

A. Verses

Verse of Homage to Buddha's Relics

(*Shari raimon* 舍利礼文)

With wholehearted reverence we bow
to the relics of the true body
◎ of the Tathagata Shakyamuni,
who is fully endowed with myriad virtues;
to the dharma body which is the fundamental ground;
and to his stupa, which is the whole
universe. With deep respect we venerate the one
who manifested a body for our sake.
Through the sustaining power of the Buddha,
which enters us even as we enter it,
we verify awakening.
By means of the Buddha's spiritual power,
we benefit living beings,
● arouse the thought of awakening,
cultivate bodhisattva practice,
and together enter perfect peace,
● the knowledge of the equality of all things.
Now let us reverently bow.

Sutra-Opening Verse

(*Kaikyō ge* 開經偈)

The unsurpassed, profound, and wondrous dharma
is rarely met with, even in a hundred, thousand, million
kalpas.
Now we can see and hear it, accept and maintain it.
May we unfold the meaning of the Tathagata's truth.