THE 21 PRAISES OF TARA

<u>Ho</u>mage to <u>Tara</u>, the <u>no</u>ble and sublime.

<u>Homage to TARA</u>, the <u>swift</u> and cou<u>rageous</u>, You <u>drive</u> away <u>all</u> of our <u>fears</u> with TUT<u>TARA</u>, <u>Savio/ress fulfilling all aims</u> with the <u>TURE</u>, With <u>syllables SOHA</u> we <u>offer you homage</u>.

- 1. <u>Homage to Tara</u>, the <u>swift</u> and cou<u>rageous</u>, <u>Gaze</u> is as <u>quick</u>/ as <u>flashes</u> of <u>lightning</u>, From <u>Lord</u> of Tri<u>lo</u>ka, his <u>face</u> like a <u>lo</u>tus, You <u>rose</u> on a <u>billionfold blos</u>soming <u>sta</u>mens.
- 2. <u>Homage to you with a face that resembles</u> A <u>meeting of one hundred full moons in autumn,</u> And <u>who with the brightness of stars</u> by the <u>thousands</u> Shine in a <u>vast perfect light</u> of resplendence.
- 3. <u>Homage to you</u>, the <u>golden-hued lady</u>, Whose <u>hand</u> is a<u>dorned</u> by a <u>blue lotus flower</u>. Your <u>scope</u> of ac<u>ti-vi-ty</u> is <u>giving</u>, ex<u>ertion</u>, <u>Fortitude</u>, <u>peace</u>, tole<u>rance</u>, meditation.
- 4. <u>Homage to you</u>, the victo-ri-ous, <u>boundless</u>, <u>From</u> the tathagatas' <u>crown</u> emanated. <u>Those</u> who obtained every <u>transcendent virtue</u>, <u>Offspring of victors</u>, rely on your <u>guidance</u>.

- 5. <u>Homage to you filling Realms of Desire</u>, Its <u>aspect and space</u> with the <u>HUNG</u> and TUT<u>TA</u>RA. <u>Sevenfold worlds</u> under <u>feet</u> you can <u>trample</u>; You <u>bring</u> all and <u>everything under your power</u>.
- 6. <u>Homage to you who is worshipped by Indra,</u>
 Agni, Marut, Vishveshvara and Brahma.
 All the vetalas, bhutas,/ gandharvas,
 As well as the yakshas, give praise in your presence.
- 7. <u>Homage to you</u>, who by <u>TRAT</u> and the <u>PHAT</u> sounds, <u>Crush</u> every <u>magical wheel</u>, evil <u>forces</u>. <u>Right leg extended and left bent, you trample,</u> Within whirling <u>flames</u> you are <u>blazing intensely</u>.
- 8. <u>Homage to you</u>,/ the <u>swift</u>, terri<u>fy</u>ing, Who <u>conquers the **most** tenacious of maras. Knitting the <u>brow</u> on your <u>lo</u>tus-like <u>fea</u>tures, You <u>slay</u> every <u>foe</u> without an exception.</u>
- 9. <u>Homage to you</u>, with your <u>fingers in mudra</u> A<u>dorning your <u>heart</u> to <u>show</u> the Three <u>Je</u>wels. Your <u>masses</u> of <u>light</u> are <u>beautiful</u>, <u>swirling</u>, Connecting with <u>every direction</u>, in <u>cir</u>cles.</u>

- 10. <u>Homage to you</u>, from your <u>crown</u> manifesting <u>Joy</u>ous, majestic,/ <u>bril</u>-li-ant <u>gar</u>lands. <u>With</u> the great <u>clang</u>or of <u>laugh</u>ter <u>TUTTARE</u>, <u>Demons and worlds</u> are in <u>your</u> domination.
- 11. <u>Homage to you with the magnetize-powers</u>, Who gather protectors of earth in assembly. With syllable <u>HUNG</u> and your <u>brow</u> which is <u>frowning</u>, You liberate ev'ry poor, destitute being.
- 12. <u>Homage to you</u>, with the <u>cre</u>scent, a <u>moon</u>-crown, <u>While</u> your a<u>dorn</u>ments so <u>brill</u>iantly <u>spar</u>kle, And <u>A</u>mita<u>bha</u>/ is <u>placed</u> in your <u>top</u>knot, <u>Cease</u>lessly, <u>vast</u> rays of <u>light</u> radiating.
- 13. <u>Homage to you</u>, seated <u>in</u> flaming <u>gar</u>lands, Engulfed in a <u>fire</u> like the <u>end</u> of the <u>kalpa</u>. <u>Right leg extended and left bent, defeating</u> <u>Enemy hordes</u> with your <u>joy</u>-bringing, <u>swirling</u>.
- 14. <u>Homage to you</u>, with your <u>palms</u> you are <u>striking</u> The <u>earth</u> while u<u>sing</u>/ your <u>feet</u> to be <u>stamping</u>. <u>Regally frowning</u>, with <u>the</u> hung <u>letter</u>, You <u>shatter the sevenfold layers of lokas</u>.

- 15. <u>Homage to you</u>, blissful, <u>vir-tuous and peaceful</u>, Enjoy the do<u>main</u> of the <u>tranquil nirvana</u>. <u>Fully possessing the om</u> and the <u>so</u>ha, You <u>overcome even the greatest of evils</u>.
- 16. <u>Homage to you</u>, who en<u>cir</u>cled by <u>joy</u>ous, <u>Utterly sma</u>shes the <u>forms</u> of op<u>po</u>nents. <u>Clearing away</u> with the <u>HUNG</u> of a<u>ware</u>ness, Ar<u>ranged</u> is the <u>mantra</u> by <u>tenfold</u> of <u>let</u>ters.
- 17. <u>Homage to **you**</u>, with <u>feet</u> stamping <u>TURE</u>, <u>Fully presenting the form of the HUNG</u>-seed, You <u>cause</u> the three <u>worlds</u> to <u>all</u> be a<u>trem</u>ble, Including Mount <u>Meru</u>, Mandhara and <u>Vindhya</u>.
- 18. <u>Homage to you in whose hands is a deer-marked, Shaped like the devas' ocean of nectar.</u>

 <u>Sound of the PHAT and the twice uttered TARA, Without an exception, dispels every poison.</u>
- 19. <u>Homage to you</u>, who is <u>asked</u> for your <u>guidance</u> By <u>rulers of devas</u>, by <u>gods</u> and kin<u>naras</u>. Your <u>armor of **joy**</u>, a <u>radiant brightness</u>, Re<u>moves</u> every <u>nightmare</u> and <u>calms</u> every <u>quarrel</u>.

- 20. <u>Homage to **you**</u>, whose <u>two</u> eyes are <u>shining</u>, With <u>bril-li-ant light</u> like the <u>sun</u> and the <u>full</u> moon. By <u>TUTTARA and</u> with the <u>twice</u> chanted <u>HARA</u>, You <u>clear</u> away even in<u>fectious</u> di<u>sea</u>ses.
- 21. <u>Homage to you who can calm down completely, Through</u> the array of the <u>three</u>fold <u>that</u>ness. <u>Crowds</u> of ve<u>talas</u>,/ <u>bhu</u>tas, and <u>yak</u>shas Suppressed with the <u>TURE</u>, sublime mother <u>Tara</u>.

Together with this, the root mantra in praise form, These were the twenty-one verses of homage.

Translated by Erik Pema Kunsang.
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