

The Cover Verse

The Shurangama Mantra: **An Explanation in Verse and Prose**

Mantra: Line 69. SAN MYAU SAN PU TWO YE

Verse :

*I offer my life to the One of Proper Enlightened, the God among gods,
To the sages and worthies of empty space and the Dharma Realm.
I wish that you will let fall your compassion and mercifully gather me in,
And guard the City of Ten Thousand Buddhas for millions of years.*

Commentary:

I offer my life to the One of Proper Enlightened, the God among gods,/ We return our lives to the Honored One of Proper and Equal Enlightenment, that is, to the Buddha, who is also the God among gods. *To the sages and worthies of empty Space and the Dharma Realm./* This refers to all the Bodhisattvas, sages, saints, and Arhats throughout empty space and the Dharma Realm. *I wish that you will let fall your compassion and mercifully gather me in,/* I hope that the Buddha and Bodhisattvas will have kindness and compassion, will take pity on me and will gather me in and receive me. I hope that the Buddha will not cast me aside and forget me. *And guard the City of Ten Thousand Buddhas for millions of years./* The Buddhas and Bodhisattvas will protect the City of Ten Thousand Buddhas for millions and millions of years. When I become a Buddha, I will protect the City of Ten Thousand Buddhas; when you become a Buddha, you'll also protect the City of Ten Thousand Buddhas. The City of Ten Thousand Buddhas is like the heaven and earth, the sun and the moon, which will last forever; it will never disappear.