

HOMAGE AND OFFERINGS TO
THE
SIXTEEN
ELDERS

Composed by
**Pandita
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Homage and Offerings to the Sixteen Elders





Buddha Shakyamuni





We pay homage to the incomparable one whom we
never tire of gazing upon,
Whose beautiful form is the colour of gold,
With one face, two hands and is seated in cross-
legged posture,
While making the gestures of touching the earth and
resting in equanimity:
Grant your blessings so that the life of the teacher
may be secure,
And the teachings may flourish and spread!





We pay homage to the noble elder Angaja,
Who dwells on the great snow-capped peak of
Kailash,
Surrounded by one thousand three hundred arhats,
And holds an incense burner and fly whisk:
Grant your blessings so that the life of the teacher
may be secure,
And the teachings may flourish and spread!



Elder Ajita

We pay homage to the noble elder Ajita,
Who dwells in the crystal forest on Sage Mountain,
Surrounded by a hundred arhats,
And makes the gesture of equanimity with his two
hands:

Grant your blessings so that the life of the teacher
may be secure,
And the teachings may flourish and spread!





We pay homage to the noble elder Vanavasin,
Who dwells in a cave on Seven Leaf Mountain,
Surrounded by one thousand four hundred arhats,
And holds a fly whisk while making the threatening
gesture:

Grant your blessings so that the life of the teacher
may be secure,
And the teachings may flourish and spread!



Elder Kalika

We pay homage to the noble elder Kalika,
Who dwells on Copper Island in Jambudvipa,
Surrounded by one thousand one hundred arhats,
And holds golden earrings:
Grant your blessings so that the life of the teacher
may be secure,
And the teachings may flourish and spread!





Elder Vajriputra

We pay homage to the elder Vajriputra,
Who dwells in the land of Sri Lanka,
Surrounded by a thousand great arhats,
And holds a fly whisk while making the threatening
gesture:

Grant your blessings so that the life of the teacher
may be secure,
And the teachings may flourish and spread!



We pay homage to the noble elder Shribhadra,
Who dwells on an island in the Yamuna river,
Surrounded by one thousand two hundred arhats,
And makes the gestures of teaching the Dharma and
equanimity:
Grant your blessings so that the life of the teacher
may be secure,
And the teachings may flourish and spread!



We pay homage to the noble elder Kanakavatsa,
Who dwells in the supreme land of Kashmir,
Surrounded by five hundred great arhats,
And holds a jewelled chain:
Grant your blessings so that the life of the teacher
may be secure,
And the teachings may flourish and spread!



Elder Kanakabharadvaja

We pay homage to Kanakabharadvaja,
Who dwells on the western continent of Godaniya,
Surrounded by seven hundred great arhats,
And makes the gesture of equanimity with his two
hands:

Grant your blessings so that the life of the teacher
may be secure,
And the teachings may flourish and spread!



Elder Bakula

We pay homage to the noble elder Bakula,
Who dwells on the northern continent of Uttarakuru,
Surrounded by nine hundred great arhats,
And holds a mongoose with his two hands:
Grant your blessings so that the life of the teacher
 may be secure,
And the teachings may flourish and spread!



We pay homage to the noble elder Rahula,
Who dwells in the land of Priyangu,
Surrounded by one thousand one hundred arhats,
And holds a jewelled crown:
Grant your blessings so that the life of the teacher
may be secure,
And the teachings may flourish and spread!



Elder Ksudrapanthaka

We pay homage to the elder Ksudrapanthaka,
Who dwells on Vulture Peak mountain,
Surrounded by one thousand nine hundred arhats,
And makes the gesture of equanimity with his two
hands:

Grant your blessings so that the life of the teacher
may be secure,
And the teachings may flourish and spread!



Elder Pindolabharadvaja

We pay homage to Pindolabharadvaja,
Who dwells on the eastern continent of Purvavideha,
Surrounded by a thousand arhats,
And holds a text and alms bowl:
Grant your blessings so that the life of the teacher
may be secure,
And the teachings may flourish and spread!



Elder Panthaka

We pay homage to the noble elder Panthaka,
Who dwells in the heaven of Thirty Three,
Surrounded by nine hundred great arhats,
And makes the gesture of teaching the Dharma while
holding a text:
Grant your blessings so that the life of the teacher
may be secure,
And the teachings may flourish and spread!



We pay homage to the noble elder Nagasena,
Who dwells on the slopes of Mount Meru,
Surrounded by one thousand two hundred arhats,
And holds a vase and monk's staff:
Grant your blessings so that the life of the teacher
may be secure,
And the teachings may flourish and spread!



We pay homage to the noble elder Gopaka,
Who dwells on Vihula, king of mountains,
Surrounded by one thousand four hundred arhats,
And holds a text in his two hands:
Grant your blessings so that the life of the teacher
may be secure,
And the teachings may flourish and spread!



Elder Abhedya

We pay homage to the noble elder Abhedya,
Who dwells among the king-like Snowy Peaks,
Surrounded by a thousand arhats,
And holds an enlightenment stupa:
Grant your blessings so that the life of the teacher
may be secure,
And the teachings may flourish and spread!



We pay homage to the noble upasaka Dharmatala,
Whose hair is in a topknot and who carries volumes
of Dharma,
Who sees Amitabha in the sky before him,
And who holds a fly-whisk and vase:
Grant your blessings so that the life of the teacher
may be secure,
And the teachings may flourish and spread!



Dhritarashtra
The Guardian King of the East



Virupaksha
The Guardian King of the West




Virudhaka
The Guardian King of the South



Vaishravana
The Guardian King of the North





We pay homage to the four great kings,
Who are mighty and wear the armour of diligence,
And who guard well the teachings of Buddha
In the four directions: east, south, west and north!
Grant your blessings so that the life of the teacher
 may be secure,
And the teachings may flourish and spread!¹

*| The English verses are excerpted from A Brief Practice of Paying
Homage and Making Offerings to the Sixteen Elders compiled by
Jamyang Khyentse Wangpo translated by Lotsawa House.*

¹ The last two lines are added based on Khenpo Sodargye Rinpoche's Chinese translation from Tibetan.



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