

## SANBUTSUGE

The gāthā SANBUTSUGE comes from *The Larger Sūtra of Immeasurable Life*. It is the praises voiced by Bodhisattva Dharmākara to the Buddha Lokeśvrarāja.

In these praises Dharmākara expresses his own desire to attain Buddhahood and his heartfelt determination to accomplish his goal for the sake of saving all sentient beings.

The English translation of this gāthā is from the *Dharma School Service Book*, by the Buddhist Churches of America, 1981, and *Tan Butsu Ge*, by Venerable Gyomay M. Kubose, 1976.

	○○	きん 讚	ぶつ 佛	げ 偈
・	こう 光	げん 顔	ぎ 巍	ぎ 巍
同	い 威	じん 神	む 無	ごく 極
	によ 如	ぜ 是	えん 焰	みょう 明
	む 無	よ 輿	とう 等	しゃ 者

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○○	#KŌ GEN GI GI	NICHI GATSU MA NI
	I JIN MU GOKU	SHŪ KŌ EN NYŌ
	NYO ZE EN MYŌ	KAI SHITSU ON PEI
	MU YO TŌ SHA	YŪ NYAKU JU MOKU

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The light of your face is unsurpassed in majesty, your awesome greatness is beyond limit, a brightly shining flame with no equal.

Next to your brilliance, even the brightness of sun, moon, and *Mani* jewel seem covered in black ink.

によ 如	らい 來	よう 容	げん 顔	かい 戒	じん 進
ちょう 超	せ 世	む 無	りん 倫	もん 聞	え 慧
しょう 正	がく 覺	だい 大	おん 音	まい 昧	ち 智
こう 響	る 流	じつ 十	ぼう 方	く 徳	む 無

け 殊	しゅ 威	じゅ 勝	け 希
じゅう 有	じゆう う	じゆう う	じゆう う

NYO RAI YŌ GEN

KAI MON SHŌ JIN

CHŌ SE MU RIN

SAN MAI CHI E

SHŌ GAKU DAI ON

I TOKU MU RYO

KŌ RU JIP PŌ

SHU SHŌ KE U

Tathāgata's transcendent appearance has no comparison  
in all the world. The whole universe vibrates with the great  
sound of your enlightenment.

Your rare and superior virtues . . .

じん	たい	ぜん	ねん	む	みょう	よく	ぬ
深	諦	善	念	無	明	欲	怒
しょ	ぶつ	ほう	かい	せ	そん	よう	む
諸	佛	法	界	世	尊	永	無
ぐ	じん	じん	のう	にん	の	し	子
窮	深	盡	奥	人	雄	獅	
く	ご	がい	たい	じん	じん	も	
窮	其	涯	底	神	徳	無	量

JIN TAI ZEN NEN

SHO BUTSU HŌ KAI

GU JIN JIN NŌ

KU GO GAI TAI

MU MYŌ YOKU NU

SE SON YŌ MU

NIN nO SHI SHI

JIN TOKU MU RYŌ

... of wisdom, understanding, deep meditation, and strength of endeavor are awesome, beyond comparison.

Your meditation to the innermost depths of all the Buddha Dharma oceans is without limit, bringing full understanding.

Ignorance, greed, and anger do not reside in the World-Honored One, the Man of Lion. Your noble virtues are immeasurable.

功	勲	廣	大	大	作	佛
智	慧	深	妙	相	聖	王
光	明	威	相	度	生	死
震	動	大	千	過	不	解
				靡	ふ	だつ

KU KUN KŌ DAI

CHI E JIN MYŌ

KŌ MYŌ I SŌ

SHIN DŌ DAI SEN

GAN GA SA BUTSU

ZAI SHŌ HŌ Ō

KA DO SHŌ JI

MI FU GE DATSU

Your meritorious service is vast and great, the depths of your wisdom profound. Your majestic appearance of light illumines the entire universe.

When I (Dharmakara Bodhisattva) become a Buddha equal to the Dharma King, I vow to transcend life and death and free all beings.

ふ 布	せ 施	じょう 調	い 意	とく 得	ぶつ 佛
かい 戒	にん 忍	しょう 精	じん 進	し 此	がん 穎
によ 如	ぜ 是	さん 三	まい昧	く 恐	く 懼
ち智	え慧	い為	じょう上	一切	だい 大

FU SE JŌ I

KAI NIN SHŌ JIN

NYO ZE SAN MAI

CHI E I JŌ

GO SEI TOKU BUTSU

FU GYŌ SHI GAN

IS SAI KU KU

I SA DAI AN

Among virtues of Dāna, readiness, discipline, patience, and endeavor, the highest shall be deep meditation and wisdom.

I will become a Buddha and completely fulfill my vow.  
I will bring great peace to all who are in doubt or fear.

假	使	有	佛	供	養	一	切
ひやく	せん	のく	まん	し	とう	しょ	ぶつ
百	千	億	萬	斯	等	諸	佛
む	りょう	だい	じょう	ふ	にょ	ぐ	道
無	量	大	聖	不	如	求	どう
しゅ	によ	ごう	じや	けん	しょう	ふ	ぎやく
数	如	恒	沙	堅	正	不	却

KE	SHI	U	BUTSU	KU	YŌ	IS	SAI
HYAKU	SEN	NOKU	MAN	SHI	TŌ	SHO	BUTSU
MU	RYŌ	DAI	SHŌ	FU	NYO	GU	DŌ
SHU	NYO	GŌ	JA	KEN	SHŌ	FU	GYAKU

Even though there are a myriad Buddhas and sages as numerous as the sands of the Ganges, and I were to offer homage to them all, it is still better for me to be faithful and strong, in seeking the true Path, never retreating.

ひ譬	沙	悉	照
しょ	沙	悉	こく
諸	界	諸	國
ぶ	計	精	じん
復	ど	神	進
む	土	難	りょう
無			量

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HI	NYO	GŌ	JA
SHO	BUTSU	SE	KAI
BU	FU	KA	GE
MU	SHU	SETSU	DO

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KŌ	MYŌ	SHIS	SHŌ
HEN	SHI	SHO	KOKU
NYO	ZE	SHŌ	JIN
I	JIN	NAN	RYŌ

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The Buddha worlds, also innumerable as the Ganges sands, will be completely illuminated by my shining light. The strength of my effort in this endeavor is beyond measure.

りょう 令	が 我	さ 作	ぶつ 佛	こく 國	にょ 如	ない 泥	おん 洹
こく 國	ど 土	だい 第	いち 一	に 而	む 無	とう 等	そう 雙
ご 其	しゅ 衆	き 奇	みょう 妙	が 我	とう 當	あい 哀	みん 愍
どう 道	じょう 場	じょう 超	ぜつ 絕	ど 度	だつ 脫	いつ 一	さい 切

RYŌ GA SA BUTSU

KOKU DO DAI ICHI

GO SHU KI MYŌ

DŌ JŌ CHŌ ZETSU

KOKU NYO NAI ON

NI MU TŌ SŌ

GA TŌ AI MIN

DO DATSU IS SAI

When I become a Buddha, my land will be the finest. All the beings there will be exquisitely beautiful.

My country will be like Nirvāṇa, a place of practice, transcendent beyond words, without equal. In my compassion I will enlighten all.

十	方	来	生	幸	佛	信	明
心	悅	清	淨	是	我	真	證
己	到	我	國	發	願	於	彼
快	樂	安	穩	力	精	所	欲

JIP PŌ RAI SHŌ

SHIN NETSU SHŌ JŌ

I TŌ GA KOKU

KE RAKU AN ON

KŌ BUTSU SHIN MYŌ

ZE GA SHIN SHŌ

HOTSU GAN nO HI

RIKI SHŌ SHŌ YOKU

Beings will come from the ten directions to be born in my country. They will be pure, their minds filled with gladness. Those in my pleasant country will be peaceful and at ease.

Please, dear teacher, accept this proof of my sincerity. Here I establish my vow. Through strength and endeavor I shall fulfill this desire.

十	方	世	尊	假	令	身	止
智	慧	無	礙	諸	苦	毒	中
常	令	此	尊	我	行	精	進
知	我	心	行	忍	終	不	悔

JIP PŌ SE SON

CHI E MU GE

JŌ RYŌ SHI SON

CHI GA SHIN GYŌ

,

KE RYŌ SHIN SHI

SHO KU DOKU CHŪ

GA GYŌ SHŌ JIN

NIN JU FU KE

LONG

○

The wisdom of all the Buddhas of the ten directions is unimpeded. May they always know my intent.

Even though my body may undergo many sufferings and much pain, I shall never cease in my efforts. Whatever I must bear, I shall have no regrets.

な 一 ま ん だ 一 ぶ  
・ 南無阿彌陀佛

○

な 一 ま ん だ 一 ぶ  
同 南無阿彌陀佛

な 一 ま ん だ 一 ぶ  
南無阿彌陀佛

○

# NA MAN DA BU

NA MAN DA BU

○

NA MAN DA BU

NA MAN DA BU

NA MAN DA BU

NA MAN DA BU

○

I take refuge in Amida Buddha

願 以 功 德  
平 等 施 一 切  
同 發 菩 提 心  
往 生 安 樂 國

gan ni shi ku do ku  
biyō dō se is - sai  
tō tsu bo da-i shin  
ou jou an ra(ku) ko(ku)

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#GAN NI SHI KU DO KU  
ト ト ト ト ト ル。

BYŌ DŌ SE IS - SAI  
ト ト ト ト ル。

DŌ HOTSU BO DA-I SHIN  
ル ツ ト リ ル。

OU JOU AN RA(ku) KO(ku)  
オ ユ ア ラ(ク) コ(ク)

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May this merit-virtue  
Be shared equally with all beings.  
May we together awaken the Bodhi Mind,  
And be born in the realm of Serenity and Joy.