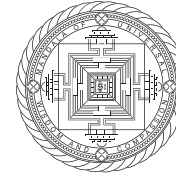


*The Dharaní Called
“Possessing the Límbś of
All the Buddhas”*

*Protecting from the Fears of Aging,
Sickness, Debílitación, and Death*



Foundation for the Preservation of the Mahayana Tradition



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Note:

During the Most Secret Hayagriva Retreat held in Tushita, Dharamsala, March 2010, Kyabje Zopa Rinpoche gave the advice that the most important part of the text to recite is that found between the two sets of asterisks**. Rinpoche advised to put folded hands on one's crown and recite it with the heartfelt wish to benefit all the pitiful sentient beings and with total reliance on all the buddhas. In order to facilitate the pronunciation of the mantras the international transliteration of Sanskrit has been slightly modified in that c has been written as ch, and s as sh.

Original Colophon:

Translated and edited by the Indian abbots Jinamitra and Dānashila together with the Tibetan translator and editor, the Buddhist monk Yeshe De. The translation was also improved during the New Revision of the Tibetan Language, and then settled.

Translator's Colophon:

The community of Istituto Lama Tzong Khapa having been advised by Kyabje Zopa Rinpoche to recite this dharani for the long life of Geshe Jampa Gyatso, it was translated from the Tibetan by Joan Nicell at Istituto Lama Tzong Khapa, Pomaia, Italy, May 2007. The missing last page was translated by Joan Nicell, July 2010.

All the merit created by translating and reciting this text is dedicated to the long and healthy life of Kyabje Zopa Rinpoche and for all his Dharma activities to continue to flourish and spread, benefiting countless sentient beings.

The Dharani Called “Possessing the Limbs of All the Buddhas”

Protecting from the Fears of Aging, Sickness, Debilitation, and Death

Instructions from Kyabje Zopa Rinpoche: When reciting this protection from the fears of aging, sickness, debilitation, and death, do so in order to bring benefit to all sentient beings.

In the Indian language: Arya sarva buddhādgavati nāma dhārani

In the Tibetan language: pagpa sanggye tamche kyi yenlag dang denpa zhe jawe zung ('phags pa sangs rgyas thams cad kyi yan lag dang ldan pa zhes bya ba'i gzung)

In the English language: The Dharani Called “Possessing the Limbs of All the Buddhas”

Homage to all the buddhas and bodhisattvas.

Thus have I heard. The Bhagavan was dwelling together with the four worldly guardians on the shore of the Ganges River. At that time, the Bhagavan spoke thus to the four Great Kings, Vaishravana and the others: “Great Kings, the four great fears arise for men, women, boys, and girls. What are the four? They are aging, sickness,

debilitation, and death. Moreover, among them, the one great fear is the great fear of the Lord of Death. Without opposing it and lacking the antidote to it, they are always pursued by that one great fear. Great Kings, now I will tell you the antidote to that one great fear.” Then the four Great Kings replied thus to the Bhagavan: “Bhagavan, you take care of all beings by fully bestowing life. Today we have excellently secured a gain.”

**Then the Bhagavan proceeded toward the eastern direction and, abiding there, exhorted all the tathagatas with the sound of a fingersnap and spoke thus: “All those tathagata foe-destroyer perfectly complete buddhas who, out of mercy for sentient beings, attained buddhahood in the manifest, complete enlightenment that is unsurpassed and perfectly complete, be my assistants! Then, having been blessed here by the blessings of all the buddhas, I will thoroughly avert untimely death for all sentient beings. I will also turn the second wheel of Dharma that I turned before.”

Likewise he exhorted all the tathagatas in the south, west, north, above, and below speaking thus: “All tathagata foe-destroyer perfectly complete buddhas, out of mercy for all sentient beings may the buddhas who have manifestly completed the unsurpassed, perfectly complete enlightenment please assist me!” Likewise he also spoke thus to those in the intermediate directions in order for life, strength, and complexion to be thoroughly accomplished and for the fear of untimely death to not arise saying: “All buddhas please assist me!”

Then, the buddha bhagavans filled, like a sesame pod, universes equal to however much earth constituent exists in the ten directions and appears to the eyes of the buddhas. Having accepted to assist the Tathagata, all the tathagatas spoke thus: “Tadyathā – chalā chalā chale – vinati – svastike – chakra – adgati – prasha mantu – sarva roga – ante kunate – mahā kunate – chare charere – hema gari – hema gauri – hema nishunti – hema sisi – kaurve kaurvave – he kurare – kurare – kumati – visha samane – sishubhi – chale chale – vi-chale – māvi lamba – humu humu svāhā.”

Also all the Lords of the Secret, however many exist, having sat down beside all the tathagatas, said: “Hum hum sisi svāhā.” They spoke thus and all the tathagatas vanished.

Then, Great King Vaishravana replied thus to the Bhagavan: “Bhagavan, I too will protect them with the blessings of the tathagatas. I will avert untimely death. Tadyathā – shvete – shvete – shvete – le lili.” Also Virudhaka said: “Mātam ge mātam ge – mātam gini – shumā shumu.” Also Dhritarāshtha said: “Chare charere svāhā.” Also Virupaksha said: “Balim baba.”**

The Bhagavan spoke thus: “Great Kings, when anyone recites this knowledge mantra seen by all the buddhas one time a day, that son of the lineage or daughter of the lineage will be perceived as the Teacher. That son of the lineage or daughter of the lineage will not go to the three bad migrations. He or she will benefit the lives of all sentient beings. Whoever recites these words for the sake of all sentient beings for one day, and whoever reads them, will be free from the fear of untimely death. Bad diseases will not arise in his or her body. Water will not bring about the time of his or her death, nor will fire, nor will weapons, nor will poison, nor will lightning. The areas in which the conquerors’ children recite this knowledge mantra will be intentionally perceived by all the buddhas and bodhisattvas. Due to writing or dictating it, he or she will be revered by all those who serve the buddha bhagavans. Why is that? It is because the tathagatas taught ‘Those who serve sentient beings, serve the buddhas.’ Whoever, having written it out, sticks it to his or her limbs, all his or her limbs will be protected.”

The Bhagavan having spoke thus, the four Great Kings and all their retinues, as well as the worlds of gods, human beings, antigods, and smell-eaters, were overjoyed and fervently praised what the Bhagavan had said.

The Dharani Called “Possessing the Limbs of All the Buddhas” is complete.