

The Litany of the Avatamsaka Scripture.

From the Chinese of Shikshananda.



* At that | time a greatly advanced Bodhisattva in the assembly, ¹
whose name was He the Strength of Whose Zeal Does Not
Interfere with His Wise Discernment, ¹ inspired by the
Buddha's majesty, ¹ gazed out over all the ten quarters | and
said, :

“When the Buddha gives voice to a single wondrous and sweet
word ¹ it is heard throughout all lands in the ten quarters; ¹
since all His words completely contain the Truth, ¹ the rain of
Dharma fills everywhere to | overflowing. ||

By means of all words which convey the Teaching within the vast
ocean of all | languages, :

He turns the Wheel of Pure Dharma in all | Buddha lands. ||

* All those in these lands are witness to the spiritual transformations
of the | Buddha :

And listen to the Buddha giving voice to the words of the Dharma
¹ as they hear how they are already proceeding
to | enlightenment. ||

Within each mote of dust in all lands, ¹ within the whole universe
of uni|verses, :

The Tathagata's abilities at liberating are physically manifested
ever|ywhere therein. ||

His Dharma-body is like empty space, ¹ unhindered and beyond
the mind to discrim|inate, :

Whereas physical forms are as phantom painted images, ¹ or
wooden figures, ¹ which represent various character|istics of
beings. ||

Such phantom images have no location and, ¹ like space, ¹ have no
substantial | nature; :

Those great ones, ¹ whose spiritual wisdom is vast, ¹ will thor-
oughly comprehend that these figments | are all alike. ||

The Buddha-body cannot be taken hold of for It is unborn,
unconditioned and uncre|ated; :

In response to all beings, ¹ It manifests Itself everywhere before
our very eyes, ¹ impartial | as empty space. ||

All Buddhas in the ten quarters completely enter into a single pore
of | It, :

Each displaying His spiritual powers that the keen eye of wis|dom
can perceive. ||

The strength of Vairochana Buddha's vows permeates the whole
universe of uni|verses :

As He continually turns the unexcelled Wheel of the Dhar|ma in
all lands. ||

In a single second He manifests spiritual transformations which
all Buddhas alike give voice to as | Scriptures :

Which cannot be fathomed to their ultimate depths even
within | countless kalpas." ||

Then another greatly advanced Bodhisattva in the assembly, ¹
whose name was He Whose Brilliance of Wisdom Springs
Forth Like a Fearless, Lunging | Lion, :

Inspired by the Buddha's majesty, ¹ gazed out over all the | ten
quarters and said, ||

“Vairochana Buddha can turn the Wheel of the True | Dharma :
 So that in all the lands within the whole universe of universes ¹ It
 pervades everywhere as | do clouds in space. ||
 In all the great oceans of worlds in all the ten | quarters :
 The Buddha’s spiritual powers and strength of resolve turn the
 Wheel of the Dharma | in all places. ||
 Amongst the vast assemblies of beings in | all realms :
 His name differs as He gives voice to the wondrous Teachings ¹
 according to | occasion and need. ||
 The Tathagata’s great majestic powers are what the vows of
 Samantabhadra | become; :
 There is nowhere within any land that that wondrous sound of the
 Dhar|ma does not reach. ||
 The Buddha’s embodiments are as numerous as the motes of dust
 in all lands, ¹ pouring down the rain of Dharma every | where; :
 Unborn, ¹ beyond the mind to discriminate, ¹ they | appear in all
 worlds. ||
 * What He practised in the past over countless billions of kalpas ¹ in
 all lands ¹ as many as the | dust motes :
 Those wondrous sounds of | Dharma fully tell. ||
 A net of shimmering light rays permeates all these
 numberless | lands; :
 Within these rays are Buddhas ¹ teaching the whole multitude of
 living beings everywhere how to turn | their hearts around. ||
 The Buddha-body, ¹ beyond distinctions, ¹ completely fills the
 universe of uni|verses; :
 Able to get others to see His physical forms, ¹ He skilfully brings
 each into spiritual harmony according to potential | and cir-
 cumstance. ||
 In all realms, ¹ at all times, ¹ those who spiritually guide
 and | teach :

Vary as to their names | which are voiced so that all may
be | helped in seeing. ||

* All these Tathagatas of past and present have gathered | here :
So that what He has taught through His turning of the Wheel of
the Wondrous Dharma can | be heard by all.” ||

The other Bodhisattvas in the assembly, | hands in | gasshō, :
Lis|tened in great joy. ||