Kaikyô-Ge (Gatha on Opening the Sutra)

Mujō jin jin mimyō no hō wa,

The Dharma, incomparably profound and infinitely subtle,

hyaku san man gō nimo ai ō koto katashi.

Is rarely encountered, even in hundreds of thousands of millions of kalpas.

Ware ima ken mon shi juji suru koto e etari.

Now we can see it, hear it, receive and maintain it;

Negawaku wa nyorai

May we completely realize the Tathagata's true meaning. (3x)

shin jitsu no gi o gesen.

Shigu-Seiganmon (The Four Great Vows)

Living beings are innumerable: Shujô muhen

> seigan do. we vow to save them.

Bonnô mujin Delusions are inexhaustible:

we vow to extinguish them.

Hômon muryô The Dharma gates are immeasurable:

we vow to master them.

Butsudô mujô The Way of the Buddha is unsurpassable:

we vow to fulfill it. (3x)

seigan jô.

seigan dan.

seigan gaku.

Maka-Hannya-Haramita-Shingyô

(The Core Sutra of the Great Paramita Wisdom)

Kanjizai bosatsu

gyô jinhannya haramita ji,

shôken go'on kaikû.

do issai kuyaku.

Sharishi, shiki fu i kû,

kû fu i shiki,

shiki soku ze kû,

kû soku ze shiki.

Ju sô gyô shiki,

yaku bu nyo ze.

Sharishi, ze shohô kûsô,

fushô fumetsu,

fuku fujô, fuzô fugen.

ze ko kûchû mushiki,

The Bodhisattva Avalokitesvara,

when practicing the deep Paramita Wisdom,

clearly saw that all five skandhas are Nothingness.

(Thus) he overcame all suffering.

Sariputra, (phenomenal) matter is not different from

Nothingness, Nothingness not different from (phenomenal)

matter; (phenomenal) matter is precisely Nothingness,

Nothingness precisely (phenomenal) matter.

Perception, conception, volition, cognition:

they all are also thus.

Sariputra, all things are (penetrated by) Nothingness:

they neither arise nor perish,

they are neither pure nor impure, neither increase nor decrease.

Therefore, in Nothingness there is no (phenomenal) matter,

mu ju sô gyô shiki, mu gen ni bi zetsu shin i, mu shiki shô kô mi soku hô, mu genkai naishi mu ishikikai. mu mumyô yaku mu mumyô jin, naishi mu rôshi yaku mu rôshi jin. mu ku shû metsu dô, mu chi yaku mu toku, i mu sho toku ko. bodaisatta, e hannya haramita ko shin mu keige, mu keige ko, mu u kûfu, onri issai tendô musô, kugyô nehan. sanze shobutsu, e hannya haramita ko, toku anokutara sanmyaku sanbodai, ko chi hannya haramita, ze dai jinshu, ze dai myôshu, ze mu jôshu, ze mu tôdôshu, nôjo issai ku, shinjitsu fuko. ko setsu hannya haramita shu, sokusetsu shuwatsu, gyatei gyatei hara gyatei, hara sô gyatei,

boji sowaka:

hannya shingyô.

no perception, no conception, no volition, no cognition; neither eye nor ear nor nose nor tongue nor body nor consciousness; neither (phenomenal) matter nor sound nor smell nor taste nor tangible object nor object (of consciousness); neither realm of the eyes nor other realms including that of the cognition by consciousness. There is no dark ignorance, neither is there cessation of dark ignorance. Furthermore, there is no aging and no dying, neither is there cessation of aging and dying. There is neither suffering nor cause (of suffering) nor extinction (of suffering) nor path (to Nirvana). There is no wisdom, no attainment, because there is nothing to attain. The Bodhisattvas, through the Paramita Wisdom, (maintain) the mind free from all hindrances; because there are no hindrances whatsoever, there is no fear. They cast away all perverted illusions, (and) realize the Ultimate, the Nirvana. All buddhas of the Three Worlds, through the Paramita Wisdom, attain the Highest and Supreme Way. Therefore, know that the Paramita Wisdom is the great mysterious mantra, the mantra of great light, the unsurpassable mantra, the incomparable mantra. It can eliminate all suffering; it is real, never vain. Therefore, recite the mantra of the Paramita Wisdom, saying as follows: *Gate gate paragate

parasamgate bodhi svaha**:

(This is) the Core Sutra of Wisdom.

[*--** :a possible translation: "Gone, gone, gone to the other shore, completely gone to the other shore, the Highest Way, let it be so!"]