

# Repaying the kindness of my mother

OM MANI PADME HUM

I prostrate to the Noble Master Chenrezig!

OM MANI PADME HUM HRIH

There is nothing more profound than this to be said:

Dear mother, you protected me lovingly when I was small

You taught me with love and told me sweet words

May I guide you on Chenrezig's path.

OM MANI PADME HUM HRIH

You fed me from your mouth and wiped my feces away with your hand

You picked me up on your lap again and again -

My kind mother wandering in the three samsaric realms, oh no!

May I guide you on Chenrezig's path.

OM MANI PADME HUM HRIH

The end of birth is surely death

Even powerful humans don't have the slightest power to remain [forever]

When departing alone, [only] the sacred dharma will [be of] benefit

[My kind mothers] wandering in the three samsaric realms, oh no!

May I guide you on Chenrezig's path.

OM MANI PADME HUM HRIH

The end of collecting is surely loss

Even the greediest person will be unable to take anything along

When departing alone, only the sacred dharma will [be of] benefit -

[My kind mothers] wandering in the three samsaric realms, oh no!

May I guide you on Chenrezig's path.

OM MANI PADME HUM HRIH

Mother, when you are going to depart alone from here

I pray that you, I, and Chenrezig will meet!

My kind mother wandering in the three samsaric realms, oh no!

May I guide you on Chenrezig's path.

OM MANI PADME HUM HRIH

I pay homage to lama and protector Manjushri!

Wherever in the three realms the six kinds of beings are born,

their birth is of four kinds:

Except for miraculous birth, a body is formed in dependence on a father and a mother.

Due to karmic forces, you conceived and carried me for nine months and ten days-

My kind mothers wandering in the three samsaric realms, oh no!

May I guide you on Chenrezig's path.

OM MANI PADME HUM HRIH

item nr 11

When the life force impelled my embryo to come out  
You suffered the bone-wracking pain of contractions -  
My kind mothers wandering in the three samsaric realms, oh no!  
May I guide you on Chenrezig's path.  
OM MANI PADME HUM HRIH

When I was born your body became covered with blood, lymph, pus, and milk -  
My kind mothers wandering in the three samsaric realms, oh no!  
May I guide you on Chenrezig's path.  
OM MANI PADME HUM HRIH

When my skin and bones were feeble and not fully formed  
You picked me up with gentle hands -  
My kind mothers wandering in the three samsaric realms, oh no!  
May I guide you on Chenrezig's path.  
OM MANI PADME HUM HRIH

When I had pus in my eyes or other organs  
You licked it off with your soft tongue -  
My kind mothers wandering in the three samsaric realms, oh no!  
May I guide you on Chenrezig's path.  
OM MANI PADME HUM HRIH

Even when my specks of feces came into your mouth  
You were not disgusted -  
My kind mothers wandering in the three samsaric realms, oh no!  
May I guide you on Chenrezig's path.  
OM MANI PADME HUM HRIH

You always held me tight, like in the gentle warmth of your belly -  
My kind mothers wandering in the three samsaric realms, oh no!  
May I guide you on Chenrezig's path.  
OM MANI PADME HUM HRIH

When sleep rendered us unconscious at night  
I would interrupt your sleep many times -  
My kind mothers wandering in the three samsaric realms, oh no!  
May I guide you on Chenrezig's path.  
OM MANI PADME HUM HRIH

You took me on your lap and cuddled me -  
My kind mothers wandering in the three samsaric realms, oh no!  
May I guide you on Chenrezig's path.  
OM MANI PADME HUM HRIH

You cheered me up and made me so happy -  
My kind mothers wandering in the three samsaric realms, oh no!  
May I guide you on Chenrezig's path.  
OM MANI PADME HUM HRIH

Whenever I was wriggling and crying, you tirelessly gave me your breast to suck -  
My kind mothers wandering in the three samsaric realms, oh no!  
May I guide you on Chenrezig's path.  
OM MANI PADME HUM HRIH

When y eyes were tightly closed by sleep  
You swiftly protected me from heat and cold -  
My kind mothers wandering in the three samsaric realms, oh no!  
May I guide you on Chenrezig's path.  
OM MANI PADME HUM HRIH

When I crawled on all four like an animal  
You taught me how to walk on my feet -  
My kind mothers wandering in the three samsaric realms, oh no!  
May I guide you on Chenrezig's path.  
OM MANI PADME HUM HRIH

When I was three years old  
You kept an eye on me wherever I went -  
My kind mothers wandering in the three samsaric realms, oh no!  
May I guide you on Cherezig's path.  
OM MANI PADME HUM HRIH

When I was five years old  
You showed me how to dress myself properly -  
My kind mothers wandering in the three samsaric realms, oh no!  
May I guide you on Chenrezig's path.  
OM MANI PADME HUM HRIH

When I was ten years old  
You taught me how to understand and decide things -  
My kind mothers wandering in the three samsaric realms, oh no!  
May I guide you on Chenrezig's path.  
OM MANI PADME HUM HRIH

Your mind was one-pointedly focussed [on my welfare] -  
My kind mothers wandering in the three pitiful samsaric realms  
May I guide you on Chenrezig's path.  
OM MANI PADME HUM HRIH

[Throughout,] you were always calm and fair -  
My kind mothers wandering in the three pitiful samsaric realms  
May I guide you on Chenrezig's path.  
OM MANI PADME HUM HRIH

You gave your permission when it was time for me to leave -  
My kind mothers wandering in the three pitiful samsaric realms  
May I guide you on Chenrezig's path.  
OM MANI PADME HUM HRIH

[Because of your love] I became independent after I had left you -  
My kind mothers wandering in the three pitiful samsaric realms  
May I guide you on Chenrezig's path.  
OM MANI PADME HUM HRIH

If sudden disasters were to carry you off -  
My kind mothers wandering in the three pitiful samsaric realms  
May I guide you on Chenrezig's path.  
OM MANI PADME HUM HRIH

And you would end up in some unknown place -  
My kind mothers wandering in the three pitiful samsaric realms  
May I guide you on Chenrezig's path.  
OM MANI PADME HUM HRIH

May our minds become ultimately inseparable -  
My kind mothers wandering in the three pitiful samsaric realms  
May I guide you on Chenrezig's path.  
OM MANI PADME HUM HRIH

Dear mother, do not be angry when I say this:  
My thoughts go to you again and again  
And your kind acts make me weep -  
My kind mothers wandering in the three pitiful samsaric realms  
May I guide you on Chenrezig's path.  
OM MANI PADME HUM HRIH

Mother, when it is time for your mind to leave this body  
May you be born in a supremely blissful state and  
Having been born there, may you attain the heart of enlightenment  
Having attained that, may you act for the benefit of all beings

Words of vast and deep meaning break my heart  
Vajradhara in the pure realm of Akanistha  
And Padma Jungne in Ngayab Ling  
Please let the ability to repay the kindness of my mothers  
Awaken in me, Palden Karmapa from the snowy regions

(Karmapa Ranjung Dorje wrote these short verses to repay the kindness of his mother.  
May all be auspicious!)