

The Array of Sukhavati
Pure Land: A Concise
Mahayana Sutra

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In the pure realm of Boundless Light
Not even the term “samsara’s six transmigrations”
exists,
Since non-aryas do not reside there.
May I be reborn in the pure land of Boundless Light!

In the pure realm of Boundless Light
Not even the terms “day” and “night” exist,
Since the light of arya wisdom shines there.
May I be reborn in the pure land of Boundless Light!

In the pure realm of Boundless Light
Not even the terms “earth” and “rock” exist,
Since it is perfectly adorned with various jewels.
May I be reborn in the pure land of Boundless Light!

In the pure realm of Boundless Light
Not even the term “mundane wind” exists,
Since it has the fragrance of Vairochana’s incense.
May I be reborn in the pure land of Boundless Light!

In the pure realm of Boundless Light
Not even the terms "thicket" and "forest" exist,
Since it is perfectly adorned with bodhi trees.
May I be reborn in the pure land of Boundless Light!

In the pure realm of Boundless Light
Not even the term "mundane food" exists,
Since everyone partakes of the food of samadhi.
May I be reborn in the pure land of Boundless Light!

In the pure realm of Boundless Light
Not even the term "abyss of bad transmigrations"
exists,
Since everyone abides as equals.
May I be reborn in the pure land of Boundless Light!

In the pure realm of Boundless Light
Not even the terms "king" and "minister" exist,
Since the King of Dharma himself resides there.
May I be reborn in the pure land of Boundless Light!

In the pure realm of Boundless Light
Not even the term "mundane water" exists,
Since rivers enriched with the eight nectars flow there.
May I be reborn in the pure land of Boundless Light!

In the pure realm of Boundless Light
Not even the term "mundane fire" exists,
Since the fire of clear wisdom blazes there.
May I be reborn in the pure land of Boundless Light!

In the pure realm of Boundless Light
Not even the term “mundane clothing” exists,
Since everyone wears excellent, divine Panchali cloth.
May I be reborn in the pure land of Boundless Light!

In the pure realm of Boundless Light
Not even the term “birthplace” exists,
Since all beings are born there miraculously.
May I be reborn in the pure land of Boundless Light!

Colophon: (No need to write in gold)

If you write in gold The Array of Sukhāvātī Pure Land: A Concise Mahāyāna Sūtra spoken by Dharmakāya Boundless Light, you will definitely be reborn in Sukhāvātī for 100,000 eons. If you write it in gold and silver, you will definitely be reborn in Sukhāvātī for 10,000 eons. If you write it in silver, you will definitely be reborn in Sukhāvātī for 1,000 eons. If you write it in vermillion, you will definitely be reborn in Sukhāvātī for 100 eons. If you write it in black ink, you will definitely be reborn in Sukhāvātī for 10 eons. You will definitely be reborn in the pure realm of Dharmakāya Boundless Light.

This is the essence of the ultimate. It is the pith of the dharmatā. It is the king of all confessions of misdeeds. If you write and recite this, you will definitely be purified even if you kill insects and creatures, such as 100 people, 100 horses, 100 snakes, 100 dogs, 100 women, 100 cattle, 100 fish, 100 pigs, 100 monkeys, and 100 sheep; curse others; poison others; engage in miserliness and deceit; are the owner of a dog that kills deer; have degenerated your promises and commitments and then engage in sexual misconduct; kill your guru, abbot, or teacher; or do any of the ten nonvirtues.

Moreover, all wicked people should write, read, and recite this, understanding it completely. They should develop faith, respect, and admiration for it. They should spread it everywhere. If any wicked person whatsoever reads or recites it three times, there is no doubt they will be reborn in Sukhāvātī Pure Land and then become a buddha. Don't wonder whether they will or will not be hell beings, nor think that might be true.

When someone dies, the best is to have a lama do this ritual for the corpse on the morning of the cremation; the middling is for a geshe to do it; and the last is for a monk to do it. If that isn't possible, at least someone who knows how to read should do it. If it is recited three times and then tapped on the corpse's head three times, without doubt that person will become a buddha.

In this eon, all Dharma practices that are sealed with this prayer of dedication are greatly meritorious. If those who write, recite, keep, or disseminate it, read or recite it three times, they will not experience sickness or [untimely] death. May all of their wishes be fulfilled, and may they meet with those who are propitious and endowed with the fortunate karma [to be reborn in Sukhāvātī Pure Land].

Translator's Colophon:

Translated at the request of, and with editorial suggestions by, Kyabje Lama Zopa Rinpoche, Sera Je Monastery, India, February 2020. This prayer is accepted as the speech of Buddha Amitābha and understood to be a summary of The Array of Arya Amitābha Sūtra, which is a text found in the Kangyur. However, the notes in small letters that describe the benefits of the text, which are found at the end of the text in the prayer book used by Lama Zopa Rinpoche, do not seem to come from that Kangyur text, and it is not clear whether these notes are also the advice of Buddha Amitābha or were added by a later editor or compiler. They are included in this translation because Lama Zopa Rinpoche believes them to be accurate descriptions of the benefits of this text and wants to make sure that all students are aware of its value. Any benefit that comes from this translation is dedicated to all the holy gurus' continued display of good health and long life.

