

The Foundation of All Good Qualities

YÖN TÄN KÜN GYI ZHIR GYUR DRIN CHÄN JE

**The foundation of all good qualities is the kind and perfect,
pure Guru;**

TSHÜL ZHIN TEN PA LAM GYI TSA WA RU

Correct devotion to him is the root of the path.

LEG PAR THONG NÄ BÄ PA DU MA YI

By clearly seeing this and applying great effort,

GÜ PA CHHEN PÖ TEN PAR JIN GYI LOB

Please bless me to rely upon him with great respect.

LÄN CHIG NYE PÄI DÄL WÄI TEN ZANG DI

**Understanding that the precious freedom of this rebirth is found
only once,**

SHIN TU NYE KA DÖN CHHEN SHE GYUR NÄ

Is greatly meaningful, and is difficult to find again,

NYIN TSHÄN KÜN TU NYING PO LEN PÄI LO

Please bless me to generate the mind that unceasingly,

GYÜN CHHÄ ME PAR KYE WAR JIN GYI LOB

Day and night, takes its essence.

LÜ SOG YO WA CHHU YI CHHU BUR ZHIN

This life is as impermanent as a water bubble;

NYUR DU JIG PÄI CHHI WA DRÄN PA DANG

Remember how quickly it decays and death comes.

SHI WÄI JE SU LÜ DANG DRIB MA ZHIN

After death, just like a shadow follows the body,

KAR NAG LÜ DRÄ CHHI ZHIN DRANG WA LA

The results of black and white karma follow.

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NGE PA TÄN PO NYE NÄ NYE PÄI TSHOG

Finding firm and definite conviction in this,

THRA ZHING THRA WA NAM KYANG PONG BA DANG

Please bless me always to be careful

GE TSHOG THA DAG DRUB PAR JE PA LA

To abandon even the slightest negativities

TAG TU BAG DANG DÄN PAR JIN GYI LOB

And accomplish all virtuous deeds.

CHÄ PÄ MI NGOM DUG NGÄL KÜN GYI GO

Seeking samsaric pleasures is the door to all suffering:

YI TÄN MI RUNG SI PÄI PHÜN TSHOG KYI

They are uncertain and cannot be relied upon.

NYE MIG RIG NÄ THAR PÄI DE WA LA

Recognizing these shortcomings,

DÖN NYER CHHEN POR KYE WAR JIN GYI LOB

Please bless me to generate the strong wish for the bliss of liberation.

NAM DAG SAM PA DE YI DRANG PA YI

Led by this pure thought,

DRÄN DANG SHE ZHIN BAG YI CHHEN PO YI

Mindfulness, alertness, and great caution arise.

TÄN PÄI TSA WA SO SOR THAR PA LA

The root of the teachings is keeping the pratimoksha vows:

DRUB PA NYING POR JE PAR JIN GYI LOB

Please bless me to accomplish this essential practice.

RANG NYI SI TSHOR LHUNG WA JI SHIN DU

Just as I have fallen into the sea of samsara,

MAR GYUR DRO WA KÜN KYANG DE DRA WAR

So have all mother migratory beings.

THONG NÄ DRO WA DRÖL WÄI KHUR KHYER WÄI

Please bless me to see this, train in supreme bodhichitta,

JANG CHHUB SEM CHHOG JONG PAR JIN GYI LOB

And bear the responsibility of freeing migratory beings.

SEM TSAM KYE KYANG TSHÜL THRIM NAM SUM LA

Even if I develop only bodhichitta, but I don't practice the three types of morality,

GOM PA ME NA JANG CHHUB MI DRUB PAR

I will not achieve enlightenment.

LEG PAR THONG NÄ GYÄL SÄ DOM PA LA

With my clear recognition of this,

TSÖN PA DRAG PÖ LOB PAR JIN GYI LOB

Please bless me to practice the bodhisattva vows with great energy.

LOG PÄI YÜL LA YENG WA ZHI JE CHING

Once I have pacified distractions to wrong objects

YANG DAG DÖN LA TSHÜL ZHIN CHÖ PA YI

And correctly analyzed the meaning of reality,

ZHI NÄ LHAG THONG ZUNG DU DREL WÄI LAM

Please bless me to generate quickly within my mindstream

NYUR DU GYÜ LA KYE WAR JIN GYI LOB

The unified path of calm abiding and special insight.

THÜN MONG LAM JANG NÖ DU GYUR PA NA

Having become a pure vessel by training in the general path,

THEG PA KÜN GYI CHHOG GYUR DOR JEI THEG

Please bless me to enter

KÄL ZANG KYE BÖI JUG NGOG DAM PA DER

The holy gateway of the fortunate ones:

DE LAG NYI DU JUG PAR JIN GYI LOB

The supreme vajra vehicle.

DE TSHE NGÖ DRUB NAM NYI DRUB PÄI ZHI

At that time, the basis of accomplishing the two attainments

NAM DAG DAM TSHIG DOM PAR SUNG WA LA

Is keeping pure vows and samaya.

CHÖ MA MIN PÄI NGE PA NYE GYUR NÄ

As I have become firmly convinced of this,

SOG DANG DÖ TE SUNG WAR JIN GYI LOB

Please bless me to protect these vows and pledges like my life.

DE NÄ GYÜ DEI NYING PO RIM NYI KYI

Then, having realized the importance of the two stages,

NÄ NAM JI ZHIN TOG NÄ TSÖN PA YI

The essence of the Vajrayana,

THÜN ZHII NÄL JOR CHHOG LÄ MI YEL WAR

By practicing with great energy, never giving up the four sessions,

DAM PÄI SUNG ZHIN DRUB PAR JIN GYI LOB

Please bless me to realize the teachings of the holy Guru.

DE TAR LAM ZANG TÖN PÄI SHE NYEN DANG

Like that, may the gurus who show the noble path

TSHÜL ZHIN DRUB PÄI DROG NAM ZHAB TÄN CHING

And the spiritual friends who practice it have long lives.

CHHI DANG NANG GI BAR DU CHÖ PÄI TSHOG

Please bless me to pacify completely

NYE WAR ZHI WAR JIN GYI LAB TU SÖL

All outer and inner hindrances.

KYE WA KÜN TU YANG DAG LA MA DANG

In all my lives, never separated from perfect gurus,

DRÄL ME CHHÖ KYI PÄL LA LONG CHÖ CHING

May I enjoy the magnificent Dharma.

SA DANG LAM GYI YÖN TÄN RAB DZOG NÄ

By completing the qualities of the stages and paths,

DOR JE CHHANG GI GO PHANG NYUR THOB SHOG

May I quickly attain the state of Vajradhara.

Colophon:

The Foundation of All Good Qualities: From the *Jor Chö* booklet, translator, Jampäl Lhundrup, edited by Ven. Ailsa Cameron, Wisdom Publications., 1988. Lightly edited by Ven. Constance Miller and Nick Ribush, April 1999.