

Compliments of Narada Lodge

Tacoma Theosophical Society

423 North "J" Street

Tacoma WA 98403-1918

(253) 572-9439

Sunday Meetings 2:30 p.m.

You are invited. Bring a friend.

Summa Sophia, SpE

(Sonnet poetry Edition)

Asala Festival Special Issue

Volume 8, No. 7xp

*All things arise and cease due to
interdependent causes and conditions*

~Δ~

**The
Beautiful Buddhist Beatitudes
A Sonnet Rendition**

By

Bing Escudero

July © 2001 v3.0

Reprint of May 1997 v2.0 edition

*To receive your next Free Copy, send a
self-addressed stamped long envelope*

Summa Sophia

1175 Harrington Place NE #212

Renton WA 98056

U.S.A.

Phone (425) 227-6979

*Available only for private or group study
Non-profit and not for sale in any form*

*Summa Sophia: Questions for further study and for group discussion
What do you think? What does it mean? What ought to be done?*

The Beautiful Buddhist Beatitudes A Sonnet Rendition of The Greatest Blessings

By Bing Escudero © 2001 v3.0

~ 1 ~

Thus have I heard the Buddh' in Jeta grove,
Where gathered seekers of Truth's shining light:
A question was put forth which many strove
To find that guidance yielding great insight.
Thus it began with reverence profound,
The quest intent and sound, though late the night.
Declare them, please, that we may be unbound:
What are the greatest blessings for all sight?
The ones that angels, humans, ask most steep,
To come to surest safety for their course?
Buddh' spoke: Select the company you keep;
Make contact with their wisdom and its source;
You dedicate such homage pure and deep,
These greatest blessings let your progress leap.

~ 2 ~

Dwell in a place where harmony prevails,
There widening its sphere with charity
And graciousness, with faith that never fails;
This greatest blessing bringing unity.
Learn well your calling, service, craft or trade,
Such that your discipline is honest art,
Your spoken words are kind, your promise made,
This greatest blessing shall enthuse your heart.
Care and uplift your parents, partner, child,
And cherish them with filial love and ease;
In work, be unabrasive, just and mild,
This greatest blessing growing inward peace;
Your deeds are kind and upright to its roots,
Your actions pure and selfless in pursuits.

*Summa Sophia: Dedicated to every sincere seeker
In the service of the quest for truth*

The Beautiful Buddhist Beatitudes
A Sonnet Rendition of The Greatest Blessings
Or The Mahamangala Sutta

~ 3 ~

Assist your kins and friends to make them whole,
Compassion is your greatest blessing hence.
Avoid misconducts that usurp life's Goal;
Drugs, drinks and gambling dull intelligence;
Try, live the wisdom by your inmost role,
This greatest blessing is your diligence.
Be reverent with nature, creatures, all;
Content and grateful, humble to the core,
To hear and learn true wisdom's timely call,
This greatest blessing: strength to reach that Shore.
Be meek and patient when advised; recall
With those who share and show you wisdom's lore.
You thus transform your life from deep within,
This greatest blessing surely makes you win.

~ 4 ~

In self-restraint the holy life is lived,
The wholeness yielding Noble Truths to see;
The emptiness of thought at last perceived,
This greatest blessing is you are set free.
Although the lure of earth comes to your touch,
The mind can be unwavering, secure;
From pains to griefs, flow stainless and unmatched,
This greatest blessing brings you swiftest cure.
Thus live your noblest by truth's rightful way,
Unvanquished in such state throughout all space,
No danger ever can lead steps astray;
This greatest blessing, shielding sweetly, stays.
Here, sayings on the greatest blessings end;
High wisdom spreading unto all we send. ~ Δ ~

The World-Renown

Four Noble Truths (Cattari Ariyasaccani) and

The Noble 8-Fold Way (Ariya-attangica-magga)

- | | | |
|---|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1 | The Truth of Suffering | <i>Dukkha</i> |
| 2 | The Truth of Causation | <i>Samudaya</i> |
| 3 | The Truth of Cessation | <i>Nirodha</i> |
| 4 | The 8-Fold Way of Truth | <i>Magga</i> |
| 1 | Right Understanding | <i>Samma Ditthi</i> |
| 2 | Right Thought | <i>Samma Sankappa</i> |
| 3 | Right Speech | <i>Samma Vaca</i> |
| 4 | Right Action | <i>Samma Kamanta</i> |
| 5 | Right Livelihood | <i>Samma Ajiva</i> |
| 6 | Right Effort | <i>Samma Vayama</i> |
| 7 | Right Attention | <i>Samma Sati</i> |
| 8 | Right Meditation | <i>Samma Samadhi</i> |

The 12-Great Chain of Causation in Cyclic Human Conditionings *Twelve Nidanas*

- | | | | |
|------|-------------------------------|--------|--------------------|
| 1 | Ignorance (of Truth) | causes | <i>Avidya</i> |
| 2 | Karmic-formations | " | <i>Sankhara</i> |
| 3 | Conditioned: Consciousness | " | <i>Viññana</i> |
| 4 | Name-and-Form (ideas) | " | <i>Nama-rupa</i> |
| 5 | 6-Faculties (5-senses, mind) | " | <i>Salayatana</i> |
| 6 | Contact (impressions) | " | <i>Phasa</i> |
| 7 | Feeling (sensations) | " | <i>Vedana</i> |
| 8 | Craving (thirst) | " | <i>Tanha</i> |
| 9 | Clinging (attachment) | " | <i>Upadana</i> |
| 10 | Becoming (process) | " | <i>Bhava</i> |
| 11 | Birth (rebirth) | " | <i>Jati</i> |
| 12 | Aging-Dying (Accompanied by:) | " | <i>Jara-Marana</i> |
| 12.1 | Sorrow (stress) | " | <i>Soka</i> |
| 12.2 | Lamentation (distress) | " | <i>Parideva</i> |
| 12.3 | Pain (dis-ease) | " | <i>Dukkha</i> |
| 12.4 | Grief (misery) | " | <i>Domanassa</i> |
| 12.5 | Desperation (depression) | " | <i>Upayasa</i> |
- causes No. 1 Ignorance (of Truth), etc.

[Thus, the cessation of ignorance is in the realization of Truth.] ≈ Δ ≈

The Asala Festival is celebrated on the Full Moon of July, commemorating Gotama Sakyamuni Buddha's first discourse on the 4-Noble Truths and the 8-Fold Way.