

Gate of Sweet Nectar

Zen Center of Los Angeles
Buddha Essence Temple
923 S. Normandie Ave.
Los Angeles, CA 90006
Edition: August 2024

Gate of Sweet Nectar

Introductory Verse by Krishna Das

Hungry Hearts

*(Chanter does solo first
round, Everyone does
second round)*

*Calling out to hungry hearts
Everywhere through endless time
You who wander, you who thirst
I offer you this Bodhi Mind.*

*Calling all you hungry spirits
Everywhere through endless time
Calling all you hungry hearts
All the lost and left behind
Gather round and share this meal
Your joy and sorrow
I make it mine.*

◎ ◎ ◎ ▲ Gate of Sweet Nectar ◎

Invocation for the Manifestation of the Ten Buddhas

(Everyone in Gassho)

Buddham Saranam Gacchami ◎

Dhammam Saranam Gacchami ◎

Sangham Saranam Gacchami ◎

Buddham Saranam Gacchami ◎

Dhammam Saranam Gacchami ◎

Sangham Saranam Gacchami ◎

Being One with the Buddhas in the Ten Directions ◎

Being One with the Dharma in the Ten Directions ◎

Being One with the Sangha in the Ten Directions ◎

Being One with all the Formless Forms throughout space and
time ◎

Being One with Great Wisdom Manjusri Bodhisattva ◎

Being One with Great Compassion Avalokitesvara Bodhisattva ◎

Being One with Great Action Samantabhadra Bodhisattva ◎

Being One with Great Vow Jizo Bodhisattva ◎

Being One with our Original Teacher Shakyamuni Buddha ◎

Being One with our Lineage from Mahakasyapa Sonja ◎

Being One with the Mahayana Saddharma Pundarika Sutra ◎

Being One with Maha Prajna Paramita ◎

Supplication for the Raising of the Bodhi Mind

Vow to feed the hungry spirits

▲ (*Officiant bows at altar*) Attention!

▲ (*Halfway to haishiki*) Attention!

▲ Raising the Bodhi Mind, the supreme meal is offered to all the hungry spirits throughout space and time, filling the smallest particle to the largest space. All you hungry spirits in the ten directions, please gather here. Sharing your distress, I offer you this food, hoping it will resolve your thirsts and hungers.

Prayer of food sharing

◎ I pray that all who receive this offering will return its merits to all Buddhas and to all creations throughout space and time. In this way they will be thoroughly satisfied.

Prayer of raising the Bodhi Mind

▲ I further pray that in receiving this meal all your sufferings will be eliminated, and that you will be liberated, so that being joyously reborn you will play freely in the fields of the Pure Land. Raising the Bodhi Mind and practicing the Enlightened Way, you become the future Buddhas without any further regress. Those who realize the way first, please vow to liberate all others throughout all space and time.

Prayer for fulfilling these vows

◎ I further beseech you to sustain me day and night and give me courage to fulfill my vows.

Prayer for transferring the merit of this practice

▲ In offering this meal, I pray that you give its merits equally to all creations in the Dharma worlds. Please transfer the merits of this offering to the Dharma world of True Reality, to unsurpassable enlightenment, and to all the Buddha wisdoms.

Repeated prayer to attain the Enlightened Way

◎ With all our love, with all our spirit, and with all our might, \ inviting misery and suffering no longer, we vow to accomplish the Way. \ May all creations in the Dharma world swiftly ▲ accomplish the Buddha Way together.

Dharani for Inviting the Manifestation of all the Gods and Demons

NO BO BO HO RI GYA RI TA RI ▲ TA TA GYA TA YA
Being one with the Unconditioned ▲ Tathagata.

Dharani of Hell Crushing and Hungry Spirit Throat Opening

OM BO HO TEI RI GYA TA RI ▲ TA TA GYA TA YA
Being one with the Boundless ▲ Tathagata.

Dharani of Expansion prayer upon the Food and Drink

NO MAKU SA RA BA TA TA GYA TA BARO KI TEI OM ▲ SAN BA
RA SAN BA RA UN

Being one with all Tathagatas and Avalokitesvara
Bodhisattva, ▲ please nourish and sustain us.

Dharani upon the Dharma Taste of the Sweet Nectar

NO MAKU SO RO BA YA TA TA GYA TA YA TA NYA TA OM SO RO
SO RO HA RA SO RO ▲ HA RA SO RO SO WA KA

Being one with the Inconceivable Body ▲ Tathagata, let the
nectar of Dharma spring forth.

Dharani of feeding all the Hungry Spirits

(Everyone in Gassho)

(Repeat until food offering is completed & officiant returns to haishiki)

◎ (1st x) NO MAKU SAN MAN DA BO TA NAN BAN

(last x) NO MAKU SAN MAN DA ▲ BO TA NAN BAN

(Repeat 5 times)

Being one with all Buddhas in the Ten Directions,
Being one with all Buddhas, I turn the water wheel of
compassion.

Siendo todos buda, giramos en la rueda de la vida.
Siendo todos buda, giramos en la rueda de la compasión.

Dharanis for Inviting the Buddhas of the Five Families*(Japanese is read once, English twice; Ryoban in Gassho)**Invitation for the Manifestation of the Buddhas in the Padma Family*

◎ NA MU TA **HO NYO RAI NO BO BA GYA BA TEI HA RA BO TA**
A RA TAN NO YA TA TA GYA TA YA JO KEN TON GO FU KUCHI
EN MAN ▲

Being one with all Buddhas in the Unifying Spheres,
 integrating all families, wealth and wisdom are in
 abundance.

Invitation for the Manifestation of the Buddhas in the Ratna Family

◎ NA MU **MYO SHIKI SHIN NYO RAI NO BO BA GYA BA TEI SO**
RO BA YA TA TA GYA TA YA HA SHU RO GYO EN MAN SO KO ▲

Being one with all Buddhas in the Livelihood Spheres,
 extending generosity, perfection of both body and mind
 appears.

Invitation for the Manifestation of the Buddhas in the Buddha Family

◎ NA MU **KAN RO O NYO RAI NO BO BA GYA BA TEI A MI RI**
TEI A RAN JA YA TA TA GYA TA YA KAN PO SHIN JIN RYO JU
KE RA KU ▲

Being one with all Buddhas in the Formless Spheres, bodies
 overflow with boundless Dharma and our life is fulfilled.

Invitation for the Manifestation of the Buddhas in the Vajra Family

◎ NA MU **KO HA KU SHIN NYO RAI NO BO BA GYA BA TEI BI**
HO RA GYA TA RA YA TA TA GYA TAYA IN KO KO DAI ON JIKI
JU BO ▲

Being one with all Buddhas in the Study Spheres, throats are opened and eating and drinking fully satisfy.

Invitation for the Manifestation of the Buddhas in the Karma Family

◎ NA MU RI FUI NYO **RAI NO BO BA GYA BA TEI A BA EN GYA**
RA YA TA TA GYA TAYA KU SHITSU JO RI GA KI SHU ▲

Being one with all Buddhas in the Service Spheres, all sufferings of the Hungry Spirits are healed.

Dharani for Raising the Bodhi Mind

(Everyone in Gassho)

(Once) (Conch / Bell)

Officiant: **OM BO JI SHI TA BO DA HA DA YA MI ▲**

All: **OM BO JI SHI TA BO DA HA DA YA MI**

(Twice) (Conch / Bell)

Officiant: Now I have raised the Bodhi Mind. ▲

All: Now I have raised the Bodhi Mind.

Dharani of Giving the Bodhisattva Samadhi Precepts*(Everyone in Gassho)**(Once) (Conch / Bell)***Officiant: OM SAN MA YA SA TO BAN ▲****All: OM SAN MA YA SA TO BAN***(Twice) (Conch / Bell)***Officiant: I am the Buddhas and they are me. ▲****All: I am the Buddhas and they are me.****Gatha for Transference of Merit**

By this practice I sincerely wish to extend all my love to my own being, friends, enemies, family and community, and to all creations for so much done on my behalf. ● *(pause at each bell)*

May those who practice in this sphere continue to empower, to enrich, to enjoy. ●

May those who have gone be released from suffering and nourish peacefulness. ●

May all creations in the three worlds receive loving benefactions. ●

May those suffering on the three paths come to atonement and be cleansed of all their ills. ●

May they be liberated from samsara and arise in the Pure Land together. ●

Closing Verse (4x)

(Everyone in Gassho)

◎ (1st, 3rd & 4th times)

*This is our life,
The length of our days,
Day and night
We meditate upon it.*