

Benefits of Making Offerings and Requests to Shakyamuni Buddha and the Sixteen Arhats

The Founder Guru Shakyamuni Buddha has greater kindness for us sentient beings than all the Buddhas and bodhisattvas who are abiding in all directions. It has greater blessings to pray to the kind compassionate Guru Shakyamuni Buddha, the Founder, who is caring with a loving mind for us migratory beings who are in the end of the five-hundred age time.

He left the Sixteen Arhats as a regent of himself not to pass away and to be the Savior for us sentient beings.

The benefits of making offerings and prayers to the Sixteen Arhats are:

1. All the Victorious Ones (Buddhas) are pleased.
2. Anyone who correctly practices it will have no obstacles.
3. One will be able to abide in pure morality.
4. It increases one's scriptural understanding and realization.
5. One will have perfect inner and outer conditions to practice Dharma.
6. One will not be overwhelmed by untimely death and will have a long life.
7. The community of Sangha will be increased.
8. The study and practice of the Tripitaka (Three Baskets) will increase.

And so forth, there are infinite benefits one will enjoy until enlightenment is achieved.

Colophon: Translated by Lama Zopa Rinpoche at Caloundra, Australia, on August 10, 1996.