



Invocation We gather today in homage to our Buddhist mothers. We are grateful for the luminous hearts of all women who gathered wisdom in her bones and contributed to transformation in each cultural milieu as the Dharma traversed India, China, Korea, Japan, and into the West. We honor and thank those who precede us.

Offering of Light

“We illuminate the space with wisdom.”

Offering of Fragrance

“We release the fragrance of compassion.”

Offering of Lotus

“We herald each lotus as a womb of enlightenment.”

Three Seated Bows/Prostrations

Proclamation

“Prajñāparamitā, the maternal source of enlightenment is the liberating wisdom that crowns the spiritual quest, personified as a glorious golden goddess installed at the apex of the pantheon as the eternal mother who gives birth to all Buddhas and ever-flowing font of all that Buddhas teach.”

(Miranda Shaw, *Passionate Enlightenment*)

Altogether:

“Unthinkably deep is the loving commitment of Buddhas and bodhisattvas to Mother Prajnaparamita—cherishing her, protecting her and receiving protection.”

“She is their true nature, matrix, guide, power, and bliss.”

“She alone has revealed unobstructed and spontaneous omniscience to them as total awakeness.”

“She has patiently instructed them to deal skillfully with the empty, transparent nature of existence, tenderly awakening all living beings from the dream of individuality, substantiality, and separation.”

“From her compassion and wisdom alone have the Tathagatas miraculously come forth.”

“She alone shows them, the world as it really is.”

“The pure presence of the Awakened Ones comes from her and is simply her plenitude.”

“All Buddhas from the beginningless past, from the infinite dimensions of the present and from the inconceivable expanse of the future reach full enlightenment thanks to their universal Wisdom Mother.”

(Lex Hixon, *Mother of the Buddhas*)

Three Seated Bows/Prostrations

Invitation

“We invite all women predecessors from all time and space to be present, so we may honor and thank them.”

Offering of Gratitude

(all standing in shashu)

“Homage to our Indian mothers. Each woman is a lotus blossom. Let us by name thank:”

Altogether: Mahāpajāpatī
Sujatā
Patacharā
Mittakalī
Dhammadinā
Kishagotamī
Vijayā
Nandā

Standing Bow

“Homage to our Chinese mothers. Each woman is a lotus blossom. Let us by name thank:”

Altogether: Miaodao
Miaozong
Xinggang
Yikui
Baochi
Zukui
Tao Shan
Wang Peihua

Standing Bow

“Homage to our Korean mothers. Each woman is a lotus blossom. Let us by name thank:”

Altogether: Ukmyeon
Chinhye (1255-1324)
Queen Sohye (1437-1504)
Yi Yesun
Chōngyu (1717-1782)
Woo, Bong Eun
Daehaeng (1927-2012)
Kim Iryōp

Standing Bow

“Homage to our Japanese mothers. Each woman is a lotus blossom. Let us by name thank:”

Altogether: Zenshin-ni
Zenzō-ni
Ezen-ni
Eshin-ni
Mizuno Jōrin

Nogami Senryō
Kojima Kendō
Kitō Shunko

Standing Bow

“Homage to our Western mothers. Each woman is a lotus blossom. Let us by name thank:”

Altogether: Ruth Fuller Sasaki
Mitsu Suzuki
Zenkei Blanche Hartman
Jiyu-Kennett
Charlotte Joko Beck
Ayya Khema
Maurine Myo-On Stuart
Tony Packer

Three Standing Bows/Prostrations

Offering of Pearl

Each woman present manifest their agency through their offerings. Invoking all Buddhist women across time, we illuminate the Jewel-Net of our interdependence. Recognizing ourselves in this precious womb, each a precious pearl of luminous beauty, we pass the pearl one to another as we see each other deeply through the heart. We are each unique, with specific qualities and characteristics. This is our perfection. We are one bright pearl like the natural pearl we offer around the circle before offering it to Prajnaparamita.

“One bright pearl is able to express Reality without naming it, and we can recognize this

pearl as its name. One bright pearl communicates directly through all time; being unexhausted through all the past, it arrives through all the present. While there is a body now and a mind now -- they are the bright pearl. That stalk of grass, this tree, is not a stalk of grass, is not a tree; the mountains and rivers of this world are not the mountains and rivers of this world. They are the bright pearl.... All the universe is one bright pearl.”

(Dogen, Ikka Myōju / One Bright Pearl)

Seated/Standing Bow

Circle of Interdependence

We are profoundly grateful for the nourishment bestowed upon us by a stream of women stretching across millennia and flowing from around the globe. Their presence is palpable in our ever-expanding circle of interdependence, a sacred space where wisdom and compassion bloom.

Three Seated Bows/Prostrations

Benediction

“The bodhisattva will always maintain a motherly mind, consecrated to the constant protection, education, and maturing of conscious beings, inviting and guiding them along the path of all-embracing love.”

“Homage to Prajnaparamita, mother of all buddhas, Homage to her daughter, Kannon, and to all bodhisattvas past present and future. May their compassion and wisdom

continue to flower in our hearts, our bodies
and minds for the benefit and blessing of all
beings.”

Dedication of Merit

All in English: “We offer the merit that has
been generated for all us beings together to
ascend the path of Buddhist awakening.”

English ten directions

Japanese Eko

Three Standing Bows/Prostrations