

Loving the Lotus Born

Initial Request

Precious jewel, our unfailing refuge,
Dear Lotus Born so very kind
Please bless us, quickly fulfilling our prayers
Exactly as they are in our mind.

Seven-Line Prayer

HUNG! In the land of Uryen to the northwest
You rest in the centre of a lotus
Amazing in your supreme attainment
So famous as the Born-from-Lotus with
Countless angelic sky maids around you
Thus I practise following you, dear Lotus.
So please come now and grant your blessing
Bestow fulfilment my Guru Lotus!

Recite 3 times

Taking refuge

Homage to my sublime guru, the site of all refuge!
I and all beings in the six realms of lies
Take refuge until we awaken
In your mandala, Guru ever-wise.

Recite 3 times

Altruistic intent

HO! To bring benefit to all beings
I do your practice, Guru ever-wise,
Then dissolving the sufferings of all beings
I will awaken them in you, Guru ever-wise.

Recite 3 times

Seven branch practice

By homage, offerings and confession,
Harmonious joy, requesting teachings and your presence
With all my virtue no matter how small
This I offer for the awakening of all with sentience.

Imagine this

Before me, on a lotus with sun and moon
I see Lotus Born, the ever-wise.

Prayer

OH! Sublime Guru, rare and precious, you are
Truly the Buddhas' qualities of body, speech and mind,
As your child I pray for your blessing
Grant my wishes quickly, most kind!

Recite 3 times

Mantra

OM AA HUNG BENDZA GURU PEMA SIDDHI HUNG
(Indestructible Guru, bestow the fulfilment of your lotus body, speech and mind.)

Recite 108 times

Four initiations

Light radiates at the Guru's brow, throat and heart, and
From the letters Om, Aa, Hung it goes
Flowing into me as the four initiations ending obscurations.
Now the five modes and five wisdoms can truly show.
Precious Guru, please hear me!

Transformation

My Guru melts into my heart and
My awareness becomes the letter Hri,
From which, with instant recall, I become
The Lotus Born, pink, both peaceful and angry.
With lotus hat, vajra and skull
In tunic, robes and cloak I become
Seated on a lotus with cushion of moon:
Instantly my imagined and actual forms are as one.

OM AA HUNG BENDZA GURU PEMA SIDDHI HUNG
(Indestructible Guru, bestow the fulfilment of your lotus body speech and mind.)

Offerings

OM BENDZA ARGHAM PADYAM PUSPE DHUPE ALOKE GENDHE NEWIDYE SHABDA AA HUNG
(Emptiness is offered as cool water, bathing water, flowers, incense, lamps, scented water, food and sound.)

Praise

HUNG! Simple and without artifice, the intrinsic mode guru.
Empty bliss, dharma sublime, the enjoyment mode guru.
Born from the Lotus, the apparitional mode guru.
Vajradhara, these three modes, we salute and praise you.

The View

Like this! All that lives and does not
All that our eyes can see
Let them all come and go
For illusion is already free.
Grasper and grasped are pure,
Divine forms of empty clarity.
We pray to guru self-liberating desire
We pray to the Lotus Born, with sincerity.

Like this! All sounds whether pleasant or not
All that is heard with our ears
Are simply sound and emptiness
If we relax free of all mind smears.
Empty sound, unborn and unceasing
Is the Buddha's speech so clear.
We pray to Buddha's speech, to empty sound
We pray to the Lotus Born, for us so dear.

Like this! Whatever experiences of the five poisons
Occur in our mental process
Avoid the contrivance of the intellect's
Interest in what is to come and what passes.
Leave movement just where it is:
As Dharmakaya our mind releases.
We pray to guru self-liberating awareness
We pray to the Lotus Born, never careless.

Like this! The outer objects of grasping
Are appearances now purified
And the hidden inner grasper
Is mind free and satisfied.
Together they show our own true face
As clear light undenied.
May the kindness of all Buddhas
Bless us, released from ego's tide.

Life is Fleeting

OM AA HUNG MAHA GURU SARVA SIDDHI HUNG

This world is but illusion
I know this to be true
Yet still I go on believing
Delusion I can't see through

Afflictions and their subtle habits
Still catch tight hold of me
Cut the root of desire and yearning
Cut it off and set me free

OM AA HUNG MAHA GURU SARVA SIDDHI HUNG

Bad actions of these dreg times
Display their transient forms
Renunciation is born within me
I discard what makes me forlorn

Yet later I'm troubled by longing
As the familiar brings joy to me
Cut the root of desire and craving
Cut it off and set me free.

OM AA HUNG MAHA GURU SARVA SIDDHI HUNG

Great methods for clearing the afflictions
Of stupidity, aversion and desire
Have been given in many teachings
By the Buddha I so admire

Yet I'm controlled by subtle habits
I can't keep apart from me
Cut the root of all bad actions
Cut it off and set me free.

OM AA HUNG MAHA GURU SARVA SIDDHI HUNG

Events outside, events within, and
Those arising suddenly
Each develops from this one root:
My blind belief in duality

I know about this, I know it well
Yet I'm still stuck in Mara's snare
Let this mind be laid quite bare
Let this mind be laid quite bare

OM AA HUNG MAHA GURU SARVA SIDDHI HUNG

Bless me with freedom from
This fettering belief in duality
My mind itself is unmade
Intrinsic ease is its true quality

Not made by the Buddhas
With all their good works
Nor bound by dispersal or sinking
In samsara's imprisoning dirt

This aware presence shines
With its own brilliant light
Where the mother, vast actuality
Meets her child, thus ending night

So not being made stupefied
By friends who are lazy prone
I will ever lovingly nurture
This good house, my home

By this the mother actuality
And her child will quickly meet
Then I will act with great power
To benefit those with wandering feet

I will be the kindly activity
Nurturing the awakening of all
Making a vast wave of virtue
I will benefit great and small
Manifesting this effective power
I will bring about samsara's fall

The Offering

RAM YAM KHAM **OM AA HUNG**
(Fire, wind, water) (body, voice, mind)
(To purify, bless and increase the offerings.)

The offering bowl is the emptiness of our openness, and
The offerings themselves are the clarity of our display
Blessed by our all-pervading participation
Three jewels, three roots and three mode deities

Please come here with the all-encompassing Guru!
Enjoy the great bliss of these assembled offerings as we
Confess all our lapses, broken vows and faults.

All thoughts and deluding appearances in infinity are freed,
And placed within vast awareness, our pristine purity.
These offerings must satisfy all four ranks of guest
Spontaneously completing their accumulations and benefits so they all
Quickly attain the buddha's four modes, ending our quest.

The Sharing

This food gathered as an excellent offering
We enjoy without rejecting its varied pleasures.
From this food diverse accomplishments arise,
Yogis, let's share happily at our leisure.

SIDDHI PHALA A LA LA HO

(The result is accomplished—wonderful!)

Dedication of Merit

Precious Guru, by this virtue may all beings
Do your practice and become inseparable from you.
May we all enjoy the bright happiness of this world
Absorbing the blessing of our ever-wise Guru!

Reminder

When merely the thought of benefiting others
Is more excellent than offering the buddha's worship
There is no need to mention the benefit of
Creating happiness and welfare for all in fellowship.

Aspiration

With all difficulties being quelled and
Harmony as vast as the sky
May the teachings of the victorious powerful
Lotus Born shine bright and never die.

OM AA HUNG BENDZA GURU PEMA SIDDHI HUNG

(Indestructible Guru, bestow the fulfilment of your lotus body, speech and mind.)

*Adapted by James Low from the translation by C R Lama and James Low of the **Guru Rinpoche sGom bZlas** compiled by C R Lama from the terma of Nus-IDan rDo-rJe 'Gro-Phan gLing-Pa. In order to gain the full benefit of this practice it is important to receive initiation and instruction.*

January 2021