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The Great Dharani - Wikipedia Page and English Translations

A primary source for this talk about the Great Dharani - also known as the Nilakantha Dharani - was found on the following Wikipedia page: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nīlakaṇṭha_Dhāraṇī.

Here are the three English translations of the Great Dharani from this Wiki page:

D.T. Suzuki[\[edit\]](#)

Author [D.T. Suzuki](#)'s English translation of the standard version is as follows:^{[101][102]}

Adoration to the [Triple Treasure](#)!

Adoration to Avalokiteśvara the Bodhisattva-Mahāsattva who is the great compassionate one!

Om, to the one who performs a leap beyond all fears!

Having adored him, may I enter into the heart of the blue-necked one known as the noble adorable Avalokiteśvara! It means the completing of all meaning, it is pure, it is that which makes all beings victorious and cleanses the path of existence.

Thus:

[Om](#), the seer, the world-transcending one!

O [Hari](#) the Mahābodhisattva!

All, all!

Defilement, defilement!

The earth, the earth!

It is the heart.

Do, do the work!

Hold fast, hold fast! O great victor!

Hold on, hold on! I hold on.

To [Indra](#) the creator!

Move, move, my defilement-free seal!

Come, come!

Hear, hear!

A joy springs up in me!

Speak, speak! Directing!

Hulu, hulu, mala, hulu, hulu, hile!

Sara, sara! siri, siri! suru, suru!

Be awakened, be awakened!

Have awakened, have awakened!

O merciful one, blue-necked one!

Of daring ones, to the joyous, hail!

To the successful one, hail!

To the great successful one, hail!

To the one who has attained master in the discipline, hail!

To the blue-necked one, hail!

To the boar-faced one, hail!

To the one with a lion's head and face, hail!

To the one who holds a weapon in his hand, hail!

To the one who holds a wheel in his hand, hail!

To the one who holds a lotus in his hand, hail!

To the blue-necked far-causing one, hail!

To the beneficent one referred to in this Dhāraṇī beginning with "Namaḥ," hail!

Adoration to the Triple Treasure!

Adoration to Avalokiteśvara!

Hail!

May these [prayers] be successful!

To this magical formula, hail!

Kazuaki Tanahashi and Joan Halifax[edit]

A rendition of the dhāraṇī by [Joan Halifax](#) and [Kazuaki Tanahashi](#), based on interpretations by Japanese authors Shūyō Takubo (1960)^[103] and Tomoyasu Takenaka (1998),^[104] is as follows:^[105]

Homage to the Three Treasures. Homage to noble Avalokitesvara, noble Bodhisattva Mahasattva, who embodies great compassion. Om. Homage to you, who protects all those who are fearful. Being one with you, the Blue-necked noble Avalokitesvara, I bring forth your radiant heart that grants all wishes, overcomes obstacles, and purifies delusion.

Here is the mantra: Om. You are luminous with shining wisdom. You transcend the world. O, Lion King, great Bodhisattva. Remember, remember, this heart. Act, act. Realize, realize. Continue, continue. Victor, great victor. Maintain, maintain. Embodiment of freedom. Arise, arise, the immaculate one, the undefiled being. Advance, advance. You are supreme on this earth. You remove the harm of greed. You remove the harm of hatred. You remove the harm of delusion. Lion King, remove, remove all defilements. The universal lotus grows from your navel. Act, act. Cease, cease. Flow, flow. Awake, awake. Compassionate one, enlighten, enlighten.

Blue-necked One, you bring joy to those who wish to see clearly. *Svaha*. You succeed. *Svaha*. You greatly succeed. *Svaha*. You have mastered the practice. *Svaha*. Blue-necked one. *Svaha*. Boar-faced one, lion-faced one. *Svaha*. You hold the lotus. *Svaha*. You hold the blade wheel. *Svaha*. You liberate through the sound of the conch. *Svaha*. You hold a great staff. *Svaha*. You are the dark conqueror abiding near the left shoulder. *Svaha*. You wear a tiger skin. *Svaha*.

Homage to the Three Treasures. Homage to noble Avalokitesvara. *Svaha*. Realize all the phrases of this mantra. *Svaha*.

Lokesh Chandra[edit]

Chandra (1988) criticized both Suzuki's translation and his characterization of dhāraṇīs as "[conveying] no intelligent signification ... mostly consist[ing] of invocations and exclamations"^[106] and provided an alternative translation - a corrected version of an earlier translation by the same author (1979)^[107] - based on his reconstruction of the text (see '[Reconstructed Sanskrit text](#)' above).^[102]

1. Adoration to the [Triple Gem](#). Adoration to ārya Avalokiteśvarā, bodhisattva, mahāsattva, the Great Compassionate One. **Om**. Having paid adoration to One who protects in all dangers, here is the [recitation] of the names of Nīlakaṇṭha, as chanted by ārya Avalokiteśvarā.
2. I shall enunciate the 'heart' [dhāraṇī] which ensures all aims, is pure and invincible for all beings, and which purifies the path of existence.
3. **THUS**. **Om**. O Effulgence, World-Transcendent, come, oh [Hari](#), the great bodhisattva, descend, descend. Bear in mind my heart-dhāraṇī. Accomplish, accomplish the work. Hold fast, hold fast, Victor, oh Great Victor. Hold on, hold on, oh Lord of the Earth. Move, move, oh my Immaculate Image. Come, come, Thou with the black serpent as Thy [sacred thread](#). Destroy every poison. Quick, quick, oh Strong Being. Quick, Quick, oh Hari. Descend, descend, come down, come down, condescend, condescend. Being enlightened enlighten me, oh merciful Nīlakaṇṭha. Gladden my heart by appearing unto me.
To the Siddha [hail](#). To the Great Siddha hail. To the Lord of Siddha Yogins hail. To Nīlakaṇṭha hail. To [the Boar-faced One](#) hail. To the One with the face of [Narasimha](#) hail. To One who has a lotus in His hand hail. To the Holder of [a cakra](#) in His hand hail. To One who sports a lotus(?) in His hand hail. To Nīlakaṇṭha the tiger hail. To the mighty Śaṅkara hail.
4. Adoration to the Triple Gem. Adoration to ārya Avalokiteśvarā, hail.