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BUDDHIST SONGS.

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## Mortal and Immortal.

How sweetly bloom the cherry trees  
Beneath the April sky;  
But soon, too soon, their brightness wanes,  
For they must fade and die;  
And all their petals bright  
Soon on the ground we find,  
For while the world doth sleep  
There comes the midnight wind.

So is the heart that seeks for peace  
Within this world of strife,  
For many are man's woes below  
In this our mortal life;  
And when all seems delight,  
And hours of bliss we find,  
Through our frail trees of life  
There blows the midnight wind.

'Tis true that mortal life is sad  
And quickly passes by;  
But still abides that ancient gleam  
Of Truth that cannot die;  
For when self's flower is dead  
Its petals blown away,  
We'll see the glorious light  
Of Truth's Eternal Day.

1.

2.

## The Ageless Truth.

Commit no wrong, but good deeds do  
And let your hearts be pure;  
All Buddhas teach this doctrine true  
That will forever endure.

Hate is not overcome by hate  
By love alone 'tis quelled;  
This is a truth of ancient date,  
Today still unexcelled.

Then set your feet upon this way  
And firmly to it keep  
Remembering fully day by day  
The present from the past we reap.

Thus when our years are all fulfilled  
And time on earth is done;  
By Truth into our hearts instilled  
The final victory's won.

## Song to the Triple Gem.

With reverent hearts we bow before  
The Master's Holy Shrine;  
Peacefully we contemplate  
His counterpane sublime.

His sacred precepts we accept  
To guide us day by day  
Thus follow we the footsteps  
And tread the lightfold way.

From earthly passions and desires  
Many sought and found release;  
And so may we also attain  
Nibbāna's calm and peace.

## Seeking the Truth.

3.

As they of old in love drew near,  
Thy Holy Doctrine to attend,  
We come with joy Thy word to hear,  
Lord Buddha, Teacher, guide and friend.

Clearly to man has thou revealed  
Within Thy Law the way assured  
Whereby all mortal woes are healed  
And peace eternal is procured.

O may we all Thy Truth receive,  
With earnest purpose, pure intent;  
Thy Path to tread and thus achieve  
The bliss of full enlightenment.

Buddha, Lord, in thine embrace.

Buddha, Lord, in thine embrace,  
We our children dear would place,  
In the dawn of life to be  
Consecrated, Lord, to Thee.

To Thy guardianship benign  
We our loved ones would assign,  
To be welcomed to Thy fold  
As Rahula was of old.

Coming thus in tender youth,  
Unto Thee, O Lord of Truth,  
May Thy words their hearts impress  
With the seal of holiness.

Guide our precious ones, Dear Lord,  
Constantly thine aid afford,  
'Till this earthly life is done,  
And Nirvāna's glory won.

4.

How Glorious is Thy Dhamma.

How glorious is Thy Dhamma  
O, Buddha, Blessed Lord,  
How wonderful Thy Sangha  
That spreads Thy word abroad.

We too, will surely follow  
The road that Thou hast found,  
The perfect road of knowledge  
And never look behind.

And, walking in Thy footsteps,  
We'll find the truest wealth  
Lies in the full surrender  
Of that we call the self.

Thine infinite compassion,  
Thy pure and holy life,  
At length shall lead the nations  
From bloodshed, hate and strife.

And so we take our refuge  
In Thee, our Lord benign,  
Thy Holy Law, the beacon  
That in our hearts shall shine.

How glorious is Thy Dhamma,  
O, Buddha, Blessed Lord,  
How wonderful Thy Sangha  
That spreads Thy word abroad.

HOMAGE to the Buddha.

Far over the distant lands  
We our voices raise  
To our gentle teacher  
Hymns of joy and praise.

Let Thy holy abode  
Now with joy resound,  
Glory to Gautama  
Who Nirvana found.

Each child shall offer  
Heart's devotion true,  
Promising forever  
Righteous deeds to do.

Here before His image  
Blossoms rare we place,  
Emblems true of beauty,  
Purity and Grace.

The Texture of the Life.

The texture of the life to be  
We create of our own  
And in the realm of destiny  
As we reap that we have sown.

We make ourselves the joy and tears  
With which our life is made;  
And fill alone our future spheres  
With sunshine or with shade.

We live our present lives again  
With memories clear or dim.  
The pictures of the past remain  
Mad's work shall follow him.

The Buddha's Hymn of Victory.

Through many births I sought in vain  
The builder of this house of pain.  
Now, builder, thee I plainly see,  
This is the last abode for me.  
Thy gables yoke, thy rafters broke,  
Thy heav' has peace, all lust will leave.

5.

6.

Sadhu, Sadhu, Sadhu.

Sadhu, Sadhu, Sadhu to Buddha and Dhamma  
Sadhu, Sadhu, Sadhu to our holy Sangha.

Come sing gladly dear boys and maidens  
Your lifting hymns of praise today;  
'Tis right that Buddhist children's voices  
Should blend in melodious lay. (Sadhu, sad

Our noble blessed master teacher  
That all we children must be pure,  
In every thought, word or act we do  
And all happiness we'll secure. (Sadhu

Our noble blessed master teacher  
That all we children must surely bring  
Love and tender love and kindness  
To each and every living thing. (Sadhu

Our noble blessed master teacher  
That all we children must slay within  
The evil thoughts and selfish longing  
That leads us to the act of sin. (Sadhu

Lord Buddha speaks to me.

Lord Buddha speaks to me  
In accents sweet and low:  
"My child, look up and learn,  
The Truth I show.  
Trust not Illusion's vision  
Ever brief and fleeting  
For only Truth can give thee  
Thine heart's desire."

Lord Buddha speaks to me  
When sin holds sway,  
When passion's fires rise high

And peace seems far away:  
"Fear not, for I have conquered  
Passions fierce and raging;  
Tread thou the path I show thee  
Therein lies peace."

Lord Buddha speaks to me  
When friends depart,  
When loneliness assails  
My aching heart:  
"My child, my feet once wandered  
Lonely in the forest,  
But in the hour of darkness  
I found Truth's light."

Lord Buddha speaks to me  
In Death's dark night,  
When closing eyes no more  
Can see earth's light:  
"My child," he whispers softly,  
"Brighter light is shining;  
Hold fast the truth I gave thee,  
And thou shalt see."

### Lord Buddha found the Truth.

Lord Buddha found the Truth  
That breaks the captives' chains  
The truth that gladdens hearts forlorn  
And heals the sufferer's pains.

CHORUS: Rejoice, rejoice, rejoice, rejoice!  
The temple bells shall ring.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Rejoice! Rejoice!  
Rejoice! Be glad and sing!

Lord Buddha found the light  
That scatters all our fears,  
And on the weary paths of night  
It sheds a gladdening cheer. (CHORUS).

7.

8.

Lord Buddha found the Way,  
The Holy Way of Peace,  
For all who tread the eightfold path  
Shall find earth's sorrows cease. (CHORUS).

Lord Buddha found true life,  
Immortal and sublime;  
And those who win the fight with self  
Shall find the life divine. (CHORUS).

Lord Buddha found the goal,  
Nirvana's state most best;  
And those who trust him as their guide  
Shall find eternal rest.

CHORUS: Rejoice! Rejoice! Rejoice! Rejoice!  
The temple bells shall ring.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Rejoice! Rejoice!  
Rejoice! Be glad and sing.

### Morning Gatha.

Early in the morning  
We our voices raise  
To our gentle teacher  
Hymns of joy and praise.

Let Thy Holy temple  
Now with joy resound,  
Glory to Lord Buddha  
Who Nirvana found.

Each child shall offer  
Heart's devotion true,  
Promising forever  
Righteous deeds to do.

Here before His image  
Blossoms rare we place  
Emblems true of beauty,  
Purity and grace.

9.

May our deeds like flowers  
Sweetest perfume give;  
Our religion preaching  
By the lives we live.

### Song of the Pilgrim.

No sentient life in all the worlds  
Will ever cease to be;  
Transcending all as thou and I  
As forms change constantly.  
The life imprisoned in the earth  
May bloom as lovely flower  
So all evolve a fairer birth  
When Law brings forth the hour.

CHORUS: Remembering always "That Thou Art,"  
The path will lighter grow,  
The Buddha seed within our heart  
Will guide to those who know.

On through the endless aeons of time,  
Through forms from stone to man,  
All beings to perfection climb -  
Such is the faultless plan.  
Perfected men the Masters are  
And we shall also climb  
To starry heights in worlds afar  
And know the Truth Sublime. (CHORUS).

### Essence of the Doctrine.

Namo Evasa Bhagavato Arhato Samma Sambuddhassa  
The Buddha did the cause unfold  
Of all the things that spring from causes,  
And further the Great Sage has told  
How finally their passion pauses.  
Praise ye the Lord, the Blessed One,  
The Holy One, the Enlightened One.

Happiness.

Happy is the Buddhist's fate,  
For his heart knows not of hate,  
Haters may be all around } x 2.  
Yet in him, no hate is found.

CHORUS: Hate is not overcome by hate,  
By love alone 'tis quelled;  
This is a truth of ancient date,  
Today still unexcelled.

Happy is the Buddhist's fate,  
He all pining makes abate;  
Pining may seize all around } x 2.  
Yet in him no pining's found. (CHORUS):

Happy is the Buddhist's fate,  
He no greed will agitate.  
In the world greed may abound } x 2.  
Yet in him no greed is found. (CHORUS):

Happily then let us live,  
Joyously our service give,  
Quench all pining, hate and greed } x 2.  
Happy is the life we lead. (CHORUS):

Self-reliance.

By ourselves is evil done,  
By ourselves we pain endure;  
By ourselves we cease from wrong,  
By ourselves become we pure.

No one saves us but ourselves,  
No one can and no one may;  
We ourselves must walk the path  
Buddhas merely show the way.

Life Never Dies.

Life never dies, although we live  
In the midst of change and death;  
Only the form shall pass away  
But not the spirit's breath.

The consciousness can never die,  
Although it seems to fade;  
It doth but pass to other forms  
Which thoughts and acts have made.

"There is no death," all nature cries,  
The rose will reappear;  
Its petals will more perfect be  
After the winter drear.

The tiny bird that lifeless falls  
A victim to cruel death's sway,  
Returns again in higher forms  
Upon its upward way.

From life to life, more high and free,  
The myriad forms evolve;  
O may we learn to know the Truth,  
This mighty riddle solve.

The Sunrise Comes.

Ah, Blessed Lord!  
O, High Deliverer!  
I take my refuge in Thy Name and Order,  
I take my refuge in Thy Law.  
The dew is on the lotus.  
Rise, Great Sun!  
And lift my leaf and mix me with the wave  
The Sunrise Comes!  
The dewdrop slips into the stirring sea (x3)

Oṃ Maṇi padma hūṃ! (3 x 3).

HOMAGE TO THE BUDDHA. (B)

When the sun at morn is rising,  
Shedding round its glorious glow,  
We to Buddha duty render,  
With our bodies bending low.

When the golden orb rides higher  
And at noonday floods the sky,  
We in praises of our master  
Raise our voices clear and high.

When at eve in flaming glory,  
Sinks the sun into the west,  
We give thanks and homage tender  
And we, too, go to our rest.

When the night on us has fallen  
With its welcome sable pall,  
Buddha's love and his protection  
We invoke upon us all.

Softly Blew the Breezes.

Softly blew the breezes  
On that summer's morn,  
In Lumbini's garden  
Where the Lord was born.

From the earth sprang flowers,  
Birds in warbled song,  
Wafted through earth and heaven  
Strains of music rang.

Gods and men and angels  
All for worship came,  
Glory to Lord Buddha,  
Glory to his Name.

HOLY DAY OF WESAK.

13.

Buddha, Lord, we offer,  
On Thy birthday fair,  
Garlands of the brightest,  
Blossoms I choose and rare.

Holy Day of Wesak,  
Day of Buddha's birth,  
When the Sun of Wisdom  
Shone upon the earth.

Incense, too, we offer  
On this festal day,  
For the things we cherish  
All must pass away.

Through this holy symbol  
We shall learn to see  
Things of priceless value  
Hidden in transiency.

And the deep song sounding  
Bids us leave the self,  
And in Buddha's Teachings,  
Find the truest wealth.

Lights upon the altar  
Show to us the way  
From the realms of darkness  
To Nirvana's Day.

THE DHARMAKAKRA.

When we see the Dharma Wheel,  
Shining with each turn,  
We are thus reminded  
Of our Lord's concern;  
Concern for every mortal,  
That each might find release,  
From the coils of sorrow  
Into Perfect Peace.

HAIL, GLORIOUS DAY.

Hail, glorious day, when o'er the world  
The Light of Truth in splendour rose,  
For beings in Illusion's night  
The way of wisdom to disclose.

Lord Buddha, ~~Thou~~ our hearts acclaim,  
Thou art the Sun of Righteousness,  
In Thee was Truth in fulness shown,  
Man to enlighten and to bless.

Thy doctrine is the radiant glow  
Which evermore proceeds from thee,  
And marks the path that onward leads  
To freedom and felicity.

O may mankind Thy Light receive,  
From self and error turn aside,  
That all in peace and love may share  
The joy barricade of Wesak-tide.

THOUGHTS.

I fold my palms to worship Him,  
And meditate through love,  
I place the blossoms one by one,  
And lift my eyes above.

I see Samsara's mighty vast,  
And sorrow's yearning fate,  
And through the Law the Dharma's light,  
I sense a pathway great.

O may that Noble Eightfold Way  
Be sensed by you and me,  
For on this holy Wesak Day,  
'Tis my true gift to thee.

Sweet Hour of Meditation.

15.

Sweet hour of meditation,  
The quiet hour of peace,  
When from life's care and turmoil  
I find a bliss release.  
In silent contemplation  
New faith and hope I win,  
More light and deeper knowledge,  
New strength to conquer sin.

Sweet hour of meditation,  
When silent and alone,  
The Master's words I ponder,  
His Truth to make my own.  
With earnest purpose seeking,  
I gather more and more,  
Of Wisdom's Holy Treasure,  
From His exhaustless store.

Sweet hour of meditation,  
When oft there comes to me  
A vision of the Master  
Beneath the Bodhi-tree;  
And with Him in that vigil,  
My spirit seems to share  
A foretaste of Nirvana,  
Of bliss beyond compare.

O LIGHT OF ASIA.

O Light of Asia, lighten our dark West  
With wisdom garnered from Thy holy quest;  
Show us the path that leads to sorrow's cure,  
The sorrows that all living things endure.  
The gentle teaching in our minds instil,  
That none can prosper who treat others ill;  
But he who cherishes good-will to all -  
Earth's living creatures, whether great or small -  
Through their lontant his sufferings shall cease,  
And he shall walk the path of Perfect Peace.

16.

Buddha's Law of Love and Light.

There is a light, a wondrous light,  
It shines from Buddha's temple bright,  
Setting the path aglow;  
There is a psalm, a holy psalm,  
That tells of one so wise and calm,  
In India long ago.

There is a Law, a perfect Law,  
Taught by the Lord on Ganges shore,  
Who understands is blest;  
There is a Way, a way of Peace,  
Who follows it will find release  
From self, and be at rest.

There is a love, a perfect love,  
That spans all life below, above,  
Within its arms so wide;  
This love shall drive all hate away,  
And turn the darkness into day,  
And all our footsteps guide.

May Buddha's Law of Love and Light,  
Teach us Thy way so pure and bright,  
And Love that cannot cease;  
Thy Sangha helps us learn of Thee,  
All we should do, all we should be,  
How to attain True Peace.

Karma, the Law of Deeds.

Plain is the Law of Deeds,  
Yet deep it makes us pause -  
The harvest's like the seeds,  
Results are like to cause.  
Apply thy will to noble use:  
Good deeds bring forth no ill;  
Bad deeds no good produce.

The Way to Nirvana.

Evil swells the debts to pay  
Good delivers and acquits;  
Shun then evil, follow the good,  
Hold sway over thyself:  
This is the way.

There is a road that few assend,  
Erring senses lead astray;  
Dark is the night, and weary the walk,  
Pilgrim, follow the way  
Until the end.

Buddhas teach the ancient Law,  
Follow thou the Dhamma's guide;  
True to thy higher self,  
Till there arrests thee from afar  
Nirvana's shore.

With Happy Children's Voices.

With happy children's voices  
Let Buddha's temple ring,  
And to our blessed Master,  
Our thanks and praise we bring.

He shows the way that leads us  
From sin and sorrow here,  
And in His path we follow  
No evil shall we fear.

We thank Him for His doctrine  
Which shows us what to do,  
So that our lives may ever  
Be pure and good and true.

(Repeat first verse).

17.

18.

BUDDHIST CHILDREN.

Kings and princes offer  
Precious gifts of gold  
And in Buddha's temple  
Pour their wealth untold.

But we little children  
Ever frail and small  
Are too poor to offer  
Any gift at all.

Little hands may gather  
Blossoms of the spring  
And these fragrant flowers  
To His temple bring.

Little feet may journey  
In His Holy Way,  
And by righteous actions  
Close to Buddha stay.

There are none so tiny  
But they too may bring  
Hearts of love and kindness  
To their Lord and King.

THE BUDDHA IS MY REFUGE.  
To all the Buddhas of the ancient days  
To all the Buddhas of all future time,  
We offer veneration true.

To all the Buddhas of the ancient days  
To all the Buddhas of the present age  
We offer veneration evermore.

For me there is no other refuge,  
The Buddha is my refuge.  
By the power of the truth  
May I attain the glorious victory!



THE ANTHEM OF THE UNIVERSAL.

One Cosmic Brotherhood  
One Universal Good  
One Source, one sway  
One Law, beholding us,  
One purpose moulding us  
One Life enfolding us  
In Love always.

Anger, resentment, hate,  
Lords have made us desolate;  
Their reign is done  
Race, colour, creed and caste,  
Fade in the dreamy past,  
Man wakes to learn at last  
All Life is One.

LOVE'S TIES.

How transient are things mortal,  
How restless is man's life;  
But peace stands at the portal  
Of death and ends all strife.

Life finds its consummation,  
Days end in evening gloom,  
But we with life's resuscitation  
Sink not into the tomb.

Life is a constant parting,  
One more the stream has crossed,  
But think as ye stand, weeping  
Of that which never is lost.

The past can't be recovered,  
And yet it is not gone,  
Love's ties cannot be severed,  
Love's blessings will live on.

19.

20.

All rivers flowing, flowing,  
Must reach the distant main.  
The seeds which we are sowing  
Will ripen into grain.

LOVE UNIVERSAL.

Where find all our yearnings contentment and <sup>peace?</sup>  
How shall we from worry and care have release?  
Not, surely, by seeking the objects of sense,  
By yielding to passions or scrambling for self.  
No, no, no, no! We can squirk  
No peace by indulging in selfish desire.

How sorry the people who loveless remain  
They live for their pleasure and toil for their gain,  
While genuine happiness only proceeds  
From love such as showeth its power in deeds.  
Yea, yea, yea, yea! Love peace portends,  
A life in vain which is selfishness ends.

Man's selfishness is narrow, his soul craves beyond,  
Where deathless ideals to love's call respond,  
And hearts which with love universal are thrilled,  
With peace and with infinite bliss will be filled.  
Yea, yea, yea, yea! Love conquers  
The evil of life and the terror of death.

THE ONENESS OF LIFE.

O heart of the world you beat as one,  
All suffer pain and loss when evil is done.

Think not, O lordly man, to stand alone,  
Harm but the weakest life and all must atone.

Creatures that walk or run, fly, swim or crawl;  
Hurt to the least of them is hurt to them all.

By his seeds, good or ill, each seals his fate;  
Strive hard to heal and bless, before it's too late.

21.

Oh, wondrous Heart of Peace you, too, are One.  
All will be merged in Thee when peace is won.

Life's troubled ocean crossed, enfranchised, free.  
Those who have reached life's goal are one with Thee.

THE LAW OF KARMA.

As one reaps, that one has sown,  
Such is the Law Divine;  
No god to reward or punish thee,  
The cause of it was thine.

The present is the true result  
Of actions all one's own.  
The sower often reaps the fruits  
Of seeds which he has sown.

The Law is ever just and true  
And all must bravely bear  
Those seeds of theirs which germinate  
Whether bitter, sweet or fair.

Weep not for what's past and gone  
For it cannot return;  
This is the Teaching Buddha gave,  
For all his sons to learn.

Do not despair, the future still  
Is thine to mar or make.  
Sow then today good seeds and pure  
And reap their harvest great.

The goal divine still shines afar,  
All may this goal attain;  
When they have learned good seeds to sow  
And things of self have slain.

## DEATH.

With this weasak crowd  
A woman wends her way,  
A shawl around her shoulders,  
Her limbo weary, hair grey.

She has lost her only son  
Two weeks ago today,  
Her tears flow so freely  
This Holy Weasak Day.

She lights her little lamp,  
She burns the scented sticks,  
She places blooms on altar,  
Then kneels on marble bricks.

She hears the Master's word  
Repeated by the monk:  
"All this will pass away,  
We are as people drunk."

"We are but ice that melts;  
Our deeds alone remain.  
The rest will always perish  
Until Nirvana gain."

"Today we live; next day  
We die, as all things born;  
We have made our karma,  
As we reap that we have sown."

Her eyes were dry, she felt  
The dream of life a farce.

## THE THREE SIGNS.

Anizza, Dukkha, Anatta,  
The leaves are falling fast,  
The reign of the rose is ended,  
The sky is overcast.  
The whole world is filled with sadness;  
From city and jungle arise  
The cry of life's suffering children,  
The daylight slowly dies.

Our Lord looked with love and pity  
Upon every living being,  
From the lowliest child of nature  
To the mightiest crowned king.  
For hatred, delusion, passion,  
Still claim and enslave us all,  
And each alike on the wheel of change  
Must suffer, and risk, and fall.

Anizza, Dukkha, Anatta,  
Here every life knows pain;  
He who faithfully walks the Path  
Will not look for help in vain.  
The Law of the Tathagata  
Forever will light the way -  
It is our moon to shine by night,  
Our sun to illumine the day.

In Lord Buddha we take our refuge,  
His Law of good our guide  
To pilot us as we toss and drift  
On Being's remorseless tide.  
With the Dhamma's light to steer by  
Some day we'll fear rocks no more,  
But, merit won, each will moor his barge  
On Nirvana's chargeless shore.

## NIRVANA'S ENDLESS DAY.

Long have we sought for Truth's bright light,  
Long have we wandered in the night.  
Lord Buddha found the Holy Way  
That leads from night to endless day.

When shall we learn the road to peace  
When earthly strife and hatred cease?  
O weary soul, that peace profound  
In Buddha's Holy Law is found.

When shall we learn the Law sublime  
Which leads us on to Peace Divine?  
To Buddha's Holy Law we turn,  
The Path of Truth and Peace to learn.

And must we wander many a year  
In pain and misery and fear?  
The Lighted Path of wondrous wealth  
Is hidden by the love of self.

And must we pray that we may find  
The strength to break the chains that bind?  
By each one must the race be run,  
And not by prayer is freedom won.

Whence comes the suffering of this life?  
How can we end our state of strife?  
By Buddha's Law is justice known,  
For as we reap that we have sown.

With love that never more shall wane,  
We'll praise Lord Buddha's Holy Name,  
And in the Dhamma's Noble Way  
We'll reach Nirvana's endless day.

RIGHT MINDNESS

Constant let thine efforts be  
From Delusion's slavery,  
By the Truth thy mind to free  
Wisdom to attain.

Break the bonds of sense desire  
Holding thee in error's mire  
And with all thine heart aspire  
Purity to know.

Strike the ego to deny  
Let all selfish craving die;  
To all beings, high and low,  
Love and kindness show.

Never let thine efforts cease  
Till in ultimate release  
And in Buddha's Perfect Peace  
Thou hast reached thy goal.

LORD, WITHIN THY HOLY DOCTRINE.

Lord, within Thy Holy Doctrine  
Still Thy presence we desire;  
Source of wisdom, love and power,  
Every need to satisfy.

And Thy loving all obeying  
Self and sin we cast aside,  
On the Lightfold Path to follow,  
Thee, our Master and our guide.

Thine example shall inspire us  
Faithful in our quest to be;  
For a heart in perfect virtue,  
For a mind from error free.

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EVENING GATHA.

Shadows o'er the years are stealing,  
Soon the darkness will descend.  
Gladly we around Thee gather  
Teacher, Master, Guide and Friend.

When that last long, darksome twilight  
All the lights of earth shall hide,  
Truth within His arms shall hold us,  
 Bearing us across Death's tide.

Ever onward, ever onward,  
Gently held in Love's embrace,  
Till we reach Nirvana's summit,  
And behold Truth face to face.

THE TWIG AND THE TREE.

Gently teach the little children  
How to walk the Buddha Way;  
Show with kindness and affection  
What to do and what to say.

Even as a twig, if twisted,  
Grows into a twisted tree,  
So do men and women follow  
Patterns learned in infancy.

Let us then make sure that always  
Example right we clearly show,  
So that our youth in life may never  
Down the path of evil go.

Teach the young the Path to follow;  
Show them in their days of youth;  
And when old they'll never waver  
From Lord Buddha's Way of Truth.



SONG OF PEACE.

Praise ye the Dhamma of our Lord  
Which bids all hatred cease,  
That sheds upon us holy showers  
Of Joy and Love and Peace.

Walk in the Noble Eightfold Path,  
The Path our Teacher found,  
That leads the weary sons of earth  
To peace and hope profound.

Within the Sangha we shall rest,  
And in our Master's Name,  
Who showed the suffering ones of earth  
The secret of their pain.

BUDDHIST DOXOLOGY.

Bright shineth the sun in his splendour by day  
And bright the moon's radiance by night;  
Bright shineth the hero in battle array,  
And the sage in his thought shineth bright.  
But by day and by night, none so glorious & bright  
As Lord Buddha, the source of all spiritual light.

WESAK DAWN.

Wesak dawn has passed in softly,  
Tip-toed through the moonlit night,  
Breathed the flowers and incense smoking,  
Laughed through bars of purple light.

Bids you now to waken gently,  
Lift your troubled eyes of sleep,  
Tendering thoughts of Homage, holy,  
Cross Samsāra's ocean deep.

To the One who taught the Dhamma,  
Of the Noble Eightfold Way,  
To the Buddha, dearest sister,  
Lift your tender mind today.

THE ETERNAL REFUGE.

We thirst for something lasting, something real  
In this our world of constant change & strife,  
A spot wherein our spirits may find rest  
And rid the storms and agony of life.

But while we seek, confused by things of sense,  
Bewildered by the calls of self and sin,  
We oft forget the words the Buddha spoke:  
The gateway of Nirvana lies within.

Great tempests rage o'er ocean's mighty face,  
While angry billows sweep and surge around,  
But in the depths far hidden out of sight,  
Eternal Peace and Perfect Calm are found.

So are there depths within the spirit hid,  
Where storms and winds of passion never blow,  
And all who rest within this hallowed spot,  
The hidden joys of Truth shall surely know.

OUR PLEDGE.

To teach the Doctrine which is right,  
The Way that leads to endless light,  
Is service of the highest kind,  
None other so sublime we'll find.

In solemn faith of all we know  
We consecrate our lives to show  
Our fellow travellers young and small  
For we feel deeply Buddha's call.

With Buddha standing at our side,  
The Truth will always be our guide.  
With earnest purpose we shall teach,  
With tender love, their hearts to reach.

HOMAGE TO THEE, LORD BUDDHA.

When light is fair and sunlight gilds the day,  
When fortune smiles and flowers adorn our way,  
Oft let us pause, with grateful hearts to say:  
Homage to Thee, Lord Buddha.

When comes temptation, luring us to sin,  
When doubts and fears assail us from within;  
This be our prayer, the victory we shall win:  
Homage to Thee, Lord Buddha.

Even though our way leads 'neath a darkened sky,  
And to our loved ones pain and death draw nigh,  
Our tears may flow, yet trustingly we cry:  
Homage to Thee, Lord Buddha.

THE FLOWER OF MANKIND.

Rohini rippled its water,  
Tinged with the moonlit tide,  
Mountainous high Himalaya  
Gazed on with wondering pride.

Planets in their starry orbits  
Stopped for a while in pace,  
Lads from their shaken heavens  
Down to the earth they race.

Birds in their flaming feathers,  
Beasts in their vests of gold,  
Fish on the water's surface  
Take themselves to behold.

Skies grey have lost their darkness,  
Silver moon shines in state,  
Lotuses open in glory  
Honouring Gotama Great

He's surrendered life's big secret;  
He's measured life's great down.  
He knows the way and watchword.  
Flower of Mankind is born.

### PRINCE GAUTAMA.

Gautama left his home and friends  
To seek for the Holy way  
That leads mankind from the paths of night  
To realms of endless day.  
"Homage to the Blessed Lord,"  
With joy we repeat today.

And when he found the Truth profound,  
He asked for no power or praise,  
But straight way out from the forest came,  
The suffering beings to raise.  
"Homage to the Blessed Lord,"  
We'll say all our earthly days.

When Death shall claim us for its own,  
We shall not faint nor fear,  
Though dark and dread the path may seem,  
Our Master's love is near.  
"Homage to the Blessed Lord,"  
We'll say till the shadows clear.

### THE TRUTH SO CLEAR.

Today Lord Buddha's children come,  
A gather of praise to sing  
Of Sakya Muni and his love  
Let all the temples ring.

In early years our Blessed Lord  
Lost his illusions dear,  
And in the forest and the plain,  
He found the Truth so clear.

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32.

### FARE-YE-WELL.

My fond young wife, O Fare-ye-well,  
I leave your side to come again  
A sage of ages, king of kings,  
This holy hour, though full of pain.

This palace vast is small to me,  
I cannot breathe nor lie at rest;  
The vaster world bids me to leave  
This vanity for what is best.

So fare-thee-well, my only son,  
Reclining in thy mother's arms;  
I go to build a realm of Truth,  
Hence leave I all with folded palms.

And mount my horse and fly through time,  
To conquer pain, and birth and death;  
To find a way to reach that bliss,  
I leave behind this passing wealth.  
(repeat first verse).

### BIMBISARA.

The timid sheep and frightened goats  
Lame down the distant hilly path  
Twas Bimbisara's sacrifice  
To appease the gods of blood and wrath.

But lo! a rishi came that day  
Unto the palace of the famous king,  
And loosed the victim goat that lay  
Upon the altar of offering.

And Bimbisara folding palms  
Drew near towards the saint-like prince,  
And listened to the jewelled words  
Dictated in his country since.

"Strike not, and thus slay not, O King! 33.  
Nor taste the flesh of any life.  
The life you take, you cannot give."  
And every priest threw down his knife.

And Bimbisara prayed Him to  
Remain a while and wisdom teach;  
But he declined the offer, said;  
"I strive, great king, the truth to reach."

All gifts your love on me bestows,  
I had them in my father's land.  
With every fall of foot I track  
The truth upon life's ageless sand."

So, farewell Lord, I'll come again,  
Requite your kindness and your love,  
When I have gathered all the lore  
That sets all free, below, above!"

### THE BODHI TREE.

In the forest dense and wild,  
Providing shade for fierce and mild,  
Beloved by both man and child,  
The Holy Bodhi stands.

In the city's sun-browned heart,  
Where the highways meet and part,  
Beneath whose shade the sparrows dart,  
The Holy Bodhi stands.

Down by the river's fertile shore,  
Where people meet for Dharma's lore,  
Enshrined within a temple door  
The Holy Bodhi stands.

Years by thousands have gone by,  
Since that fair Indian prince drew nigh  
To where he became the Buddha high,  
The holiest Bodhi stands.

34.

SONG OF THE GOLDEN RULE.

Do unto others as you wish  
That they should do to you;  
Then would this earth a heaven be,  
So beautiful and true.

Be kind to those who are unkind,  
Give love to those who hate;  
Thus will your merit be untold,  
Your blessings very great.

Give unto all the best you have,  
To all a favour do;  
And all these blessings in their time  
Will then come back to you.

GO FORTH, O VALIANT HEART.

Go forth, O valiant heart, go bravely forth,  
To seek in Buddha's Law the lasting peace.  
Bravely he sought through years of toil and pain,  
The Holy Path that leads to sorrow's cease.

Go forth, O valiant heart, look not behind,  
Where earthly joys thy feet would seek to bind;  
Before thee waits fair wisdom's open page,  
Where thou the treasures of the Truth shall find.

Go forth today in Buddha's Holy Path,  
And in His Teachings find eternal Peace, Truth,  
Through His great Dhamma thou shalt learn the  
And reach Nirvāna's state where sorrows cease.

LUMBINI

By the gardens, the gardens of Lumbini,  
We knelt down rejoiced, rejoiced for Siddhartha.  
We remember, we remember, we remember Gotama.

LIMB THE PATH WITH GLADNESS.

Limb the path with gladness, in the field of life,  
Vanquishing illusion, ignorance and strife.

Brotherhood and service shall our motto be,  
And the goal before us - Truth and Liberty.

We will teach Thy Dhamma, whereso'er we go,  
Wisdom, Love, Compassion in our actions show.

We must stand together, fighting side by side;  
Truth is undivided: this must be our guide.

All divisions vanish where the Truth is known;  
Thou the greatest lesson by Lord Buddha shown.  
Forward marching ever in the Dhamma's might,  
Till we lead the nations into endless light.

RIGHT MINDFULNESS.

Keep thou thy mind as a garden,  
Let not thy diligence cease;  
Weeding out evil and error,  
Striving the good to increase.

Sow thou by highest attention  
Thoughts that are holy and pure;  
Constant and early endeavour  
Vigour and growth will assure.

Seek with the Light of the Doctrine,  
Daily thy thoughts to illumine;  
Truth by its power shall quicken,  
Bring them in virtue to bloom.  
Then shall thy thoughts find fruition,  
Yielding in word and in deed,  
Their inspiration and blessing,  
Help unto others in need.

35. 36.

THE GOLDEN CHAIN OF LOVE.

CHORUS: I'm a link in His Golden Chain of Love,  
I'm a link in His Golden Chain of Love,  
I'm a link in the Buddha's Golden Chain of Love  
That stretches around the world.

I must keep my link bright and strong,  
I must keep my link bright and strong,  
I must keep my link ever bright and strong,  
And let it glow with joy.

CHORUS:

I'll be kind and gentle to every being,  
I'll be kind and gentle to every being,  
I'll be kind and gentle to every living being,  
And protect those weaker than me.

CHORUS:

I'll think pure and noble thoughts,  
I'll say pure and gentle words,  
I'll do pure and righteous noble deeds,  
'Cause what I do now moulds my life.

CHORUS:

May every link in His chain be bright & strong,  
May every link in His chain be bright & strong,  
May every link in His chain of Love be bright & strong,  
May we attain Perfect Peace.

THE LIGHT OF ASIA.

In the Land of the happy Sakyas,  
For good and joy to all the world of men,  
The wisdom-child, that precious jewel,  
Unmatched, unrivalled, was born in Lumbini.

We rejoice, we rejoice  
Siddhartha Prince was born;  
We rejoice, we rejoice  
For the Truth's eternal Sun.

At twenty-nine He left His kingdom,  
His wife, his child, to seek for Truth's bright  
He wandered lonely in plain and forest,  
To tear the blindfold off dark illusion's night.

We rejoice, we rejoice,  
From trap of pain broke free,  
We rejoice, we rejoice,  
He won great victory.

Underneath the tree of wisdom  
He sat Himself with folded hands and feet;  
With focused mind and perfect vision  
The world's deliverance our Teacher had attained.

We rejoice, we rejoice,  
The House of Life lay broken,  
We rejoice, we rejoice,  
Our Lord emerged triumphant.

Between two trees, in meditation,  
Immersed in calm, our Teacher passed away;  
Compounded things are all so transient,  
Your own salvation with diligence you must work.

These wise words of our Teacher,  
Were the last words He spoke,  
The Dhamma and the Discipline  
To guide us when He's gone.

#### LIGHT FROM THE EAST.

Who are these brave youths and maidens  
Bearing torches in their hands?  
They are Buddha's noble soldiers  
From the far-off Eastern lands;  
They have brought a wondrous message,  
And, like pioneers of old,  
They have pledged their life's devotion  
To the cause which they uphold.

37. Never shall their footsteps falter,  
Though their road be steep and hard;  
Never shall they seek to wander  
From the Dhamma of the Lord.  
Ever forward they are marching  
Bearing treasures to the west:  
Living waters to the thirsty,  
To the weary, peace and rest.

Hear ye, Western Lands, the tidings!  
Lo, the reign of Truth has come;  
And all ye who sit in darkness  
Shall behold the Rising Sun.  
See the feeble man-made idols  
Falling from their thrones of state:  
Gods of cruelty, gods of money,  
Gods of war and gods of hate.

Once they stood on golden altars,  
Lo, now in the dust they lie;  
Gods like these can never flourish  
Where the Buddha's light draws nigh;  
His a creed of Love and Pity,  
Founded on Truth's living word,  
No one ever spread the Dhamma  
By the torture and the sword.

March with courage, sons of Buddha,  
Though the storm-clouds gather fast,  
Soon your torch shall light the nations,  
And the days of gloom be past.  
Buddha's Holy Light shall lead you  
To that state where sorrows cease;  
And in Love's most perfect union  
Ye shall find Nirvana's PEACE.

#### GAYA.

39.

The lonely winds of Gaya  
Sweep o'er the sacred shrine;  
The words of a Holy Master  
Echo within my mind.

The solitude of Gaya  
Emits a song to me,  
Reminding of the Dhamma  
Even in Samsara's sea.

The sands of distant Gaya  
Sing round the Bodhi tree  
'Neath which attained He wisdom,  
And found the way so free.

#### WE ARE BUDDHA'S LOYAL CHILDREN.

We are Buddha's loyal children,  
Marching 'neath His banner true,  
Proud to follow where He leads us,  
Glad His Holy will to do.  
Marching forward, ever forward,  
Loyal children we will be,  
'Neath the Buddha's glorious banner  
We will follow faithfully.

Bravely forward into battle,  
We advance at His command,  
'Gainst the power of sin and error  
Facing us on every hand.  
When at last we stand triumphant,  
And the weary fight is over,  
Onward still our Lord shall lead us  
To Nirvana's peaceful shore.



CHILDREN OF THE BUDDHA.

Children of the Buddha, proudly now we stand  
Raising high His standard in this Eastern Land;  
Buddha's Teaching spreadeth Universal Peace;  
Where His Name is honoured, hate & strife shall cease.

Children of the Buddha, we must strive to show  
Truth and Love and Kindness wheresoever we go;  
Purity, obedience, faith and courage strong,  
These shall light our journey as we march along.

As we climb life's mountain, clouds will disappear,  
Buddha's love surrounding all who persevere;  
Grief and pain departing, ignorance will cease,  
On our hearts descending blest Nirvana's Peace.

TRUTH WITHIN YOU.

Come, my brothers, get together,  
Sing the praises of your Lord,  
He has found the cure of sadness,  
Gladly hearken to His word.

He has taught the Law triumphant,  
And this Law shall set you free;  
In His Universal Janaka  
Ye shall find True Liberty.

One are you with all that liveth  
Race and caste no more shall bind,  
Brotherhood without distinction  
In the Buddha's creed you'll find.

Meditate upon His Dhamma,  
In your lives these Teachings show,  
That the nations all around you,  
May the Buddha's greatness know.

Cultivate the Truth within you,  
It will bring you joy and peace;  
And the strifes that are around you,  
From them you shall find release.

Realize that you are Buddha  
And Nirvana you shall see;  
In its tranquil peace undying,  
You shall live eternally.

LISTEN TO HIS VOICE.

Gladly sing the children's voices  
In Lord Buddha's temple bright,  
As they tell the wondrous story  
Of His search to find Truth's light.

How for many years He wandered  
In the forest dark and vast,  
Till one night upon His spirit  
Wisdom's Holy Light was cast.

Neath the tree the Master seated  
Found Nirvana's radiant peace,  
Saw before His eyes the Pathway  
Whereby all men's ills shall cease.

O, what glorious light was shining  
From Lord Buddha's gentle face,  
As He went to preach salvation  
To the people of His race.

And the people when they heard Him,  
Gladly walked the lighted way,  
Leading from the realms of darkness  
Into everlasting day.

So shall we, His little children  
Listen to His voice so sweet,  
As those little Indian children  
Whom He gathered at His feet.

HAPPY LITTLE CHILDREN.

Happy little children we,  
By the Dhamma keeping,  
We shall all in love and joy  
Fit reward be reaping.

Kindness, pity and goodwill,  
We'll always be showing  
Till hate, hatred, spite and fear  
From our hearts overthrowing.

On this earth on which we dwell  
Or in orbs much vaster,  
Dhamma rules throughout them all,  
Teachings of our Master.

We will through our life now go,  
Ever forward singing,  
Praises of our Blessed Lord,  
Loud our voices ringing.

Praises to our gracious Guide,  
Everywhere ascending,  
Let us keep His Law and show  
Gratitude unending.

WE ARE TRUTH'S DISCIPLES.

We are Truth's disciples, marching on to peace,  
With the sword of reason, bidding error cease.  
Love's our great commander, ignorance our foe,  
To dispel illusion forward we must go.

We are gentle warriors, moving slowly on;  
We are still pursuing path our Master's gone.  
Failure cannot daunt us; hope is born anew.  
Knowledge wins the battle, righteousness is true.

43.  
Not for wealth or power, nor the praise of man,  
Ours a noble conflict that must never end,  
Kindness rise and vanish; ours will always stand,  
Founded on Compassion, filling Truth's command.

### BUDDHA'S SOLDIERS.

Have you heard the sound of footsteps  
As soldiers marching on?  
Have you seen their banners waving?  
Have you heard their battle-song?  
Have you watched their blazing torches  
Lighting up their columns long?

Yes, we heard their footsteps thunder  
In the watches of the night;  
And we saw their banners waving  
By their torches flashing light;  
And the stirring songs they shouted  
Filled our hearts with strange delight.

It was sad to see them marching  
To some battle-field of pain,  
There to leave their youthful bodies  
Mid the fallen and the slain  
That some earthly king or monarch  
On his golden throne might reign.

May, these are the Buddha soldiers,  
And the foe they seek to slay  
Is illusion's self that hinders  
Mankind's progress day by day;  
Righteousness the sword they carry,  
Wisdom's torch that lights their way.

For no earthly king or monarch  
Do they march to meet the fight,  
But to spread the Buddha's Teachings  
Mid the darkness of our night,  
And to crown the Truth triumphant  
In the splendour of Love's Light.

44.

### NIRVANA'S BLISS

Immortal bliss is not attained  
By faith in gods on high,  
Nor may perfection here be gained  
By prayer or fervent sigh.

The ego born of sense desire  
Discard, and thou shalt see  
Thy higher self revealed within  
In power and purity.

On this true self with faith rely,  
And ever watchful be;  
From sin and every evil brand  
Thy mind and heart to free.

Then love and wisdom, joy and light,  
Into thine heart shall flow;  
Nirvana's bliss thou here shalt taste  
And full perfection know.

### FAREWELL.

Evermore in memory we shall treasure  
The golden hours we spent with you;  
Hours that brought to us in fullest measure  
All the blessings and the joys of friendship true.

CHORUS: Farewell to you, our friend so true,  
May love and truth eternal guide you,  
And love divine upon your pathway shine  
Until we meet again.

We have bowed with you in sweet communion  
Before the Buddha's holy shrine;  
And no parting can sunder the union  
Of our spirits in His brotherhood divine.

CHORUS:

### RIGHT THOUGHT.

45.

Right Thought will lead me on  
To Wisdom's Holy Height,  
And show to me the surest way  
To pass through sorrow's night.

Right Thought will light me through  
The shadows of this life;  
'Twill ease my heart and peace assure,  
And free my mind from strife.

Right Thought will be my guide  
Across life's troubled sea,  
My pilot, compass, star and chart,  
Right Thought shall ever be.

Right Thought will keep me on  
The way to Perfect Peace,  
And ferry to the other shore  
Where all illusions cease.

### THREE TREASURES.

We take our refuge in the Buddha,  
In His Holy Law,  
In His Blessed Brotherhood.  
May Nirvana's Light our lives o'ershine  
In Love and Joy and Peace,  
And Peace Be with us.

### ANGULIMALA.

"Stop thee! O saffron princely monk,  
Who hastens on like falling rain;  
I want a finger from thy hand  
To finish my bloody garland."

"I do not run; you run instead.  
Please stop awhile and list to me;

Unselfish love to all that lives,  
Our lives shall manifest;  
In thought, in word, in action show,  
Its inspiration blest.

Though steep and toilsome be the path,  
We shall but strive the more  
Nirvāṇa's Holy Realm to gain  
And peace for evermore.

47.

#### PRAISE OF DHARMA.

"The Blessed Buddhas, of virtues endless and limitless, are born of the Law of Righteousness; they dwell in the Law, are fashioned by the Law; they have the Law as their Master, the Law as their Light, the Law as their field of action, the Law as their refuge. They are produced by the Law.... and all the joys in this world and the next are born of the Law and produced by the Law.

The Law is equal, equal for all beings. For low or middle or high the Law cares nothing. So must I make my thought like the Law.

The Law has no regard for the pleasant. Impartial is the Law. So must I make my thought like the Law.

The Law is not dependent upon time. Timeless is the Law. So I must make my thought like the Law.

The Law is not in the lofty without being in the low. Neither up nor down will the Law bend. So I must make my thought like the Law.

The Law is not in that which is whole without being in that which is broken. Devoid of all superiority or inferiority is the Law. So I must make my thought like the Law.

The Law is not in the noble without being in the humble. No care for fields of activity has the Law. So I must make my thought like the Law.

The Law is not in the day without being in the night. Ever firm is the Law. So I must make my thought like the Law.

The Law does not lose the occasion of conversion. There is never delay with the Law. So I must make my thought like the Law.

The Law has neither shortage nor abundance. Immeasurable, innumerable is the Law. Like space it never lessens or grows. So must I make my thought like the Law.

The Law is not guarded by beings. Beings are

protected by the Law. So must I make my thought like the Law.

The Law does not seek refuge. The refuge of all the world is the Law. So must I make my thought like the Law.

The Law has none who can resist it. Irresistible is the Law. So I must make my thought like the Law.

The Law has no preferences. Without preference is the Law. So must I make my thought like the Law.

The Law has no fear of the terrors of birth and death, nor is it lured by Nirvāṇa. Ever without misgiving is the Law. So must I make my thought like the Law."

(From: Dharmasaṅgīti Sūtra, Śikṣāsamuccaya.)