

GATE OF SWEET NECTAR

Chant Leader Version

**Zen Center of Los Angeles/
Buddha Essence Temple**
923 S. Normandie Ave.
Los Angeles, CA 90006

Usual officiant entry

Officiant goes up to altar to offer incense

Ching – officiant bows to right of altar

Begin chings for fudosampai (3 bows)

Ching – first bow

Ching – second bow

Ching – third bow **Ching** – officiant’s knee touches the ground.

⊙ officiant bows at haishiki & goes to altar to offer incense

⊙ bows to right of altar (sutra books passed out after officiant)

⊙ bows upon return to haishiki

△ when officiant stands

Conch - very long blow

INO: pregnant pause, then sings:

Introductory Verse by Krishna Das

HUNGRY HEARTS

(Chanter does solo first 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. (sing 2x)

- ⊙ officiant bows at haishiki & goes to altar to offer incense
- ⊙ bows to right of altar
- ⊙ bows upon return to haishiki
- △ when officiant stands

**Invocation for the Manifestation of the Ten
Buddhas**
(Everyone in gassho)

GATE OF SWEET NECTAR ⊙

Buddham Saranam Gacchami ⊙

Dhammam Saranam Gacchami ⊙

Sangham Sarranam Gacchami ⊙

Buddham Saranam Gacchami ⊙

Dhammam Saranam Gacchami ⊙

Sangham Saranam Gacchami ⊙

Chant on
one tone



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!**

Gatz = spoken

▲ 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

Bell = sung

◎ 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

Gatz = spoken

▲ 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

Bell = sung

◎ 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

Gatz = spoken

▲ 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

Bell = sung

◎ 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 the Invitation for 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 Gassho)

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

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

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

(Repeat 7 times)

◎ *(1st x)* Being One with all Buddhas, I turn the water wheel of
compassion.

(7th x) ▲ Being One with all Buddhas, ▲ I turn the water wheel of
compassion.

Dharanis for Inviting the Buddhas of the Five Families

(Sanskrit 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 KU CHI EN
MAN ▲ (once)**

Being one with all Buddhas in the Unifying Spheres, integrating all
families, wealth and wisdom are in abundance. (2x)

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 ▲

(once)

Being one with all Buddhas in the Livelihood Spheres, extending generosity, perfection of both body and mind appears. (2x)

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
▲ (once)

Being one with all Buddhas in the Formless Spheres, bodies overflow with boundless Dharma and our life is fulfilled. (2x)

Invitation for the Manifestation of the Buddhas in the Vajra Family

◎ NA MU **KO HAKU SHIN NYO RAI NO BO BA GYA BA TEI BI HO**
RA GYA TA RA YA TA TA GYA TA YA IN KO KO DAI ON JIKI JU BO
▲ (once)

Being one with all Buddhas in the Study Spheres, throats are opened and eating and drinking fully satisfy. (2x)

Invitation for the Manifestation of the Buddhas in the Karma Family

◎ NA MU RI FU I NYO **RAI NO BO BA GYA BA TEI A BA EN GYA RA**
YA TA TA GYA TA YA **KU SHITSU JO RI GA KI SHU ▲** (once)

Being one with all Buddhas in the Service Spheres, ● all sufferings of
the Hungry Spirits ● are healed. (2x)

Bells only the second time

Dharani for Raising the Bodhi Mind

(Everyone in Gassho)

(follow pitch of officiant, if possible)

(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

Couch and bell to
announce officiant,
„gatz“ to cue “ALL”

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.

Couch and bell to
announce officiant,
„gatz“ to cue “ALL”

Gatha for Transference of Merit

(move back to pitch what works for everyone, if necessary)

◎ 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)

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

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

May all creations in the three worlds receive loving benefactions ● (pause)

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

May they be liberated from samsara ● and arise in the Pure Land ● together. **(dampen all bells)**

SUNDAY DEDICATION

The Buddha turns the Dharma Wheel and so reality is shown in all its many forms.

All suffering sentient beings are liberated and brought to great joy.

We sincerely seek the beneficent guidance of the Three Treasures.

In reciting the Gate of Sweet Nectar,

And in offering food, flowers, candlelight and incense,

We dedicate their merits to:

All ancestors of the White Plum Lineage and of the extended Sangha.

To our neighbors in the city of Los Angeles and throughout the world;

Let us forever remember the causes of suffering

And let us forever act to end suffering.

May we always have the courage to bear witness;

To see ourself as Other and Other as ourself.

(! Monthly/ Specific memorials only)

We also dedicate these merits:

To: *(On the first Sunday of each month read list of names for month)*

And to: *(read memorial names, if any) on this his/her___ memorial day*

To all those who lost their lives and/or suffered harm

during *(name current world event)*_____

To the victims of war, starvation, oppression,
and for the peace of the world,
To those who died before birth.
To all beings in the various realms:
To the countless spiritual beings who are starved for the Dharma,
to those in the lower realms of existence,
and to the evil spirits who hinder the Way.
May they be satisfied with our offering of the Dharma,
cultivate right wisdom,
liberate all beings,
and allow the seeds of Wisdom to flourish forever...

Closing Verse

(Everyone in Gassho)

◎ (1st, and 3rd, 4th X)

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

„it“ the first and thrid repetition up, the second and fourth
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