

The Compassion Network

Buddhist Canonical Texts

Scripture on the Vows of Mañjuśrī

Canonical Source: Taishō *Tripitaka*, Vol. 10, No. 0296

CBETA Reference: [T10n0296](#) 文殊師利發願經 (*Mañjuśrīpraṇidhānarāja*)

Translator: Buddhabhadra, Northern Indian *Tripitaka* Master (East Jin Dynasty)

Part I — Paying Homage & Purifying

*Purifying body, speech, and mind,
may every stain be left behind.
With single heart I bow in reverence
to Buddhas of all time and space.*

*Through Samantabhadra's¹ vow-power bright,
I see all Buddhas in their light.
To every realm where Buddhas stand,
as dust-motes countless, I bow in every land.*

*In one small mote of dust I see
all Buddhas with their company,
encircled by awakening beings near,
in every dust mote where truths appear.*

*With wondrous tones of praise I rise
to those victorious in all wise;
their merit, ocean-deep and wide,
never diminished, never denied.*

*Through Samantabhadra's practice strong,
I gather finest gifts along;
to Buddhas everywhere I bring
my offerings through each time and ring.*

*With incense sweet and flowers fair,
and music rising through the air,*

1 Samantabhadra / Universally Good: Rendered in Chinese as 普賢 (Pǔxián), the literal translation of the Sanskrit name Samantabhadra (*samanta* = universal, all-pervading; *bhadra* = good, auspicious, virtuous). In *Mahāyāna* iconography and textual tradition, Samantabhadra embodies the practical application of vows, active conduct (*caryā*), and fundamental goodness, complementing Mañjuśrī's representation of transcendent wisdom (*prajñā*).

*with adornments wondrous, bright, and free,
I offer them to Buddhas endlessly.*

*Through greed, through hatred, through delusion's sway,
I've wandered in misdeeds astray;
my unwholesome faults of body, speech, and mind,
I now confess and leave behind.*

Part II — Rejoicing & Requesting

*Blessing that all beings gain,
merit that śrāvakas and pratyekabuddhas sustain,
and virtue Buddhas and bodhisattvas possess—
in all these fields of merit I rejoice no less.*

*To Buddhas present everywhere,
who upon Perfect Enlightenment declare,
I ask with heart both firm and real
that they may turn the unexcelled Dharma wheel.*

*To those who show nirvāṇa's peace,
with joined palms I pray they cease
their leaving for eons as dust-grains spread,
bringing joy and calm where beings tread.*

*All the merit I hold dear
I dedicate to far and near;
may beings walk the bodhisattva way
and reach enlightenment's perfect sway.*

Part III — Practices & Dedication

*To Buddhas past in realms untold,
and present ones in worlds tenfold,
may future World-Honored Ones soon
the supreme path of truth attune.*

*May Buddha-fields in realms extend
be adorned from end to end;
where Thus-Come Ones at bodhi stay,
bodhisattvas gather in array.*

*May beings everywhere be freed
from every grief and troubled seed;
may truth's deep meaning be made known,
and joy abide as their own.*

*As I pursue the bodhisattva way,
may past-life knowledge light my day;*

*and may all obstacles break and fall,
for awakening's sake, once and for all.*

*From birth and death may I be free,
from māras' snares and karmic sea;
like sun suspended in the sky,
like a lotus untainted by waters high.*

*Traversing realms in every place,
transforming beings with skill and grace,
freeing those in sorrow's night,
I plant in them the practice bright.*

*Though mundane tasks may rise for me,
the bodhisattva path I never flee;
through countless eons may I strive
to keep Samantabhadra's vows alive.*

*If others hold the vows I bear,
may we abide in realms most fair;
so deeds of body, speech, and mind
in harmony be well aligned.*

Part IV — Vision & Power

*If I meet friends of virtue good
who reveal the practice of Universally Good,
may I draw near their place of seeing
and stay with them, my heart agreeing.*

*May Buddhas ever meet my gaze,
encircled by enlightening arrays;
through future kalpas vast and clear,
I offer homage ever dear.*

*I guard the Dharma Buddhas teach
and laud the deeds that bodhisattvas reach;
through future ages I refine
Samantabhadra's path divine.*

*Though bound within the mortal round,
may endless merit in me be found;
with wisdom's art and skillful means,
and meditative calm that frees all beings.*

*In each small particle of dust I see
realms inconceivable rise to be;
within each realm are Buddhas told
through ten directions, brave and bold.*

*Thus everywhere this truth is shown—
seas of worlds in depth unknown;
and in each ocean-realm I see
an ocean of Buddhas endlessly.*

*Within a single utterance clear
all wondrous voices I can hear;
and in each tone of truth I find
the highest voice of truth refined.*

*Through wisdom's power vast and deep,
may I enter wondrous sound's wide sweep,
where Buddhas of the ages keep
the Dharma wheel turning, pure and steep.*

Part V — Conclusion of the Vows

*Vast and deep, may future times
be held within a single mind;
may eons past and those to be
converge within one instant's bind.*

*In that moment may I see
all Buddhas of eternity,
distinguishing each in wisdom's light—
their states, their freedoms shining bright.*

*From one small mote of dust arise
pure realms of past, present, and future skies;
and every dust-like land I see
is graced with ornaments endlessly.*

*May future Buddhas meet my gaze
so I may turn the Dharma ablaze;
having fulfilled a Buddha's deed,
may I in peace to nirvāṇa proceed.*

*May divine powers everywhere extend,
and Great Vehicle strength appear;
may compassion's power never end,
and fulfill all virtue clear.*

*The power of merit, pure and bright,
the power of wisdom free of blight,
the power of samādhi's² art—*

2 *Samādhi*: (Sanskrit: 三昧, sānmèi / 定, dìng). Refers to single-pointed concentration, meditative absorption, or a state of stable, unshakeable mental composure. In *Mahāyāna* commentary (such as the *Avataṃsaka Sūtra* traditions), *samādhi* is not merely passive absorption, but the dynamic meditative foundation from which a bodhisattva manifests

all grasp enlightenment's true heart.

*The power of karma pure and clean,
the power to end vexation's scene,
the power to quell demonic might—
I master Samantabhadra's light.*

*May I adorn and purify Buddha-fields as seas,
and ferry beings across their boundless seas;
may I discern the karmic sea with ease
and reach the wisdom shore that frees.*

*May I purify practice as seas,
fulfill all vows as boundless seas;
may I behold Buddhas as seas
and traverse kalpas' endless seas.*

*The deeds of Buddhas through all time,
their countless vows and acts sublime,
I vow to fulfill them all
through Samantabhadra's path enthralled.*

*Samantabhadra's name revered,
foremost of Buddha-sons endeared;
my roots of goodness I extend
that I with him may fully blend.*

*Purifying mind, speech, and body,
I adorn all realms of Buddhas broadly;
may I swiftly gain enlightenment's bliss
in Samantabhadra's noble manner, like this.*

*As Mañjuśrī and Samantabhadra show,
their bodhisattva paths I know;
I dedicate my virtuous roots
to walk their awakening routes.*

*This path of dedication praised
by Thus Come Ones through time upraised,
I dedicate my roots so I
fulfill Samantabhadra's way thereby.*

*When life's last moment comes to me,
may every hindrance cease to be,
so I meet Amitābha's grace
and be reborn in his pure place.*

*With rebirth in that Buddhaland,
my vows will all be close at hand;
and Amitābha shall proclaim
my future Buddha-honored name.*

*May Samantabhadra's deeds be mine,
and Mañjuśrī's noble vows align;
for countless eons yet to come,
may I walk where awakening beings have gone.*