

Edmonton Buddhist Research Institute
Tu Viện Trúc Lâm - Tu Viện Tây Thiên

**NGHI THỨC
LỄ KHÁNH ĐẢN**

**BUDDHA'S BIRTHDAY
CEREMONY
(VESAK)**

Ban Nghi Lễ Tu Viện Trúc Lâm Ấn Hành

DL. 2019 - PL.2563



Bảy đoá sen vàng nâng gót ngọc
Ba ngàn thế giới đón như lai

VESAK CELEBRATION

(Buddha's Birthday)

Song: FRAGRANCE OF THE INCENSE

The fragrance of the incense radiates in the
ten directions

Vowing respects to the Compassionate- One
Praying for Your witness to our sincerity
May we offer our faithfulness with this
fragrant cloud.

The Dharma has flourished all around
The Truth has freed beings from the cycles of
suffering

We respectfully take refuge under the Lotus
Throne

Offering the freshest flowers of purest fragrance.

The Alter of Light brings us back to the present
moment

With gratitude, we embrace the halo of peace
The Dharma Wheel turns shining on all living
beings.

We vow to attain the Path of love and
understanding.

Namo Shakyamuni Buddha (B)

Namo Shakyamuni Buddha (B)

Song: *FLOWER OFFERING*

(the community sings while young children offer incense and flowers)

Namo Shakyamuni Buddha

Today the Buddha manifests to save sentient beings

With reverence, we offer the lotus of virtue

We joyfully sing tributes for our Teacher

With reverence, we offer the lotus of virtue

The loving father of all species who are still lost in delusion

Please come save us from the realms of birth and death

Here are the most beautiful flowers, from our sincerest hearts, we offer.

Here are the most fragrant flowers, we celebrate your birth into this world.



WORDS OF INTRODUCTION ON VESAK DAY

(Ceremony presider)

Today the community has gathered to celebrate the birth of the Buddha and to bathe the baby Buddha. Please, will the community listen. Over two thousand six hundred(2600) years ago in the town of **KAPILAVASTU**, a Buddha known as **SHAKYAMUNI** was born. He was a human being just as we are, but in him understanding and love were developed to a very high degree, and he became a fully awakened being. He was the most beautiful and precious flower in the garden of humankind, an udumbara flower that only blooms once every thousand years.(B)

INCENSE OFFERING

In gratitude,
we offer this incense
throughout space and time.
to all Buddhas and Bodhisattvas
May it be fragrant as Earth herself,
reflecting our careful efforts,

our wholehearted awareness,
and the fruit of understanding,
slowly ripening.

May we, and all beings
be companions of Buddhas and
Bodhisattvas.

May we, awaken from forgetfulness
and realize our true home.

We offer this incense to all Buddhas and
Bodhisattvas. *(B)*

PRAISING BUDDHA

As refreshing as a lotus flower

As bright as the North Star

I turn to take refuge

In the teacher of gods and humans

Beautifully seated as the lotus blooms

The light of mindfulness radiate in ten
directions

Wisdom envelope all life forms

Compassion spread to all mountains and rivers

The first sight of The World Honoured One

Will ease all pain and suffering

We now praise his merits

And vow to practice diligently. *(B)*

BOWING

-Wholeheartedly bowing:

From the Tusita Heaven, through Queen
Maya's dream

Riding the six ivories elephant, into the
mother's lap.

Chant: Shakyamuni Buddha, the Awakened
One (B)

-Wholeheartedly bowing:

The prince was born under the Asoka tree
Nine water-spraying dragons, seven professing
steps.

Chant: Shakyamuni Buddha, the Awakened
One (B)

-Wholeheartedly bowing:

The founder of Buddhism,
The teacher of the three realms and all living
beings

Chant: Shakyamuni Buddha, the Awakened
One (B)



PRAISE AND ASPIRATION

(Ceremony presider)

The Buddha is a flower of humanity who experienced the practice through countless lives. Who manifested on this Earth as a prince. Who left the royal palace to practice. At the foot of the Bodhi tree, there he conquered illusion. And one day, when the morning star rose, he realized the great path of awakening. He turned the wheel of Dharma. With single-mindedness, all species aspire to experience the path free from birth. With single-mindedness, all species vow to experience a path free from birth. (B)

The fully enlightened Buddha who manifests in the Saha world. With a heart which embraces the whole of space. With understanding which lights up the four continents, sun and moon. Please be a witness to us with your loving-kindness and compassion. The countenance of the Buddha looks like the shining moon. Or like the sun spreading clarity and light. The Buddha's halo of understanding lights up the ten directions. So that Joy, Equanimity, Love and Compassion penetrate everywhere. The inexhaustible virtues of the World-Honored One. Can never be adequately praised. We in the Truc Lam Practice Centre.

Who on the day of Vesak Celebration have gathered as a four part sangha have come into the jewelled hall of the Great Hero. In order to meditate, chant. Praise the virtuous achievements of the Buddha and Mindfully recollect the holy names. Ask you to receive our aspiration: *(B)*

May the path of the Buddha become more accessible. Every day may the Dharma doors be understood more clearly. May wind and rain be favourable. May this country be at peace. In the cities and rural areas. May all people follow a way of right practice May nature be preserved. And society enjoy freedom and equality. We offer this aspiration also: May the refreshing breeze of compassion. Blow into the heat of hatred and anger. Allowing the sun of wisdom to shine clearly in the cloudy sky. So that the path of liberation is proclaimed everywhere. And the Dharma rain benefits all species. May we the sangha present. here. Practice diligently. Showing the same concern and love for each other. As we would for our own family. Transforming our conciousness – Adorning a pure land. We aspire to follow the example. Of Samantabhadra and Avalokitesvara. As well as all other bodhisattvas mahasattvas. And the Great Understanding which takes us to the other shore. *(B)*

OPENING CHANTING

The Dharma is deep and lovely
We now have a chance to see it
Study it, and practice it
We vow to realize its true meaning. (B)

PRAISE AND ASPIRATION

(Ceremony president)

The Buddha is a flower of humanity
Who experienced the practice through
countless lives
Who manifested on this Earth as a prince
Who left the royal palace to practice
At the foot of the Boddhi tree, there he
conquered illusion
And one day, when the morning star rose,
He realized the great path of awakening
He turned the wheel of Dharma.
With single-mindedness, all species aspire
To experience the path free from birth.
With single-mindedness, all species.
Wow to experience a path free from birth (B)



VESAK CHANT

(Community chant)

We, the disciples of the Buddha
On this Vesak Day
Happily bow our heads in reverence
To the Tathagatas
and all the Bodhisattvas
Of the ten direction
in the past, present, and future
Due to lack of wholesome causes
We, living being in this dharma world
fall into decadence
With attachment to our body and to our ego
We forget the Way to the Truth.
Immersed in desires,
Ignorance and delusion
We imprison ourselves
in the six planes of existence
In hundreds of afflictions,
And in unending karma.
Now, thanks to the Buddha's compassion
We, being devoid of merits
Are saved from the cycles of births and rebirths.
The Buddha uses the torch of wisdom
To pull us out from darkness.
He teaches the Dharma
And vows to save all beings.
He manifests Himself in the saha world

Born into the Sakya clan
From His Mother the saintly Maha Maya
Who saw His arrival in a beautiful dream
And from King Suddhodana
Who was blessed with such an illustrious
offspring.
He bore thirty- two wonderful marks
And at twenty-nine years of age
With great compassion for all beings
With great determination
He renounced the throne and left home to seek
The Way For six years
He practiced asceticism in deep forests
And after seven weeks sitting in meditation
He subdued all Mara's temptations
and attained Enlightenment.
The three worlds resounded with praise
All sentient being now receive
the benefits of the Dharma
We, cultivators of the Buddha's Way
Vow to rid ourselves of all defilements
And to retrieve our Buddha-nature.
On this Day: We pay homage to the Buddha
And we pray our Lord to heed our sincerity
and compassionately help us
and all beings in the dharma world
To swiftly achieve Enlightenment. (B)

WORDS OF INTRODUCTION ON BATHING THE BUDDHA (

(Ceremony presider)

Please, will the community listen. The scripture taught that bathing the Buddha will bring us great merit. Our pure minds are tainted from greed, hatred, and ignorance. We bath the Buddha in order to purify our mind and recognize the wisdom in each of us. The pure mind and great wisdom is the Buddha. Today, the community gathers here to bathe Buddha, to be enlightened and transferred the strength to withstand these temptations. Shall we pray for us and all living beings be awaken from this ignorance and realize our true selves. *(B)*

BATHING THE BABY BUDDHA

(the monastics bathing the Baby Buddha)

Today we bathe the Tathagata
Deep wisdom and clarity bring great happiness
May all living beings who are overwhelmed
by suffering
See the Dharmakaya in this very world.
Namo ShakyMuni Buddhaya *(B)*

SHARING MERIT

Bathing the Buddha,
Practicing the way of awareness,
Gives rise to benefits without limit.
We vow to share the fruits with all beings.
We vow to offer tribute to parents, teachers,
friends and numerous beings
Who give guidance
And support along the path. *(B)*

THE THREE REFUGES

I take refuge in the Buddha,
the one who shows me the way in this life.
Namo Buddhaya. *(B)*

I take refuge in the Dharma,
the way of understanding and love.
Namo Dharmaya. *(B)*

I take refuge in the Sangha,
the community that live in harmony and
awareness.
Namo Sanghaya. *(B)*

Buddham Saranam Gacchami.
Dharmam Saranam Gacchami.
Sangham Saranam Gacchami. (3 B)

*In that moment,
The flower of immortality opened
In the garden of birth and death
The enlightened smiles
Words and similes.
He has come to learn man's language.
That night in Tushita Heaven
the gods looked down
Saw Earth, my homeland, brighter
than the star
While galaxies inclined, worshipping
till East turned rose,
and the Lumbini gardens became
a soft cradle
welcominguddha, newly born.*





Nam Mô Hô Pháp Vi Đà Tôn Thiên Bồ Tát

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