
DAILY BUDDHA VANDANA

(Pali Gatha and English Translations)



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INTRODUCTION

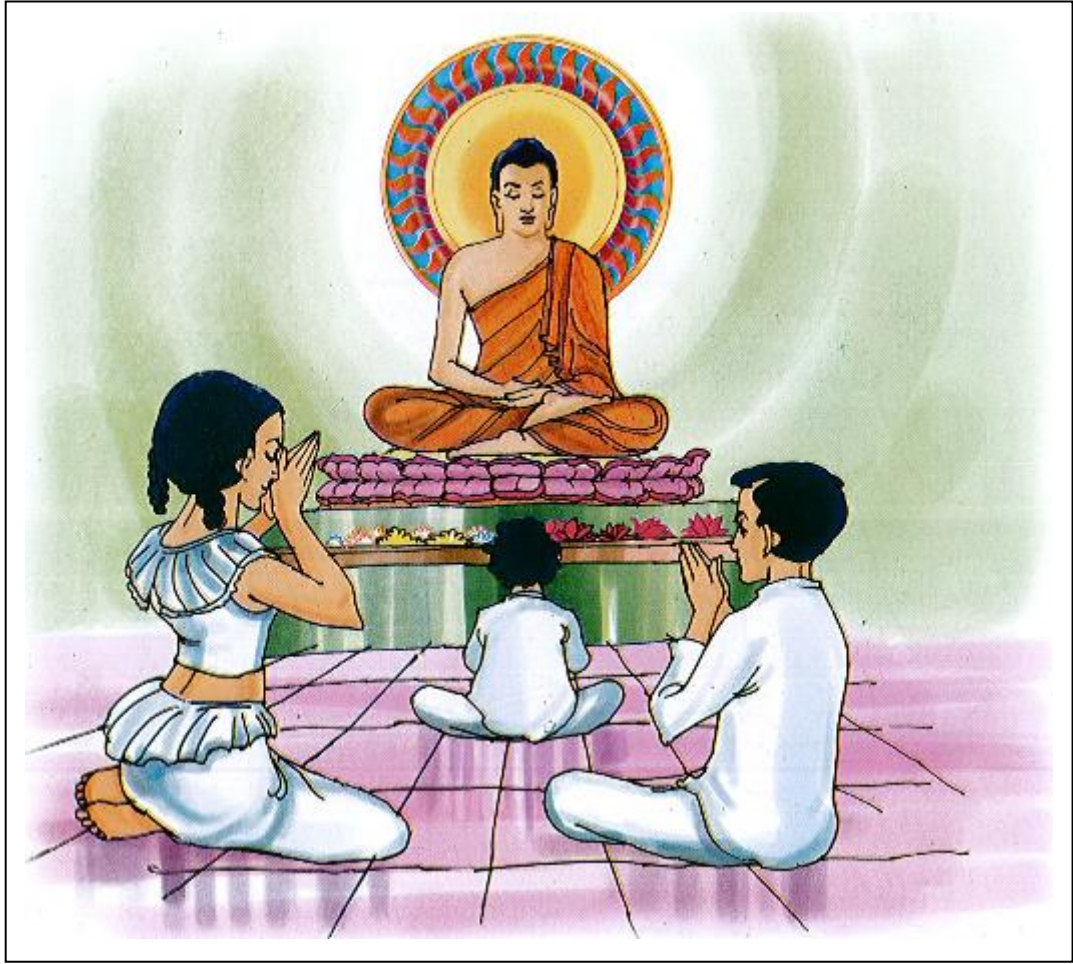
Buddhist devotional practices commonly consist of giving offerings and chanting pali stanzas (vandana gatha) in front of Buddha statues. The three most common offerings are flowers, incense, and light (as candles, oil lamps or lanterns).

What is the purpose of making offerings to the Buddha? We make offerings not because the Buddha needs them, nor do we make offerings to win the Buddha's favour. The Buddha developed universal loving-kindness and compassion. We pay respect and show our gratitude to the Buddha for showing the way to Enlightenment (nibbana).

We make offerings to create positive energy and develop good qualities such as giving with a respectful attitude and gratitude.

Moreover, the offerings remind us of certain teachings of the Buddha. The freshness, fragrance and beauty of flowers are impermanent. Fresh and beautiful flowers will soon become withered, scentless and discoloured. This reminds us of the Buddha's teaching that all things are impermanent. Light symbolizes wisdom. Light drives away darkness. Similarly, the light of wisdom dispels the darkness of ignorance. When incense is lit, its fragrance spreads. Incense symbolizes the fragrance of pure moral conduct. This reminds us to cultivate good conduct.

This little booklet contains frequently used vanadana gatha and their English meanings. This will help you to do the chanting effectively and meaningfully.



How to use this booklet:

1. Organize at least half an hour in the evening for the Buddha Vandana.
2. Arrange a place for Buddha Vandana with a statue or picture of the Buddha.
3. Pick some flowers, sprinkle water to keep them fresh, light a candle, burn an incense stick. Prepare a small glass of water, fruit juice, medicinal drinks etc.
4. Ask everyone in the family to touch above offerings by saying "Sadhu".
5. Offer them to the Buddha with respect and saying "Sadhu".
6. Sit down, bring your palms to the chest and chant these gathas slowly and gently in a rhythmical manner. (Avoid irrelevant gathas if you are not offering some of the pooja items).
7. If possible, please try doing it everyday in a selected time.
8. When you understand the essence of these devotional practices and attend to them meaningfully, it demonstrates a feeling of devotion and reverence that arise from faith. Then these practices will cleanse your mind leading to inner calmness and also accumulate merits.

Daily Buddha Vandana

Sadhu Sadhu Sadhu

Excellent!! Excellent!! Excellent!!

Salutation to the Buddha

Namo tassa bhagavato arahato sammàsambuddhassa

(repeat 3 times)

Honor to him, the blessed one, the worthy one, the fully enlightened one.

Taking Refuge in the Triple Gem (Tisarana)

**Buddham Saranam Gacchâmi
Dhammam Saranam Gacchâmi
Sangham Saranam Gacchâmi**

**Dutiyampi Buddham Saranam Gacchâmi
Dutiyampi Dhammam Saranam Gacchâmi
Dutiyampi Sangham Saranam Gacchâmi**

**Tatiyampi Buddham Saranam Gacchâmi
Tatiyampi Dhammam Saranam Gacchâmi
Tatiyampi Sangham Saranam Gacchâmi**

I go to the Buddha as my Refuge.
I go to the Dhamma as my Refuge.
I go to the Sangha as my Refuge.

For the second time I go to the Buddha as my Refuge.
For the second time I go to the Dhamma as my Refuge.
For the second time I go to the Sangha as my Refuge.

For the third time I go to the Buddha as my Refuge.
For the third time I go to the Dhamma as my Refuge.
For the third time I go to the Sangha as my Refuge.

Observing the Five Precepts

1. **Panatipata veramani sikkhapadam samadiyami**
2. **Adinnadana veramani sikkhapadam samadiyami**
3. **Kamesu micchacara veramani sikkhapadam samadiyami**
4. **Musavada veramani sikkhapadam samadiyami**
5. **Surameraya majjapamadatthana veramani sikkhapadam samadiyami**

Pay Homage to the Buddha

**Iti pi so Bhagavâ – Araham - Sammâsambuddho
Vijjâcarana sampanno - Sugato - Lokavidû
Anuttarro purisa damma sârathi
Sathhâ deva manussânâ - Buddho Bhagavâti.**

Such indeed is The blessed one – noble person, Perfectly enlightened,

1. I undertake the training rule to refrain from killing any living being.
2. I undertake the training rule to refrain from taking what is not given.
3. I undertake the training rule to refrain from misuse of the senses
4. I undertake the training rule to refrain from false speech.
5. I undertake the training rule to refrain from intoxicating drinks and drugs which tend to cloud the mind.

Perfect in knowledge and conduct Has gone to the blissful state of nibbana, The Knower of the worlds, The incomparable leader of persons to be tamed/disciplined, The teacher of gods and men, Full of knowledge and the blessed one.

Pay Homage to the Dhamma

**Svâkkhato Bhagavatâ Dhammo - Sanditthiko - Akâliko
Ehi passiko - Opanâyiko - Paccattam veditabbo viññuhiti.**

Well explained is the Dhamma by the Blessed one; to be understood here and now, with immediate results, inviting one to come and see, leading onwards to Nibbana and to be personally understood and experienced by the wise person.

Pay Homage to the Sangha

**Supatipanno Bhagavato sâvaka sangho
Ujupatipanno Bhagavato sâvaka sangho
Ñâyapatipanno Bhagavato sâvaka sangho
Sâmicipatipanno Bhagavato sâvaka sangho
Yadidam cattâri purisa yugâni attha purisa puggalâ
Esa Bhagavato sâvaka sangho
Âhuneyyo -Pâhuneyyo – Dakkhineyyo – Añjalikaraniyo
Anuttaram puññakkhetam lokassâti.**

Of orderly and disciplined conduct is the Order of the Disciples of the Blessed one ,

Of straightforward/upright conduct is the Order of the Disciples of the Blessed one ,

Of wise conduct is the Order of the Disciples of the Blessed one,

Of dutiful practice conduct is the Order of the Disciples of the Blessed one,

This order of the Disciples of the Blessed one namely, the four pairs of persons (Four pairs of sotapatti, sakinagami, anagami, arahath monks in each stages depending on the distance to Nibbana. This 4 pairs become 8 persons when considered as winners of path (maga) and fruit of each stage (phala)) is

Worthy of offerings- Worthy of treating/hospitality -Worthy of alms -
Worthy of reverence and

Is an incomparable field of merit for the world.

Pay Homage to the Three Main Objects of Veneration (The Cetiya, The Bhodhi and Images of the Buddha)

**Vandami chetiyam sabbam
Sabbatane supa thittitham
Saririka dhathu maha bodhim
Buddharupam sakalam sada**

I salute every chetiya
That may stand in any place
The bodily relics the great Bodhi
And all images of the Buddha.

Pay Homage to the Bhodhi

**Yassa mule nisinnowa
Sabbari vijayamaka
Paththo sabbannutham saththa
Vande tham bodhi padapam**

Seated at whose base,
The teacher overcame all foes,
Attaining Omniscience
That very bodhi tree do I adore

**Ime ethe mahabodhi
Lokanathena pujitha
Ahampithe namassami
Bodhiraja namaththu the**

These great trees of enlightenment
By the lord of the world
I too shall salute you
May there be homage to you. O great Bodhi.

Offering of Flowers

**Vanna gandha gunopetham
Etham kusuma santhatim
Pujayami munindhassa
Siri pada saroruhe**

This mass of flowers fresh, fragrant and colorful
I offer at the sacred lotus like feet of the noble sage

**Pujemi Buddham kusumena nena
Punnena methena cha hothu mokkam
Puppham milayathi yatha idamme
Kayo thatha yathi vinasa bavam**

I worship the Buddha with these flowers;
May this virtue be helpful for my emancipation;
Just as these flowers fade,
Our body will undergo decay.

Offering of Light

**Ghana sarappa dhittena
Dipena tama dhansina
Tiloka dipam sambuddham
Pujayami thamo nudam**

With lights brightly shining
Abolishing this gloom
I adore the Enlightened One
The Light of the three worlds*
who dispels the darkness (of ignorance)

(*three worlds – kama loka, rupa loka and arupa loka)

Offering of Incense

**Gandha sambhara yuttena
Dupe naham sugandina
Pujaye Pujaniyanam tam
Puja bhajana muttamam**

With perfumed incense,
From fragrant substances,
I worship the exalted one, worthy of worship,
Who dispels the darkness (of ignorance)

**Sugandi kaya vadanam
Anantha guna gandina
Sugandinaham gandena
Pujayami thathagatha**

Fragrant of voice and form,
Fragrant of infinite virtues,
The fragrant one, Thathagatha (the exalted one),
With fragrance I worship.

Offering of Water

**Adhivasetu no bhante
Paniyam parikappitam
Anukampam upadaya
Patiganhatu muttamam.**

O Lord! The blessed one
May this water
Be kindly accepted by you
Out of great compassion on us.

Offering of Gilan Pasa

**Adhivasetu no bhante
Gilana pacchayam imam
Anukampam upadaya
Patiganhatu muttamam.**

O Lord! The blessed one
May these gilana pasa
Be kindly accepted by you
Out of great compassion on us.

(Gilan pasa – permissible food & drinks for Buddhist monks and nuns from noon to the following morning such as fruit juices, sugar candy)

Offering of Medicinal Drinks

**Adhivasetu no bhante
Besajjam parikappitam
Anukampam upadaya
Patiganhatu muttamam.**

O Lord! The blessed one
May these medicinal drinks
Be kindly accepted by you
Out of great compassion on us.

Transfer Merits to all Devas

**Akasattha ca bhumattha
Deva naga mahiddhika
Punnam tam anumodittva
Ciram rakkhantu loka sasanam**

May all beings inhabiting space and earth,
Devas and Nagas of mighty power
Having shared this merit
Long protect the dispensation. (world's religious system)

**Akasattha ca bhumattha
Deva naga mahiddhika
Punnam tam anumodittva
Ciram rakkhantu desanam**

May all beings inhabiting space and earth,
Devas and Nagas of mighty power
Having shared this merit
Long protect the teaching.

**Akasattha ca bhumattha
Deva naga mahiddhika
Punnam tam anumodittva
Ciram rakkhantu mam param ti**

May all beings inhabiting space and earth,
Devas and Nagas of mighty power
Having shared this merit
Long protect me and others.

**Etta vataca amhehi
Sambhatam punna sampadam
Sabbe deva anumodantu
Sabba sampatti siddhiya**

May all devas share this merit
Which we have thus accumulated
For the acquisition of all kinds
Of happiness and prosperity.

Forgiveness for Faults

**Kayena vaca cittena
Pamadena maya katam
Accayam khama me bhante
Bhuripanna tathagata**

If by deed, speech or thought
Heedlessly, I have done any wrong
Forgive, O master
O Victor, Greatly wise.

Transfer Merits to the Departed Ones

Idam me natinam hotu - sukita hontu natayo (three times)

Let this merit accrue to our departed relatives and may they be happy.

Aspiration

**Imina punna kammaena
Mame bala samagamo
Satam samagamo hotu
Yava nibbana pattiya**

By the grace of this merit that I have acquired,
May I never follow the foolish.
But only the wise up to the time
I attain nibbana.

Meditation

*** It would be really good if you can do meditation for a few minutes on Loving Kindness.**

Worshipping Parents

* Always remember to worship your parents and show gratitude to them.

**Dasa mase ure katva
Posesi uddikaranam
Ayu deegham vassa satam
Matu padam nama maham**

I worship the feet of my mother, who carried me in her womb for ten months and then nourished me. May she live long up to a century.

**Uddikaro alinghthva
Chumbitva piya puttakam
Raja majjam supatittham
Pitu padam nama maham**

I worship the feet of my father who showed me affection and helped me to become a good member of the society. May he be honored in royal company.



**May you all become good, honest, lovable children and
may the blessings of the Noble Triple Gem be always with you!**