

The Aspiration of Samantabhadra The Activities of the Bodhisattva Samantabhadra

Homage to the ever-youthful exalted Manjushri!

With purity of body, speech, and mind, I bow to all the heroic Buddhas of the past, present, and future without exception in every world in all the ten directions.

By the power of this Aspiration of Samantabhadra, I bow with as many bodies as there are atoms in the Pure Lands to all those victorious Buddhas manifest in my mind, and I pay homage to all of them.

I conceive the entire realm of truth to be completely filled with Enlightened Ones. On each atom I imagine there to be as many Buddhas as atoms in the Pure Lands, each Buddha surrounded by many Bodhisattvas.

I honor all these blissful lords, praising their perfections with all the sounds of an ocean of varied melodies, an ocean of endless praise.

I offer to those heroic Buddhas the finest flowers, garlands, music and ointments, excellent canopies, choice lamps, and the best incense.

I offer as well to those Victorious Ones the finest array of all excellent things, the finest robes and fragrances, and heaps of sweet smelling powders as high as Mount Meru.

By the power of my faith in the deeds of Samantabhadra, I prostrate and present vast and unequalled offerings to each of the victorious Buddhas.

I confess every type of wrong that I have done in thought, word, or deed, under the influence of desire, anger or ignorance.

I rejoice in the meritorious deeds of all the Buddhas of the ten directions, the Bodhisattvas, Pratyeka Buddhas, Arhats, practitioners and all sentient beings.

I request the enlightened protectors who have attained the detachment of Buddhahood and illumine the worlds of the ten directions to turn the peerless Wheel of Dharma.

With folded hands, I beseech those who intend to manifest the final Nirvana, to remain for as many eons as there are atoms in all the Pure Lands, for the benefit and happiness of all living beings.

May whatever small amount of virtue I may have gained from prostrating, offering, confessing, rejoicing, requesting and beseeching, be dedicated to attaining perfect enlightenment.

May I worship the Buddhas of the past and those now present in the worlds of the ten directions, may those to come quickly fulfill their aspiration and reach Buddhahood by traversing the stages of enlightenment.

May all the worlds of the ten directions become pure and filled with Bodhisattvas and victorious Buddhas who proceed to the royal tree of enlightenment.

May all living beings in the ten directions always be happy and free of sickness. May the contents of the Dharma be in harmony with the needs of all living beings and fulfill their hopes.

May I perform all the deeds of enlightenment and remember my lives in all states of existence. And in all my lives, after death, migration, and rebirth, may I always embrace religious life.

May I follow all the victorious Buddhas and perfect all the deeds of Samantabhadra. Pure in the immaculate deeds of morality, may my conduct always be flawless and without fault.

May I teach the Dharma in every tongue, in whatever sounds are understood by living beings, in the language of the gods, nagas, demons, spirits, and human beings.

May I always diligently and patiently perform the perfections. May I never disregard my intention to attain enlightenment and completely remove whatever faults may obscure it.

Freed from karma, defilements, and actions of demons, as a lotus is unsoiled by the mire, so in every rebirth in the world may I proceed unhindered, like the sun and moon in a clear sky.

Throughout all the lands in all the directions, may the sufferings of lower realms be completely relieved. Establishing beings in happiness, may I work for the benefit of all living beings.

Fully accomplishing the activities of enlightenment, may I work in harmony with the activities of all beings. May I practice and demonstrate the deeds of Samantabhadra, through all future eons.

May I always associate with those whose activities are similar to mine. May we act alike in thought, word, and deed, and may our aspirations be as one.

May those friends who wish to help me, and also demonstrate the deeds of Samantabhadra, always meet me again, and may I never cause them pain.

May I always personally behold the victorious Buddhas, those guardians surrounded by Bodhisattvas. And without tiring, in all future eons, may I always present them magnificent offerings.

May I always uphold the Buddhas' holy Dharma and illuminate the deeds of enlightenment. May I train in the practice of Samantabhadra in all future eons.

Through rebirth in all the stages of existence, may I gather endless stores of merit and wisdom. May I become an inexhaustible treasure of all virtues of method, wisdom, concentration, and liberation.

May I always behold as many Pure lands as there are atoms present in each Pure land, with inconceivable Buddhas sitting in the midst of their Bodhisattvas and performing the activities of enlightenment.

In this way may I be able to see everywhere, even on every mote of dust, countless Buddhas of the past, present, and future, limitless pure Lands, and endless eons.

May I always heed the pure speech of the victorious Buddhas, which holds within each word the totality of the perfect Dharma, and an ocean of words and languages precisely suited to the needs of all beings.

May I possess perfect intelligence so as to heed the endless melody of speech when the victorious Buddhas of the past, present, and future turn the Wheels of Dharma.

May I accomplish the Bodhisattvas practice of entering the past, present, and future in a fraction of a second. May I enter all the future eons in a single instant.

May I behold all the heroic Buddhas of the past, present, and future in a single instant. May I always perform their activities through the power of liberation from illusion.

May I perceive upon a single atom the perfect design of the pure realms of the past, present, and future. Thus, may I enter into the realms of the victorious Buddhas in all directions.

May the illuminators of the worlds of the future realize the stages of Buddhahood of turning the wheel and of the profound peace of Nirvana, and may I always be in their presence.

May I acquire the perfectly accomplished powers of enlightenment the power of miraculous swiftness, the power of perfection of every spiritual path, the power of all virtuous qualities.

The power of all-pervasive love, the power of the merit of every virtue, the power of all-transcendent wisdom, and powers of perfect knowledge, method, and meditation.

May the power of action be utterly purified, the power of passions utterly subdued, the power of demons utterly destroyed, and the power of deeds of Samantabhadra perfected.

May the ocean of lands be purified, the ocean of beings liberated, the ocean of Dharma realized, and the ocean of wisdom fully attained.

May the ocean of practice be purified and the ocean of aspirations accomplished. May oceans of Buddhas be ceaselessly worshiped and the deeds of enlightenment tirelessly performed.

May I completely fulfill all perfect aspirations to enlightened activities, in order to attain the stage of the victorious Buddhas of the past, present, and future according to the deed of Samantabhadra.

The eldest son of the victorious Buddhas is called Samantabhadra. I dedicate all these virtuous actions that my deeds may be like his.

May my body, speech, mind, activities, and environment always be pure, and may I become equal to this excellent Aspiration of Samantabhadra.

May I tirelessly accomplish the virtuous deeds of Samantabhadra and the aspirations of the bodhisattva Manjushri, throughout all future eons.

May there be no limit to my activities. May there be no limit to my virtues. Though limitless perseverance may I accomplish all miraculous deeds.

The limit of living beings is like the limit of open space. May the limit of my aspirations be equal to the limit of their activities and passions.

Whoever offers to the victorious Buddhas all the perfect joys of gods and men, and the infinite realms of the ten directions adorned with jewels, for as many eons as there are atoms in those realms, shall gain merit.

But whoever hears this greatest dedication prayer and is inspired by faith to intensely desire supreme enlightenment, shall gain even higher and holier merit.

Whoever recites this Aspiration of Samantabhadra will never again endure hellish rebirth, will abandon all evil friends, and will soon behold the Buddha of Boundless Light.

They will gain all benefits, live in happiness, attain precious human rebirth, and soon become like Samantabhadra himself.

Even those who in ignorance committed the five unredeemable sins, will soon be completely purified by reciting this Aspiration of Samantabhadra.

They will achieve perfect wisdom, a radiant countenance, ethereal form, auspicious physical marks, and a noble birth. Profane and devilish beings will not trouble them, and they will be honored in the three realms.

They will quickly reach the royal tree of enlightenment, residing there to benefit all beings. As enlightened Buddhas, they will turn the Wheel of The Dharma, taming the demonic hosts.

Whoever knows, teaches, or recites this Aspiration of Samantabhadra shall ultimately attain perfect Buddhahood. May none despair of complete enlightenment.

In whatever way valiant Manjushri and Samantabhadra know how to transfer merit, so do I dedicate all of my own virtues, that I might train to be like them.

Through this dedication, praised as supreme by the victorious Buddhas of the past, present, and future, I dedicate all of these roots of virtue to accomplishing the deeds of Samantabhadra.

At the moment of my death, may all obscurations be removed that I may behold the Buddha of Boundless light and go to the Pure Land of Perfect Bliss.

In that blissful land, may I completely fulfill all of these aspirations, and benefit all beings as long as the universe remains.

Joyful there, in that blessed assembly of the Buddhas, may I be reborn like the holy Ones from an exquisite lotus, and may the Buddha Amitabha himself foretell my own enlightenment.

May I thereafter accomplish countless benefits for living beings in all the ten directions, by the power of perfect wisdom in its myriad incarnations.

Through whatever small virtue I have gathered by reciting this Aspiration of Samantabhadra, may all the virtuous aspirations of living beings be accomplished in a single instant.

Through the boundless merit gained by so dedicating these Aspirations of Samantabhadra, may the countless beings drowning in the torrent of suffering reach the stage of Amitabha.

May this greatest of dedication prayers benefit countless living beings. May reciting this ornament of Samantabhadra release all beings from the suffering of the lower realms.

“The Aspiration of Samantabhadra”, The Activities of The Bodhisattva Samantabhadra, is from a chapter of the manifold Teachings of Dharma within the Three Baskets entitled, “The Ornament of the Palpoche Sutra” which was inspired by the vast monastic offerings of Norzang.

This translation was first produced by the Sakya Monastery in Seattle, Washington, under the direction of the late His Eminence Dezhung Rinpoche, meditation master and great Scholar. The translation was done by Lama Kalsang Gyaltzen. This prayer is repeated in most monasteries and the merit one gains from just one repetition is inculpable. This prayer serves as the basis for vast Buddha activity and Dharmakirti College (www.dharmakirti.org) is pleased to make this prayer available for continued future activity.