七佛俱胝佛母心大準提陀羅尼法 (717 – 735 AD)

Ritual Methods of the Great Cundi Dharani, the Heart Essence of the Mother of Seven Koti Buddhas

Translation from Sanskrit to Chinese attributed to Śubhakarasiṃha 善無畏 ◆ Translation from Chinese to English by Benebell Wen 溫善鈴

A core Cundi Mysteries text from the Tang dynasty, *Ritual Methods of the Great Cundi Dharani* is an Esoteric Buddhist methods manual on ritual practices for consecrating and empowering a Cundi shrine mirror 准提镜. It presents its ritual practices as able to expunge any negative karma accrued from one's evil acts or offenses, improve health, increase vitality, improve luck, help one advance in status, exorcise ghosts and demons, and through these ritual practices, one can attain extraordinary powers, according to the text. The ritual for consecrating a mirror shrine consists of reciting the Cundi dharani 108 times for 49 days, facing east, and commencing on the eve of a full moon. The preface "佛言:" meaning "The Buddha said:" before each passage is to indicate that these are the words of the Shakyamuni Buddha, a form of Revelations. It also means "*these are the Buddha's teachings*."

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那麼颯哆喃三藐三 勃佗俱胝喃怛姪他 唵折戾主戾准提娑嚩訶	namaḥ saptānāṃ samyaksaṃ buddha-koṭīnāṃ tadyathā oṃ cale cule cundī svāhā	Homage (Reverence!) to the Seven Koti Buddhas who have Awakened, to which it is said: Om. Arise, illuminate, Cundi! Hail! (So may it be!)
總攝二十五部大曼荼羅尼印。 以二手無名指小指相叉於內，二中指直竪相拄，二頭指屈附二中指第一節，二母指捻左右手無名指中節。若有召請，二頭指來去。		Here is the [Cundi] mudra that encompasses the Twenty-Five Traditions of the Great Mandala [i.e., the five sub-traditions within the Five Traditions of the Esoteric Buddhist Paths that lead to Liberation]: Interlock the two ring fingers and the two little fingers of both hands, curled inward. Extend the middle finger straight up so that their tips touch. Curve in the index fingers and rest them upon the first joints of the middle fingers. Place the thumbs upon the middle joints of the ring fingers of each hand.

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	When performing an invocation, [where applicable] one can move the index fingers back and forth [to direct energy].
佛言：「此呪印能滅十惡、五逆一切重罪，成就一切白法，具戒清潔速得菩提。若在家人，縱不斷酒肉妻子，但依我法無不成就。」	The Buddha said: This mantra and mudra can expunge the Ten Evils 十惡 and the Five Offenses 五逆, clearing the negative karma accrued for those transgressions, help the practitioner attain true Dharma, and through the practitioner's observance of [the Buddhist] precepts, maintaining purity [throughout this ritual], can enable one to swiftly attain Bodhi. As for lay practitioners, even if you do not abstain from alcohol, meats, or the company of a spouse, you shall still attain all accomplishments you seek, provided that you follow these ritual instructions. [NOTE: In Buddhism, the Ten Evils 十惡 are: killing, stealing, indecency, false speech, discordant speech, abusive speech, gossip, greed, hate, immoral thoughts. The Five Offenses 五逆 are killing one's father, killing one's mother, killing an arhat, harming a Buddha, sowing discord within a Buddhist community. These ritual methods can expunge any negative karma and eradicate any potential karmic retribution from having committed these acts.]
佛言：「若求成就，先依壇法，不同諸部廣修供養，堀地，香泥塗之。所建立以一面淨鏡未曾用者，於佛像前，月十五日夜隨力供養，燒安悉香	The Buddha said: To the one who seeks to Attain, where other ritual methods may require extensive rites and offerings, this requires only that the ground be set and lined with perfumed clay [*alternatively*: this passage is saying the prerequisite is to cast sacred space prior to commencing].

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及清淨水。先當靜心無所思惟，然後結印誦呪，呪鏡一百八遍，以囊匣盛鏡，常得將隨身。後欲念誦，但以此鏡置於面前結印誦呪，依鏡為壇即得成就。」	The altar is a clean mirror, never used. On the fifteenth day of the lunar month [i.e., the full moon], before an image of the Buddha [or Cundi], set out offerings in accordance with your means and purified water, and burn benzoin incense 安悉香. Quiet the mind and allow no intrusive thoughts. Form the mudra and recite the mantra [here, we mean the dharani as presented in the opening lines of the ritual manual]. 108 recitations [of the dharani] will empower the mirror. Then once complete, place the mirror, which is now your Cundi altar, into a pouch or case to keep with you at all times. Thereafter, any time you wish to perform the dharani recitation, use this mirror as your Cundi altar and you shall achieve that which you seek.
佛言：「欲持此呪，於十五日夜清淨澡浴著新淨衣，面向東方半跏正坐，置鏡在前，隨有香華清淨水諸物。先當靜心絕思，然後結印印於心上，誦此呪一百八遍。誦此呪時，能使短命眾生還得增壽。加摩羅疾尚得除差，何況餘病，若不消差無有是處。」	The Buddha said: To practice this Dharani Method, on the even of the fifteenth day [of a lunar month, i.e., the full moon phase], bathe and cleanse oneself, and then put on new, never-worn ritual garments. Sit in a half-lotus position facing east, and place the mirror [that you will be consecrating into a shrine] in front of you, alongside offerings to Cundi, such as incense, flowers, and clean water. Calm your mind and set aside stray thoughts. Form the hand mudra and hold it against the heart as you recite the dharani 108 times.

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	Such a recitation can restore longevity to those whose lifespans were otherwise destined to be short; it can cure all diseases, illnesses, and afflictions.
佛言：「若人一心靜思，誦滿二十萬遍四十六十萬遍，世出世法無不稱遂。」	The Buddha said: One performing this ritual method with focused, quieted mind in deepest contemplation, reciting the dharani 200,000 times, or 400,000 times, or 600,000 recitations will have all worldly wishes fulfilled, all extraordinary aspirations and ambitions attained. [NOTE: The three degrees of *siddhi*, or attainment, frequently associated with the Cundi Mysteries in esoteric Buddhism are expressed as 200,000 recitations for the first degree of *siddhi*, which brings purification and good fortune; 400,000 recitations for the second degree, which brings supernatural or extraordinary feats accomplished; and 600,000 recitations brings communion with the divine, and revelation of divine knowledge.]
佛言：「若在家人，平旦清水漱口，未葷血時，面向東方對鏡結印，誦呪一百八遍。如是不斷四十九日，有吉祥事。准提菩薩令二聖者常隨其人，心有所念皆於耳邊一一具說。」	The Buddha said: A lay practitioner who is following this ritual method should, at daybreak, prior to having consumed any meat, rinse the mouth with clean water, face east, and stand before the mirror shrine, form the hand mudra, and recite the dharani 108 times. The lay practitioner who does this consistently for 49 days will experience auspicious events and miracles. The bodhisattva Cundi will dispatch two holy beings to remain constantly by the practitioner's side. To any inquiry that comes to your mind, these attendants will whisper the answer into your ear.

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佛言：「短命多病眾生，月十五日夜燒安悉香，誦呪結印一百八遍，魔鬼失心野狐惡病，皆於鏡中現其本身，殺放隨意更再不來，增壽無量。」	The Buddha said: For those who are frail in vitality or often wrought with afflictions, on the fifteenth day of the lunar month [the full moon], burn benzoin incense 安悉香. Recite the dharani 108 times while forming the hand mudra. The affliction will manifest in its true form within the mirror reflection, as demons, hungry ghosts, fox spirits, and other malevolence, and then with the recitations, they shall be vanquished, and never return. In doing so, one's lifespan will be significantly expanded.
佛言：「若人無福德相，求官不遷，對鏡常誦此呪，福德官當能稱遂。」	The Buddha said: For those down on their luck, or by way of example, one who seeks a promotion in their official rank but chronically fails to advance, have them recite this dharani [108 times] while facing the mirror shrine. In doing so the luck will be improved and any aspiration, advancement, and promotion attained.
佛言：「若人欲有所作，先當思惟准提聖者，正念此呪具滿七遍，端身，少頃其身自然搖動，即知能遂及以吉慶。若身剛強向前向後，即知不遂必有災難。」佛言：「欲知此法成不成，依法誦呪具滿七日，便於夢中見佛菩薩及以華菓，口吐黑物、後喫白物，即知成就。」	The Buddha said: For one undertaking a specific task, first contemplate the Holy Cundi and, with focused intent, recite this dharani seven times while sitting upright. Then hold very still. If one's body begins to sway spontaneously, then this is an indication that the undertaking will succeed and there will be an auspicious outcome. However, if one's body goes rigid, or even spontaneously leans forward or backward rigidly, then this is an indication that the undertaking will not succeed, and may be a warning of calamity.
佛言：「此陀羅尼有大勢力，至心誦持必當自證，能令枯樹生華，何況世間果報。若常誦持，水火刀兵、怨家毒藥皆不能害。若卒為鬼神傷死，	The Buddha said: This dharani possesses extraordinary power. Recite it with sincerity and you will attain enlightenment. Recitation of this dharani can cause a withered tree to bloom, bring life back to that which had been lifeless, and cure any worldly karmic retribution.

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結印誦呪七遍，以印印心，皆令却活。舍宅不安、鬼神作禍，呪土四塊鎮之即去。」	Recite this dharani with consistency, and the practitioner shall become impervious to the harms of water, fire, weapons, enemies, and poisons. If a demon spirit or ghost suddenly possesses a body, have that person form the hand mudra and recite the dharani seven times, holding the mudra near the heart. Doing so will cure the spirit possession. If a home is plagued by disturbances from spirits, recite the dharani [108 times] over four clods of earth. Then place a clod of earth in each of the four corners of the residence. This will evict the spirits and ward the home.
佛言：「若人六親不和、不相愛念，依法誦呪所向和合，聞名見身皆生歡喜，凡所求無不遂心。況能結齋具戒，一心清淨依法誦持，不轉此身即證菩提有大功力。」	The Buddha said: For one experiencing discord with any of the six kin (father, mother, elder sibling, younger sibling, spouse, or one's children), recite the dharani in accordance with the prescribed method [i.e., on the eve of a full moon, making offerings, including consecrated water, and burning incense in accordance to one's means, calm the mind and focus on what it is the practitioner wants, then recite the Cundi dharani 108 times with the hand mudra, facing the mirror shrine, eastward]. The reconciliation or healing the practitioner seeks shall come to be. Whatever the practitioner seeks will be fulfilled in accordance with their wishes. These practices are further amplified in efficacy when one observes the [Buddhist] precepts while performing the dharani methods. Such a practice can facilitate Attainment in this lifetime, for there is tremendous power in this ritual method.

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佛言：「若人欲長生，於古塔及深山中或淨房內依鏡為壇，具滿二四六十萬遍，青蓮華和安悉香燒，於睡夢中夢食仙藥或授仙方，或於鏡中有五色光，光中有藥，隨意取食即得長生。」	The Buddha said: For one who seeks longevity, perform this ritual deep within the mountains or within a consecrated chamber. Place the mirror upon a stupa as an altar, burning blue lotus together with benzoin for incense. Then perform 200,000, then 400,000, then 600,000 recitations. You will dream that you have consumed an elixir of immortality, or you will dream that you are receiving instructions for creating the elixir; alternatively, a five-colored auric light will appear within your [Cundi] mirror, and then give way to visions of medicinal substances. Follow the instructions revealed to then attain immortality.
佛言：「若依法誦持一心精勤，功力說不可盡。此壇鏡法不得人見，若見即不好、不成畢，須密之。此法不可說，自當證知。隨意所求，速得成就，受勝妙樂。」	The Buddha said: The one who performs these dharani ritual methods with focus, sincerity, and diligence shall experience great wonders beyond description. Note, however, that the mirror altar ritual must not be observed by others. The performance of the ritual must be kept secret. The rituals one undertakes cannot be explained in words, and the knowledge must be attained by personal experience. Follow this, and whatever one seeks shall be swiftly accomplished, and one will enjoy true happiness and fulfillment.