insult and not to injure;

Pāṭimokkhe ca saṃvaro

To live restrained by training rules;

Mattaññutā ca bhattasmiņ

Knowing one's measure at the meal;

Pantañca sayan'āsanam

Retreating to a lonely place;

Adhicitte ca āyogo

Devotion to the higher mind:

Etam buddhāna sāsanam

These are the teachings of all Buddhas.

Verses on the Buddha's First Exclamation

83

[Handa mayam paṭhama-buddha-bhāsita-gāthāyo bhaṇāmase]

Aneka-jāti-saṃsāraṃ sandhāvissaṃ anibbisaṃ

Gaha-kāraṃ gavesanto dukkhā jāti punappunaṃ

For many lifetimes in the round of birth,

Wandering on endlessly,

For the builder of this house I searched —

How painful is repeated birth.

Gaha-kāraka diṭṭhô'si puna gehaṃ na kāhasi

Sabbā te phāsukā bhaggā gaha-kūṭam visankhatam

Visankhāra-gataṃ cittaṃ taṇhānaṃ khayam-ajjhagā

House-builder you've been seen,

Another home you will not build,

All your rafters have been snapped,

Dismantled is your ridge-pole;

The non-constructing mind

Has come to craving's end.

VERSES ON THE LAST INSTRUCTIONS

84

Verses on the Last Instructions

 $\left[\stackrel{.}{\text{Handa}}$ mayam pacchima-ovāda-gāth $\widehat{\overline{\text{a}}}$ yo bhanāmase $\right]$

Handa dāni bhîkkhave āmantayāmî vo

Now bhikkhus I declare to you,

Vaya-dhammā sankhārā

Change is the nature of conditioned things;

Appamādena sampādethā'ti

Perfect yourselves, not being negligent:

Ayam tathagatassa pacchima vaca

These are the Tath $\widehat{\bar{a}}$ gata's \widehat{f} inal words.

The Teaching on Mindfulness of Breathing

[Handa mayam ānāpānassati-sutta-pāṭhaṃ bhaṇāmase]

Ānāpānassati bhikkhave bhāvitā bahulīkatā

Bhikkhus, when mindfulness of breathing is developed and cultivated

Mahapphalā hoti mahānisamsā

It is of great fruit and great benefit;

Ānāpānassati bhikkhave bhāvitā bahulīkatā

When mindfulness of breathing is developed and cultivated

Cattāro satipatthāne paripūreti

It fulfills the Four Foundations of Mindfulness;

Cattāro satipaṭṭhānā bhāvitā bahulīkatā

When the Four Foundations of Mindfulness are developed and cultivated

Satta-bojjhange paripūrenti

They fulfill the Seven Factors of Awakening;

Satta-bojjhaṅgā bhāvitā bahulīkatā

When the Seven Factors of Awakening are developed and cultivated

Vijjā-vimuttim paripūrenti

THE TEACHING ON MINDFULNESS OF BREATHING

They fulfill true knowledge and deliverance.

Kathaṃ bhāvitā ca bhikkhave ānāpānassati kathaṃ bahulīkatā

And how, bhikkhus, is mindfulness of breathing developed and cultivated

Mahapphalā hoti mahānisamsā

So that it is of great fruit and great benefit?

Idha bhîkkhave bhikkhu

Here, bhikkhus, a bhikkhu,

Arañña-gato vā

Gone to the forest,

Rukkha-mūla-gato vā

To the foot of a tree

Suññāgāra-gato vā

Or to an empty hut.

Nisīdati pallaṅkaṃ ābhujityā

Sits down having crossed his legs,

Ujum kāyam paṇidhāya parimukham satim upaṭṭhapetvā

Sets his body erect, having established mindfulness in front of him.

So sato'va assasati sato'va passasati

REFLECTIONS & RECOLLECTIONS

THE TEACHING ON MINDFULNESS OF BREATHING

Ever mindful he breathes in; mindful he breathes out.

Dīgham vā assasanto dīgham assasamī'ti pajānāti

Breathing in long, he knows 'I breathe in long';

Dīgham vā passasanto dīgham passasāmī'ti pajānāti

Breathing out long, he knows 'I breathe out long';

Rassam vā assasanto rassam assasāmī'ti pajānāti

Breathing in short, he knows 'I breathe in short';

Rassam vā passasanto rassam passasāmī'ti pajānāti

Breathing out short, he knows 'I breathe out short'.

Sabba-kāya-paţisamvedī assasissāmī'ti sikkhati

He trains thus: 'I shall breathe in experiencing the whole body'.

Sabba-kāya-paṭisaṃvedī passasissāmī'ti sikkhati

He trains thus: 'I shall breathe out experiencing the whole body'.

Passambhayam kāya-sankhāram assasissāmī'ti sikkhati

He trains thus: 'I shall breathe in tranquillizing the bodily formations'.

Passambhayam kāya-sankhāram passasissāmī'ti sikkhati

He trains thus: 'I shall breathe out tranquillizing the bodily formations'.

Pīti-paţisamvedī assasissāmī'ti sikkhati

He trains thus: 'I shall breathe in experiencing rapture'.

Pīti-paṭisaṃvedī passasissāmī'ti sikkhati

He trains thus: 'I shall breathe out experiencing rapture'.

Sukha-paṭisaṃvedī assasissāmī'ti sikkhati

He trains thus: 'I shall breathe in experiencing pleasure'

Sukha-paţisamvedī passasissāmī'ti sikkhati

He trains thus: 'I shall breathe out experiencing pleasure'.

Citta-sankhāra-paţisamvedī assasissāmī'ti sikkhati

He trains thus: 'I shall breathe in experiencing the mental formations'.

Citta-sankhāra-patisamvedī passasissāmī'ti sikkhati

 $\label{thm:prop:lem:hamma:lem:hamm$

Passambhayam citta-sankhāram assasissāmī'ti sikkhati

He trains thus: 'I shall breathe in tranquillizing the mental formations'.

Passambhayam citta-sankhāram passasissāmī'ti sikkhati

He trains thus: 'I shall breathe out tranquillizing the mental formations'.

Citta-paţisamvedī assasissamī'ti sikkhati

He trains thus: 'I shall breathe in experiencing the mind'.

Citta-pațisamvedī passasissāmī'ti sikkhati

He trains thus: 'I shall breathe out experiencing the mind'.

Abhippamodayam cittam assasissāmī'ti sikkhati

He trains thus: 'I shall breathe in gladdening the mind'.

Abhippamodayam cittam passasissāmī'ti sikkhati

He trains thus: 'I shall breathe out gladdening the mind'.

Samādaham cittam assasissāmī'ti sikkhati

He trains thus: 'I shall breathe in concentrating the mind'

Samādaham cittam passasissāmī'ti sikkhati

He trains thus: 'I shall breathe out concentrating the mind'.

Vimocayam cittam assasissāmī'ti sikkhati

He trains thus: 'I shall breathe \widehat{in} liberating the mind'.

Vimocayam cittam passasissāmī'ti sikkhati

He trains thus: 'I shall breathe out liberating the mind'.

Aniccānupassī assasissāmī'ti sikkhati

He trains thus: 'I shall breathe \widehat{in} contemplating impermanence'.

Aniccānupassī passasissāmī'ti sikkhati

He trains thus: 'I shall breathe out contemplating impermanence'.

Virāgānupassī assasissāmī'ti sikkhati

THE TEACHING ON MINDFULNESS OF BREATHING

He trains thus: 'I shall breathe in contemplating the fading away of passions'.

Virāgānupassī passasissāmī'ti sikkhati

He trains thus: 'I shall breathe out contemplating the fading away of passions'.

Nirodhānupassī assasissāmī'ti sikkhati

He trains thus: 'I shall breathe in contemplating cessation'.

Nirodhānupassī passasissāmī'ti sikkhati

He trains thus: 'I shall breathe out contemplating cessation'.

Paṭinissaggānupassī assasissāmī'ti sikkhati

He trains thus: 'I shall breathe in contemplating relinquishment'.

Paṭinissaggānupassī passasissāmī'ti sikkhati

He trains thus: 'I shall breathe out contemplating relinquishment'.

Evam bhavîta kho bhîkkhave anapanassati evam bahulikata

Bhikkhus, that is how mindfulness of breathing is developed and cultivated

Mahapphalā hoti mahānisamsā'ti

So that it is of great fruit and great benefit.

THE NOBLE EIGHTFOLD PATH

The Teaching on the Noble Eightfold Path

91

[Handa mayam ariyaṭṭhaṅgika-magga-pāṭham bhaṇāmase]

Ayam-eva ariyo aṭṭhangiko maggo

This is the Noble Eightfold Path,

Seyyathidam

Which is as follows:

Sammā-diţţhi

Right View,

Sammā-sankappo

Right Intention,

Sammā-vācā

Right Speech,

Sammā-kammanto

Right Action,

Sammā-ājīvo

Right Livelihood,

Sammā-vāyāmo

Right Effort,

Sammā-sati

THE NOBLE EIGHTFOLD PATH

Right Mindfulness,

Sammā-samādhi

Right Concentration.

Katamā ca bhikkhave sammā-diṭṭhi

And what, bhikkhus, is Right View?

Yam kho bhîkkhave dukkhe ñāṇam

Knowledge of suffering;

Dukkha-samudaye ñāṇaṃ

Knowledge of the origin of suffering;

Dukkha-nîrodhe ñāṇaṃ

Knowledge of the cessation of suffering;

Dukkha-nîrodha-gāmînîyā paţipadāya ñāṇaṃ

Knowledge of the path leading to the cessation of suffering:

Ayam vuccati bhîkkhave sammā-diṭṭhi

This, bhikkhus, is called Right View.

Katamo ca bhikkhave sammā-saṅkappo

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THE NOBLE EIGHTFOLD PATH

And what, bhikkhus, is Right Intention?

Nekkhamma-sankappo

The intention of renunciation;

Abyāpāda-sankappo

The intention of non-ill-will;

Avihiṃsā-sankappo

The intention of non-cruelty:

Ayam vuccati bhîkkhave sammā-sankappo

This, bhikkhus, is called Right Intention.

Katamā ca bhikkhave sammā-vācā

And what, bhikkhus, is Right Speech?

Musā-vādā veramaņī

Abstaining from false speech;

Pisuņāya vācāya veramaņī

Abstaining from malicious speech;

Pharusāya vācāya veramaņī

Abstaining from harsh speech;

Samphappalapa veramaņī.

THE NOBLE EIGHTFOLD PATH

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Abstaining from idle chatter:

Ayam vuccati bhikkhave sammā-vācā

This, bhikkhus, is called Right Speech.

Katamo ca bhîkkhave sammā-kammanto

And what bhikkhus is Right Action?

Pāṇātipātā veramaṇī

Abstaining from killing living beings;

Adinnādānā veramaņī

Abstaining from taking what is not given;

Kāmesu micchācārā veramaņī

Abstaining from sexual misconduct:

Ayam vuccati bhikkhave sammā-kammanto

This, bhikkhus, is called Right Action.

Katamo ca bhikkhave sammā-ājīvo

And what, bhikkhus, is Right Livelihood?

Idha bhikkhave ariya-sāvako micchā-ājīvam pahāya sammā-ājīvena jīvitam kappeti

Here, bhikkhus, a Noble Disciple, having abandoned wrong livelihood, earns his living by right livelihood:

REFLECTIONS & RECOLLECTIONS

THE NOBLE EIGHTFOLD PATH

Ayam vuccati bhîkkhave sammā-ājīvo

This, bhikkhus, is called Right Livelihood.

Katamo ca bhikkhave sammā-vāyāmo

And what, bhikkhus, is Right Effort?

Idha bhikkhave bhikkhu anuppannānam pāpakānam akusalānam dhammānam anuppādāya

Here, bhikkhus, \hat{a} bhikkhu awakens zeal for the non-arising of unarisen, evil unwholesome states;

Chandaṃ janeti vāyamāti vīriyaṃ ārabhati cittaṃ paggaṇhāti padahati He puts forth effort, arouses energy, exerts his mind and strives.

Uppannānam pāpakānam akusalānam dhammānam pahānāya

He awakens zeal for the abandoning of arisen, evil unwholesome states;

Chandam janeti vāyamāti vīriyam ārabhati cittam pagganhāti padahati

He puts forth effort, arouses \widehat{e} nergy, exerts \widehat{h} is mind and strives.

Anuppannānam kusalānam dhammānam uppādāya

He awakens zeal for the arising of unarisen wholesome states;

Chandam janeti vāyamāti vīrīyam ārabhati cittam pagganhāti padahati He puts forth effort, arouses energy, exerts his mind and strives.

Uppannānam kusalānam dhammānam ṭĥitiyā asammosāya bĥiyyobhāvāya vepullāya bhāvanāya pāripūriyā

He awakens zeal for the continuance, non-disappearance, strengthening, increase and fulfilment by development of arisen wholesome states;

Chandaṃ janeti vāyamāti vīriyaṃ ārabhati cittaṃ paggaṇhāti padahati He puts forth effort, arouses energy, exerts his mind and strives:

Ayaṃ vuccati bhikkhave sammā-vāyāmo

This bhikkhus is called Right Effort.

Katamā ca bhikkḫave sammā-sati

And what, bhikkhus, is Right Mindfulness?

Idha bhikkhave bhikkhu kāye kāyānupassī viharati

Here, bhikkhus, a bhikkhu abides contemplating the body as a body,

Ātāpī sampajāno satimā

Ardent, fully aware and mindful,

Vîneyya loke abhijjhā-domanassam

Having put away covetousness and grief for the world;

Vedanāsu vedanānupassī viharati

He abides contemplating feelings as feelings,

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Ātāpī sampajāno satimā

Ardent, fully aware and mindful,

Vineyya loke abhijjhā-domanassaṃ

Having put away covetousness and grief for the world;

Citte cittanupassī viharati

He abides contemplating mind as mind,

Ātāpī sampajāno satimā

Ardent, fully aware and mindful,

Vineyya loke abhijjhā-domanassam

Having put away covetousness and grief for the world.

Dhammesu dhammānupassī viharati

He abides contemplating mind-objects as mind-objects,

Ātāpī sampajāno satimā

Ardent, fully aware and mindful,

Vineyya loke abhijjhā-domanassam

Having put away covetousness and grief for the world:

Ayaṃ vuccati bhikkhave sammā-sati

This, bhikkhus, is called Right Mindfulness.

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Katamo ca bhikkhave sammā-samādhi

And what, bhikkhus, is Right Concentration?

Idha bhikkhave bhikkhu

Here, bhikkhus, a bhikkhu,

Vivicc'eva kāmehi

Quite secluded from sensual pleasures,

Vivicca akusalehi dhammehi

Secluded from unwholesome states,

Savitakkam savicāram viveka-jam pīti-sukham paṭhamam jhānam upasampajja viharati

Enters upon and abides in the first jhāna — accompanied by applied and sustained thought, with rapture and pleasure born of seclusion.

Vitakka-vicārānam vūpasamā

With the stilling of applied and sustained thought,

Ajjhattam sampasadanam cetaso ekodibhavam avitakkam avicaram samadhi-jam piti-sukham dutiyam jhanam upasampajja viharati

He enters upon and abides in the second jhāna — accompanied by self-confidence and singleness of mind, without applied and sustained thought, with rapture and pleasure born of concentration.

Pītiyā ca virāgā

99

With the fading away as well of rapture

Upekkhako ca viharati

He abides in equanimity,

Sato ca sampajano

Mindful and fully aware,

Sukhañca kāyena paṭisaṃvedeti

Still feeling pleasure with the body,

Yam tam ariyā ācikkhanti upekkhako satimā sukha-vihārī'ti tatiyam jhānam upasampajja viharati

He enters upon and abides in the third jhāna — on account of which the Noble Ones announce, 'He has a pleasant abiding, with equanimity and is mindful.'

Sukhassa ca pahānā

With the abandoning of pleasure

Dukkhassa ca pahānā

And the abandoning of pain,

Pubb'eva somanassa-domanassanam atthangama

With the previous disappearance of joy and grief,

THE NOBLE EIGHTFOLD PATH

REFLECTIONS & RECOLLECTIONS

100

Adukkham-asukham upekkhā-sati-pārisuddhim catuttham jhānam upasampajja viharati

He enters upon and abides in the fourth jhāna — accompanied by neither pain nor-pleasure, and purity of mindfulness due to equanimity:

Ayam vuccati bhikkhave sammā-samādhi

 $This, bhikkhus, is \ called \ Right \ Concentration.$

Ayam-eva ariyo aṭṭhaṅgiko maggo

This is the Noble Eightfold Path.

THE WHEEL OF DHAMMA

Teachings from the Discourse on Setting in Motion the Wheel of Dhamma

101

[Handa mayam dhammacakkappavattana-sutta-pāṭham bhaṇāmase]

Dve me bhikkhave antā

Bhikkhus, there are these two extremes

Pabbajitena na sevitabbā

That should not be pursued by one who has gone forth:

Yo cāyaṃ kāmesu kāma-sukh'allikānuyogo

That is, whatever is tied up to sense pleasures, within the realm of sensuality,

Hīno

Which is low,

Gammo

Common,

Pothujjanjko

The way of the common folks,

Anariyo

Not the way of the Noble Ones

REFLECTIONS & RECOLLECTIONS

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Anattha-sañhito

And pointless;

Yo cāyam atta-kilamathānuyogo

Then there is whatever is tied up with self-deprivation,

Dukkho

Which is painful,

Anariyo

Not the way of the Noble Ones

Anattha-sañhito

And pointless.

Ete te bhîkkhave ubho ante anupagamma majjhîmā patipadā tathāgatena abhisambuddhā

Bhikkhus, without going to either of these extremes, the Tath \hat{a} gata has ultimately awakened to \hat{a} middle way of practice,

Cakkhu-karanī

Giving rise to vision,

Ñāṇa-karaṇī

Making for insight,

THE WHEEL OF DHAMMA

Upasamāya

Leading to calm,

Abhiññāya

To heightened knowing,

Sambodhāya

Awakening,

Nibbānāya samvattati

And to Nibbāna.

Katamā ca sā bhikkhave majjhimā paţipadā

And what, bhikkhus, is that middle way of practice?

Ayam-eva ariyo aṭṭhaṅgiko maggo

It is this Noble Eightfold Path,

Seyyathidam

Which is as follows:

Sammā-diṭṭhi

Right View,

Sammā-sankappo

Right Intention,

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Sammā-vācā

Right Speech,

Sammā-kammanto

Right Action,

Sammā-ājīvo

Right Livelihood,

Sammā-vāyāmo

Right Effort,

Sammā-sati

Right Mindfulness,

Sammā-samādhi

Right Concentration.

Ayam kho sā bhikkhave majjhimā paţipadā tathāgatena abhisambuddhā

This, bhikkhus, is the middle way of practice that the Tath \hat{a} gata has ultimately awakened to,

Cakkhu-karanī

Giving rise to vision,

Ñāṇa-karaṇī

Making for insight,

Upasamāya

Leading to calm,

Abhiññāya

To heightened knowing,

Sambodhāya

Awakening,

Nibbānāya samvattati

And to Nibbāna.

Idam kho pana bhîkkhave dukkham ariya-saccam

This bhikkhus is the Noble Truth of dukkha:

Jātip<u>i</u> dukkhā

Birth is dukkha,

Jarāp<u>i</u> dukkhā

Ageing is dukkha

Maraṇamp<u>i</u> dukkhaṃ

And death is dukkha;

106

Soka-parideva-dukkha-domanass'upāyāsāpi dukkhā
Sorrow, lamentation, pain, grief and despair are dukkha,

Appiyehi sampayogo dukkho

Association with the disliked is dukkha,

Piyehi vippayogo dukkho

Separation from the liked is dukkha,

Yampiccham na labhati tampi dukkham

Not attaining one's wishes is dukkha;

Sankhittena pañcupādānakkhandhā dukkhā

In brief, the five focuses of identity are dukkha.

Idam kho pana bhikkhave dukkha-samudayo ariya-saccam

This bhikkhus is the Noble Truth of the cause of dukkha:

Yā'yaṃ taṇhā

It is this craving

Ponobbhavikā

Which leads to rebirth,

Nandi-rāga-sahagatā

Accompanied by delight and lust,

THE WHEEL OF DHAMMA

Tatra-tatrābhinandinī

107

Delighting now here, now there,

Seyyathidam

Namely:

Kāma-taṇhā

Craving for sensuality,

Bhava-tanhā

Craving to become,

Vibhava-taṇhā

Craving not to become.

Idam kho pana bhikkhave dukkha-nirodho ariya-saccam

This bhikkhus is the Noble Truth of the cessation of dukkha:

Yo tassā yeva taṇhāya asesa-virāga-nirodho

It is the remainderless fading away and cessation of that very craving,

Cāgo

Its relinquishment,

Paṭinissaggo

Letting go,

REFLECTIONS & RECOLLECTIONS

108

Mutti

Release,

Anālayo

Without any attachment.

Idam kho pana bhîkkhave dukkha-nirodha-gāmînī patipadā ariya-saccam

This bhikkhus is the Noble Truth of the way of practice leading to the cessation of dukkha:

Ayam-eva ariyo aṭṭh'aṅgiko maggo

It is just this Noble Eightfold Path,

Seyyathidam

Which is as follows:

Sammā-diṭṭhi

Right View,

Sammā-sankappo

Right Intention,

Sammā-vācā

Right Speech,

THE WHEEL OF DHAMMA

Sammā-kammanto

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Right Action,

Sammā-ājīvo

Right Livelihood,

Sammā-vāyāmo

Right Effort,

Sammā-sati

Right Mindfulness,

Sammā-samādhi

Right Concentration.

Idam dukkham ariya-saccan'ti me bhikkhave Pubbe ananussutesu dhammesu

Cakkhum udapādi

Ñāṇaṃ udapādi

Paññā udapādi

Vijjā udapādi

Āloko udapādi

Bhikkhus, in regard to things unheard-of before,

Vision arose,

Insight arose,

Discernment arose,

REFLECTIONS & RECOLLECTIONS

110

Knowledge arose, Light arose: This is the Noble Truth of dukkha;

Taṃ kho pan'idaṃ dukkhaṃ ariya-saccaṃ pariññeyyan'ti

Now this Noble Truth of dukkha should be completely understood;

Taṃ kho pan'idaṃ dukkhaṃ ariya-saccaṃ pariññātan'ti

Now this Noble Truth of dukkha has been completely understood.

Idam dukkha-samudayo ariya-saccan'ti me bhikkhave

Pubbe ananussutesu dhammesu

Cakkhuṃ udapādi

Ñāṇaṃ udapādi

Paññā udapādi

Vijjā udapādi

Āloko udapādi

Bhikkhus, in regard to things unheard-of before,

Vision arose,

Insight arose,

Discernment arose,

Knowledge arose,

Light arose:

This is the Noble Truth of the cause of dukkha.

Tam kho pan'idam dukkha-samudayo ariya-saccam pahātabban'ti

Now this cause of dukkha should be abandoned;

Taṃ kho pan'idaṃ dukkha-samudayo ariya-saccaṃ pahīnan'ti

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Now this cause of dukkha has been abandoned.

Idam dukkha-nirodho ariya-saccan'ti me bhikkhave

Pubbe ananussutesu dhammesu

Cakkhum udapādi

Ñāṇaṃ udapādi

Paññā udapādi

Vijjā udapādi

Āloko udapādi

Bhikkhus, in regard to things unheard-of before,

Vision arose,

Insight arose,

Discernment arose,

Knowledge arose,

Light arose:

This is the Noble Truth of the cessation of dukkha;

Taṃ kho pan'idaṃ dukkha-nirodho ariya-saccaṃ sacchikātabban'ti

Now the cessation of dukkha should be experienced directly;

Taṃ kho pan'idaṃ dukkha-nirodho ariya-saccaṃ sacchikatan'ti

Now the cessation of dukkha has been experienced directly.

Idam dukkha-nirodha-gāminī paṭipadā ariya-saccan'ti me bhikkhave Pubbe ananussutesu dhammesu

Cakkhuṃ udapādi

REFLECTIONS & RECOLLECTIONS

112

Ñāṇaṃ udapādi Paññā udapādi Vijjā udapādi Āloko udapādi

Bhikkhus, in regard to things unheard-of before,

Vision arose,

Insight arose,

Discernment arose,

Knowledge arose,

Light arose:

This is the Noble Truth of the way of practice

leading to the cessation of dukkha;

Taṃ kho pan'idaṃ dukkha-nirodha-gāminī paṭipadā ariya-saccaṃ bhāvetabban'ti

Now this way of practice leading to the cessation of dukkha should be developed;

Taṃ kho pan'idaṃ dukkha-nirodha-gāminī paṭipadā ariya-saccaṃ bhāvitan'ti

Now this way of practice leading to the cessation of dukkha has been developed.

Yāva kīvañca me bhikkhave imesu catūsu ariya-saccesu Evan-ti-parivaṭṭaṃ dvādas'ākāraṃ yathā-bhūtaṃ ñāṇa-dassanaṃ na suvisuddhaṃ ahosi

As long, bhikkhus, as my knowledge and understanding,
As it actually is,
Of these Four Noble Truths,
With their three phases and twelve aspects,
Was not entirely pure,

N'eva tāv'āhaṃ bhikkhave sadevake loke samārake sabrahmake Sassamaṇa-brāhmaṇiyā pajāya sadeva-manussāya Anuttaraṃ sammā-sambodhiṃ abhisambuddho paccaññāsiṃ

Did I not claim, bhikkhus,
In this world of devas, Māra and Brahmā,
Amongst mankind with its priests and renunciants,
Kings and commoners,
An ultimate awakening
To unsurpassed, perfect enlightenment.

Yato ca kho me bhîkkhave imesu catūsu ariya-saccesu Evan-ti-parivaṭṭaṃ dvādas'ākāraṃ yathā-bhūtaṃ ñāṇa-dassanaṃ suvisuddhaṃ ahosi

But when, bhikkhus, my knowledge and understanding
As it actually is,
Of these Four Noble Truths,
With their three phases and twelve aspects,
Was indeed entirely pure,

Ath'āhaṃ bhikkhave sadevāke loke samārake sabrahmāke Sassamaṇa-brāhmaṇiyā pajāya sadeva-manussāya Anuttaraṃ sammā-sambodhiṃ abhisambuddho paccaññāsiṃ

REFLECTIONS & RECOLLECTIONS

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Then indeed did I claim, bhikkhus,
In this world of devas, Māra and Brahmā,
Amongst mankind with its priests and renunciants,
Kings and commoners,
An ultimate awakening
To unsurpassed, perfect enlightenment.

Ñāṇañca pana me dassanaṃ udapādi

Now knowledge and understanding arose in me:

Akuppā me vimutti ayam-antimā jāti natthi dāni punabbhavo'ti

My release is unshakeable,
This is my last birth,
There won't be any further becoming.

The Teaching on Striving According to Dhamma

115

[Handa mayam dhamma-pahamsāna-pāṭham bhanāmase]

Evam svākkhāto bhikkhave mayā dhammo

Bhikkhus, the Dhamma has thus been well expounded by me,

Uttāno

Elucidated,

Vivațo

Disclosed,

Pakāsito

Revealed,

Chînna-pilotîko

And stripped of patchwork —

Alam-eva saddhā-pabbajitena kula-puttena vīriyam ārabhitum

This is enough for a clansman, who has gone forth out of faith, to arouse his energy thus:

Kāmaṃ taco ca nahāru ca aṭṭhi ca avasissatu

'Willingly let only my skin, sinews and bones remain,

116

Sarīre upasussatu maṃsa-lohitaṃ

And let \hat{the} flesh and blood in this body wither away.

Yam tam

As long as whatever is to be attained

Purisa-thāmena

STRIVING ACCORDING TO DHAMMA

By human strength,

Purisa-vīriyena

By human energy,

Purisa-parakkamena

By human effort,

Pattabbam na tam apāpunitvā

Has not been attained,

Vīriyassa santhānam bhavissatī'ti

Let not my efforts stand still.'

Dukkham bhîkkhave kusîto vîharati

Bhikkhus, the lazy person dwells in suffering,

Vokijnno pāpakehi akusalehi dhammehi

Soiled by evil, unwholesome states

117

Mahantañca sadattham parihapeti

And great is \hat{the} personal good that he neglects.

Āraddha-vīriyo ca kho bhikkhave sukham viharati

The energetic person though dwells happily,

Pavivitto pāpakehi akusalehi dhammehi

Well withdrawn from unwholesome states

Mahantañca sadattham paripūreti

And great is the personal good that he achieves.

Na bhikkhave hinena aggassa patti hoti

Bhikkhus, it is not by lower means that the supreme is attained

Aggena ca kho bhikkḫave aggassa patti hoti

But, bhikkhus, it is by the supreme that the supreme is attained.

Maṇḍapeyyam-idaṃ bhikkḫave brahmacariyaṃ

Bhikkhus, this holy life is like the cream of the milk:

Satthā sammukhī-bhūto

The Teacher is present,

Tasmātiha bhikkhave vīriyam ārabhatha

Therefore, bhikkhus, start to arouse your energy

STRIVING ACCORDING TO DHAMMA

118

Appattassa pattiyā

For the attainment of the as yet unattained,

Anadhigatassa adhigamāya

For the achievement of the as yet unachieved,

Asacchikatassa sacchikiriyāya

For the realization of the as yet unrealized.

Evam no ayam amhākam pabbajjā avankatā avanjhā bhavissati

Thinking, in such a way: 'Our Going Forth will not be barren

Saphalā sa-udrayā

But will become fruitful and fertile,

Yesam mayam paribhuñjāma cīvara-piṇḍapāta-senāsanagilānappaccaya-bhesajja-parikkhāram tesam te kārā amhesu

And all our use of robes, almsfood, lodgings, and medicinal requisites, given by others for our support,

Mahapphalā bhavissanti mahānisamsā'ti

Will reward them with great fruit and great benefit."

Evam hi vo bhikkhave sikkhitabbam

Bhikkhus, you should train yourselves thus:

STRIVING ACCORDING TO DHAMMA

Att'attham vā hi bhikkhave sampassamānena

Considering your own good,

Alam-eva appamādena sampādetum

It is enough to strive for the goal without negligence;

Par'attham vā hi bhikkhave sampassamānena

Bhikkhus, considering the good of others,

Alam-eva appamādena sampādetum

It is enough to strive for the goal without negligence;

Ubhay'attham vā hi bhikkhave sampassamānena

Bhikkhus, considering the good of both,

Alam-eva appamādena sampādetun'ti

It is enough to strive for the goal without negligence.

THE VERSES OF TĀYANA

120 The Verses of Tāyana

[Handa mayam tāyana-gāthāyo bhaṇāmase]

Chinda sotam parakkamma kāme panūda brāhmaṇa

Nappahāya muni kāme n'ekattam-upapajjati

Exert yourself and cut the stream.

Discard sense-pleasures, Holy Man;

Not letting sensual pleasures go,

A sage will not reach unity.

Kayirā ce kayirāthenam daļham-enam parakkame

Sithilo hi paribbājo bhiyyo ākirate rajam

Vigorously, with all one's strength,

It should be done, what should be done;

A lax monastic life stirs up

The dust of passions all the more.

Akataṃ dukkaṭaṃ seyyo pacchā tappati dûkkaṭaṃ

Katañca sukataṃ seyyo yaṃ katvā nānutappati

Better is not to do bad deeds

That afterwards would bring remorse;

It's rather good deeds one should do

Which having done one won't regret.

THE VERSES OF TĀYANA

Kuso yathā duggahito hattham-evānukantati Sāmaññaṃ dupparāmaṭṭhaṃ nirayāyūpakaḍḍhati

rasped,

As Kusa-grass, when wrongly grasped, Will only cut into one's hand So does the monk's life wrongly led Indeed drag one to hellish states.

Yam kiñci sithîlam kammam sankilitthañca yam vatam Sankassaram brahma-carîyam na tam hôti mahapphalan'ti

Whatever deed that's slackly done, Whatever vow corruptly kept, The Holy Life led in doubtful ways — All these will never bear great fruit.

PART 4

Formal Requests

ACKNOWLEDGING THE TEACHING

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Añjali

Chanting and making formal requests is done with the hands in añjali. This is a gesture of respect, made by placing the palms together directly in front of the chest, with the fingers aligned and pointing upwards.

Requesting a Dhamma Talk

[AFTER BOWING THREE TIMES, WITH HANDS JOINED IN ANJALI, RECITE THE FOLLOWING:]

Brahmā ca lokādhipatī sahampati Katañjalī anadhivaram ayācatha Santīdha sattāpparajakkha-jātikā Desetu dhammam anukampimam pajam

[BOW THREE TIMES AGAIN]

The Brahmā god Sahampati, Lord of the world,
With palms joined in reverence, requested a favour:
'Beings are here with but little dust in their eyes,
Pray, teach the Dhamma out of compassion for them.'

Acknowledging the Teaching

One person: Handa mayam dhammakathaya sadhukaram dadamase

Now let us express our approval of this Dhamma Teaching.

Response: Sādhu, sādhu, sādhu, anumodāmi

It is well, I appreciate it.

REQUESTING PARITTA CHANTING

FORMAL REQUESTS

Requesting Paritta Chanting

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[AFTER BOWING THREE TIMES, WITH HANDS JOINED IN AÑJALI, RECITE THE FOLLOWING]

Vipatti-paṭibāhāya sabba-sampatti-siddhiyā Sabbadukkha-vināsāya
Parittaṃ brūtha maṅgalaṃ
Vipatti-paṭibāhāya sabba-sampatti-siddhiyā Sabbabhaya-vināsāya
Parittaṃ brūtha maṅgalaṃ
Vipatti-paṭibāhāya sabba-sampatti-siddhiyā Sabbaroga-vināsāya
Parittaṃ brūtha maṅgalaṃ

[Bow three times]

For warding off misfortune, for the arising of good fortune,
For the dispelling of all dukkha,
May you chant a blessing and protection.
For warding off misfortune, for the arising of good fortune,
For the dispelling of all fear,
May you chant a blessing and protection.
For warding off misfortune, for the arising of good fortune,
For the dispelling of all sickness,
May you chant a blessing and protection.

FORMAL REQUESTS

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Requesting the Three Refuges & the Five Precepts

[AFTER BOWING THREE TIMES, WITH HANDS JOINED IN ANJALI, RECITE THE APPROPRIATE REQUEST.]

For a group from a monk

THREE REFUGES & THE FIVE PRECEPTS

Mayam bhante tisaranena saha

Dutiyampi mayam bhante tisaranena saha

Tatiyampi mayam bhante tisaranena saha

pañca sīlāni yācāma pañca sīlāni yācāma pañca sīlāni yācāma

For oneself from a monk

Ahaṃ bhante tisaraṇena saha Dutiyampi ahaṃ bhante tisaraṇena saha Tatiyampi ahaṃ bhante tisaraṇena saha pañca sîlāni yācāmi pañca sîlāni yācāmi pañca sîlāni yācāmi

For a group from a nun

Mayam ayye tisaranena saha Dutiyampi mayam ayye tisaranena saha Tatiyampi mayam ayye tisaranena saha pañca sīlāni yācāma pañca sīlāni yācāma pañca sīlāni yācāma

FORMAL REQUESTS

THREE REFUGES & THE FIVE PRECEPTS

For oneself from a nun

Ahaṃ ayye tisaraṇena saha Dutiyampi ahaṃ ayye tisaraṇena saha Tatiyampi ahaṃ ayye tisaraṇena saha pañca sīlāni yācāmi pañca sīlāni yācāmi pañca sīlāni yācāmi

For a group from a layperson

Mayam mitta tisaranena saha Dutiyampi mayam mitta tisaranena saha Tatiyampi mayam mitta tisaranena saha pañca sîlāni yācāma pañca sîlāni yācāma pañca sîlāni yācāma

For oneself from a layperson

Ahaṃ mitta tisaraṇena saha Dutiyampi ahaṃ mitta tisaraṇena saha Tatiyampi ahaṃ mitta tisaraṇena saha pañca sīlāni yācāmi pañca sīlāni yācāmi pañca sīlāni yācāmi

Translation

We/I, Venerable Sir/Sister/Friend,
request the Three Refuges and the Five Precepts.
For the second time,
we/I, Venerable Sir/Sister/Friend,
request the Three Refuges and the Five Precepts.
For the third time,
we/I, Venerable Sir/Sister/Friend,
request the Three Refuges and the Five Precepts.

TAKING THE THREE REFUGES

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Taking the Three Refuges

[REPEAT, AFTER THE LEADER HAS CHANTED THE FIRST THREE LINES]

Namo tassa bhagavato arahato sammāsambuddhassa Namo tassa bhagavato arahato sammāsambuddhassa Namo tassa bhagavato arahato sammāsambuddhassa

Homage to the Blessed, Noble, and Perfectly Enlightened One. Homage to the Blessed, Noble, and Perfectly Enlightened One. Homage to the Blessed, Noble, and Perfectly Enlightened One.

Buddham saraṇam gacchāmi Dhammam saraṇam gacchāmi Saṅgham saraṇam gacchāmi

To the Buddha I go for refuge.

To the Dhamma I go for refuge.

To the Saṅgha I go for refuge.

Dutiyampi buddham saranam gacchāmi Dutiyampi dhammam saranam gacchāmi Dutiyampi sangham saranam gacchāmi

> For the second time, to the Buddha I go for refuge. For the second time, to the Dhamma I go for refuge. For the second time, to the Saṅgha I go for refuge.

Tatiyampi buddham saranam gacchāmi Tatiyampi dhammam saranam gacchāmi Tatiyampi sangham saranam gacchāmi

FORMAL REQUESTS

THE FIVE PRECEPTS

For the third time, to the Buddha I go for refuge.

For the third time, to the Dhamma I go for refuge.

For the third time, to the Sangha I go for refuge.

[LEADER:]

[Tisaraṇa-gamanaṃ niṭṭhitaṃ]

This completes the going to the Three Refuges.

[RESPONSE:]

Āma bhante / Āma ayye / Āma mitta

Yes, Venerable Sir/Sister/Friend.

The Five Precepts

[REPEAT EACH PRECEPT AFTER THE LEADER]

- 1. Pāṇātipātā veramaṇī sikkhāpadaṃ samādiyāmi

 I undertake the precept to refrain from taking the life of any living creature.
- 2. Adinnādānā veramaṇī sikkhāpadaṃ samādiyāmi

 I undertake the precept to refrain from taking that which is not given.
- 3. Kāmesu micchācārā veramaņī sikkhāpadaṃ samādiyāmi I undertake the precept to refrain from sexual misconduct.

THE FIVE PRECEPTS

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4. Musavādā veramaņī sikkhapadam samādiyāmi

I undertake the precept to refrain from lying.

5. Surāmeraya-majja-pamādaṭṭhānā veramaṇī sikkhāpadaṃ samādiyāmi

I undertake the precept to refrain from consuming intoxicating drinks and drugs which lead to carelessness.

[LEADER:]

[Imāni pañca sikkhāpadāni Sīlena sugatim yanti Sīlena bhogasampadā Sīlena nibbutim yanti Tasmā sīlam visodhaye]

These are the Five Precepts;
virtue is the source of happiness,
virtue is the source of true wealth,
virtue is the source of peacefulness —
Therefore let virtue be purified.

[RESPONSE:]

Sādhu, sādhu, sādhu

[Bow three times]

FORMAL REQUESTS

Requesting the Three Refuges & the Eight Precepts

131

[AFTER BOWING THREE TIMES, WITH HANDS JOINED IN AÑJALI, RECITE THE APPROPRIATE REQUEST.]

For a group from a monk

Mayam bhante tisaranena saha aṭṭha sīlāni yācāma

Dutiyampi mayam bhante tisaranena saha aṭṭha sīlāni yācāma

Tatiyampi mayam bhante tisaranena saha aṭṭha sīlāni yācāma

For oneself from a monk

Ahaṃ bhante tisaraṇena saha aṭṭha sīlāni yācāmi
Dutiyampi ahaṃ bhante tisaraṇena saha aṭṭha sīlāni yācāmi
Tatiyampi ahaṃ bhante tisaraṇena saha aṭṭha sīlāni yācāmi

For a group from a nun

Mayam ayye tisaranena saha aṭṭha sīlāni yācāma

Dutiyampi mayam ayye tisaranena saha aṭṭha sīlāni yācāma

Tatiyampi mayam ayye tisaranena saha aṭṭha sīlāni yācāma

THREE REFUGES & THE EIGHT PRECEPTS

FORMAL REQUESTS

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For oneself from a nun

Aham ayye tisaranena saha aṭṭha sīlāni yācāmi
Dutiyampi aham ayye tisaranena saha aṭṭha sīlāni yācāmi
Tatiyampi aham ayye tisaranena saha aṭṭha sīlāni yācāmi

For a group from a layperson

Mayam mitta tisaranena saha aṭṭha sīlāni yācāma

Dutiyampi mayam mitta tisaranena saha aṭṭha sīlāni yācāma

Tatiyampi mayam mitta tisaranena saha aṭṭha sīlāni yācāma

For oneself from a layperson

Ahaṃ mitta tisaraṇena saha aṭṭha sīlāni yācāmi
Dutiyampi ahaṃ mitta tisaraṇena saha aṭṭha sīlāni yācāmi
Tatiyampi ahaṃ mitta tisaraṇena saha aṭṭha sīlāni yācāmi

Translation

We/I, Venerable Sir/Sister/Friend,
request the Three Refuges and the Eight Precepts.
For the second time,
We/I, Venerable Sir/Sister/Friend,
request the Three Refuges and the Eight Precepts.
For the third time,
We/I, Venerable Sir/Sister/Friend,
request the Three Refuges and the Eight Precepts.

FORMAL REQUESTS

Taking the Three Refuges

133

[REPEAT, AFTER THE LEADER HAS CHANTED THE FIRST THREE LINES]

Namo tassa bhagavato arahato sammāsambuddhassa Namo tassa bhagavato arahato sammāsambuddhassa Namo tassa bhagavato arahato sammāsambuddhassa

Homage to the Blessed, Noble, and Perfectly Enlightened One. Homage to the Blessed, Noble, and Perfectly Enlightened One. Homage to the Blessed, Noble, and Perfectly Enlightened One.

Buddhaṃ saraṇaṃ gacchāmi Dhammaṃ saraṇaṃ gacchāmi Saṅghaṃ saraṇaṃ gacchāmi

To the Buddha I go for refuge.

To the Dhamma I go for refuge.

To the Saṅgha I go for refuge.

Dutiyampi buddham saranam gacchāmi Dutiyampi dhammam saranam gacchāmi Dutiyampi sangham saranam gacchāmi

> For the second time, to the Buddha I go for refuge. For the second time, to the Dhamma I go for refuge. For the second time, to the Saṅgha I go for refuge.

Tatiyampi buddham saranam gacchāmi Tatiyampi dhammam saranam gacchāmi Tatiyampi saṅgham saranam gacchāmi THE EIGHT PRECEPTS

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For the third time, to the Buddha I go for refuge.

For the third time, to the Dhamma I go for refuge.

For the third time, to the Saṅgha I go for refuge.

[LEADER:]

[Tisaraṇa-gamanaṃ niṭṭhitaṃ]

This completes the going to the Three Refuges.

[RESPONSE:]

Āma bhante / Āma ayye / Āma mitta

Yes, Venerable Sir/Sister/Friend.

The Eight Precepts

[REPEAT EACH PRECEPT AFTER THE LEADER]

- 1. Pāṇātipātā veramaṇī sikkhāpadaṃ samādiyāmi

 I undertake the precept to refrain from taking the life of any living creature.
- 2. Adinnādānā veramaṇī sikkhāpadaṃ samādiyāmi

 I undertake the precept to refrain from taking that which is not given.
- 3. Abrahmacariyā veramaņī sikkhāpadaṃ samādiyāmi

 I undertake the precept to refrain from any intentional sexual activity.

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4. Musavādā veramaņī sikkhapadam samādiyāmi

I undertake the precept to refrain from lying.

5. Surāmeraya-majja-pamādaṭṭhānā veramaṇī sikkhāpadaṃ samādiyāmi

I undertake the precept to refrain from consuming intoxicating drinks and drugs which lead to carelessness.

6. Vikālabhojanā verāmaņī sikkhāpadam samādiyāmi.

I undertake the precept to refrain from eating at inappropriate times.

7. Nacca-gīta-vādita-visūkadassanā mālā-gandha-vilepana-dhāraṇa-maṇḍana-vibhūsanaṭṭhānā veramaṇī sikkhāpadaṃ samādiyāmi.

I undertake the precept to refrain from entertainment, beautification, and adornment.

8. Uccāsayana-mahāsayanā veramaņī sikkhāpadam samādiyāmi.

I undertake the precept to refrain from lying on a high or luxurious sleeping place.

[LEADER:]

[Imāni aṭṭha sikkhāpadāni samādiyāmi]

[RESPONSE:]

THE EIGHT PRECEPTS

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Imāni aṭṭha sikkhāpadāni samādiyāmi Imāni aṭṭha sikkhāpadāni samādiyāmi Imāni aṭṭha sikkhāpadāni samādiyāmi

I undertake these Eight Precepts.
I undertake these Eight Precepts.
I undertake these Eight Precepts.

[LEADER:]

[Imāni aṭṭha sikkhāpadāni Sīlena sugatiṃ yanti Sīlena bhogasampadā Sīlena nibbutiṃ yanti Tasmā sīlaṃ visodhaye]

These are the Eight Precepts;
virtue is the source of happiness,
virtue is the source of true wealth,
virtue is the source of peacefulness —
Therefore let virtue be purified.

[RESPONSE:]

Sādhu, sādhu, sādhu.

[Bow three times]

PART 5

Appendix

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Pāli Phonetics and Pronunciation

Pāli is the original scriptural language of Theravāda Buddhism. It was a spoken language, closely related to Sanskrit, with no written script of its own. As written forms have emerged, they have been in the letterings of other languages (e.g. Devanagari, Sinhalese, Burmese, Khmer, Thai, Roman). The Roman lettering used here is pronounced as in English, with the following clarifications:

Vowels

u as in put

Short Long Exceptions: **e** and **o** change to short sounds in syllables ending in consonants. They are then pronounced as in 'get' and

i as in hit \bar{i} as in machine 'ox', respectively.

e as in gr<u>e</u>y

o as in more

 $\bar{\mathbf{u}}$ as in rule

Consonants

c as in ancient (like ch but unaspirated)

m, n as ng in sang

 $\tilde{\mathbf{n}}$ as $\underline{\mathbf{n}}\underline{\mathbf{y}}$ in canyon

 \mathbf{v} rather softer than the English \mathbf{v} ; near \mathbf{w}

Aspirated consonants

bh ch dh dh gh jh kh ph th th

These two-lettered notations with \underline{h} denote an aspirated, airy sound, distinct from the hard, crisp sound of the single consonant. They should be considered as one unit.

However, the other combinations with **h**, i.e., **lh**, **mh**, **ñh**, and **vh**, do count as two consonants (for example in the Pāli words 'ji**vh**ā' or 'mu**lh**o').

APPENDIX

Examples

th as t in tongue. (Never pronounced as in 'the'.)

ph as <u>p</u> in <u>p</u>alate. (Never pronounced as in '<u>ph</u>oto'.)

These are distinct from the hard, crisp sound of the single consonant, e.g. **th** as in 'Thomas' (not as in 'thin') or **ph** as in 'puff' (not as in 'phone').

Retroflex consonants

d dh l n t th

These retroflex consonants have no English equivalents. They are sounded by curling the tip of the tongue back against the palate.

Chanting technique

Once you have grasped the system of Pāli pronunciation and the following chanting technique, it allows you to chant a text in Pāli from sight with the correct rhythm.

Unstressed syllables end in a short **a, i** or **u**. All other syllables are stressed. Stressed syllables take twice the time of unstressed syllables — rather like two beats in a bar of music compared to one. This is what gives the chanting its particular rhythm.

BUD · DHO SU · SUD · DHO KA · RU · ŅĀ MA · HAŅ · ŅA · VO
$$1 \quad 1 \quad 1 \quad \frac{1}{2} \quad 1 \quad 1 \quad \frac{1}{2} \quad \frac{1}{2} \quad 1 \quad \frac{1}{2} \quad 1$$

Two details that are important when separating the syllables:

1. Syllables with double letters get divided in this way:

A · NIC · CA PUG · GA ·
$$L\bar{A}$$

½ 1 ½ 1 ½ 1

(not A · NI · CCA) (not PU · GGA · $L\bar{A}$)

½ ½ ½ ½

They are always enunciated separately, e.g. **dd** in 'uddeso' as in 'mad dog', or **gg** in 'maggo' as in 'big gun'.

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2. Aspirated consonants like **bh, dh** etc. count as single consonant and don't get divided (Therefore **am·hā·kaṃ**, but **sa·dham·maṃ**, not **sad·ham·maṃ** or, another example: **Bud·dho** and not **Bu·ddho**).

Precise pronunciation and correct separation of the syllables is especially important when someone is interested in learning Pāli and to understand and memorize the meaning of Suttas and other chants, otherwise the meaning of it will get distorted.

An example to illustrate this:

The Pāli word 'sukka' means 'bright'; 'sukkha' means 'dry'; 'sukha' — 'happiness'; 'suka' — 'parrot' and 'sūka' — 'bristles on an ear of barley'.

So if you chant '**sukha**' with a '**k**' instead of a '**kh**', you would chant 'parrot' instead of 'happiness'.

A general rule of thumb for understanding the practice of chanting is to listen carefully to what the leader and the group are chanting and to follow, keeping the same pitch, tempo and speed. All voices should blend together as one.

Punctuation, tonal marks and pauses in this edition

[Square brackets] indicate parts usually chanted only by the leader, but chanting customs differ in the various monasteries.

The slash / indicates variations of male of female forms according to the person chanting them, or singular and plural forms when chanting alone or in a group.

The cantillation marks indicate changes in pitch, usually a full tone up or down:

High tone: noble Long low tone: homage Low tone: blessed Long mid tone: guides

A note on hyphenation in the text

As an aid to understanding, some of the longer Pāli words in the text have been hyphenated into the words from which they are compounded. This does not affect the pronunciation in any way.

APPENDIX

Glossary of Pāli Terms

- **Anattā** Literally, 'not-self,' i.e. impersonal, without individual essence; neither a person nor belonging to a person. One of the three characteristics of conditioned phenomena.
- **Anicca** Transient, impermanent, unstable, having the nature to arise and pass away. One of the three characteristics of conditioned phenomena.
- **Añjali** A gesture of respect. The palms of both hands join together directly in front of the chest, with the fingers aligned and pointing upwards.
- **Araham/Arahant** Literally, 'worthy one' a term applied to all enlightened beings. As an epithet of the Buddha alone, 'Lord' is used.
- **Ariyapuggalā** 'Noble Beings' or 'Noble Disciples' there are eight kinds: those who are working on or who have achieved the four different stages of realization.
- **Bhagavā** Bountiful, with good fortune when used as an epithet of the Buddha, 'the Fortunate One,' 'the Blessed One.'
- **Bhikkhu** A Buddhist monk who lives as an alms mendicant, abiding by 227 training precepts that define a life of renunciation and simplicity.
- **Brahmā** Celestial being; a god in one of the higher spiritual realms.
- **Buddha** The Understanding One, the Awakened One, who knows things as they are; a potential in every human being. The historical Buddha, Siddhattha Gotama, lived and taught in India in the 5th century B.C.E.
- **Deva** A celestial being. Less refined than a brahmā; as a deva is still in a sensual realm, albeit a very refined one.
- **Dhamma** (Sanskrit: Dharma) The Teaching of the Buddha as contained in the scriptures; not dogmatic in character, but more like a raft or vehicle to convey the disciple to deliverance. Also, the Truth towards which that Teaching points; that which is beyond words, concepts or intellectual understanding. When written as 'dhamma', i.e. with lower case 'd', this refers to an 'item' or 'thing'.

GLOSSARY OF PĀLI TERMS

- **Dukkha** Literally, 'hard to bear' dis-ease, restlessness of mind, anguish, conflict, unsatisfactoriness, discontent, stress, suffering. One of the three characteristics of conditioned phenomena.
- **Factors of Awakening (bojjhanga)** 1. mindfulness, 2. investigation of truth, 3. effort, 4. rapture, 5. tranquility, 6. concentration, 7. equanimity.
- **Foundations of Mindfulness (satipaṭṭhāna)** Mindfulness of 1. *kāya* (body), 2. *vedanā* (feelings), 3. *citta* (mind), 4. *dhamma* (mind-objects).
- **Grounds of Birth (yoni)** The four modes of generation by which beings take birth: womb-born, egg-born, moisture-born and spontaneously born.
- **Holy Life (brahmacariya)** Literally: the Brahma-conduct; usually referring to the monastic life. Using this term emphasizes the vow of celibacy.
- **Jhāna** Mental absorption. A state of strong concentration focused on a single physical or sensation or mental notion.
- **Kamma** (Sanskrit: karma) Action, deed; actions created by habitual impulse, intention, volition.
- **Khandhā** The five aggregates, physical or mental that is: $r\bar{u}pa$, $vedan\bar{a}$, $sa\tilde{n}n\bar{a}$, $sa\tilde{n}kh\bar{a}r\bar{a}$, $vi\tilde{n}n\bar{a}$, a. Attachment to any of these as, 'This is mine', 'I am this' or, 'This is my self' is $up\bar{a}d\bar{a}na$ clinging or grasping.
- **Māra** Personification of evil forces. During the Buddha's struggle for enlightenment, Māra manifested frightening and enticing forms to try to turn him back from his goal.
- **Nibbāna** (Sanskrit: Nirvāṇa) Literally, 'coolness' the state of liberation from all suffering and defilements, the goal of the Buddhist path.
- **Paccekabuddha** Solitary Buddha someone enlightened by their own efforts without relying on a teacher but who, unlike the Buddha, has no following of disciples.
- **Paritta** Verses chanted particularly for blessing and protection.
- Parinibbāna The Buddha's final passing away, i.e. final entering Nibbāna.

Peaceful Sage (muni) An epithet of the Buddha.

- **Planes of Birth (bhūmi)** The three planes where rebirth takes place: kāmāvacara-bhūmi: the sensuous plane; rūpāvacara-bhūmi: form-plane; arūpāvacara-bhūmi: formless plane.
- **Puñña** Merit, the accumulation of good fortune, blessings, or well-being resulting from the practice of Dhamma.
- **Rūpa** Form or matter. The physical elements that make up the body, i.e. earth, water, fire and air (solidity, cohesion, temperature and vibration).
- Saṅgha The community of those who practise the Buddha's Way.

More specifically, those who have formally committed themselves to the lifestyle of mendicant monks and nuns. The 'four pairs, the eight kinds of noble beings' are those who are on the path to or who have realized the fruition of the four stages of enlightenment: stream-entry, once-return, non-return and arahantship.

- **Saṅkhārā** Formations, constructions, all conditioned things, or volitional impulses, that is all mental states apart from feeling and perception that colour one's thoughts and make them either good, bad or neutral.
- **Saññā** Perception, the mental function of recognition.
- **Tathāgata** 'Thus gone' or 'Thus come' one who has gone beyond suffering and mortality; one who experiences things as they are, without delusion. The epithet that the Buddha applied to himself.

Threefold bliss Mundane bliss, celestial bliss and Nibbānic bliss.

Triple Gem Buddha, Dhamma and Sangha.

- **Vedanā** Feeling physical and mental feelings that may be either pleasant, unpleasant or neutral.
- **Viññāṇa** Sense consciousness the process whereby there is seeing, hearing, smelling, tasting, touching and thinking.



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