Homage to

The Great Flower Garland Scripture of the Buddha’s Expanded Mahayana Teachings and

The Ocean-wide Flower Garland Assembly of Buddhas and Bodhisattvas

南無大方廣佛華嚴經
ná mó dà fāng guǎng fó huá yán jīng

華嚴海會佛菩薩
huá yán hǎi huì fó pú sà
Then the Tathagata’s awe-inspiring spiritual power allowed everybody in the Southern Jambudvipa in the continents of worlds of every direction, as well as beings on the summit of Mt. Sumeru, the polar mountain, together witnessed the Tathagata there amid the gatherings. Those Bodhisattvas each received the Buddha’s spiritual strength and with that inspiration, spoke Dharma. Without exception, each of them felt that the Buddha sat directly in front of them.

Then the World-honored One, without departing from his seat beneath the Bodhi Trees and the peak of Mt. Sumeru, headed to the jewel-adorned hall in the deva’s palace in the Suyama Heaven.

Just then the Celestial King of the Suyama Heaven saw the Buddha approaching afar. He used spiritual powers to conjure a jewel lotus flower treasury lion’s throne. The throne was decorated by a million tiers of staircases. A million golden nets draped down.
It was covered by a million flower banners, a million garland banners, a million perfumed banners, and a million jewel banners.

Flower canopies, garland canopies, incense canopies and jewel canopies, each numbering in the millions trailed down on every side. Millions of lights illuminated and sparkled.

 Millions of celebral kings from the Suyama Heavens bowed in reverence. Millions of celebral kings from the Brahma Heavens jumped for joy. Millions of Bodhisattvas sang hymns of praise. Millions of melodies of Dharma music played in ceaseless harmony.

This throne was born of millions of wholesome qualities, supported and sustained by millions of Buddhas, and augmented by millions of varieties of blessings and virtues. It was made splendid by millions of profound resolves and millions of vows. It arose from millions of practices. It was established by millions of dharmas. It appeared from millions of kinds of psychic powers. The throne constantly emitted millions of voices proclaiming the Dharma.
彼天王敷置座已，向佛世尊曲躬合掌，恭敬尊重，而白佛言：
善來世尊！善來善逝！善來如來，應正等覺。唯願哀愍，處此宮殿。

時，佛受請，即昇寶殿。一切十方，悉亦如是。爾時，天王即自憶念，過去佛所，所種善根，承佛神力，而說頌言：

名稱如來聞十方，諸吉祥中最無上。
彼曾入此摩尼殿，是故此處最吉祥。

寶王如來世間燈，諸吉祥中最無上。
彼曾入此清淨殿，是故此處最吉祥。


Having arrayed the seat, the celestial king then bowed in respect to the World-honored One and placed his palms together. With profound respect and reverence, he said to the Buddha, “Welcome, World-honored One. Welcome, Sugata! Welcome Tathagata, who is Worthy of Offerings and who has gained Right Enlightenment. We humbly wish that you will favor us and abide here in our palace.”

Then the Buddha accepted their invitation and ascended to the jewel palace, while everywhere in all directions the same events transpired.

The celestial king recalled the wholesome qualities he had fostered with past Buddhas, received the Buddha’s awe-inspiring strength and chanted these verses:

The Tathagata Renown, famous throughout the Ten Directions
Supreme among what is auspicious
Has stayed in this mani palace;
Therefore this place is most auspicious.

The Tathagata Jewel King, lamp of the world,
Supreme among what is auspicious
Has been in this pure palace;
Therefore this place is most auspicious.
喜目如來見無礙，諸吉祥中最無上。
彼曾入此莊嚴殿，是故此處最吉祥。

然燈如來照世間，諸吉祥中最無上。
彼曾入此殊勝殿，是故此處最吉祥。

饒益如來利世間，諸吉祥中最無上。
彼曾入此無垢殿，是故此處最吉祥。

善覺如來無有師，諸吉祥中最無上。
彼曾入此寶香殿，是故此處最吉祥。

勝天如來世中燈，諸吉祥中最無上。
彼曾入此妙香殿，是故此處最吉祥。
The Tathagata Never Departing, heroic in discourse,
Supreme among what is auspicious,
Has stayed in this palace of all-encompassing vision;
Therefore this place is most auspicious.

The Tathagata Unsurpassed, replete with every virtue,
Supreme among what is auspicious,
Has stayed in this palace of wholesome adornments;
Therefore this place is most auspicious.

The Tathagata Ascetic, benefiting the world,
Supreme among what is auspicious,
Has stayed in this palace of encompassing adornments;
Therefore this place is most auspicious.

And just as in this world, the Suyama Heaven’s celestial king received
the Buddha’s spiritual strength and, after recalling past Buddhas’
merit and virtue, sang hymns in their praise, so did celestial kings of
the Suyama Heavens in each world of ten directions. They all praised
the Buddha’s merit and virtue.

Then the World-honored One entered the Mani-adorned palace and
upon the flower treasury lion’s throne, sat with his legs in full lotus
posture. Suddenly the palace expanded vastly, wider and deeper. And
just as this happened in the abodes of the multitude of devas, so too
did it happen just the same in deva palaces in worlds of the ten directions.
Chapter 20

Verses in Praise Amid a Palace in the Suyama Heaven

Just then, with the aid of the Buddha’s spiritual strength, a distinguished Bodhisattva appeared from each of the ten directions, together with Bodhisattvas in number like particles of dust in a Buddha land. From worlds countries beyond one hundred thousand Buddha lands, they arrived and assembled together.

Their names were: Bodhisattva Forest of Merit and Virtue, Bodhisattva Forest of Wisdom, Bodhisattva Forest of Victory, Bodhisattva Forest of Courage, Bodhisattva Forest of Remorse, Bodhisattva Forest of Vigor, Bodhisattva Forest of Strength, Bodhisattva Forest of Practices, Bodhisattva Forest of Awakening, Bodhisattva Forest of Knowledge.

All of these Bodhisattvas and the worlds they came from, namely:


Each one of these Bodhisattvas had practiced Immaculate practices purely in those worlds, in the presence of their respective Buddhas, namely:
大方廣佛華嚴經‧夜摩宮中偈讚品第二十

常住眼佛·無勝眼佛·無住眼佛·不動眼佛·

天眼佛·解脫眼佛·審諦眼佛·明相眼佛·

天眼佛·解脫眼佛·審諦眼佛·明相眼佛·

諸善薩·至佛所·已·頂禮佛足。隨所來方·

各化作摩尼藏師子之座·於其座上·結跏趺坐。如此世界中·

切世界·悉亦如是。其諸菩薩·

爾時·世尊從兩足上·放百千億妙色光明

普照十方一切世界。夜摩宮中·佛及大眾·

靡不皆現。

爾時·功德林菩薩·承佛威力·

而說頌言：

Then the Bhagavan released billions of lights of marvelous hues from his two feet. The lights shone everywhere on worlds in Ten Directions, and lit up every Buddha and every one of their gatherings in Suyama Heaven palaces in every world.

Buddha Eyes that Constantly Abide, Buddha Eyes that are Unsurpassed, Buddha Eyes that Do Not Rest, Buddha Eyes that do not Move, Buddha Eyes of the Devas, Buddha Eyes of Liberation, Buddha Eyes that Can Detect the Truth, Buddha Eyes of Bright Characteristics, Buddha Eyes that are Unsurpassed, Buddha Eyes that are Navy Blue.

When each of the Bodhisattvas arrived at the Buddha’s place and bowed in respect at his feet. According to the directions they came from, each of them made a mani-treasury Lion’s Throne and crossing their legs in full lotus, took their seat upon it.

And just as it was with Bodhisattvas gathering in this world’s Suyama Heaven, so, too, did these events transpire in all the many worlds, with their Bodhisattvas, their worlds, their Tathagatas and their names, the same in every way.

Just then the Bodhisattva Forest of Merit and Virtue received the Buddha’s awe-inspiring strength, contemplated everywhere in all directions, and chanted the following verses in praise:
The Buddha sends forth abundant radiance
Shining throughout all ten directions
So that all can see the one honored by people and devas
How he understands everything without obstacles!

The Buddha, seated in the Suyamaí's Palace,
Pervades throughout all palaces in ten directions,
Such a phenomenon as this,
Is the rarest thing in any world!

The king of devas in the Suyama heavens
Lauds the ten Tathagatas,
Just the way everybody here can see,
The same events occur in every assembly.

The Bodhisattvas who have gathered there,
All share the same name with me,
Throughout all ten directions
We proclaim the unsurpassed Dharma.

The worlds from which we all come,
Are named the same, without exception,
We all cultivate pure Brahma practices
In the presence of Buddhas, all alike.
The Tathagatas we each serve,
All share the same names,
Their Buddha lands are full of wealth and joy,
Sovereign self-mastery and spiritual strength.

Everywhere in each direction
We claim that the Buddha is here with us,
Or we see him among people,
Or we see him resting in the deva’s palace.

The Tathagatas all abide at peace,
Amid all the various countries,
We all see these Buddhas,
At rest in the devas’ palaces.

They all have made the Bodhi Resolve,
Everywhere in ten directions’ worlds,
That is why the Buddhas awe-inspiring strength,
Pervades in ways inconceivable.

Far beyond worldly greed,
Full of boundless virtue,
So they realize psychic powers,
And all sentient beings can see them.