

# BUDDHA PUJA

FROM THE DHAMMAPADA AND AVATAMSAKA SUTRA

## 1. Praise to the Buddha

He is calm like the earth that endures  
He is steady like a column that is firm  
He is pure like a lake that is clear  
He is free from samsara – the endlessly  
unsatisfying round.  
In his vision he has found freedom.  
His thoughts are peace,  
His words are peace,  
And his work is peace.

## 2. Salutation

By what path could you lead the Buddha  
astray,  
He who can wander the pathless ways of the  
Infinite?  
The Buddha, who is awake, whose victory  
cannot be reversed,  
Is a being no one can conquer.  
One of true vision is not easy to find.  
Freed from craving, hatred and delusion,  
A Buddha is a guide to be treasured.

*Shakyamuni mantra + offerings*

## 3. Going for Refuge

People flee for refuge to mountains or forests,  
To groves, sacred trees or shrines.  
But these are not a safe refuge.  
They are not a refuge that frees from sorrow.  
One who goes for refuge to the Buddha,  
To the Truth teachings, and to the community  
he taught,  
They go indeed to a great refuge.  
I take my Refuge in the Buddha  
And pray that with all beings  
I may understand the Great Way

Whereby the Buddha-seed may forever thrive.  
I take my Refuge in the Dharma  
And pray that with all beings  
I may enter deeply into the Sutra-Treasure  
Whereby our wisdom may become vast as the  
ocean.  
I take my Refuge in the Sangha  
And pray that with all beings  
I may be brought together in harmony  
And have nothing to check the progress of Truth.

*Refuges and Precepts*

## 4. Acknowledging Unskillfulness

I think not of a fault as a little matter  
Saying 'this is minor to me'.  
The falling of drops of water will in time fill a water  
jar.  
In the same way, people become full of delusion,  
Though they gather it little by little.  
May I focus not on the flaws of others,  
Nor on their deeds and misdeeds.  
But focus on what I myself regret,  
What I have done, or not done.  
Neither in the sky, nor deep in the ocean,  
Nor in a mountain cave, nor any place,  
Can we avoid our unskillful actions.

## 5. Rejoicing

It is a delight to see the noble and ethical;  
Contact with them inspires and gladdens us.  
When we know the balm of solitude,  
And experience the relief of silence,  
Then we are free from fear and sorrow,  
And feel the joy of the Dhamma.  
Oh, let us live in joy,  
Kindly among those who blame.

Among those who hate, let us live in love,  
Among those who fight, let us live in peace,  
Among those who crave, let us live content,  
Among those who slumber, let us live awake.

## 6. Awake and Watchful

The followers of Buddha Gotama  
Are awake and ever watchful.  
And ever by night and by day  
They remember the Buddha.  
The followers of Buddha Gotama  
Are awake and ever watchful.  
And ever by night and by day  
They find joy in deep contemplation.

*Imasmim sati, idam hoti, Imass uppada, idam uppajjati,  
Imasmim asati, idam na hoti, Imassa nirodha, idam nirrujjhati*

*This being, that becomes, From the arising of this, that arises,  
This not being, that does not become, From the ceasing of this,  
that ceases.*

## 7. Transference of Benefit

As from a large garden of flowers  
Many garlands and wreaths can be made,  
So, by a human being in this life,  
Much good can be achieved.  
May any merit gained through Dhamma practice  
Be shared among all beings.  
The perfume of flowers goes not against the wind,  
Not even the finest perfumes  
Of sandalwood, of rose, or of jasmine.  
But the perfume of virtue  
Does travel against the wind,  
And can reach to the ends of the world.

*Sabbe satta sukhi hontu*