

Namo tassa Bhagavato Arahato samma Sambuddhassa!

The Scripture on the Heart of Transcendent Wisdom

Adapted from the translation by Master Sheng-yen

Avalokiteśvara Bodhisatva, while going deep into transcendent wisdom, clearly saw that all five skandhas are empty, and overcame all suffering.

Śariputra, appearance is not different from emptiness. Emptiness is not different from appearance. Appearance itself is emptiness. Emptiness itself is appearance. So also are preference, information, patterning and consciousness.

Śariputra, all dharmas are characterized by emptiness that does not arise, is not destroyed, is not defiled, is not pure, does not increase, does not decrease.

Therefore, in emptiness there is no appearance. There is no preference, information, patterning or consciousness; no eye, ear, nose, tongue, body, or mind; no sight, sound, smell, taste, touch, or thought; there is no realm of the eye, through to no realm of mental cognition; there is no ignorance and no end of ignorance, through to no aging and death and no end of aging and death; there is no suffering, no arising, no cessation, and no path; there is no attainment and no realization — by practicing no apprehension.

Bodhisatvas rely on transcendent wisdom and their minds have no obstruction; with no obstruction there is no fear. Passing far beyond confusion and delusion, they reach ultimate nirvana. All Buddhas of the past, present and future rely on transcendent wisdom, and attain unexcelled, perfect, complete enlightenment.

Therefore know: transcendent wisdom is the great spell, the great knowledge, the supreme knowledge, the unequalled knowledge. It can remove all suffering. It is true, not false.

Therefore recite the mantra of transcendent wisdom as follows:

Gate Gate Pāragate Pārasaṃgate Bodhi Svāhā!