

Bodhisattva Vow from the Bodhicaryavatara (from chapter three)

Just as the earth and the other three
elements, together with space, eternally
nourish and sustain all beings,

so may I become that source of
nourishment and sustenance which
maintains all beings situated throughout
space, as long as all have not attained to
peace.

When the sugatas of former times
committed themselves to the bodhicitta,
they gradually established themselves in
the practice of a bodhisattva.

So I too commit myself to the bodhicitta
for the welfare of beings and will
gradually establish myself in the practice
of a bodhisattva.

Today my birth has become fruitful; my
birth as a human is justified. Today I am
born in the buddha family; I am now a
child of Buddha.

Now I am determined to perform those
actions appropriate to my family; I will
not violate the purity of this faultless
noble family.

Just as a blind man wandering about,
comes upon a jewel in a heap of refuse,
so, apparently by chance, the bodhicitta is
born in me.

That supreme amrita destroying death,
the inexhaustible hidden treasure
relieving the universal poverty,

The supreme cure for calming the
universal ill, the tree which shelters
beings weary of wandering the paths of
samsara,

The vehicle for all travellers passing over
distress, the moon of mind which cools
the heat of desire,

The great sun dispelling the obscurity
of ignorance, the pure butter made by
churning the milk of the Dharma,

The great happiness for those travellers
wandering the paths of samsara
searching for objects of enjoyment.

In the presence of all the buddhas, I have
invited all the tathagatas and all beings to
be my guests, devas and asuras rejoice.

May the great jewel, the bodhicitta,
Not yet born, be born.
Born, may it not decrease,
But increase from height to height.



marpa house
chos khor ling