

妙法莲华经

The Wonderful Dharma  
Lotus Flower Sutra

观世音菩萨普门品

The Universal Door of  
Guanshiyin Bodhisattva

(The Bodhisattva Who Contemplates  
The Sounds of the World)

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# 开 经 偈

南无本师释迦牟尼佛！

无上甚深微妙法，  
百千万劫难遭遇。  
我今见闻得受持，  
愿解如来真实义。

## **Sutra Opening Gatha**

Namo Fundamental Teacher Shakyamuni Buddha!

The Dharma, infinitely profound and subtle,  
Is rarely encountered even in a million kalpas.  
Now we are able to hear, study, and follow it,  
May we fully realize the Tathagata's true meaning.

尔时无尽意菩萨、即从座起，偏袒右肩，合掌向佛、而作是言：‘世尊，观世音菩萨、以何因缘、名观世音？’

佛告无尽意菩萨：‘善男子，若有无量百千万亿众生、受诸苦恼，闻是观世音菩萨，一心称名，观世音菩萨即时观其音声，皆得解脱。’

若有持是观世音菩萨名者，设入大火，火不能烧，由是菩萨威神力故。若为大水所漂，称其名号，即得浅处。若有百千万亿众生，为求金、银、琉璃、砗磲、玛瑙、珊瑚、琥珀、真珠、等宝，入于大海，假使黑风吹其船舫、飘堕罗刹鬼国，其中若有乃至一人、称观世音菩萨名者，是诸人等，皆得解脱罗刹之难。以是因缘，名观世音。’

‘若复有人、临当被害，称观世音菩萨名者，彼所执刀杖、寻段段坏，而得解脱。若三千大千国土，满中夜叉、罗刹，欲来恼人，闻其称观世音菩萨名者，是诸恶鬼、尚不能以恶眼视之，况复加害。’

设复有人，若有罪、若无罪，枷锁、枷锁、检系其身，称观世音菩萨名者，皆悉断坏，即得解脱。

若三千大千国土、满中怨贼，有一商主，将诸商人，赍持重宝、经过险路，其中

At that time, Inexhaustible Intention Bodhisattva rose from his seat, uncovered his right shoulder, placed his palms together, and facing the Buddha, said, “World Honored One, for what reason is the Bodhisattva Guanshiyin called ‘Guanshiyin?’”

The Buddha told Inexhaustible Intention Bodhisattva, “Good man, if any of the limitless hundreds of thousands of myriads of *kotis* of living beings who are undergoing all kinds of sufferings hear of Guanshiyin Bodhisattva and recite his name single-mindedly, Guanshiyin Bodhisattva will immediately hear their voices and rescue them.”

“If a person who upholds the name of Guanshiyin Bodhisattva enters a great fire, the fire will not burn him, all because of this Bodhisattva’s awesome spiritual power. If a person being tossed about in the great sea calls out the Bodhisattva’s name, he will find a shallow place. If the hundreds of thousands of myriads of *kotis* of beings who seek gold, silver, lapis lazuli, mother-of-pearl, carnelian, coral, amber, pearls, and so forth, enter the great sea, an evil wind may toss their boats into the territory of the *rakshasa* ghosts. But if among them there is even one person who calls out the name of Guanshiyin Bodhisattva, they will all be saved from the difficulty of the *rakshasas*. For this reason, he is called Guanshiyin.”

“Further, if a person who is about to be harmed calls out the name of Guanshiyin Bodhisattva, the knives and staves of the attackers will break into pieces and he will be saved. If *yakshas* and *rakshasas* enough to fill the three thousand great thousand world system come to torment a person, if they hear him call out the name of Guanshiyin Bodhisattva, all those evil ghosts will not even be able to stare at that person with their evil eyes, how much the less harm him.”

“If a person, whether guilty or not, who has been put in stocks or bound with chains calls out the name of Guanshiyin Bodhisattva, his fetters will break apart and he will immediately be freed.”

“If bandits enough to fill the three thousand great thousand world system infest a dangerous road on which a merchant chief in charge of costly jewels is

一人、作是唱言：“诸善男子、勿得恐怖，汝等应当一心称观世音菩萨名号，是菩萨能以无畏施于众生，汝等若称名者，于此怨贼、当得解脱。”众商人闻，俱发声言：“南无观世音菩萨。”称其名故，即得解脱。’

‘无尽意，观世音菩萨摩诃萨威神之力、巍巍如是。若有众生、多于淫欲，常念恭敬观世音菩萨，便得离欲。若多嗔恚，常念恭敬观世音菩萨，便得离嗔。若多愚痴，常念恭敬观世音菩萨，便得离痴。’

无尽意，观世音菩萨、有如是等大威神力，多所饶益，是故众生、常应心念。若有女人、设欲求男，礼拜供养观世音菩萨，便生福德智慧之男，设欲求女，便生端正有相之女，宿植德本，众人爱敬。

无尽意，观世音菩萨有如是力，若有众生、恭敬礼拜观世音菩萨，福不唐捐，是故众生皆应受持观世音菩萨名号。’

‘无尽意，若有人、受持六十二亿恒河沙菩萨名字，复尽形供养饮食、衣服、卧具、医药，于汝意云何，是善男子、善女人、功德多否？’

leading a group of merchants, but among the merchants there is even a single person who says, ‘Good men, do not be afraid! You should all single-mindedly recite the name of Guanshiyin Bodhisattva. This Bodhisattva bestows fearlessness upon living beings. If you recite his name, you shall surely be saved from these robbers.’ And if upon hearing that, the merchants all cry out together, ‘Namo Guanshiyin Bodhisattva,’ then they will immediately be saved because they recited his name.”

“Inexhaustible Intention! The awesome spiritual power of the Bodhisattva, Mahasattva, Guanshiyin is as lofty and sublime as that! If living beings who have much sexual desire constantly and reverently recite the name of Guanshiyin Bodhisattva, they will be separated from desire. If those who have much hatred constantly and reverently recite the name of Guanshiyin Bodhisattva, they will be separated from hatred. If those who are very stupid constantly and reverently recite the name of Guanshiyin Bodhisattva, they will be separated from stupidity.”

“Inexhaustible Intention, Guanshiyin Bodhisattva has great awesome spiritual powers such as these and confers great benefits. Therefore living beings should always be mindful of him. If women who seek sons bow and make offerings to Guanshiyin Bodhisattva, they will give birth to blessed, virtuous and wise sons. If they seek daughters, they will give birth to upright and handsome daughters who have planted roots of virtue in previous lives and who are regarded and respected by all.”

“Inexhaustible Intention! Guanshiyin Bodhisattva has powers such as these. If there are living beings who reverently bow to Guanshiyin Bodhisattva, they will be blessed and their efforts will not be in vain. Therefore, living beings should all receive and uphold the name of Guanshiyin Bodhisattva.”

“Inexhaustible Intention! If a person were to receive and uphold the names of Bodhisattvas in number as the grains of sand in sixty-two *kotis* of Ganges Rivers, and in addition were to exhaustively make offerings to them of food, drink, clothing, bedding, and medicine, what do you think: would that good man’s or good woman’s merit and virtue be great or not?”

无尽意言：‘甚多，世尊。’佛言：‘若复有人、受持观世音菩萨名号，乃至一时礼拜、供养，是二人福，正等无异，于百千万亿劫、不可穷尽，无尽意，受持观世音菩萨名号，得如是无量无边福德之利。’

无尽意菩萨白佛言：‘世尊，观世音菩萨、云何游此娑婆世界，云何而为众生说法，方便之力，其事云何？’

佛告无尽意菩萨：‘善男子，若有国土众生、应以佛身得度者，观世音菩萨即现佛身而为说法。应以辟支佛身得度者，即现辟支佛身而为说法。应以声闻身得度者，即现声闻身而为说法。应以梵王身得度者，即现梵王身而为说法。’

应以帝释身得度者，即现帝释身而为说法。应以自在天身得度者，即现自在天身而为说法。应以大自在天身得度者，即现大自在天身而为说法。’

应以天大将军身得度者，即现天大将军身而为说法。应以毗沙门身得度者，

Inexhaustible Intention Bodhisattva replied, “Very great, World Honored One. The Buddha said, “If another person were to receive and uphold the name of Guanshiyin Bodhisattva and bow and make offerings but once, that person’s blessings would be equal to and no different from the other person’s. They could not be exhausted in hundreds of thousands of myriads of *kotis* of eons. Inexhaustible Intention, one who receives and upholds the name of Guanshiyin Bodhisattva obtains the benefit of blessings and virtues as limitless and boundless as those.”

Inexhaustible Intention Bodhisattva said to the Buddha, “World Honored One, how does Guanshiyin Bodhisattva roam through this Saha world? How does he speak the Dharma for living beings? How does he carry out this work with the power of expedients?”

The Buddha told Inexhaustible Intention Bodhisattva, “Good man, if living beings in this land must be saved by means of someone in the body of a Buddha, Guanshiyin Bodhisattva will manifest in the body of a Buddha and speak Dharma for them. If they must be saved by someone in the body of a Pratyekabuddha, he will manifest in the body of a Pratyekabuddha and speak Dharma for them. If they must be saved by someone in the body of a Hearer, he will manifest in the body of a Hearer and speak Dharma for them. If they must be saved by someone in the body of a Brahma King, he will manifest in the body of a Brahma King and speak Dharma for them.”

“If they must be saved by someone in the body of Shakra, he will manifest in the body of Shakra and speak Dharma for them. If they must be saved by someone in the body of the God of Sovereignty, he will manifest in the body of the God of Sovereignty and speak Dharma for them. If they must be saved by someone in the body of the Great God of Sovereignty, he will manifest in the body of the Great God of Sovereignty and speak Dharma for them.”

“If they must be saved by someone in the body of a Great Heavenly General, he will manifest in the body of a Great Heavenly General and speak Dharma for them. If

即现毗沙门身而为说法。应以小王身得度者，即现小王身而为说法。应以长者身得度者，即现长者身而为说法。

应以居士身得度者，即现居士身而为说法。应以宰官身得度者，即现宰官身而为说法。应以婆罗门身得度者，即现婆罗门身而为说法。应以比丘、比丘尼、优婆塞、优婆夷身得度者，即现比丘、比丘尼、优婆塞、优婆夷身而为说法。应以长者、居士、宰官、婆罗门妇女身得度者，即现妇女身而为说法。

应以童男、童女身得度者，即现童男、童女身而为说法。应以天龙、夜叉、乾闥婆、阿修罗、迦楼罗、紧那罗、摩侯罗伽、人非人、等身、得度者，即皆现之而为说法。应以执金刚神得度者，即现执金刚神而为说法。’

‘无尽意，是观世音菩萨成就如是功德，以种种形、游诸国土，度脱众生，是故汝等应当一心供养观世音菩萨。是观世音菩萨摩訶萨，于怖畏急难之中、能施无畏，是故此娑婆世界、皆号之为施无畏者。’

they must be saved by someone in the body of Vaishravana, he will manifest in the body of Vaishravana and speak Dharma for them. If they must be saved by someone in the body of a minor king, he will manifest in the body of a minor king and speak Dharma for them. If they must be saved by someone in the body of an Elder, he will manifest in the body of an Elder and speak Dharma for them.”

“If they must be saved by someone in the body of a layman, he will manifest in the body of a layman and speak Dharma for them. If they must be saved by someone in the body of a minister of state, he will manifest in the body of a minister of state and speak Dharma for them. If they must be saved by someone in the body of a Brahman, he will manifest in the body of a Brahman and speak Dharma for them. If they must be saved by someone in the body of a Bhikshu, Bhikshuni, Upasaka, or Upasika, he will manifest in the body of a Bhikshu, Bhikshuni, Upasaka, or Upasika and speak Dharma for them. If they must be saved by someone in the body of the wife of an Elder, a layman, a minister of state, or a Brahman, he will manifest in a wife’s body and speak Dharma for them.”

“If they must be saved by someone in the body of a pure youth or pure maiden, he will manifest in the body of a pure youth or pure maiden and speak Dharma for them. If they must be saved by someone in the body of a heavenly dragon, yaksha, gandharva, asura, garuda, kinnara, mahoraga, human or non-human, and so forth, he will manifest in such a body and speak Dharma for them. If they must be saved by someone in the body of a Vajra-wielding Spirit, he will manifest in the body of a Vajra-wielding Spirit and speak Dharma for them.”

“Inexhaustible Intention! Guanshiyin Bodhisattva has accomplished merit and virtue such as this and, in all manner of forms, roams throughout the land, saving and liberating living beings. Therefore you should all single-mindedly make offerings to Guanshiyin Bodhisattva. Guanshiyin Bodhisattva Mahasattva can, in the midst of fear, crisis, and hardship, bestow fearlessness. That is why in this Saha world, all call him the “Bestower of Fearlessness.”

无尽意菩萨白佛言：‘世尊，我今当供养观世音菩萨。’即解颈众宝珠璎珞、价值百千两金，而以与之，作是言：‘仁者，受此法施珍宝璎珞。’时观世音菩萨不肯受之。无尽意复白观世音菩萨言：‘仁者，愍我等故，受此璎珞。’尔时佛告观世音菩萨：‘当愍此无尽意菩萨、及四众、天、龙、夜叉、乾闥婆、阿修罗、迦楼罗、紧那罗、摩侯罗伽、人非人、等故，受是璎珞。’

即时观世音菩萨愍诸四众、及于天、龙、人非人、等，受其璎珞，分作二分，一分奉释迦牟尼佛，一分奉多宝佛塔。‘无尽意，观世音菩萨有如是自在神力，游于娑婆世界。’尔时无尽意菩萨以偈问曰

世尊妙相具，  
我今重问彼，  
佛子何因缘，  
名为观世音。

具足妙相尊，  
偈答无尽意。  
汝听观音行，  
善应诸方所，

宏誓深如海，  
历劫不思议，  
侍多千亿佛，  
发大清净愿。

我为汝略说，  
闻名及见身，

Inexhaustible Intention Bodhisattva said to the Buddha, “World Honored One, I shall now make an offering to Guanshiyin Bodhisattva.” He then removed his necklace of pearls, its value in the hundreds of thousands of ounces of gold, and offered it to the Bodhisattva, saying, “Humane One, accept this Dharma offering, this necklace of precious pearls.” Guanshiyin Bodhisattva refused to accept it. Inexhaustible Intention Bodhisattva again said to Guanshiyin Bodhisattva, “Humane One, out of pity for us, accept this necklace.”

The Buddha then told Guanshiyin Bodhisattva, “You should take pity on Inexhaustible Intention Bodhisattva, the four-fold assembly, as well as the gods, dragons, *yakshas*, *gandharvas*, *asuras*, *garudas*, *kinnaras*, *mahoragas*, humans, non-humans, and so forth, and accept this necklace.”

Then, out of pity for the four-fold assembly, the gods, dragons, humans, non-humans, and so forth, Guanshiyin Bodhisattva accepted the necklace. He divided it into two parts: one part he offered to Shakyamuni Buddha and the other to the *Stupa* of Many Jewels Buddha. “Inexhaustible Intention, such is the self-mastery and spiritual power of Guanshiyin Bodhisattva, who roams throughout the Saha world.” At that time, Inexhaustible Intention Bodhisattva used verses to ask this question:

“World Honored One, complete with wondrous marks,  
I now ask again,  
Why is this disciple of the Buddha  
Called Guanshiyin?”

The Honored One of Perfect, Wondrous Marks,  
With verses answered Inexhaustible Intention:  
Listen to the practice of Guanyin,  
Who skillfully responds in all places.

With vast vows, as deep as the sea,  
Throughout inconceivable eons,  
He has served many thousands of kotis of Buddhas,  
And has made great, pure vows.

I shall now tell you in brief,  
That for those who hear his name or see him,

心念不空过，  
能灭诸有苦。

And who are mindful of his name unceasingly,  
He can extinguish the suffering of all realms of existence.

假使兴害意，  
推落大火坑，  
念彼观音力，  
火坑变成池。

If someone is the victim of another's harmful intent,  
And is pushed into a pit of fire,  
If he evokes the strength of Guanyin,  
The pit of fire will turn into a pool.

或漂流巨海，  
龙鱼诸鬼难，  
念彼观音力，  
波浪不能没。

If someone is being tossed about in the great sea,  
And is surrounded by the dangers of dragons, fish, and  
ghosts,  
If he evokes the strength of Guanyin,  
The waves will not drown him.

或在须弥峰，  
为人所推堕，  
念彼观音力，  
如日虚空住。

If someone is on the peak of Mount Sumeru,  
And another person tries to push him off,  
If he evokes the strength of Guanyin,  
He will stand firm as the sun in space.

或被恶人逐，  
堕落金刚山，  
念彼观音力，  
不能损一毛。

If someone is pursued by evil people,  
Who want to throw him off a Vajra Mountain,  
If he evokes the strength of Guanyin,  
Not a single hair on his body will be harmed.

或值怨贼绕，  
各执刀加害，  
念彼观音力，  
咸即起慈心。

If someone is surrounded by vicious bandits,  
Who threaten him with knives,  
If he evokes the strength of Guanyin,  
The bandits will all give rise to compassion.

或遭王难苦，  
临刑欲寿终，  
念彼观音力，  
刀寻段段坏。

If someone is in trouble with the law,  
And on the verge of being executed,  
If he evokes the strength of Guanyin,  
The knives will break into pieces.

或囚禁枷锁，  
手足被杻械，  
念彼观音力，  
释然得解脱。

If someone is imprisoned, shackled, or chained,  
Or if his hands and feet are in stocks,  
If he evokes the strength of Guanyin,  
His bonds will open and he will be free.

咒诅诸毒药，  
所欲害身者，  
念彼观音力，  
还著于本人。

If someone is about to be harmed,  
By mantras, spells, or poison,  
If he evokes the strength of Guanyin,  
The harm will all return to the sender.

或遇恶罗刹、  
毒龙诸鬼等，

If someone meets with evil rakshasas,  
Poisonous dragons, or ghosts,



念彼观音力，  
时悉不敢害。

If he evokes the strength of Guanyin,  
They will then not dare to harm him.

若恶兽围绕，  
利牙爪可怖，  
念彼观音力，  
疾走无边方。

If someone is surrounded by vicious beasts,  
With fearsome fangs and claws,  
If he evokes the strength of Guanyin,  
The beasts will quickly run far away.

虺蛇及蝮蝎，  
气毒烟火燃，  
念彼观音力，  
寻声自回去。

Poisonous snakes and scorpions,  
Have blazing lethal vapors,  
But if one evokes the strength of Guanyin,  
At the sound of one's voice, they will disperse.

云雷鼓掣电，  
降雹澍大雨，  
念彼观音力，  
应时得消散。

Clouds of roaring thunder and lightning  
May send down hail or great floods of rain,  
But if one evokes the strength of Guanyin,  
The clouds will immediately scatter.

众生被困厄，  
无量苦逼身，  
观音妙智力，  
能救世间苦。

Living beings are beset with hardships,  
And oppressed by limitless sufferings.  
The power of Guanyin's wondrous wisdom  
Can rescue the world from suffering.

具足神通力，  
广修智方便，  
十方诸国土，  
无刹不现身。

Complete with the power of spiritual penetrations,  
Vastly cultivating wisdom and expedient means,  
Going throughout countries in the ten directions,  
He manifests everywhere in all places.

种种诸恶趣，  
地狱鬼畜生，  
生老病死苦，  
以渐悉令灭。

The various evil destinies,  
Those of the hells, ghosts, and animals,  
And the pain of birth, old age, sickness, and death  
Are all gradually wiped away.

真观清净观，  
广大智慧观，  
悲观及慈观，  
常愿常瞻仰。

True Contemplator, Pure Contemplator,  
Contemplator with Vast, Great Wisdom,  
Compassionate Contemplator, Kind Contemplator,  
May we constantly behold you with reverence!

无垢清净光，  
慧日破诸闇，  
能伏灾风火，  
普明照世间。

Undeclared pure light,  
The sun of wisdom that breaks through the darkness  
Is able to quell calamities of wind and fire  
As it shines on all worlds.

悲体戒雷震，  
慈意妙大云，

Compassionate substance: the thunder of Precepts.  
Kind intent: a wondrous great cloud.

澍甘露法雨，  
灭除烦恼焰。

He rains down sweet dew and Dharma rain,  
Which extinguish the flames of affliction.

诤讼经官处，  
怖畏军阵中，  
念彼观音力，  
众怨悉退散。

In the midst of contention, when faced with lawsuits,  
Or when someone is terrified on the battlefield,  
If he evokes the strength of Guanyin,  
All his many enemies will scatter and leave.

妙音观世音、  
梵音海潮音，  
胜彼世间音，  
是故须常念，

Wondrous your sound, Contemplator of the World's  
Sounds –

A pure sound, a sound like the sea tide,  
A sound beyond all worldly sounds,  
We shall always bear it in mind.

念念勿生疑。  
观世音净圣，  
于苦恼死厄、  
能为作依怙。

In thought after thought we have no doubt.  
Guanshiyin is pure and sagely.  
In times of suffering, agony, danger, and death,  
He is our refuge and protector.

具一切功德，  
慈眼视众生，  
福聚海无量，  
是故应顶礼。

Complete with all merit and virtue,  
His kind eyes watching living beings,  
He is endowed with massive blessings, limitless as the  
sea.

Therefore we should reverently worship him.”

尔时持地菩萨即从座起，前白佛言：‘世尊，若有众生、闻是观世音菩萨品、自在之业，普门示现神通力者，当知是人功德不少。’

At that time the Bodhisattva Guardian of the Earth rose from his seat and said to the Buddha, “World Honored One, if there are those who hear this chapter of Guanshiyin Bodhisattva, who learn about the self-mastery of his deeds and the power of his spiritual penetrations as shown in this Universal Door, you should know that the merit and virtue of such people will not be small.”

佛说是普门品时，众中八万四千众生，皆发无等等阿耨多罗三藐三菩提心。

When the Buddha had spoken the “Universal Door Chapter,” eighty-four thousand living beings in the assembly all brought forth the resolve for *Anuttarasamyaksambodhi*.

## 补阙真言

南谟喝啰怛那，哆啰夜耶。佉啰佉啰。俱住俱住。摩啰摩啰。虎啰，吽。贺贺，  
苏怛拏，吽。泼抹拏，娑婆诃。

### **Mantra for Patching the Flaws in Recitation**

Nama ratnatrayāya khara khara kūcī kūcī mala mala horā hū ha ha sūdāna hū pha vāra  
svāhā.

[nā mó hē là dá nà, duō là yè yē。 qié là qié là。 jù zhù jù zhù。 mó là mó là。 hǔ là, hōng。  
hè hè, sū dá ná, hōng。 pō mò ná, suō pó hē。 ]

## 功德回向

诵经功德殊胜行，无边胜福皆回向，  
普愿沉溺诸众生，速往无量光佛刹。

### **The Transference of Merit and Virtue**

I dedicate the merit and virtue from the profound act of reciting the Sutra,  
Including all the superior, limitless blessings generated,  
With the universal vow that all beings sunk in defilement  
Will quickly go to the Land of the Buddha of Limitless Light.