

Short Bodhisattva vow ritual

All you buddhas who dwell in the ten directions

All you great bodhisattvas on the ten levels,

All you great teachers, the vajra-holders, turn your mind towards me, I pray!

Taking Refuge

Until I realize the essence of enlightenment, I take refuge in the buddhas,

And likewise in the Dharma, and the assembly of bodhisattvas.

Taking both the aspirational and practical Bodhicitta vow

Just as the sugatas of former times aroused the bodhicitta

And established themselves by stages in the training of a bodhisattva,

Just so, for the benefit of beings I will arouse bodhicitta

And likewise I will train progressively in those disciplines.

Rejoicing in the merit and dedication

Today, my birth has been fruitful, I have well obtained a human existence.

Today I am born into the family of the Buddhas, I have become a son or daughter of the buddhas.

From now on, at all costs, I will perform the actions befitting to my family.

I will not be a stain on this faultless noble family.

Just like a blind person happening upon a priceless jewel in a heap of rubbish,

So, through some fortunate coincidence, the bodhicitta has been born in me.

Today, in the presence of all the protectors, I invite all beings to the state of sugata,

And, meanwhile, to happiness and bliss: Gods, asuras and others—rejoice!

O sublime and precious bodhicitta, may it arise in those in whom it has not arisen;

May it never decline where it has arisen, but go on increasing further and further!

May they not be separated from bodhicitta, but be always inclined to enlightened action

May they be cared for by the buddhas, and may they abandon harmful action.

May the bodhisattvas' good wishes for benefitting beings be fulfilled.

Whatever the protectors have intended for them, May sentient beings receive it.

May all sentient beings be happy. May all the lower realms be forever empty.

May the aspirations of all the bodhisattvas Of the various bhūmis be fulfilled!