

THE POWERFUL PRACTICE
OF RECITING THE BUDDHAS' NAMES

Namo Anantakaya Tathagata

Anyone hearing the holy name of this Buddha and instantly performs obeisance to him will be purified of serious negative karmas of life and death covering forty kalpas. Molding a likeness of him or painting his image for veneration and praise creates even greater merits, resulting in countless and boundless blessings!

Namo Ratnasvabhava Tathagata

Anyone hearing the holy name of this Buddha and instantaneously resolves to take refuge in him will never suffer retrogression from the stage of Unsurpassed Enlightenment.

Namo Padmajina Tathagata

Anyone hearing the holy name of this Buddha once will be reborn repeatedly one thousand times in the six heavens of desire. One will achieve even greater merits if one wholeheartedly recites the name and keeps the name in mind!

Namo Simhananda Tathagata

Anyone hearing the holy name of this Buddha and wholeheartedly takes refuge in him will meet incalculable numbers of Buddhas; these Buddhas will touch his head and bestow upon him the supreme prophecy.

Namo Krakucchandsa Tathagata

Anyone hearing the holy name of this Buddha and also wholeheartedly worships or praises him will become a great Brahman king in the thousand Buddhas' Assembly and gain the supreme prophecy.

Namo Vipasyin Tathagata

Anyone hearing the holy name of this Buddha will never fall into evil paths of existence but will always be reborn as a human being or a deva and enjoy extraordinary happiness.

Namo Ratnaketu Tathagata

Anyone hearing the holy name of this Buddha will never fall into evil paths of existence but will always be reborn in the heavenly realms of great bliss.

Namo Ratnasambhava Tathagata

Anyone hearing the holy name of this Buddha and showing respect to him will soon attain the stage of an Arhat.

Namo Kasayadhvaja Tathagata

Anyone hearing the holy name of this Buddha will be exonerated from all the sins he has ever committed during the lifetimes of one hundred great kalpas.

Namo Mahabhijna-Sumeru Tathagata

Anyone hearing the holy name of this Buddha will encounter Buddhas as numerous as the grains of sand in the Ganges River; these Buddhas will teach extensively to him, who will definitely attain Bodhi.

Namo Sudhacandra Tathagata

Namo Sumeru Tathagata

Namo Jnanajina Tathagata

Namo Vimalanamanraja Tathagata

Namo Jnanasaddhi Tathagata

Namo Anuttara Tathagata

Namo Sughosa Tathagata

Namo Rakachandra Tathagata

Namo Chandramukha Tathagata

All the sentient beings of the present and future generations - whether devas or human beings, whether males or females - will gain immeasurable meritorious virtue even if they invoke the name of only one Buddha. Still, how much greater it will be to invoke many names! These beings will automatically gain great benefit while living and while dead and they will not ever fall onto the evil paths of existence.

When someone is approaching the end of his life, if any of his relatives or even only one person should on his behalf invoke aloud the name of just one Buddha, such a dying person will be exonerated from all karmic retribution for his sins, other than the unpardonable offenses.

The five unpardonable offenses are those sins of the utmost seriousness. Usually a person who has committed such offenses cannot be acquitted of them even after millions of kalpas. However, if at the time of his death, others invoke on his behalf the Buddhas' names, then even some of these extremely serious offenses will gradually be reduced and eradicated. Still, how much greater it will be for the dying one to invoke the Buddhas' names himself in order to gain immeasurable bliss and to eradicate innumerable sins!

RECITATION PRACTICE (One set, three sets or seven sets)

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