

A Brief Practice for Paying Homage and Making Offerings to the Buddha together with his retinue of Arhats

by Jamyang Khyentse Wangpo

om svasti

Oṃ Svasti!

Should you wish to pay homage and make offerings and prayers to the Buddha and the sixteen sthviras, prepare some offerings, and arrange them cleanly and beautifully before an image of Buddha Śākyamuni and his retinue. If this is not possible, the practice may be done as a visualization.

Refuge and Bodhicitta

sangye chö dang tsok kyi chok nam la

In the Buddha, the Dharma and the Supreme Assembly,

changchub bardu dak ni kyab su chi

I take refuge until I attain enlightenment.

dak gi jinsok gyipé sönam kyi

Through the merit of practising generosity and so on,

dro la pen chir sangye drubpar shok

May I attain buddhahood for the benefit of beings!

3 times

Blessing the Environment

kyabné könchok sum gyi denpa dang

By the truth of the Buddha, Dharma and Saṅgha, the objects of refuge,

gyalwa sé ché nam kyi jinlab dang

The blessings of all the victorious ones and their bodhisattva heirs,

tsok nyi ngatang chöying dak tob kyi

The power of the two accumulations and the purity and strength of the dharmadhātu,

nöchü dechen shying gi köpé ü

May the outer environment and its inhabitants become those of the blissful paradise of Sukhāvātī, with, in its centre,

yitrok norbü shyalmé khang chenpor

A great celestial palace of precious gems, stunning to behold,

rinchen sengtri pé dé den chok dang

Inside which is a jewelled lion throne with lotus and moon-disc seats—

ngö sham zung rik mö tob kyi trulpé

Here and now, may I experience this pure realm filled with clouds of actual offerings,

chötrin gyatsö gang shyang chö gyur chik

And those created through the power of mantras,
awareness and aspiration!

With this, the place and offerings are all blessed.

Invocation

Then, focusing your aspiration one-pointedly, recite the following:

laktil tar nyam rinchen gyi trepa

The ground is smooth like the palm of the hand, and
bedecked with jewels.

jönshing chu tsö gyenpé sashyi ü

It is adorned with wish-granting trees, rivers and lakes. In its
centre,

rinchen lé drub dru shyi go shyipa

In the jewelled palace with its four sides and four doors,

pema nyidé gyenpé den tengdu

Upon seats of lotus, sun and moon,

tukjé tsöpé dü kyi dulja nam

Is the compassionate protector of beings, the one who sets

namdrol lam la gödzé drowé gön

The beings of these troubled times on the path to liberation,

tubpa chok dang neten chenpo nam

The supreme Śākyamuni together with the great sthaviras—

khor dang chepa né dir shek su sol

Come now to this place together with your retinues, we pray!

When doing the practice more elaborately, the longer verses of praise and offering to the arhats can be done here. If you are doing the concise version then simply continue with:

tabkhé tukjé shakyé rik su trung

Through skilful means and compassion, you were born in the Śākya clan,

shyen gyi mitub dü kyī pung jompa

And, utterly invincible, you overcame the forces of Māra,

ser gyi lhünpo tabur jipé ku

Your form resplendent like a mountain of burnished gold—

shakyé gyalpö shyab la chaktsal lo

King of the Śākyas, at your feet I bow!

tubpé kagö tenpé gyaltsen dzin

You who were instructed by the Buddha to uphold the victory banner of the teachings:

yenlak jung dang ma pam naknané

Aṅgiraja, Ajita and Vanavāsin,

düden dorje möbu zangpo dang

Kālīka, Vajrīputra and Śrībhadrā,

serbe'u bharadhaja serchen chok

Kanakavatsa and sublime Kanakabharadvāja,

pakpa bakula dang drachen dzin

The noble Bakula and Rāhula,

lamtren bharadhaja sōnyom len

Kṣūḍāpanthaka and Piṇḍola Bharadvāja,

lamten lüdé bejé michepa

Panthaka, Nāgasena, Gopaka and Abhedya,

genyen dharmata dang gyalchen shyi

Upāsaka Dharmatala and the four great kings,

khor dang chepa shyab kyi pemo la

Together with all your retinues—at your lotus feet,

chaktsal kyab chi nying né solwa deb

I prostrate, taking refuge and offering heartfelt prayers!

sashyi pö chü juk shing metok tram

The ground is purified with scented water and strewn with flowers;

rirab ling shyi nyidé gyenpa di

It is adorned with Sumeru, the four continents and the sun and moon:

sangye shying du mik té pulwa yi

Thinking of it as the blessed buddha-fields, I offer it.

dro kün namdak shying la chöpar shok

By virtue of this offering, may all beings enjoy the happiness of those pure realms.

ngö sham zung rik mö tob kyi trulpé

Both actual offerings and those created through the power of mantras, awareness and aspiration,

chö tsok kün bul diktung tamché shak

All these I offer; I confess all my harmful acts and downfalls;

gé la yirang kul shying solwa deb

I rejoice in all that is virtuous, and request and beseech you!

di tsön gewa changchub chenpor ngo

All this virtue, I dedicate towards great enlightenment!

With this, perform the seven-branch offering. If you are an ordained monk or nun, and you need to do the practices of Sojong or Düdren, they can be done here.

chomden dendzom chenpo gong su sol

Great conquerors and throne holders, please think of us!

tubwang neten pakpé tsok nam kyi

Lord of sages and gathering of noble sthaviras,

tsen chok tö dang dren jö chakchö tü

By the power of hearing, thinking of, and repeating your names, and paying homage and making offerings to you,

dakchak lasok semchen gang dang gang

For us and all other beings, whosoever and wheresoever they may be,

nekab tartuk mitün chok kün shyi

May all temporary and ultimate disharmony be pacified!

dekyi chöden paljor rabtu pel

And may happiness, virtue, glory and prosperity increase!

tek chok geweshé kyi jezung né

Bless us, so that we may follow the spiritual teachers of the supreme vehicle,

sung gi dütsi tsowar jingyi lob

And always be sustained by the nectar of their teachings!

tsultrim dak ching tö sam gompar den

Bless us to maintain pure discipline and engage in study, reflection and meditation,

ngepar jung dang changchub sem nyi jong

So we may train perfectly in renunciation and twofold bodhicitta,

taktu shyenpen chö lé miyelwé

And without ever neglecting activity for the benefit of others,

namkhyen gopang tobpar jingyi lob

Attain the level of perfect omniscience!

gyalten drimé chok chur dar shyng gyé

May the faultless teaching of the Buddha flourish and spread in all directions!

tendzin chok nam shyabpé kal gyar ten

May the supreme holders of the teachings remain for hundreds of kalpas!

jikten gelek chenpö khyabpa dang

May virtue and excellence pervade throughout the world!

dön nyi lhün gyi drubpé tashi shok

And may our own and others' benefit be spontaneously accomplished!

Recite this prayer and then further adorn the practice with verses of auspiciousness.

The carefree Jamyang Khyentse Wangpo composed this prayer for the benefit of those with faith. May it be accomplished!