

## **The Confession Before the Thirty-Five Buddhas**

Throughout all time, all sentient beings take refuge in the guru, they take refuge in the Buddha, they take refuge in the Dharma, they take refuge in the Sangha!

Homage to the Bhagavan, Tathāgata, Arhat, the perfectly complete Buddha Śhākyamuni!

Homage to the *One Who Has Fully Conquered with Vajra Essence!*

Homage to *Jewel Radiating Light!*

Homage to the *Sovereign King of Nāgas!*

Homage to the *Leader of the Brave!*

Homage to *Glorious Joy!*

Homage to *Jewel Fire!* Homage to *Jewel Moonlight!*

Homage to *Meaningful to Behold!*

Homage to *Jewel Moon!*

Homage to the *Stainless One!*

Homage to *Glorious Giving!*

Homage to the *Pure One!*

Homage to *Giving of Purity!*

Homage to the *Water God!*

Homage to the *God of Water Gods!*

Homage to *Good Glory!*

Homage to *Glorious Sandalwood!*

Homage to *Infinite Brilliance!* Homage to *Glorious Light!*

Homage to *Glory Without Sorrow!*

Homage to the *Son of Non-Craving!*

Homage to *Glory of Flowers!*

Homage to the Tathāgata *Radiant Pure Display* of complete omniscience!

Homage to the Tathāgata completely omniscient *Display of Lotus Light!*

Homage to *Glory of Wealth!* Homage to *Glory of Mindfulness!*

Homage to *Widely Renowned Glorious Name!*

Homage to the King, *Victory Banner that Crowns the Sovereign!*

Homage to the *Glorious One Who Fully Subdues!*

Homage to *Sublime Victor in Battle!*

Homage to the *One Gone Beyond Through Complete Victory!*

Homage to *Glorious Illuminating Array!* Homage to *All-Subduing Lotus Jewel!*

Homage to the *King of Mount Meru*, the Tathāgata, Arhat, perfectly complete Buddha, abiding on a jeweled lotus!

All these and all the Tathāgatas, all the Arhats, however many perfectly complete buddhas abide in all the worlds of the ten directions, and all the buddhas, the transcendent conquerors, who prevail [in this world], please heed me!

In this and former lives without beginning, in all the states of birth within saṃsāra, I have committed evil deeds, I have instigated others, and found joy in their crimes; I have stolen the wealth of stupas, the Sangha community, and the Sangha of the ten directions, I have incited others to steal, and found joy in their thefts; I have committed the five immediate sins, have incited others to commit them, and have found joy in [their downfalls]; I have fully entered the path of engaging in the ten unwholesome deeds, have incited others to enter it, and have found joy in their submission. Obscured by all these karmic veils, I and sentient beings have gone to hell, have gone to the birthplaces of animals, have gone to the worlds of hungry ghosts, have taken birth in savage places, as barbarians, as long-lived gods, and as [humans] with impaired sense faculties, I have turned to corrupted views and karmic obscurations from having failed to please the buddhas I encountered. In the presence of the Bhagavan Buddha wisdom mind, before their eyes, in their witness, before the authentic ones, the all-knowing one, the all-seeing ones, I disclose all these karmic obscurations; I declare them, I shall not hide them, and hereafter I shall sever and bind them.

All buddhas, transcendent conquerors, please heed me! I gather all the roots of virtue I have accumulated in cyclic existence through having acted generously towards another saṃsāric sentient being, even only offering a mouthful of food to those born in the animal realm; [together with] any root of virtue from having guarded moral discipline, any root of virtue from having practiced pure conduct, any root of virtue from having brought sentient beings to full maturity, any root of virtue from having given rise to bodhicitta, the mind set on supreme awakening, and any root of virtue from unsurpassed primordial awareness, [accumulated] in this and former lives without beginning within saṃsāra; all these, I dedicate them perfectly, supremely, most supremely, and sublimely towards unsurpassed, perfectly complete awakening.

Just as the previous Bhagavan Buddhas perfectly performed dedication, and just as the Bhagavan Buddhas who have not yet appeared will perfectly perform dedication, and just as the present Bhagavan Buddhas perfectly perform dedication, likewise shall I perform perfect dedication. I confess each and every wrong-doing and rejoice in all merit.

I exhort and supplicate all buddhas that I may attain unsurpassed most excellent primordial wisdom. With my palms joined together I wholeheartedly take refuge in all those with praiseworthy qualities as infinite as a vast ocean: all the buddhas, supreme among humans, who exist at present, those who have passed into nirvāṇa, and those who have not yet appeared. *Accumulate a hundred and eight times etc.*

*Translated by Ina Bieler and edited by Kay Candler in 2009.*