Shishinrai (至心礼)

(Bowing with Sincere Mind)



- With a sincere mind, bow reverently, and take refuge in the timeless Buddha.
- With a sincere mind, bow reverently, and take refuge in the timeless Dharma.
- With a sincere mind, bow reverently, and take refuge in the timeless Sangha.

Listen

Listen. Listen to the voice of the Dharma. Listen to the birds, singing in the morning, the wind sighing in the boughs overhead, and the roar of the waves on the beach.

Listen to the rain on the roof and the snow falling in the fields.

The Dharma speaks to us through the sounds of the world –
forcefully and eloquently and beautifully.

It speaks of the unending change around us,
the immutable truth of interdependence,
and the peace in nature.

Do we have the ears to hear and listen...?

Listen to the nembutsu in the Hondō. Listen to the noble silence of the Buddha.

– "The Heart of the Buddha-Dharma" by Rev. Kenryu T. Tsuji

Eightfold Path to Happiness

Leader:

The teachings of the Buddha help us to understand the oneness of all life. To lead us in the right direction, the Buddha provided us with the Eightfold Path:

All:

Right Views: To keep free of prejudice and superstition and to see the true nature of life.

Right Thoughts: To turn our minds away from violence and hatred.

Right Speech: To refrain from harmful talk and to use our words wisely.

Right Conduct: To see that our deeds come from peace and goodwill. To grow every day in the Buddha's teachings.

Right Livelihood: To try to earn our living in such a way that we avoid causing suffering.

Right Energy: To use our energies to promote the overcoming of ignorance and destructive desires.

Right Mindfulness: To cherish a good mind, for all that we think and do has its roots in the mind.

Right Meditation: To study the teachings of the Buddha and to practice them to the best of our abilities.

Leader:

May the presence of the Buddha, who said that he would live in his teachings, be our guide. May we follow this path until we, too, realize nirvāna.

Vandana Ti-Sarana

(Homage and Three Refuges)



Homage to Śākyamuni Buddha, the Blessed One, the Noble One, the Perfectly Awakened One.

> I go to the Buddha for guidance. I go to the Dharma for guidance.

I go to the Sangha for guidance.

NAMO KIE BUTSU J NAMO KIE HOO I NAMO KIE SOO J

Sanbutsuge (讃仏偈)

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Kõ gen gi gi I jin mu goku Nyo ze en myō Mu yo tō sha

Nichi gatsu ma ni Shu kō en nyō Kai shitsu on pei Yu nyaku ju moku

Nyo rai yō gen Chō se mu rin Shō gaku dai on Kō ru jip-pō

Kai mon shō jin Sam-mai chi e I toku mu ryo Shu shō ke u

Jin tai zen nen Sho butsu hō kai Gu jin jin nō Ku go gai tai

Mu myō yoku nu Se son yō mu Nin-no shi shi Jin toku mu ryō

Ku kun kō dai Chi e jin myō Kō myō i sō Shin dō dai sen

Gan ga sa butsu Zai shō hō ō Ka do shō ji Mi fu ge datsu J Fu se jō i Kai nin shō jin Nyo ze sam-mai Chi e i jō

Go sei toku butsu Fu gyō shi gan Is-sai ku ku I sa dai an

Ke shi u butsu Hyaku sen-noku man Mu ryō dai shō Shu nyo gō ja

Ku yō is-sai Shi tō sho butsu Fu nyo gu dō Ken shō fu gyaku

Hi nyo gō ja Sho butsu se kai Bu fu ka ge Mu shu setsu do

Kō myō shis-shō Hen shi sho koku Nyo ze shō jin I jin nan ryō

Ryō ga sa butsu Koku do dai ichi Go shu ki myō Dō jō chō zetsu

Koku nyo nai on Ni mu tō sō Ga tō ai min Do datsu is-sai Jip-pō rai shō Shin-netsu shō jō I tō ga koku Ke raku an-non

Kō butsu shin myō Ze ga shin shō Hotsu gan-no hi Riki shō sho yoku

Jip-pō se son Chi e mu ge Jō ryō shi son Chi ga shin gyō

Ke ryō shin shi Sho ku doku chū Ga gyō shō jin Nin jū fu ke o

Na man da bu O Na man da bu Na man da bu Na man da bu Na man da bu Na man da bu

Gan ni shi ku doku Byō dō se is-sai Dō ho'n bo dai shin Ō jō an rak-koku

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Sanbutsuge (讃仏偈)

The Larger Sutra of Immeasurable Life Dharmākara Praises His Teacher

At that time there was a king who, having heard the Buddha's exposition of the Dharma, rejoiced in his heart and awakened the aspiration for supreme, true enlightenment. He renounced his kingdom and throne, and undertook practice as a monk named Dharmākara. Possessed of superior intelligence, courage, and wisdom, he surpassed other people of the world. He went to see Lokeśvararāja Tathāgata, bowed at his feet, circumambulated him three times to the right, knelt down on the ground, and, putting his palms together in reverence, praised the Buddha with the following verses:

Your radiant countenance is majestic, And your dignity is boundless. Radiant splendor such as yours Has no equal.

Even the blazing light of
The sun, moon, and mani-jewels
Is completely hidden and obscured,
And looks like a mass of black ink-sticks.

The countenance of the Tathāgata
Is unequaled in the world;
The great voice of the Perfectly Enlightened One
Resounds throughout the ten quarters.

Your observance of precepts, learning, diligence, Meditation, and wisdom – The magnificence of these virtues is peerless, Excellent and unsurpassed.

Deeply and clearly mindful
Of the ocean of the Dharma of all Buddhas,
You know its depth and breadth,
And reach its farthest end.

Ignorance, greed, and anger Are completely absent in the World-honored One; You are a lion, the most courageous of all humans, Having immeasurable majestic virtues.

Your meritorious accomplishment is vast, And your wisdom is deep and supreme; The majestic glory of your light Shakes the great thousand worlds.

I vow to become a Buddha, Equal to you, the most honored King of the Dharma, And to bring sentient beings from birth-and-death To the final attainment of emancipation.

My practice of giving, self-discipline, Observance of precepts, forbearance, diligence, And also meditation and wisdom Shall be unsurpassed.

I resolve that, when I become a Buddha, I will fulfill this vow in every possible way, And to all beings who live in fear I will give great peace.

Even though there are Buddhas As many as a thousand million kotis, Or countless great sages As many as the sands of the Ganges,

I will make offerings
To all these Buddhas;
Nothing surpasses my determination
To seek the Way steadfastly and untiringly.

Even though there are Buddha-worlds As many as the sands of the Ganges, And also innumerable lands Beyond calculation, My light shall illumine All of these lands; I will make such efforts That my divine power may be boundless.

When I become a Buddha,
My land shall be the most exquisite;
People there shall be unrivaled and excellent
And my seat of enlightenment shall be beyond compare.

My land shall be like nirvāna, Being supreme and unequaled. Out of compassion and pity, I will bring all to emancipation.

Those who come from the ten quarters Shall rejoice with pure hearts; Once they reach my land, They shall dwell in peace and happiness.

May you, the Buddha, be my witness
And attest to the truthfulness of my resolution.
I have thus made my aspiration;
I will endeavor to fulfill it.

The World-honored Ones in the ten quarters Have unimpeded wisdom; May these honored ones Always know my intentions.

Even if I should be subjected to All kinds of suffering and torment, Continuing my practice undeterred, I would endure it and never have any regrets.

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