Dedication Prayers from Various Teachers - Contents

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Before dedication

A preceding reflection from the teachings of Lama Zopa Rinpoche:

'All phenomena – including the I, the action of dedicating, the merits that are dedicated, the goal of enlightenment to which they are dedicated, and the sentient beings for whom they are dedicated – are completely empty of existing from their own side. With the continual awareness of this, I now impute labels, and dedicate...'

Dedication Prayers for Retreat and Daily Life, by Lama Zopa Rinpoche

Due to the merits of the three times collected by me, the buddhas, bodhisattvas, and all other sentient beings, may bodhichitta - cherishing others, letting go of oneself, letting go of the I, which is the source of all the happiness and success of myself and all other sentient beings - be generated within my own mind and in the minds of all sentient beings without even a second's delay. May that bodhichitta which has already been generated increase.

Due to the merits of the three times collected by me, the buddhas, bodhisattvas, and all other sentient beings, may all the father - mother sentient beings have happiness; may the three lower realms be empty forever; may all bodhisattvas' prayers succeed immediately; and may I be able to cause all this to happen by myself, alone.

Due to the merits of the three times collected by me, the buddhas, bodhisattvas, and all other sentient beings, may His Holiness the Dalai Lama, the Buddha of Compassion, and all other holy beings, all our virtuous friends, have stable lives, and may all their holy wishes succeed immediately.

Due to the merits of the three times collected by me, the buddhas, bodhisattvas, and all other sentient beings, may I be able to offer skies of benefit to all sentient beings as Lama Tsongkhapa does by having within me the same qualities that Lama Tsongkhapa has, from now on, in all my future lifetimes.

Due to the merits of the three times collected by me, the buddhas, bodhisattvas, and all other sentient beings, which are totally non-existent from their own side; may the I, which is also totally non-existent from its own side; achieve Guru Shakyamuni Buddha's enlightenment, which is also totally non-existent from its own side; and lead all sentient beings,

who are totally non-existent from their own side; to that enlightenment, which is totally non-existent from its own side, by myself alone, who is also totally non-existent from its own side.

I dedicate all my merits in the way greatly admired by the buddhas and bodhisattvas of the three times and realized by Samantabhadra and Manjushri.

May I be able to completely actualize Lama Tsongkhapa's teaching, which unifies sutra and tantra, within my mind and spread these teachings in the minds 6f all sentient beings. Thus, may Lama Tsongkhapa's teachings flourish forever.

Due to all the merits of the three times collected by me, all the buddhas and bodhisattvas, and all sentient beings, may any sentient being who hears me, touches me, remembers me, thinks about me, talks about me (whether praising or criticizing), abuses me, treats me badly or makes any connection with me - simply by having made that connection - may they never ever be reborn in the lower realms. May those sentient beings immediately be liberated from all disease, spirit harms, negative karma and defilements, develop faith in refuge and karma, and quickly achieve enlightenment, by actualising the whole path, especially bodhichitta. By my hearing that someone is sick may it immediately cause that person to completely recover and have the most meaningful life by practicing the Mahayana path. By my hearing somebody has died may it cause that person to immediately be reborn in a pure land where they can get enlightened.

Due to the merits of the three times created by me, the buddhas, bodhisattvas, and all other sentient beings, may I, the members of my family, all the students and benefactors of this organization, and all the rest of the sentient beings meet only perfectly qualified Mahayana gurus in all our future lifetimes. From our side may we see them only as enlightened beings. May we do only actions most pleasing to the holy minds of the virtuous friends. May we be able to fulfill all their holy wishes immediately.

Due to all the merits of the three times collected by me, the buddhas, bodhisattvas, and all other sentient beings, may whatever I experience, good or bad, suffering or happiness, sickness or health, praise or blame, gain or loss, good reputation or bad reputation, long life or death, even being born in the hell realms, whatever I experience, may it only be of benefit to sentient beings - that which causes all sentient beings to achieve enlightenment by myself alone.

Due to the merits of the three times collected by me, the buddhas, bodhisattvas, and all other sentient beings wherever I am - whatever universe, world, country, area, or place - just by my being there, may the sentient beings who are in that universe, world, country, area, or place never be reborn in the lower realms. May they immediately be liberated from all disease, spirit harm, negative karma, and defilements and may they achieve enlightenment quickly by actualizing the whole path, especially bodhichitta. May wars, famine, sickness, and natural disasters immediately be stopped, and may these things never be experienced again. May I also become wish-fulfilling for sentient beings, able to fulfill all their wishes according to Dharma.

Due to the power of the blessings of the eminent buddhas and bodhisattvas, the power of infallible dependent arising, and the power of my pure special attitude, may all my pure prayers succeed immediately.

By pacifying all the signs of obstacles And by perfecting every single required condition, May the Dharma tradition of the Dharma king Tsongkhapa Be preserved and developed.

Due to the two types of merit collected Over the three times by myself and others May the teaching of the far-famed Victorious One's pure wisdom blaze forth Dedication by Venerable Sarah

Dedicate the merit for all those who are sick, and suffering

and all those involved in wars fighting, killing

depression

those who've lost their jobs those who've lost their money

those who've lost their hope who feel hopeless

those in hospitals now those who are sick, those who are dying, those with operations

those who are suffering mental sicknesses -

all sentient beings

to be never separated from Medicine Buddha

and may they quickly achieve enlightenment in order to free all beings

and may all the prayers the Medicine Buddhas made be actualized right now

Dedication, Aspiration and Benediction, by Tulku Thondup, from the audio cd 'Boundless Healing', lightly edited.

So now let us dedicate, and make boundless the aspirations of this meditation.

Let us dedicate all these merits that we have created by this meditation to all mother beings, as a cause of happiness, peace and joy for them, and as a cause of their attainment of Healing Buddha's blessings, peace and joy.

By the power of the Buddhas, Healing Buddha, and by the power of the infinite Buddhas that we have prayed to in the sky and prayed to in our body,

by the power of all these Buddhas, and by the power of all the Pure Lands,

and by the power of the Buddha, Dharma, and Sangha,

by the power of the meditation we have done,

by the power of the merits that we have created,

and by the power of the Ultimate Nature, Absolute Truth, by the power of interdependent causation,

May all mother beings have happiness, peace and joy May they always be with Healing Buddha's blessing light, blessing energy, and blessing sound, without separation And may we always be with Healing Buddha's blessing light, blessing energy, and blessing sound, without separation, day and night, awake or asleep, in good times and bad times

And may we always be the source of Healing Buddha's blessings for all mother beings, especially those with whom we have close connections, and we have special responsibilities

And by the power of all the Buddhas, May all our prayers be answered May all our wishes be fulfilled

(Benediction)

Now think and feel that Buddhas in the sky, and Buddhas in our body, give us their benediction. In one thunderous voice, filling the universe, they say to us:

'May your prayers be answered May your wishes be fulfilled

'May you be healed of your old illness ills of your mind, and your body

'And may you always be with Healing Buddha's blessing light, blessing energies, and blessing sound'

Think and feel that we have accomplished the healing activities, the blessings of the Healing Buddha.

Dedication Prayers, by Jason Espada, with Traditional Prayers (2013)

By this merit, and the merit of any other good I have done,

together with all the blessings and virtue of all the ten-directions three times
Buddhas and Bodhisattvas,
Saints and Sages,
Yidams,
Saviors, Great World Teachers,
Realized Beings,
Lamas, Monks and Nuns,
Yogis and Yoginis,
Arhats and Ajaans,
Contemplatives of all Traditions,
and all excellent practitioners,

by all these limitless skies of merit,

together with all the virtue and pure good wishes of family, friends, and noble, kind hearted people everywhere,

along with all the wonderful, positive energy of the natural world, and the blessings of celestial beings, angels and ancestors, guardians and protectors,

by the merit and positive energy of all the good that exists, by all the virtue of the Ultimate Nature, Universal Goodness, Universal Love and Compassion,

by all this merit,

May the benefit of beings everywhere effortlessly arise

May all beings benefit.

May all beings have happiness, and the causes of health and happiness.

May this bring healing wherever it is needed.

May this bring about the firm establishment of true health and happiness for us all.

By the virtue of this practice, by all this merit, may we all be completely_free from all illness, spirit harm, and from all of the afflictive emotions forever

May we all be completely free from all samsaric states forever May we all know freedom

May all beings completely realize the Dharmakaya, and, May this be the medicine that frees everyone from suffering

(a prayer by the Noble Spiritual Friend Lama Zopa Rinpoche)

By this merit, may all those who are unhappy in any way, (confused, angry, anxious, afraid, attached, sad or depressed, with distorted views), instantly be completely freed from those states.

May they be comforted, and may they have perfect peace, wisdom, strength and lasting joy. By all merit and positive spiritual energy, may all those who are suffering from pain or illness immediately be totally freed from that pain,

May they immediately be completely healed, and may they all be firmly established in true and lasting health and happiness well being and strength, comfort and ease.

By all this merit,
may all those who want to go on retreat
have the opportunity to do so without delay;
May they all have the resources they need,
may they find all suitable conditions,
and, without obstacles,
may their retreat go exceedingly well
May they have all excellent realizations

By all this merit,
May health increase everywhere
May ethics, and meditation and wisdom increase in me and in the world
May loving kindness and compassion increase, and
May peace and harmony increase everywhere

By all this merit, may all those who work to heal receive all they need May their healing qualities increase limitlessly, and may they remain without pride

By all this merit, may all monasteries, monks, nuns, and lay practitioners, Dharma Centers, hospitals, clinics, schools and social service centers have everything they need to serve beings most effectively

May monastics and the laity everywhere all keep completely pure ethics, develop the supreme good heart, and wisdom, and may all their good works effectively flourish forever

By all this merit,
may all beings have all they need in their lives
May those who need a job find a good job,
and may they prosper
May those who need a place to live find a good place to live
May those who need food and drink find good food and drink
May those who need a friend find a friend

By all this virtue,
May we all have everything we need to be truly happy

By all this merit,
May everything we see, hear, think about and dream be auspicious

By all this merit, may all the pure positive wishes we have for each other be completely fulfilled, instantly, and effortlessly, just as in a Pure Land

(the following two prayers I have heard and admired from Lama Zopa Rinpoche)

By all this virtue May those I hear about that are sick immediately be healed

May all those who have come to my attention who have any illness,

or who are unhappy, or in need in any way
be blessed
May they be healed
May they all benefit
May they all have happiness
and all the completely actualized causes of health and happiness

and,

May those I have heard about who have passed away be reborn in a Pure Land, without taking birth any place else

May their families be comforted May they all know blessed peace

By all this merit,
May those I hear about who are experiencing difficulties
be free from those difficulties,
and may all fortunate circumstances come to them right away

May the spiritual energy that arises from my devotion to the Enlightened Ones, be dedicated to dispelling the misery of living beings without exception

May the supreme jewel, bodhicitta arise where it has not yet arisen Where it has arisen, may it not diminish May it ever grow and flourish

By this merit, and the merit of any other good I have done, together with all the blessings and virtue of all the ten-directions three times Buddhas and Bodhisattvas, Saints and Sages,
Yidams,
Saviors, Great World Teachers,
Realized Beings,
Lamas, Monks and Nuns,
Yogis and Yoginis,
Arhats and Ajaans,
Contemplatives of all Traditions,
and all excellent practitioners,

by all these limitless skies of merit,

together with all the virtue and pure good wishes of family, friends, and noble, kind hearted people everywhere,

along with all the wonderful, positive energy of the natural world, and the blessings of celestial beings, angels and ancestors, guardians and protectors,

by the merit and positive energy of all the good that exists, by all the virtue of the Ultimate Nature, Universal Goodness, Universal Love and Compassion,

by all this merit,

May warfare cease, may all injury be healed, and all danger pacified

May we all produce the conditions for countless generations, starting now, to experience genuine peace May we all cherish one another and this world we live in

May we all be supremely respectful, considerate, kind, and gentle to ourselves and to each other

May our intentions equally penetrate every being and place with the true merit of Buddha's Way.

without grasping or clinging to anything at all, may it be this way

By all this merit,
may all those to whom I am connected
by good or bad karma,
have every happiness
May they all know freedom,
and may they be free of all suffering

May they receive all joys, and all good fortune, and may they and their loved ones, all have good health, wisdom, long life, well being, and strength, comfort and ease

By this merit, may family members and friends who are estranged be reconciled, and may there always be peace between them, from now on May all the prayers of the Buddhas and Bodhisattvas be completely realized now and may all of my prayers succeed immediately

By this virtue,
May those who are in need in any way whatsoever
receive every benefit
May all have happiness
and all the actualized complete causes of health and happiness

{at this point, a review of the names and circumstances of those particular individuals that you wish to pray for can be inserted here}

By all this virtue,
May those who are in need in any way whatsoever
receive every benefit
May all have happiness
and all the fully actualized complete causes of health and happiness

By all this merit, and by following the example of my Guides of Great Virtue, may I not withhold any gift whatsoever from any being in any place, wishing them all a great abundance of joys!

By all the limitless good that exists, may all the needs of all living beings everywhere be completely fulfilled

By all this merit, for every one of us, when this life is over, may we each be born immediately in a Pure Land, and in all our lives

May we never be separate from qualified teachers, and from conducive environments, with all the supportive conditions for continuing our practice of the Dharma

May I always go wherever I can bring the greatest benefit to others,

By all this virtue
May I attain the complete realization of all practice
that I bring all others to that same state

May we all individually attain the complete realization of our spiritual practice, freedom, genuine, stable happiness, health and peace, and all good things, wisdom, compassion, and ability

By all this merit,
May all holy teachers live long, and guide us until samsara ends.
And may there be peace and joy in all the world.

Dedication Prayers by Lama Zopa Rinpoche

II.

Due to all the past, present, and future merits collected by me and the merits of the three times collected by all the buddhas, bodhisattvas, and other sentient beings, may any sentient being just by seeing me, touching me, talking about me, remembering me, or dreaming about me never ever be reborn in the lower realms from that time forward. May they immediately be liberated from all disease, spirit harms, negative karma, and defilements.

May anyone who sees me, touches me, talks about me, or remembers me immediately be cured of cancer, AIDS, coma, arthritis, migraine, and other heavy diseases. May those possessed by spirits be immediately released from the harm of those spirits. May anyone who is dying immediately stop experiencing terrifying emotions and karmic appearances and feel incredible bliss in their heart. May they then be born in a pure land of Buddha, where there is no suffering of rebirth, old age, sickness, or emotional problems. Totally free from all suffering and its causes, may they become enlightened there.

III.

Due to all the past, present, and future merits collected by me, all the three times' merits collected by numberless sentient beings and numberless buddhas, may bodhichitta be actualized in one's heart.

Due to all the past, present, and future merits collected by me, all the three times' merits collected by numberless sentient beings and numberless buddhas,

may the bodhicitta, the source of all success for oneself, and happiness up to enlightenment, and the source of success and happiness for all the numberless hell beings, numberless hungy ghosts, numberless animals, numberless human beings, numberless suras and asuras, to be actualized in the heart of oneself and all sentient beings.

May it be generated in the hearts of all sentient beings, especially the supporters, those who are serving the organization in the past, present, and future, (especially those serving Kadampa Center), in the hearts of our family members; for bodhichitta to be generated and in those whose hearts it has been generated may it increase.

May the supreme jewel bodhichitta That has not arisen, arise and grow; And may that which has arisen not diminish But increase more and more.

Due to all the past, present, and future merits collected by me, all the three times' merits collected by numberless sentient beings and numberless buddhas, may bodhichitta be actualized in the hearts of all the leaders of the world, especially in those countries where there is unbelievable suffering, may bodhichitta be generated in their hearts...

May the supreme jewel bodhichitta
That has not arisen, arise and grow;
And may that which has arisen not diminish
But increase more and more.

Due to all the past, present, and future merits collected by me, all the three times' merits collected by numberless sentient beings and numberless buddhas, may bodhichitta be actualized in the hearts of all the people who follow different religions, may this world be filled with perfect peace and happiness, may whatever we do never harm and may it become only the cause of perfect peace and happiness.

May the supreme jewel bodhichitta That has not arisen, arise and grow; And may that which has arisen not diminish But increase more and more.

Every single understanding of Buddhism that we have, every single purification we do every day by doing the practice, every single merit we collect, every time we generate bodhichitta and it becomes cause of enlightenment, every time we meditate on lam rim and plant seeds of enlightenment, all this is due to the kindness of His Holiness the Dalai Lama; and, secondly, due to the kindness of Lama Yeshe. So pray for His Holiness the Dalai Lama to have a stable life and all his wishes to be successful; and pray for whatever wishes Lama Yeshe had to become successful; for Lama Osel to be like sunshine in the world, especially for young people, to turn their minds toward enlightenment.

Pray to actualize immediately all the prayers that Chenrezig made for Tibet in the presence of the buddhas and bodhisattvas.

Due to all the past, present, and future merits collected by me, all the three times' merits collected by numberless sentient beings and numberless buddhas, may all the father and mother sentient beings have happiness, may the lower realms be empty forever... May I be able to cause all this by myself, alone.

Whatever suffering other sentient beings have may it ripen upon me. Whatever happiness I have may it ripen upon other sentient beings.

Due to all the past, present, and future merits collected by me, all the three times' merits collected by numberless sentient beings and numberless buddhas, may oneself and one's own family members, all the students in the organization, all the supporters who have served the organization in past and

are serving now, everyone in this world; may we be guided by Lama Tsongkhapa being the Mahayana direct guru in all our lifetimes, never be separated from the pure path admired by all the buddhas.

Due to all the past, present, and future merits collected by me, all the three times' merits collected by numberless sentient beings and numberless buddhas, which exist but *totally* do not exist from their own side, may the I who exists but who *totally* does not exist from its own side, achieve Guru Shakyamuni Buddha's enlightenment, which exists but *totally* does not exist from its own side, and lead all sentient beings who exist, but who *totally* do not exist from their own side to that Guru Shakyamuni Buddha's enlightenment which *totally* does not exist from its own side by myself alone who *totally* does not exist from its own side.

May the organization, the FPMT, be most beneficial to sentient beings, to spread the lam rim teachings, cause the sentient beings to have lam rim realizations, and in particular the Kadampa Center (center wherever we are) to be most beneficial and to spread the lam rim teachings, the cause of realizations, in the hearts of sentient beings, and for oneself to spread the lam rim realizations in the hearts of all sentient beings.

May Lama Tsongkhapa's teachings, which unify sutra and tantra and are like refined gold, spread in the hearts of everyone in this world.

The King of Prayers - The Prayer of Ways High and Sublime

O lions amongst men, Buddhas past, present, and future, To as many of you as exist in the ten directions I bow down with my body, speech, and mind.

On waves of strength of this king
Of prayers for exalted sublime ways,
With bodies as numerous as atoms of the world
I bow down to the buddhas pervading space.

On every atom is found a buddha Sitting amongst countless buddha sons, I look with eyes of faith to the victorious ones Thus filling the entire dharmadhatu.

Of these with endless oceans of excellence Endowed with an ocean of wondrous speech I sing praises of the greatness of all buddhas, A eulogy to those gone to bliss.

Garlands of flowers I offer them, And beautiful sounds, supreme perfumes, Butter lamps and sacred incense, I offer to all the victorious ones.

Excellent food, supreme fragrances,
And a mound of mystic substances high as Mount Meru
I arrange in a special formation
And offer to those who have conquered themselves.

And all peerless offerings I hold up In admiration of those gone to bliss; With the strength of faith in sublime ways I prostrate and make offerings to the conquerors.

Long overpowered by attachment, aversion, and ignorance Countless evils I have committed With acts of body, speech, and mind. Each and every one of these I now confess.

In the perfections of the buddhas and bodhisattvas, The arhats, training and beyond, And in the latent goodness of every living being, I lift up my heart and rejoice.

O lights into the ten directions, Buddhas who have found the passionless stage of enlightenment, To all of you I direct this request: Turn the incomparable wheel of Dharma.

O masters wishing to show parinirvana, Stay with us and teach, I pray, For as many eons as there are specks of dust, In order to bring goodness and joy to all beings.

May any small merits that I may have amassed By thus prostrating, making offerings, confessing, rejoicing, And asking the buddhas to remain and teach the Dharma, Be dedicated now to supreme and perfect enlightenment.

May my offerings be received by all past buddhas
And by all those now abiding in the ten directions,
And may all the buddhas who have not yet come
Quickly perfect their minds and reach buddhahood, the state of supreme full awakening.

May all the buddha-realms of the ten directions
Remain forever vast and completely pure,
May the world be completely filled with buddhas who have attained illumination under sacred trees,
And may they all be surrounded by bodhisattvas.

May all living beings in the ten directions Always abide in health and joy. May they live in accord with the way of Dharma And may their every wish become fulfilled.

By my living in the ways of enlightenment May I remember my past lives in all my reincarnations, And in all cycles of death, migration, and rebirth May a sensitivity for truth be ever strong in me.

By my following in the footsteps of the buddhas May I utterly perfect the sublime ways of the bodhisattvas, And may I practice the faultless, undegenerating, stainless, And pure ways of self-control.

May I master all languages that exist, including those of The gods, yakshas, spirits, and varieties of men, As well as all forms of communication of living beings, That I may be able to show the Dharma in every way.

Striving thus and in the transcending perfections
May I never forget the bodhi mind,
And may I totally cleanse from within my mindstream
All negativities and mental veils.

May I gain freedom from karma, delusion, and karmic maras To be able to live in the world unaffected by its stains Like an unstained lotus grows in the mud, And like the sun and moon shine without obstruction in the sky.

For as long as there are buddha-fields and directions May I strive to quell the misery of the lower realms, May I place all beings only in happiness And bring them all only happiness and joy.

May I strive to complete the ways of enlightenment And to abide in ways harmonious with the world; May I expose to others the ways most sublime And myself abide in them throughout all future eons.

May my ways and the ways of a bodhisattva Always go together hand in hand. In body, speech, and mind May I attune to their sublime ways.

May I never be separated from the good friends
Who reveal the path of the sublime ways
And who wish only to benefit me;
May I never disappoint them for even a moment.

May I constantly envision the perfect buddhas, The protectors who are surrounded by bodhisattvas, And in the future may I never weary Of devoting myself to them with all my strength.

May I forever uphold the holy Dharma of the buddhas And illumine the sublime way of enlightenment; May I practice throughout all future ages The ways of deeds of the sublime path.

Circling in the various realms of existence May I amass inexhaustible goodness and wisdom, And may I become an unending treasure of qualities Such as methods, wisdom, samadhi, and the experience of a bodhisattva.

In every atom are buddha-fields numberless as atoms, Each field is filled with buddhas beyond conception, And each buddha is surrounded by myriad bodhisattvas: To all these dwellers in sublime ways I turn my attention.

Thus, in all atoms within the directions
Abide within the space of a single hair
An ocean of buddhas within an ocean of buddha-fields
Performing enlightened activities for an ocean of eons.

Each buddha with his perfect speech releases An ocean of sounds with every word he says To satisfy the infinitely diverse tendencies of beings: Thus does the speech of a buddha constantly flow.

All these conquerors past, present, and future Continually turn the methods of Dharma wheels; With all the powers of my mind I listen For the inexhaustible sound of their words.

All future eons that could possibly be, Manifest within me in a single instant; And I myself in a fraction of a moment Enter into all these eons of the three times.

All past, present, and future lions among men I envision with the instantaneous wisdom And by the power of the bodhisattvas' examples I focus upon the objects of their experience.

I manifest buddha-fields past, present, and future

Upon one single atom of existence, And then I transform every single atom Of existence into a buddha-field.

By this, when the future lights of the worlds Eventually gain bodhi, turn the Dharma wheels, And reveal the passing to nirvana's supreme peace, May I take rebirth in their very presence.

Then may I attain the ten powers:
The power of instant magical emanation,
The power which is a vehicle with every door,
The power of excellent activity,
The power of all-pervading love,
The power of constantly positive energy,
The power of passionless wisdom,
The powers of knowledge, method, and samadhi,
And the power of enlightenment itself.

May I purify the power of karma,
May I crush the powers of delusion,
May I render powerless the powerful maras,
And may I perfect the powers of sublime ways.

May I purify an ocean of realms, May I liberate an ocean of sentient beings, May I see an ocean of truths, And may I realize an ocean of wisdom.

May I perform an ocean of perfect deeds,
May I perfect an ocean of prayers,
May I revere an ocean of buddhas,
And may I practice untiringly for an ocean of eons.

Through my practice of the sublime bodhisattva ways May I gain the enlightenment of buddhahood And then fulfill the enlightened and sublime aspiration Of the buddhas past, present, and future.

In order to match the ways of the sage Called Samantabhadra, the always-sublime one, Chief amongst the awakened ones' sons, I now dedicate all virtues that I possess.

Just as the sublime sage Samantabhadra
Dedicated all pure practices of body, speech, and mind
To the attainment of a pure state and pure realms,
So do I now dedicate the fruit of all my efforts.

In order to engage in all sublime virtues
I offer the prayer of Manjushri;
In the future may I never become faint
In striving to perfect the exalted bodhisattvas' way.

May my deeds never reach a limit,
May my qualities of excellence become boundless,
And by abiding in immeasurable activity
May I find buddhahood, the state of limitless manifestation.

Limitless is the extent of space,
Limitless is the number of sentient beings,
And limitless is the karma and delusions of beings
Such are the limits of my aspirations.

One may offer supreme ornaments of the buddha-fields Of the ten directions to the conquerors, And also offer the highest joys of men and gods For eons numerous as atoms of the world. But to read or hear the King of Prayers
With eyes looking toward supreme illumination
And faith shining in one's heart for even an instant
Gives birth to a far more superior merit.

Should anyone recite this aspiration of sublime ways They will pass beyond all states of sorrow, Rise above all inferior beings, and gain A vision of Amitabha, Buddha of Infinite Light.

Even in this very lifetime All sublime joys will be theirs; The experiences of the all-sublime Samantabhadra, Without obstructions, will quickly be theirs.

Merely by giving voice to these aspirations
Of the sublime ways of a bodhisattva,
The effects can only be known by an omniscient buddha.
Therefore, doubt not that it leads to enlightenment.

In order to follow the excellent examples set By the wisdom of the bodhisattva Manjushri And the always-sublime Samantabhadra, All virtues I dedicate to their peerless ideals.

All conquerors passed into the three times Have praised as supreme this peerless dedication. Therefore, I also surrender all roots of my activities To the sublime goals of a bodhisattva.

When the moment of my death arrives, May I remain free from the spiritual obscurations; May I perceive the face of Amitabha And transmigrate to Sukhavati, the pure land of joy.

Having arrived there, may I fulfill All aims of this prayer of aspirations And benefit the countless living beings Residing throughout the ten directions.

In the joyous mandala of Amitabha Buddha May I be reborn from a beautiful lotus, And may I there have the pleasure of gaining A pure prophecy from Amitabha himself.

Having won this word of prophecy, By the power of mind may I fill all directions With many millions of mystical emanations And bring limitless benefits to the world.

If by reciting this prayer of the sublime ways I have amassed a tiny fragment of goodness, May it work immediately to fulfill All Dharmic hopes of living beings.

Colophon: Thus is the complete Great King of Prayers, The Prayer of Ways High and Sublime.

Translated by Glenn H. Mullin with Thepo Tulku.

The Lam Rim Dedication Prayer

From my two collections, vast as space, that I have amassed From working with effort at this practice for a great length of time, May I become the chief leading Buddha for all those Whose mind's wisdom eye is blinded by ignorance.

Even if I do not reach this state, may I be held In your loving compassion for all my lives, Manjushri May I find the best of complete graded paths of the teachings And may I please all the Buddhas by practicing.

Using skillful means drawn by the strong force of compassion, May I clear the darkness from the minds of all beings With the points of the path as I have discerned them:

May I uphold Buddha's teachings for a very long time.

With my heart going out with great compassion In whatever direction the most precious teachings Have not yet spread, or once spread have declined, May I expose this treasure of happiness and aid.

May the minds of those who wish for Liberation be granted bounteous peace.

And the Buddha's deeds be nourished for a long time By even this Graded Course to Enlightenment completed due to The wondrous virtuous conduct of the Buddhas and their Sons.

May all human and non-human beings who eliminate adversity And make things conducive for practicing the excellent paths Never be parted in any of their lives From the purest path praised by the Buddhas. Whenever someone makes effort to act
In accordance with the ten-fold Mahayana virtuous practices
May he always be assisted by the mighty ones
And may oceans of prosperity spread everywhere.

From A Guide to the Bodhisattva's Way of Life - Chapter Ten - Dedication

- 1. May all sentient beings be graced with the Bodhisattva way of life by the virtue I have obtained while reflecting on *A Guide to the Bodhisattva Way of Life*.
- 2. Through my merit, may all those in all directions who are afflicted by bodily and mental sufferings obtain oceans of joy and contentment.
- 3. As long as the cycle of existence lasts, may their happiness never decline. May the world attain the constant joy of the Bodhisattvas.
- 4. As many hells as there are in the worlds, may beings in them delight in the joys of contentment in Sukhavati.
- 5. May those afflicted with cold find warmth. May those oppressed with heat be cooled by oceans of water springing from the great clouds of the Bodhisattvas.
- 6. May the forest of sword-leaves become for them the splendor of a pleasure-grove; and may the swordlike Salmali trees grow as wish-fulfilling trees.
- 7. May the regions of hell become vast ponds of delight, fragrant with lotuses, beautiful and pleasing with the cries of white geese, wild ducks, ruddy geese, and swans.
- 8. May the heap of burning coal become a mound of jewels. May the burning ground become a crystal marble floor; and may the mountains of "the crushing hell" become temples of worship filled with Sugatas.
- 9. May the rain of burning coal, lava, and daggers from now on become a rain of flowers; and may mutual battling with weapons now become a playful flower-fight.

- 10. By the power of my virtue, may those whose flesh has completely fallen off, whose skeletons are of the color of a white jasmine flower, and who are immersed in the river Vaitarani whose water is like fire, attain celestial bodies and dwell with goddesses by the river Mandakini.
- 11. May the horrifying agents of Yama, crows, and vultures suddenly watch here in fear. Those looking upward behold blazing Vajrapani in the sky and wonder: "Whose is this brilliant light that dispels darkness all around and generates the joy of contentment?" May they depart together with him, freed of vice through the power of their joy.
- 12. A rain of lotuses falls mixed with fragrant waters. It is seen to extinguish the unceasing fires of the hells. May the beings of the hells, suddenly refreshed with joy, wonder, What is this? and may they see Padmapani.
- 13. Friends, come, come quickly! Cast away fear! We are alive! A radiant vanquisher of fear, a certain prince in a monastic robe, has come to us. By his power every adversity is removed, streams of delight flow, the Spirit of Awakening is born, as is compassion, the mother of protection of all beings.
- 14. Behold him whose lotus-feet are worshiped with tiaras of hundreds of gods, whose eyes are moist with compassion, on whose head a stream of diverse flowers rains down, with his delightful summer palaces celebrated by thousands of goddesses singing hymns of praise. Upon seeing Manjughosa before them, may the beings of the hells immediately cheer.
- 15. Through my virtues, may the beings of the hells rejoice upon seeing the unobscured clouds of Bodhisattvas, headed by Samantabhadra and bearing pleasant, cool, and fragrant rains and breezes.

- 16. May the intense pains and fears of the beings of the hells be pacified. May the inhabitants of all miserable states of existence be liberated from their woeful states.
- 17. May the animals' risk of being eaten by each other disappear. May the *pretas* be as happy as the people in Uttarakuru.
- 18. May the *pretas* always be satiated, bathed, and refreshed by the streams of milk pouring from the hand of noble Avalokitesvara.
- 19. May the blind always see forms, and may the deaf hear. May pregnant women give birth without pains, as did Mayadevi.
- 20. May they acquire everything that is beneficial and desired by the mind: clothing, food, drink, flower garlands, sandal-paste, and ornaments.
- 21. May the fearful become fearless and those struck by grief find joy. May the despondent become resolute and free of trepidation.
- 22. May the ill have good health. May they be freed from every bondage. May the weak become strong and have affectionate hearts for one another.
- 23. May all regions be advantageous to all those who travel on roads. May the purpose for which they set out be expediently accomplished.
- 24. May those who journey by boat succeed as they desire. May they safely reach the shore and rejoice with their relatives.
- 25. May those who find themselves on wrong paths in dreary forests come upon the company of fellow travelers; and without fatigue, may they journey without fear of bandits, tigers, and the like.

- 26. May deities protect the dull, the insane, the deranged, the helpless, the young, and the elderly, and those in danger from sickness, the wilderness, and so on.
- 27. May they be free from all lack of leisure; may they be endowed with faith, wisdom, and compassion; may they be possessed of stature and good conduct; and may they always remember their former lives.
- 28. May they be inexhaustible treasuries just like Sky-treasure. Free of conflict or irritation, may they have an independent way of life.
- 29. May beings who have little splendor be endowed with great magnificence. May unattractive wretches be endowed with beauty.
- 30. May the women in the world become men (if they wish to). May the lowly obtain grandeur and yet be free of arrogance.
- 31. Through this merit of mine, may all beings without exception abstain from every vice and always engage in virtue.
- 32. Not lacking the Spirit of Awakening, devoted to the Bodhisattva way of life, embraced by the Buddhas, and free of the deeds of Maras,
- 33. May all beings have immeasurable life spans. May they always live happily, and may even the word "death" disappear.
- 34. May all quarters of the world be delightful with gardens of wishfulfilling trees, filled with the Buddhas and the Children of the Buddhas, and be enchanting with the sounds of Dharma.
- 35. May the ground everywhere be free from stones and rocks, smooth like the palm of the hand, soft and made of lapis lazuli.

- 36. May the great assemblies of Bodhisattvas sit on all sides. May they beautify the earth with their own resplendence.
- 37. May all beings unceasingly hear the sound of Dharma from the birds, from every tree, from the rays of light, and from the sky.
- 38. May they always encounter the Buddhas and the Children of the Buddhas. May they worship the Spiritual Mentor of the World with endless clouds of offerings.
- 39. May a god send rain in time, and may there be an abundance of crops. May the populace be prosperous, and may the king be righteous.
- 40. May medicines be effective, and may the mantras of those who recite them be successful. May *dakinis*, *raksasas*, and other ghouls be filled with compassion.
- 41. May no sentient being be unhappy, sinful, ill, neglected, or despised; and may no one be despondent.
- 42. May monasteries be well established, full of chanting and study. May there always be harmony among the Sangha, and may the purpose of the Sangha be accomplished.
- 43. May monks (and nuns) who wish to practice find solitude. May they meditate with their minds agile and free of all distractions.
- 44. May (monks and) nuns (monastics) receive provisions and be free of quarrels and troubles. May all renunciates be of untarnished ethical discipline.

- 45. May those who are of poor ethical discipline be disgusted and become constantly intent on the extinction of their vices. May they reach a fortunate state of existence, and may their vows remain unbroken there.
- 46. May they be learned and cultured, receive alms, and have provisions. May their mind-streams be pure and their fame be proclaimed in every direction.
- 47. Without experiencing the suffering of the miserable states of existence and without arduous practice, may the world attain Buddhahood in a single divine body.
- 48. May all sentient beings worship all the Buddhas in many ways. May they be exceedingly joyful with the inconceivable bliss of the Buddhas.
- 49. May the Bodhisattvas' wishes for the welfare of the world be fulfilled; and whatever the Protectors intend for sentient beings, may that be accomplished.
- 50. May the Pratyekabuddhas and Sravakas be happy, always worshiped by the lofty gods, *asuras*, and humans.
- 51. Through the grace of Manjughosa, may I always achieve ordination and the recollection of past lives until I reach the Joyous Ground.
- 52. May I live endowed with strength in whatever posture I am. In all my lives may I find plentiful places of solitude.
- 53. When I wish to see or ask something, may I see the Protector Marijunatha himself, without any impediment.
- 54. May my way of life be like that of Manjusri, who lives to accomplish the benefit of all sentient beings throughout the ten directions.

- 55. For as long as space endures and for as long as the world lasts, may I live dispelling the miseries of the world.
- 56. Whatever suffering there is for the world, may it all ripen upon me. May the world find happiness through all the virtues of the Bodhisattvas.
- 57. May the teaching that is the sole medicine for the suffering of the world and the source of all prosperity and joy remain for a long time, accompanied by riches and honor.
- 58. I bow to Manjughosa, through whose grace my mind turns to virtue. I salute my spiritual friend through whose kindness it becomes stronger.

A Dedication Prayer, by Shantideva

May all beings everywhere, Plagued by sufferings of body and mind, Obtain an ocean of happiness and joy By virtue of these merits.

May no living creature suffer, Commit evil or ever fall ill. May no one be afraid or belittled, With a mind weighed down by depression.

May the blind see forms, And the deaf hear sounds. May those whose bodies are worn with toil Be restored on finding repose.

May the naked find clothing, The hungry find food. May the thirsty find water And delicious drinks.

May the poor find wealth,
Those weak with sorrow find joy.
May the forlorn find hope,
Constant happiness and prosperity

May there be timely rains
And bountiful harvests.
May all medicines be effective
And wholesome prayers bear fruit.

May all who are sick and ill Quickly be freed from their ailments. Whatever diseases there are in the world, May they never occur again.

May the frightened cease to be afraid And those bound be freed. May the powerless find power And may people think of benefiting each other.

For as long as space remains, and for as long as sentient beings remain, until then, may I too remain, to dispel the suffering of the world