

Sutra of the Three Exalted Collections

(Confession of Faults to the Thirty-Five Buddhas)

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(Since it is taught (by the Buddha) that this section on the confession of faults has the power to purify even the five acts of immediate consequence, it is very important to recite this Sutra of the Three Collections. First, clearly visualize the thirty-five Buddhas before you and, in their presence, from the bottom of your heart, recite:)

All sentient beings continually take refuge in the
Lama,
Take refuge in the Buddha,
Take refuge in the Dharma,
Take refuge in the Sangha.



I prostrate to the Transcendent Conqueror, the One Thus-Gone, the Foe-Destroyer, the Perfectly Complete Buddha, Shakayamuni.

To Vajra Essence, the Great Destroyer, I prostrate.

To Jewel Radiating Light, I prostrate.

To King Ruling the Naga Spirits, I prostrate.

To Leader of the Warriors, I prostrate.

To Supremely Blissful One, I prostrate.

To Jewel Fire, I prostrate.

To Jewel Moonlight, I prostrate.
To Holy Sight that Brings Accomplishments, I prostrate.
To Jewel Moon, I prostrate.
To Stainless One, I prostrate.
To Glorious Giver, I prostrate.
To Pure One, I prostrate.
To Bestower of Purity, I prostrate.
To Celestial Waters, I prostrate.
To Celestial Provider of Celestial Waters, I prostrate.
To Glorious Good, I prostrate.
To Glorious Sandalwood, I prostrate.

To Infinite Splendor, I prostrate.
To Glorious Light, I prostrate.
To Glorious one without Sorrow, I prostrate.
To Son Free from Craving, I prostrate.
To Glorious Flower, I prostrate.
To One Thus-Gone who Understands Reality by Manifesting the
Radiant Light of Purity, I prostrate.
To One Thus-Gone who Understands Reality by Enjoying the
Radiant Light of the Lotus, I prostrate.
To Glorious Wealth, I prostrate.
To Glorious One who is Mindful, I prostrate.

To Glorious One whose Name is so Well-Renowned, I prostrate.
To King whose Banner of Victory Crowns the Sovereigns, I
prostrate.
To Glorious One who Subdues Everything Completely, I
prostrate.
To Conqueror in All Battles, I prostrate.
To Glorious One who has Gone Beyond to Perfect Self-Control, I
prostrate.
To Glorious One who Displays Appearances for All, I prostrate.
To Jewel Lotus who Subdues All, I prostrate.
To the Transcendent Conqueror, the One Thus-Gone, the Foe-

Destroyer, the Perfectly Complete Buddha Always Remaining on a
Bejeweled Lotus Seat, King of Powerful Mountains, I prostrate.

To all of you, the Ones Thus-Gone, Foe-Destroyers, Completely
Perfect Buddhas, Transcendent Conquerors, those in the worlds of
the ten directions, however many there are,
To all of you Transcendent Buddhas, who grant enjoyment and
fortune, I pray you turn your minds to me!

In this life, and in all my lives, without beginning or end, in all the
samsaric rebirths through which I have wandered, I have engaged

in negative actions, made others engage in them, or rejoiced in others' engaging in them.

I have stolen offerings at stupas, the property of the sangha, and the property of the sangha in the ten directions, had others steal it, or rejoiced in its being stolen.

I have performed the five actions of immediate consequence, caused others to perform them, or rejoiced in their performance.

I have completely entered the path of the ten non-virtues, led

others to enter it, and rejoiced at its being entered.

Along with all beings thus shrouded by karmic obscurations, I shall go to hell realms, I shall be born in the animal realms, or in the realms of the pretas.

I shall be born in lands without Dharma.

I shall be born as a barbarian, or as a long-life god, as a being with inadequate sense faculties, one holding wrong views, or one so benighted by karma as not to take pleasure in the emergence of a

Buddha.

I confess each and every one of these actions to all the Buddhas, the Transcendent Conquerors, who are primordial wisdom, who possess vision, who bear witness, who embody the faultless proof.

In the presence of those who know, in the presence of those who see, I confess all of these.

I acknowledge them;
I do not harbor them in secret;

I do not artfully conceal them;
And I solemnly vow not to commit them again.

All buddhas, Transcendent Conquerors, all of you, I pray, turn your minds to me!

In this life, and in all my lives without beginning or end, in all the samsaric rebirths through which I have wandered, Whatever roots of virtue I possess due to generosity towards others, even as small as giving a mouthful of food to beings taking birth in the animal realms, any roots of virtue from preserving

ethical discipline, from adhering to pure sexual conduct, from fully ripening the minds of sentient beings, from giving rise to the vast mind of supreme enlightenment, from unsurpassable primordial wisdom,

All of these, I gather together, amass, and merge into one, and dedicate it all to that which is highest, to that which is higher than highest, to the which exceeds the unequaled, To unsurpassed, perfect, complete enlightenment, I dedicate it all.

Just as the Buddhas of the past,

Transcendent Conquerors, perfected their dedications,
Just as the Buddhas yet to come,
Transcendent Conquerors, will perfect their dedications,
And just as Buddhas now,
Transcendent Conquerors, are perfectly dedicating,
Likewise, I perfect this dedication.

I confess each and every one of my harmful actions.

I rejoice in all merit.

I supplicate all the Buddhas to grant my request:
May I attain sublime, supreme, unsurpassable, primordial wisdom.

To the supreme sovereigns of beings who are living now, those who have gone beyond, and likewise those who have not yet arrived,
Whose exemplary qualities are vast as an ocean,
With my palms joined together, I draw near and go for refuge.

(This completes the Mahayana Sutra known as the Three Exalted Collections. Then recite:)

Whether the three of the body, the four of speech, or the three of the mind, I confess each of the ten non-virtuous actions.

All of my wrongful acts from beginningless time until now, committed with a mind overpowered by emotional affliction, such as the ten non-virtuous acts and the five acts of immediate consequence, I confess them all.

Whatever negative actions I have committed with body, speech, and also mind, overpowered by desire, aggression, and stupidity, I confess each and every one of them.

Whatever has been done through the power of not knowing, all evil, even the five acts of immediate consequence, all of them without exception will be completely purified, by chanting this Confession of Downfalls.

I openly admit all faults and wrong doings of myself and all sentient beings.

In the future, may we never commit them again!

May the obscurations of karma be forever exhausted!

Whatever virtue is accumulated through prostrating, offering, confessing, rejoicing, requesting, and supplicating, however slight, I dedicate all of it to enlightenment.