NINE GREAT PRAYERS

Translated by Voula Zarpani

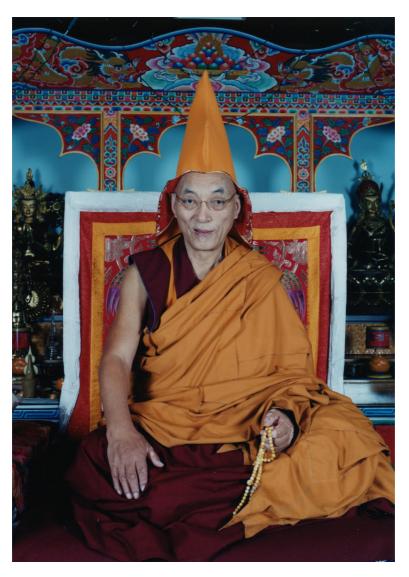
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Just like the earth and space itself
And all the other mighty elements
For boundless multitudes of beings
May I always be the ground of life,
The source of varied sustenance.



"A Prayer Book is

- the blessing of the Guru that awakens the seed of buddhanature within us, causing it to sprout
- the enlightened activity of the Buddha that aids the growth of that sprout into a mighty tree
- the essence of Dharma that provides shelter as the mighty tree of happiness and peace within
- the support of the Sangha that encourages us to reach for and taste the fruits of that tree

For all these reasons, we should appreciate, treasure, and respect a Prayer Book."

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Confession to the Thirty-five Buddhas Translated from Tibetan.

Ltung bshags

The King of Prayers: Samantabhadra Prayer

Translated from Tibetan.

Bzang spyod smon lam

Prayer of Ārya Maitreya Translated from Tibetan.

Byam pa'i smon lam

Dedication from Bodhisattva's Way of Life Translated from Tibetan

Spyod 'jug smon lam

Beginning, Middle, and End Translated from Tibetan.

Thog mtha' ma

Prayer to Be Reborn in Sukhāvatī Translated from Tibetan.

Bde ba jan du skye ba'i smon lam

Prayer for a Statue of Maitreya Translated from Tibetan.

Byams pa'i sku gzugs

Prayer for Spontaneous Bliss Translated from Tibetan.

Bde chen hlun grub

Prayer for the Flourishing of the Teachings of Jé Tsongkhapa Translated from Tibetan.

Blo bzang rgyal bstan ma

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1 Confession to the Thirty-five Buddhas *Tung Sha*



Homage to the confession of bodhisattvas. I whose name is....[say your name] always go for refuge to the Guru go for refuge to the Buddha go for refuge to the Dharma go for refuge to the Saṅgha.

- **01.** To the Teacher, the Bhagavan, the Tathāgata, the Arhat, the perfectly complete Buddha, the glorious Conqueror, Śākyamuni, I prostrate
- **02.** To the Tathāgata Thoroughly Destroying with Vajra Essence, I prostrate
- 03. To the Tathagata Radiant Jewel, I prostrate
- **04.** To the Tathāgata Powerful King of Nāgas, I prostrate
- **05.** To the Tathāgata Army of Heroes, I prostrate
- **06.** To the Tathāgata Glorious Delight, I prostrate
- **07.** To the Tathāgata Jewel Fire, I prostrate
- **08.** To the Tathāgata Jewel Moonlight, I prostrate
- **09.** To the Tathāgata Meaningful to Behold, I prostrate

- 10. To the Tathāgata Jewel Moon, I prostrate
- 11. To the Tathagata Faultless One, I prostrate
- 12. To the Tathāgata Bestowing Glory, I prostrate
- 13. To the Tathāgata Pure One, I prostrate
- 14. To the Tathagata Bestowed with Purity, I prostrate
- 15. To the Tathagata Water Deity, I prostrate
- **16.** To the Tathāgata God of the Water Deity, I prostrate
- 17. To the Tathagata Glorious Goodness, I prostrate
- 18. To the Tathagata Glorious Sandalwood, I prostrate
- 19. To the Tathāgata Boundless Splendor, I prostrate
- 20. To the Tathāgata Glorious Light, I prostrate
- 21. To the Tathagata Sorrowless Glory, I prostrate
- 22. To the Tathagata Son Without Craving, I prostrate
- 23. To the Tathāgata Glorious Flower, I prostrate
- **24.** To the Tathāgata Knowing Through Enjoying the Light of Purity, I prostrate

- **25.** To the Tathāgata Knowing Through Enjoying the Light of the Lotus, I prostrate
- 26. To the Tathagata Glorious Wealth, I prostrate
- 27. To the Tathagata Glorious Mindfulness, I prostrate
- **28.** To the Tathāgata Glorious Widely Renowned Name, I prostrate
- **29.** To the Tathāgata King of Victory Banner of Foremost Power, I prostrate
- **30.** To the Tathāgata Glory of Complete Subjugation, I prostrate
- 31. To the Tathagata Totally Victorious in Battle, I prostrate
- **32.** To the Tathāgata Glory of Advancing Through Complete Subjugation, I prostrate
- **33.** To the Tathāgata Glorious Display of Manifestations, I prostrate
- **34.** To the Tathāgata Completely Subjugating Jewel Lotus, I prostrate
- **35.** To the Tathāgata, the Arhat, the perfectly complete Buddha, King of the Lord of Mountains Firmly Residing on Jewel and Lotus, I prostrate.

All of you and as many other tathāgatas, arhats, perfectly complete bhagavan buddhas exist, sustain, and live in the ten directions of all realms of the world—all of you bhagavan buddhas, listen to me:

In this life and in endless lives in all samsaric birth places, whatever negative actions I have done, caused others to do, or rejoiced in doing;

whatever offerings to the stupas, offerings to the sangha, offerings to the sangha of the ten direction, I have seized, caused others to seize, or rejoiced in seizing;

committing the five heinous crimes, causing others to commit, or rejoicing in committing;

engaging in fully adopting the path of the ten nonvirtuous actions, causing others to engage, or rejoice in engaging;

obscured by these karmic obscurations I and other sentient beings proceed to the hells, to various birth places of animals, or hungry ghosts, to remote places; we are born as barbarians, as long-life gods, with incomplete senses, holding wrong views, without being pleased with the coming of buddhas.

All these karmic obscurations I admit openly, I reveal, I am not hiding, I am not concealing in the presence of bhagavan buddhas who behold everything since they are pristine wisdom, eyes, witnesses, valid, and knowing. In the future also I will abstain and restrain.

All you bhagavan buddhas please listen to me: In this life and in endless other lives in all samsaric birth places, whatever root of virtue I have created by practicing generosity even slightly, giving just a morsel of food to those born in the birth places of animals; whatever root of virtue I created by guarding ethics; whatever root of virtue I created by pure conduct; whatever root of virtue I created by fully maturing sentient beings; whatever root of virtue I created by awakening the mind to supreme enlightenment; whatever root of virtue of unsurpassable pristine wisdom I created;

I gather and heap all these roots of virtue, adding then up, and fully dedicate them for that which is the highest, the unsurpassed, the one above all else, the utmost: I dedicate toward the highest, perfect, and complete enlightenment.

However the past bhagavan buddhas have fully dedicated; however the future bhagavan buddhas will fully dedicate; however the presently abiding bhagavan buddhas fully dedicate – I also fully dedicate in the same way.

I confess individually all negativity
I rejoice in all virtue
I urge and request all buddhas:
May I obtain immaculate, supreme, and unsurpassable pristine wisdom.

I join my palms together and immediately go for refuge to the supreme conquerors of humans, those who presently abide,

the past ones, and similarly those who have yet to come, whose infinite praised qualities are like an ocean.

2

The King of Prayers: Samantabhadra Prayer *Translation based on the commentary of Janglung Paṇḍita*.

Zang jö mon lam



I prostrate to Youthful Mañjuśrī.

- **01.** To all lions among men, the sugatas of the three times To as many as they exist in the worlds of the ten directions I prostrate to all of them, without exception, With my body, speech, and mind.
- **02.** Through the strength of the prayer of noble conduct All the conquerors appear directly to my mind. I bow deeply with as many bodies as the atoms of the fields And fully prostrate to all conquerors.
- **03.** On every atom there are buddhas as many as the atoms that exist

Seated among bodhisattvas.

Thus I appreciate that all dharma spheres without exception Are filled completely with conquerors.

- **04.** With every sound of an ocean of melodies And oceans of these inexhaustible prayers I pronounce the qualities of all conquerors And praise all those gone to bliss.
- **05.** With immaculate flowers and immaculate garlands, Cymbals, perfumed ointments, supreme parasols as well as Supreme butter lamps, and immaculate incense I make offerings to these conquerors.

- **06.** By arranging immaculate garments and supreme aromas, And powdered incense as high as the supreme Mount Meru In a formation that is superior and supreme in every way, I make offerings to these conquerors.
- **07.** Vast unsurpassable offerings I imagine for all conquerors Through the strength of faith in the noble conduct I prostrate and offer to all conquerors.
- **08.** Whatever negativities exist and I have done With my body, speech, and similarly with my mind Due to the power of attachment, hatred, and confusion, I confess all of them individually.
- **09.** I rejoice in the virtue of All conquerors of the ten directions, and that of bodhisattvas, Solitary realizers, learners, and non-learners, And in the merit of all migrating beings.
- **10.** All those who are the beacons of the worlds in the ten directions,

Who have gained buddhahood without attachment In the stages of enlightenment—all those protectors I urge to turn the unsurpassable wheel [of Dharma].

11. To those wishing to demonstrate paranirvāṇaI pray with my hands joined together:For the benefit and happiness of all migratorsPlease remain for as many eons as there are atoms in the fields

- **12.** Whatever little virtue I have accumulated through Prostrating, making offerings, confessing, Rejoicing, urging, and praying I dedicate them all toward enlightenment.
- 13. May my offerings be made to the buddhas of the past,To those abiding in every world of the ten directions,And may those who have not come, very quicklyComplete the intention of enlightenment and gradually come as buddhas
- 14. May however many fields exist in the ten directionsBecome vast and completely pure andMay they be filled completely with conquerors who have proceeded

To enlightenment under powerful bodhi trees, and by bodhisattyas.

15. May however many sentient beings exist in the ten directions

Be always without sickness and may they have happiness.

May the Dharma-related purposes and hopes of all migrating beings

Be fulfilled accordingly.

- **16.** May I practice the conduct of enlightenment May I remember past births in all migrations and In all successive lives, at death, transference, and birth May I always be ordained.
- 17. May I train in the footsteps of all conquerors and

Thoroughly complete the noble conduct. May I always practice non-deteriorated and faultless, Stainless, thoroughly pure moral conduct.

- **18.** May I teach the Dharma in all languages However many languages of migrating beings exist, [Such as] the language of gods, nagas, yakṣas, Vampires, and humans.
- **19.** Through that and through exertion in the [six] perfections May the mind of bodhicitta never be forgotten and May whatever negativities which are obscurations exist Be thoroughly purified.
- **20.** May I be liberated from the actions of demons of karma and afflictions

And also in all mundane migrations may I Remain without attachment, like the lily is with the water And like the sun and moon [that move] unhindered in the sky.

21. May I thoroughly pacify the suffering of lower migrations

In however many vast fields and directions it exists. May I place all migrating beings in many types of happiness And may I practice that which is beneficial for all.

22. May I thoroughly complete the conduct of enlightenment and

Cause sentient beings to enter in accordance with their conduct

May I teach them well [various types of] noble conduct and

May I practice them in all future eons.

- **23.** May I always befriend
 Those whose conduct is similar to mine.
 May through body, speech, and also mind
 Pure conduct and prayer be practiced as one.
- **24.** May I always meet with those friends who Wish to benefit me and Teach well the noble conduct.

 May I never disappoint their minds.
- **25.** May I always behold directly the conquerors, Protectors surrounded by bodhisattvas. In all future eons may I not become impoverished and May I also make vast offerings to them.
- **26.** May I uphold the immaculate Dharma of the conquerors And illuminate every aspect of the conduct of enlightenment. May I practice the noble conduct [now] and May I also practice it in all future eons.
- **27.** May I find inexhaustible merit and pristine wisdom When circling in all types of existence. May I become an inexhaustible treasury of all qualities, Method, wisdom, concentration, and freedom.
- **28.** In every atom there are as many fields as the atoms that exist

The inconceivable buddhas existing in these fields Abide surrounded by bodhisattvas. I behold them and practice the conduct of enlightenment. **29.** Thus also in the expanse of a single hair there is an ocean Of as many buddhas as they exist in the three times in every direction

Without exception and there is an ocean of pure fields.

May I thoroughly engage in the practice of this conduct for an ocean of eons

30. With a language of an ocean of qualities [contained] In a single word, all conquerors speak With the pure qualities of melodiousness.

This melodiousness is in accordance with the thoughts of all migrating beings.

May I always engage [in listening and hearing] the speech of the buddha.

31. I will also thoroughly engage with the strength of my mind

The inexhaustible melody of the speech of All conquerors coming during the three times and Thoroughly turning the wheel of Dharma in various ways.

32. I can even enter in an instanceIn all future eonsWhatever is the measure of the eons of the three timesI practice entering them in a fraction of an instance.

33. In an instance I behold

All lions of men coming in the three times and Through the power of illusion-like concentration I engage the object of their practice.

- **34.** Moreover, I arrange the pure fields of the three times. I actually establish them on a single atom. Thus I enter the arrangement of the fields of the conquerors In all directions, without exception.
- 35. Moreover, I proceed in front of all protectors,The future beacons of the worldAs they gradually become enlightened, they turn the wheel of Dharma

And demonstrate the conclusion of paranirvāṇa's profound peace.

- **36.** The strength of all swift miracles, The strength of the vehicle which is the door for all, The strength of conduct of all qualities, The strength of love which is all-pervasive,
- **37.** The strength of merit which is virtuous in all aspects, The strength of pristine wisdom without formation, The strength of wisdom, method, and concentration. May I attain the pure strength of enlightenment.
- **38.** May I thoroughly purify the strength of karma and Utterly destroy the strength of afflictions. May I render the strength of demons powerless and Complete the strength of noble conduct.
- **39.** I will purify an ocean of fields, Liberate an ocean of sentient beings, See through an ocean of dharmas, and Comprehend an ocean of pristine wisdom.

- **40.** I will perform an ocean of pure conducts, Complete an ocean of prayers, Make offerings to an ocean of buddhas, For an ocean of eons, without becoming weary.
- **41.** All the conquerors of the three times Became enlightened through this noble conduct and The particular prayers of enlightened conduct. I will also complete all these without exception.
- **42.** The eldest of all the Conqueror's sons Is called Samantabhadra. In order to practice with a skill similar to his I fully dedicate all these virtues.
- **43.** To purify my body, speech, and mind, To purify my conduct, and to thoroughly purify fields May I do a dedication that is similar to his Noble and skillful one.
- **44.** In order to practice totally virtuous conduct I will practice Mañjuśrī's prayer and Without becoming weary in future eons I will complete his actions without exception.
- **45.** May this pure conduct be without measure. May qualities not be restricted by any measure and By abiding in this immeasurable conduct May I set forth emanations.
- **46.** Sentient beings are as limitless as The expanse of limitless space.

May my aspiration prayer be as limitless as The limitless karma and afflictions of them all.

47. Compared to someone who offers to the conquerors Limitless fields of the ten direction adorned with precious substances

As well as the supreme happiness of gods and humans For as many eons as there are atoms in the fields,

- **48.** Whoever upon hearing this king of dedications Yearns for supreme enlightenment And generates faith even once Will gain immaculate, supreme merit, superior to them.
- **49.** Whoever recites this prayer aspiring for noble conduct Abandons the lower migrations Abandons evil companions And will soon behold Buddha Amitābha.
- **50.** Will live happily having acquired many gains Things will go well in this present life And before long Will be like Samantabhadra.
- **51.** The negativity of the five heinous crimes and All those done under the power of ignorance Will soon be thoroughly cleansed If they recite this [prayer of] noble conduct.
- **52.** Will be endowed with pristine wisdom, form, signs, Lineage, and radiance.

 Demons and heretics will not overpower them

And all three worlds will present them with offerings.

- **53.** Will quickly proceed beneath the powerful bodhi tree And sit there for the benefit of sentient beings, Turn the wheel of an enlightened buddha and Tame the hordes of demons
- **54.** The maturation of those who keep, teach, or read This aspirational prayer of noble conduct Is known by the buddhas:
 Have no doubt about supreme enlightenment.
- 55. However the brave Mañjuśrī [obtained] omniscience And in the way of Samantabhadra too, I also fully dedicate all the virtue In order to train in the footsteps of them all.
- **56.** All the conquerors, the tathāgatas of the three times Praise this dedication as supreme. I also dedicate fully all this root of virtue Toward the noble conduct.
- 57. When the time of my death comes May all my obscurations clear away.

 May I behold Buddha Amitābha directly and Go at once to the pure field of Sukhāvatī.
- **58.** Having reached there, may everything I have prayed for, without exception, be actualized. May I fulfill all these [aspirations] without exception and Benefit sentient beings for as long as the world exists.

59. Having been born from an exquisite and immaculate lotus

In the noble and joyful mandala of the conquerors May I receive a prophesy Directly from Buddha Amitābha there.

- **60.** Having received a prophesy there May I send many billions of emanations Through the strength of my mind, in every directions and Bring benefit to sentient beings.
- **61.** Through whatever small amount of virtue I have gathered From making this aspiration prayer of noble conduct May all virtuous aspiration prayers of reincarnating beings Be instantly fulfilled.
- **62.** Through whatever limitless immaculate merit is obtained Through the dedication of the aspiration prayer of noble conduct

May migrating beings sinking in the great river of suffering Obtain the fine abode of buddha Amitābha.

63. May this king of prayers, the principle among supreme ones,

Bring about the benefit of limitless sentient beings. Having practiced this text adorned by Samantabhadra May the stream of lower migrations without exception be emptied.

Prayer of Ārya Maitreya Phak pa jam pa'i mon lam gyi gyel po



- **01.** I pay homage to all buddhas. To the bodhisattvas, rishis endowed with the divine eye, And to listeners also, I pay homage.
- **02.** I pay homage to the bodhisattvas Who reverse the paths to lower migrations And perfectly show the way to higher states, Guiding us free of ageing and death.
- **03.** I confess whatever negativity I have ever committed Under the influence of my [negative] mind, In the presence of the buddhas.
- **04.** May my enlightenment be inexhaustible With the accumulation of merit I have generated By any of the three kinds of activities, And with the seed of my omniscience.

05. I rejoice in

Whatever offerings are made to the buddhas In the pure fields of the ten directions That are known and rejoiced in by the buddhas.

06. I confess all negativity.I rejoice in all merit.I pay homage to all buddhas.

May I attain excellent pristine wisdom.

- **07.** I urge the bodhisattvas
 Who abide on the tenth ground
 In all ten directions,
 To attain the supreme enlightenment of buddhahood.
- **08.** Having attained the true enlightenment of buddhahood, And having tamed Māra and his forces, May you turn the wheel of Dharma As a remedy for all living beings.
- **09.** May the sound of the great Dharma drum Liberate sentient beings from their suffering. May you remain, teaching the Dharma, For immeasurable millions of eons.
- **10.** I request those who are supreme among the two-legged beings

To behold those who have sunk in the mud of desire Tightly bound with the ropes of craving, Restrained by every bond.

- 11. The buddhas do not condemnThose affected by the mind's impurities.May those endowed with love for all sentient beingsLiberate them from the ocean of existence.
- **12.** May I practice the conduct of enlightenment By training in the footsteps of Those are now abiding in complete enlightenment,

Those of the past, and those who have yet to come.

- 13. May I liberate the six classes of reincarnating beings Having fully practiced the six perfections.

 May I reach unsurpassable enlightenment Having actualized the six types of higher perception.
- **14.** May I realize phenomena that are empty: The unproduced, the nonarisen, That which does not inherently exist, does not abide. Awareness does not exist, and real entities do not exist.
- 15. May I realize the dharma of nonexisting self: Buddhas, like the great rishis [do not exist], Sentient beings do not exist, life does not exist, The person does not exist, and that which nourishes does not exist.
- **16.** May I practice generosity free of miserliness As a remedy for all sentient beings, Without remaining with self-grasping and grasping as mine, In relation to all entities.
- 17. May I spontaneously acquire possessions Without [grasping at] entities as real. May I complete the perfection of generosity Since all entities disintegrate.
- **18.** May I complete the perfection of ethics With faultless ethics that are proper, Endowed with pure ethics,

By means of ethics free of pride.

- **19.** May I complete the perfection of patience With patience that is without anger, Similar to the elements of earth, water, Fire, and air that never abide.
- **20.** May I complete the perfection of enthusiastic effort By means of a body and mind endowed with strength, By cultivating the joyful effort that is Stable, joyful, and free of laziness.
- **21.** May I complete the perfection of concentration By means of the illusion-like concentration, The concentration that proceeds heroically, And the vajra-like concentration.
- **22.** May I complete the perfection of wisdom By directly realizing the three gateways to liberation, The equality of the three times, And the three kinds of knowledge.
- **23.** May I fulfill the intentions of myself and others By means of that praised by all buddhas, Ablaze with light and splendor, And with the enthusiastic effort of a bodhisattya.
- **24.** May I who became known as "Maitreya" Who engaged the practice in this way, Remain perfectly in the state of the tenth ground Having completed the six perfections.

NAMO RATNA TRAYĀYA / NAMO BHAGAVATE ŚĀKYAMUNIYE/ TATHĀGATĀYA / ARHATE SAMYAK SAMBUDDHAYA/ TADYATHĀ/ OM AJITE AJITE APARĀJITE / AJITAÑCĀYA HA RA HA RA MAITRI AVALOKITE KARA KARA MAHĀSAMAYA SIDDHI BHĀRA BHĀRA MAHĀBODHI MAŅDA BĪJA SMARA SMARA ASMAKAM SAMAYA BODHI BODHI MAHĀBODHI SVĀHĀ

OM MOHI MOHI MAHĀMOHI SVĀHĀ

OM MUNI MUNI SMARĀ SVĀHĀ

25. By the virtue generated by this practice, may all reincarnating beings—

myself and all others—be reborn in Tuşita as soon as we die. Having being born in the noble residence that is superior in terms of Dharma

May I become the foremost spiritual child of the Dharma Lord, the invincible Maitreya.

- 26. May I perfect all deeds of a conqueror,
 Being the first to experience the nectar of your speech
 When you gain the state of dominion of the ten powers
 in Jambudvīpa, becoming a regent and lord of the tenth
 ground.
- **27.** As soon as I die and leave this life May I be born in the delightful abode of Tuṣita And attain the prophesy of my enlightenment By quickly pleasing Protector Maitreya.

4

Dedication from *Bodhisattva's Way of Life* by Śāntideva

Jön jug mon lam



- **01.** Through whatever virtue I have created By undertaking the *Bodhisattva's Way of Life* May all migrating beings engage The bodhisattva way of life.
- **02.** Through my merit, may all those Who suffer in every direction With physical and mental illness Find an ocean of joy and happiness.
- **03.** For as long as saṃsāra exists May their happiness never decline and May migrating beings find Continuous, unsurpassable happiness.
- **04.** May embodied beings that inhabit Every hell that exists
 In the worldly realms
 Enjoy the bliss of Sukhāvatī.
- **05.** May those suffering from cold find warmth. May those suffering from heat be refreshed By the boundless rivers that spring from the Great cloud of bodhisattvas.
- **06.** May even the forest of sword blades Become a beautiful pleasure grove

And may the Śālmali trees Grow into wish-fulfilling trees.

- **07.** May the regions of hells become pleasant With lakes that carry the intense sweet fragrance of lotuses And the enchanting calls of Ducks, geese, and swans.
- **08.** May the piles of burning coal become piles of precious jewels

May the burning ground become a foundation of polished crystal

And may the crushing mounts become celestial palaces Of worship filled with sugatas.

- **09.** May the rain of burning lava, rocks, and weapons From now on, become a rain of flowers. And may those who battle with weapons From now on, exchange flowers playfully.
- 10. Through the strength of my virtue mayThose who drown in the burning waters of river VaitraniWhose flesh has fallen off and whose bones have the color of white jasmine

Find divine bodies and reside by gently flowing rivers, along with goddesses.

11. Wondering, "Why are the endless agents of the Lord of Death, his ravens, and vultures terrified?

And by whose power is darkness completely dispelled and we experience the happiness of joy?"

Looking up, may they behold the brilliant Vajrapāni residing in the midst of space

And being thrilled with joy may they become free of negativity and follow him.

12. When they see the fires of hell extinguished By a rain of flowers that falls mixed with fragrant water May the hell beings wonder about it, and satiated with sudden joy

May they perceive Padmapani.

13. "Friends come here, and cast away your fears. In front of us

Is a bodhisattva by whose power all suffering is removed, strong joy emerges, and

The affection that completely protects all migrating beings is awakened.

He is youthful, with his hair knotted, brilliant, and fearless.

14. Behold him as hundreds of gods bow their crown to his lotus feet, in worship

A rain of various flowers falls upon his head, his eyes moist with compassion,

His pleasant palace echoes with melodious praises from hundreds of goddesses."

May the hell beings cry with joy as they perceive Mañjuśrī.

15. In this way, through the root of my virtue may the hell beings be overjoyed

By seeing the unobstructed joyful clouds of bodhisattvas, Such as Samantabhadra, and so forth, And by the falling of a cooling rain of fragrant water.

16. May the animals become free from the fearOf been eaten by each other.May the hungry ghostsBecome as happy as the beings in Uttarakuru.

17. May the hungry ghosts be Satiated by the stream that flows From the hands of the ārya lord Avalokiteśvara And by bathing in it, may they always be refreshed.

18. May the blind see forms
May the deaf always hear sounds
May pregnant women give birth without danger and pain Like Māyādevī.

19. May the naked find clothes May the hungry find food May those who are thirsty find Pure water and delicious drinks.

20. May the destitute find wealth May those afflicted by pain find joy And may those who are desperate Be consoled and find excellent resolution.

21. May all sentient beings who are ill Be quickly free from illness. May the ailments of migrating beings Become eradicated forever.

- **22.** May those who are scared become fearless May those who are bound be released May the powerless become powerful And have friendly thoughts for each other.
- **23.** May visitors find happiness In any place they go. May they accomplish their purpose Without needing to exert effort.
- **24.** May those who sail on boats and ships Succeed according to their wishes. May they easily reach the shores And be happy to reunite with their relatives.
- **25.** May those who wonder on wrong paths, in the dessert, Meet travelling companions
 And travel smoothly, without hardship and
 Without the fear of bandits, thieves, tigers, and the like.
- **26.** May the deities protect
 The children, the elderly, the unprotected,
 Those who are asleep, intoxicated, insane,
 Those who are destitute, in isolated places, without a path.
- **27.** May beings always be free of lack of leisure And be endowed with faith, wisdom, and affection. From perfect food and conduct May they always remember their past lives.
- 28. May they all enjoy continuous wealth

Just like the treasury of space And may their livelihood be independent Free of conflict or cruelty.

29. May those who lack magnificence

Find splendor.

May those whose bodies are unattractive and worn out by austerities

Find excellent and noble forms.

30. May all women in the world

Be born as males.

May those of low birth find high status

And yet abolish any sense of pride.

31. Through my merit

May all sentient beings

Abandon all negativity

And always practice virtue.

32. May they never be separated from bodhicitta May they always engage the conduct of bodhisattvas May they always be taken care of by the buddhas and Abandon the actions of māras

33. May these sentient beings

Have immeasurably long lives

May they always live happily

And may they never even hear the word "death".

34. May every part of the world become

A pleasure grove of wish-fulfilling trees Filled with the pleasant sound of Dharma Of buddhas, their sons, and daughters.

- **35.** May the ground everywhere be pure Free of pebbles and so forth Soft like the palm of a hand And smooth, in the nature of lapis lazuli.
- **36.** May bodhisattvas reside also In the many maṇḍalas of disciples Gracing everything above the earth With their excellence.
- **37.** May all embodied beings Hear the sound of Dharma uninterruptedly From birds, from trees, from every ray of light, And from the sky also.
- 38. May they always meet the buddhas,Their sons, and daughters.May they worship the gurus of migrating beingsWith boundless clouds of offerings.
- **39.** May the gods send rain in a timely fashion And may there be excellent crops. May the kings act in accordance with Dharma And may the world prosper.
- **40.** May medicine be potent And the recitation of secret mantras successful.

May dākinīs, rākṣasas, and the like Be endowed with compassionate minds.

- **41.** May no one suffer, No one be afraid, or belittled, May no one be unhappy.
- **42.** May temples become places
 For reading [of texts] and recitation [of prayers].
 May the sangha always be in harmony
 And may they always be successful with their purpose.
- **43.** May monks who have gained training Also find pure isolation And may they meditate with a mind that is flexible And free of all distractions.
- **44.** May nuns be endowed with provisions And may they be free of dispute and harm. Thus, may the ethics of all those who are ordained Be without decline.
- **45.** May those with confused ethics emerge [from that state] And always exhaust negativity. Once they also attain good rebirths May they never let their conduct decline, thereafter.
- 46. May scholars gain respectAs well as merit.May their mindstream be pureAnd may they become renowned in every direction.

- 47. Without experiencing the suffering of lower migrationsAnd even without hardshipMay they quickly become enlightenedWith bodies that excel those of the gods.
- **48.** May all sentient beings
 Worship the buddhas in many ways.
 May they always be joyful
 Endowed with the inconceivable joy of buddhas.
- **49.** May the wishes of bodhisattvas
 For the benefit of migrating beings, be fulfilled.
 May sentient beings receive
 Whatever the protectors intended for them.
- **50.** Similarly, may also solitary buddhas And hearers be happy.
- **51.** And as for myself, until I attain the Joyous Ground Through the kindness of Mañjuśrī, May I always remember my past lives And always attain ordination.
- **52.** May I find nourishment in food And be sustained. In all my lives may I always find solitude And be endowed with excellent [conditions].
- **53.** When I wish to see something Or even have the slightest question May I perceive Protector Mañjuśrī

Without any obstruction.

54. For the sake of establishing the purpose of all sentient beings

Who extend to the limit of space in the ten directions May my conduct also be like The conduct of Mañjuśrī.

55. For however long space remains and For however long migrating beings remain For that long may I also remain To remove the suffering of migrating beings.

56. Whatever type of suffering of migrating beings exists May they all ripen upon me. May the sangha of bodhisattvas Bring about the happiness of migrating beings.

57. May the teachings, the sole medicine for the suffering of migrating beings,The source of all happiness,

Be upheld, honored, and Remain for a very long time.

58. I prostrate to Mañjuśrī Through whose kindness my mind has become virtuous. I prostrate to the spiritual friend Through whose kindness I have improved.

5

Beginning, Middle, and End by Jé Tsongkhapa

Thok tha ma



I pay homage to all buddhas and bodhisattvas of the ten directions.

01. I make this limitless prayer with pure intentionTo liberate limitless reincarnating beings from existence.By the power of the infallible Three JewelsAnd the might of powerful rishis may these truthful words be fulfilled.

02. In life after life may INever be reborn into the birth states ofMisfortune of those who have fallen into lower rebirths.May I always attain a human body with freedoms and endowments.

- 03. From the moment of my birth may INever be attached to the pleasures of existence.For the sake of attaining liberation may I exert myself fullyIn seeking pure conduct through the intention of renunciation.
- **04.** May all conducive conditions
 For becoming ordained
 Become available according to my wish
 Without any hindrances from family, friends, or possessions.
- **05.** Once ordained and for as long as I am alive

May I never be sullied By faults of natural offences Just as I promised in the presence of my abbot and preceptor.

- 06. For countless eons may I practiceAll Dharmas, vast and profound,Of the Mahāyāna, on such pure foundationFor the sake of mother sentient beings, through much hardship.
- **07.** May I be cared for by immaculate spiritual friends Brave in faultlessly establishing the purpose of others, Affectionate, compassionate, with their senses pacified, and subdued,

Their minds filled with many qualities of transmissions and realizations.

- **08.** As Sada Prarudita devoted himself to Dharma Ārya May I always delight the immaculate spiritual friend With body, life, and possessions, without deceit, Never displeasing him even for a moment.
- **09.** May the meaning of the perfection of wisdom Profound, pacifying, free of elaboration Be advised to me just as it was explained to Sada Prarudita Unsullied by the polluted waters of misconceptions.
- **10.** May I never come under the influence of Nonvirtuous spiritual guides and misleading friends Who teach the views of eternalism and nihilism That are beyond the intention of the Muni.

11. May I liberate embodied beings from the ocean of samsāra

With this ship constructed with study, reflection, and meditation

Hoisting the sail of pure special intention Soared by winds of untiring enthusiastic effort.

12. As much as I excel in study and overtake others in terms of giving,

As much as my ethics are pure and my mind excels Through knowledge and intelligence, May I find increasing freedom from arrogance.

- 13. Without been satiated may I studyCountless teachings at the feet of a masterWho does not rely on support other thanThe strength of pure logic to explain the meaning of scriptures.
- **14.** Having examined properly with four types of logic The meaning of whatever I have studied, day and night, May I eliminate doubt with an intelligent mind Arisen from having reflected these points.
- 15. When I gain certainty through having reflectedThe mode of the profound DharmaMay I practice properly relying on isolationApplying enthusiastic effort that severs the entanglements of this life
- **16.** When the points intended by the Conqueror

Arise in my mind through study, reflection, and meditation May appearances of this life that are longing for saṃsāra and Thoughts for my own happiness, never arise.

17. Having destroyed miserliness with a mind that is unattached

To all of my possessions

May I satisfy beings with Dharma once I gather them as disciples

With material presents, at first.

18. May I always uphold the victory banner of liberation With the intention of renunciation, until enlightenment is attained,

Without transgressing even the smallest precept Even at the cost of my life.

- **19.** When I see, hear, or recall those who Strike, beat, and speak unfavorably about me May I be free of anger and instead Proclaim their qualities and meditate on patience.
- **20.** May I apply myself to enthusiastic effort Having abandoned the three types of laziness that bring decline.

May I attain positive qualities that I lack and Improve those that I already have.

21. May I meditate on union having abandoned calm abiding That mostly throws me into saṃsāra Disjoined from the strength of insight that subdues the

extreme of existence

Derived from the moisture of compassion that subdues the extreme of peace.

22. May I realize that all phenomena are empty from the beginning

Having fully abandoned the wrong, inferior views That grasp as supreme views on emptiness that are fabricated.

Afraid of the profound meaning of the mode of existence.

23. May I bring to faultless ethics

Those with confused ethics who only practice virtue superficially

Unafraid of paths blamed by those who are pure, Deprived of consideration for pure training.

- **24.** May I also place in the path praised by the Conqueror With ease, all those who have abandoned correct paths and Have entered wrong, inferior ones and those who Have fallen under nonvirtuous spiritual guides and misleading friends.
- 25. May the lion roar of my explanation, debate, and composition

 Steel away the pride the folce speech of foyes.

Steal away the pride the false speech of foxes.

May I gather disciples skillfully and

Uphold the victory banner of undeclining teachings.

26. In whatever life I take When I drink the nectar of Muni's teachings

May I have class, form, wealth, power, wisdom, Long life, and good health.

- **27.** May I develop special love, like that of a mother, For those who continuously carry harmful intent For my body, life, and possession and Those who speak badly of me.
- **28.** May I be able to offer them unsurpassable enlightenment Having cultivated in my mind the special intention The mind of bodhicitta that is familiar with cherishing others, Before too long.
- **29.** May all those who see, hear, Or even recall this prayer Fulfill the great training of the prayers of bodhisattvas Without being discouraged.
- 30. Through the might of making this vast prayerPracticed properly through the strength of pure special intentionMay I complete the perfection of prayer and

Fulfill the hopes of all embodied beings.

Colophon:

This "Prayer of the Virtuous Beginning, Middle, and End" has been composed at the Dri Khung Thil Monastery in the Zhotö District by the wandering (monk) Losang Drakpa who has heard many teachings.

6

Prayer to Be Reborn in Sukhāvatī by Jé Tsongkhapa

Dé wa jen du kyé wa'i mon lam



01. I prostrate to Buddha Amitayus, teacher of gods and men. Your excellent activities bestow endless fortune to migrating beings.

Remembering you just once dispels fear for the lord of death. You always consider migrating beings with affection, like your own children.

02. I will explain as much as I can how one can be reborn through the power of affectionAnd prayer in the supreme field of SukhāvatīThat has been praised elegantly and exhaustivelyBy the powerful one of the Munis, many times.

03. Obscured by thick ignorance regarding the principles of what should be practiced and abandoned,

The weapon of anger robs us from life in the higher states.

We are bound in the prison of saṃsāra by the rope of attachment and craving

And the flood of karma caries us into the ocean of samsāra.

04. Tossed by the many waves of sickness and ageing We end up in the mouth of the monster of the unbearable Lord of Death

And are burdened down by the load of unwanted suffering, Crying pitifully without a protector.

05. My mind aspires to witness a destitute person's only

friend, Amitābha.

I make respectful requests to you and your retinue, Lord Avalokiteśvara and bodhisattva Vajrapāni. Please don't forget the commitments of your awakening

mind
Mada acceptance and for acceptance

Made countless eons ago for our sake. Please come here miraculously due to your affection Like the king of birds who flies in the sky.

06. In dependence on the might of the two accumulations of myself and others,

Amassed over the three times and combined

May you stay close to me at the time of death and guide me.

May I see you directly, Amitābha, surrounded by your two chief sons and retinue.

At that time, may intense faith focusing on the conqueror and his retinue, fully arise and

May I be without the intense suffering of pain.

07. With recollection that does not forget my object of faith, May the eight bodhisattvas arrive through their miraculous power,

Immediately upon death and show me the way as it is.

In dependence on that may I be born in the precious land of Sukhāvatī from a lotus,

Exclusively as a being of sharp faculties in the Mahāyāna lineage.

08. Immediately upon birth may I obtain a host of limitless qualities such as

Dhāraṇī, concentration, bodhicitta of the unobserved, and

inexhaustible confidence.

May the buddhas and bodhisattvas of the ten directions such as the unsurpassable teacher Amitābha,

Be pleased with me and give me the complete transmission of the Mahāyāna.

09. From understanding their meaning as it is,

May I proceed each moment to countless buddha fields, miraculously unimpeded, and

May I complete all great training of the bodhisattva conduct.

10. Despite having been born in a pure land, moved by strong affection

May I mainly visit impure lands, miraculously unimpeded, and

May I teach all sentient beings exactly in accordance with their fortune

In dependence upon that, may I have the power to place them in the pure paths

Praised by the conquerors.

- **11.** By means of quickly completing these amazing activities May I easily attain the state of a conqueror For the sake of limitless migrating beings.
- **12.** One day, when the karmic formation of this life is relinquished

May my eyes clearly behold you, Amitābha, Surrounded by the ocean of your retinue and May my mindstream be filled with faith and compassion.

- 13. As soon as the appearances of the bardo arise
 May the eight bodhisattvas show me the unmistaken path and
 In dependence on that, may I be born in Sukhāvatī and
 May my emanations guide reincarnating beings of impure
 lands.
- **14.** In all my lives until I achieve such a supreme state May I only be born in a body that practices pure Study, reflection, and meditation of the scriptural and Realizational teachings of the conqueror.
- **15.** May I never be separated from such physical basis, Ornamented with the seven qualities of the higher states. In all these lifetimes may I attain memory of previous lives Remembering previous states, as they were.
- **16.** In all my lives may I see saṃsāra in its entirety to be without essence

And motivated by an intention that is mesmerized by the qualities of liberation

May I become ordained in the Vinaya, The Dharma eloquently taught by the Bhagavan.

- 17. When I am ordained may I become like Gelong Mitrukpa and gain great enlightenment By means of perfecting the aggregate of ethics Without being sullied by even the slightest mistake or downfall
- **18.** Further, in all my lives may I understand the way of the afflicted and the purified, exactly as it is,

And may I attain excellent retaining dhāraṇī that does not forget

A single word and meaning of the Dharma and of the branches of perfection.

May I attain perfect, unstoppable confidence in teaching others what I have learned

19. Further, in all my lives may I never be parted from the attainment of special types of perception,

Such as knowledge of the place of miracles,

The eyes such as the eye of flesh, and

The door of concentration such as the concentration that proceeds heroically.

20. Further, in all my lives may I attain the vast wave of wisdom

That is capable to differentiate through its own strength
The points of what should be practiced and what should be
abandoned

21. May I attain the clear wisdom That is capable to differentiate without mixing Even the most subtle elements of the afflicted and the purified, exactly as they are.

22. May I attain the swift wisdom That is capable to end immediately what is not realized, What is misunderstood, and every thought of doubt.

23. May I attain the profound wisdom That engages the meaning and words of the teachings

That others cannot fathom, without being exhausted.

24. In brief, may I become like venerable Mañjuśrī who perfected every aspect of

The bodhisattva conduct by means of wisdom skilled in differentiating

The words and meaning of the teachings, that is Wisdom free from all faults of confused wisdom.

25. Having gained such vast, clear, swift, and profound wisdom easily

May I take care of fortunate beings, annihilate those who debate erroneously,

and delight scholars.

May I attain perfection of the skills of explanation, debate, and composition

Focusing on the teachings of the Conqueror.

26. Further, in all my lives may I completely stop

The mind that grasps my own purpose to be the main one,
and

All thoughts of cowardliness and laziness in terms of the Great training in the bodhisattva conduct.

27. May I become like venerable Avalokiteśvara who perfected every aspect of

The bodhisattva conduct by means of bodhicitta skilled in perfecting

Supreme bravery and willingness in terms of the purpose of others.

28. Further, in all my lives, when I engage the purpose of myself and others

May I become like the venerable Lord of Secrets who perfected every aspect of

The bodhisattva conduct by means of power skilled in destroying

Demons, heretics, and opponents.

29. In all my lives, in order to completely perfect the bodhisattva conduct

Through enthusiastic effort that has abandoned laziness May I become like the unparalleled King of the Śākyas Who gained great enlightenment by means of the great training of enthusiastic effort

Without wavering even for a moment from his initial mind generation.

30. In all my lives, in order to destroy all physical and mental illness

That are obstacles to my enlightenment

May I become like the sugata who is the King of Medicine With the power to pacify all torment of body, speech, and mind

By means of his name.

31. Further, in all my lives may I attain whatever length of life I wish for and

May I become like the Conqueror Amitayus

With the power to destroy all untimely death by merely saying his name.

32. When obstacles to life are eminent, may I see you vividly, Protector Amitayus.

Through your four types of activities you appear in whichever physical aspect is

Appropriate for the disciples.

And as soon as I see you, may all obstacles to life become pacified.

33. Having recognized whichever physical aspect you demonstrate in accordance

With the [needs of the] disciples, to be Protector Amitayus,

May I generate uncontrived faith and in dependence on the strength of that faith

May the Conqueror Amitayus act as an actual spiritual friend in all my lives.

34. Further, in all my lives may I gladly be taken care of by A qualified spiritual friend of the Mahāyāna, Who is the root of all mundane and transcendent qualities.

35. While he takes care of me, may I attain firm, unshakable faith for the spiritual friend and

May every activity of my three doors only please him.

May I do not displease him, even for a moment.

May I gather all teachings and advice that the spiritual friend gives, lacking in nothing.

May I be able to perfect my practice once I have understood the meaning of all this, exactly as it is.

May I do not come under the influence of nonvirtuous spiritual guides and

Misleading friends, even for a moment.

36. In all my lives may I have the faith of conviction for cause and result, and

May I understand renunciation, bodhicitta, and correct view. Then, may I effortlessly enter an uninterrupted stream of experiences.

37. In all my lives, may whatever roots of virtue I have created

Through my body, speech, and mind

Serve the purpose of others and become exclusively the cause of pure enlightenment.

7

Prayer for a Statue of Maitreya

by the Omniscient Gendün Drup

Jam pa'i ku zuk ma



01. May the embodied beings who have fulfilled all conducive conditions

For building an excellent statue of Maitreya Enjoy the splendor of the Mahāyāna Dharma At the feet of venerable Protector Maitreya.

- **02.** When the powerful sun, Protector Maitreya, Shines atop the hill of Bodhgaya May the lotus of my intelligence blooms And the fortunate swarm of bees be satiated.
- **03.** At that time may Conqueror Maitreya be extremely pleased, and

As he lays his right hand upon my head may My supreme, unsurpassable enlightenment be prophesied. May I then quickly attain buddhahood for the sake of all reincarnating beings.

04. In all my lives while I complete enlightenment, May I gather every type of conduct of the great wave of activities

Of all conquerors and bodhisattvas of the three times And may I properly give advice.

05. Draped in magnificent drawing-like scriptures of eloquent explanation,

Supported by the golden pole of intelligence, and

Decorated with a jeweled tip of the [three] trainings, May the banner of victory of the teachings be planted in every direction.

- 06. May the teachings—the source of benefit and wellbeing—spread and flourish, andMay all beings who hold the teachings enjoy good health.May the source of happiness for all embodied beings—The teachings of the Buddha—spread continuously.
- **07.** By the might of continuously being familiar with the three aspects of love,
- May there be the auspiciousness of the Protector Buddha Maitreya,
- Who destroys the hosts of māras with the power of his love and

Nurtures all sentient beings with the strength of his love.

8

Prayer for Spontaneous Bliss

by the Second Dalai Lama, Gendün Gyatso

Dé chen hlun drup ma



01. Respectfully I prostrate to the mighty conqueror, the invincible Maitreya,

Who pervades the mundane worlds with a cloud of affectionate love

And releases a continuous stream of rain From the space of Dharma Body of spontaneous great bliss.

02. From the play of pristine wisdom that beholds every Thought and predisposition of countless disciples, just as they are,

I request you to come here, unimpededly, through the power of my faith,

Like the reflection of the moon on water.

03. I am never sated by looking at your supreme body of form

That is like Mount Meru's exquisite mass of refined gold Inlaid with a lattice of various precious jewels.

I request you to remain steadily till the end of existence.

04. Protector, I request you to hold near with your hands of compassion

Those who have provided favorable conditions
For the construction of an attractive statue of Maitreya, and
To lead them with certainty to the land of Tuṣita.

05. Inseparable from your face that is nectar for my eyes,

Bless me to quickly attain enlightenment Having perfected all points of the bodhisattva conduct, Perpetually nourished by your Mahāyāna speech.

- **06.** In the meantime, may all intended purposes be fulfilled, May all sentient beings become endowed with a loving attitude,
- May the Conqueror's teachings prevail and spread everywhere,
- And may all sentient beings enjoy the glory of happiness and wellbeing.
- **07.** May this place be filled by an assembly of those clad in saffron
- Who are endowed with the three trainings, and till the end of existence
- May there always be the auspiciousness of the teachings of Śākvamuni
- Spreading in all directions through activities of explanation and practice.
- **08.** By the truth of the infallible Three Jewels, The blessings of the mighty conqueror, the invincible Maitreya,
- And the enlightened activities of the mighty Dharma protectors,

May the wishes of our pure prayers be fulfilled.

Colophon:

This prayer of truthful words for achieving excellence was composed at Chökhor Gyal monastery by Gendün Gyatso, a monk who expounds the Dharma, at the request of the great leading lady, Nyima Pel, who is an incarnation of Bishvakarma.

9

Prayer for the Flourishing of the Teaching of Jé Tsongkhapa

by Gungthang the Third, Könchok Tenpai Drönmé

Losang gyal ten ma



01. Though he is the father who gives birth to all conquerors, As a conqueror's son, he generated the thought of upholding The conqueror's Dharma in infinite realms. Through the power of this truth

May the teachings of Losang the Conqueror flourish.

02. In a previous life, in the presence of Buddha IndraketuHe made a promise and was called Braveheart in that life,While all conquerors and bodhisattvas praised him. Through the power of this truthMay the teachings of Losang the Conqueror flourish.

03. He offered a white crystal rosary to the MuniSo that the lineage of pure view and conduct might spread.In return he gave him a Dharma conch and a prophesy.Through the power of this truthMay the teachings of Losang the Conqueror flourish.

04. His pure view free of eternalism and nihilism, His pure meditation cleansed of darkness and lethargy, His pure conduct practiced according to the Conquerors' instructions.

May the teachings of Losang the Conqueror flourish.

05. Scholar, for he sought out many teachings, extensively, Venerable, for he applied the meaning of what he heard to his mind, just as it is,

Noble, for he dedicated everything for the teachings and migrating beings.

May the teachings of Losang the Conqueror flourish.

06. He stopped all misconduct through finding certainty that All scriptures, definitive and interpretative, were without contradiction

As advice for the practice of the individual.

May the teachings of Losang the Conqueror flourish.

07. He listened to the explanation of the transmitted Dharma of the three pitakas, and

Practiced the realized teachings of the three trainings.

His life story as a scholar and practitioner is amazing.

May the teachings of Losang the Conqueror flourish.

08. Externally pacified and subdued by the hearer's conduct, Internally having the confidence of the yoga of the two stages,

He carried the noble paths of sūtra and tantra harmoniously, without contradiction.

May the teachings of Losang the Conqueror flourish.

09. Combining emptiness explained in the causal vehicle With great bliss achieved through the resultant method Is the innermost essence of the eighty thousand aggregates of Dharma.

May the teachings of Losang the Conqueror flourish.

10. By the power of the ocean of oath-bound Dharma protectors,

Such as the main guardians of the beings of the three paths – The quick acting lord, Vaishravana, and Karmayama – May the teachings of Losang the Conqueror flourish.

11. In brief, by the stable lives of the glorious gurus, By the earth being full of immaculate, learned, venerable holders of the teachings,

And by the increase of power of the patrons of the teachings, May the teachings of Losang the Conqueror flourish. AWAKENING VAJRA was founded in 2010 by Geshé Gyalten to fulfill the great vision of His Eminence Chöden Rinpoché to bring benefits to sentient beings through five branches of study and practice. The branches are:

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