

BDK ENGLISH TRIPITAKA SERIES: A Progress Report

By the end of 2002, the BDK English Tripitaka Series will have published thirty-six texts of this First Series, bringing the total number of English Tripitaka volumes to twenty-five.

The following volumes have thus far been published:

The Summary of the Great Vehicle [Taisho 1593] (1992)

The Biographical Scripture of King Asoka [Taisho 2043] (1993)

The Lotus Sutra [Taisho 262] (1994)

The Sutra on Upasaka Precepts [Taisho 1488] (1994)

The Essentials of the Eight Traditions [extra-canonical] and the Candle of the Latter Dharma [extra-canonical] (1994)

The Storehouse of Sundry Valuables [Taisho 203] (1994)

A Biography of the Tripitaka Master of the Great C'i'en Monastery of the Great Tang Dynasty [Taisho 2053] (1995)

The Three Pure Land Sutras [Taisho 360, 365 & 366] (1995)

The Essentials of the Vinaya Tradition [Taisho 2348] and the Collected Teachings of the Tendai Lotus School [Taisho 2366] (1995)

Tannisho: Passages Deploing Deviations of Faith [Taisho 2661] and Rennyō Shōnin Ofumi [Taisho 2668] (1996)

The Great Tang Dynasty Record of the Western Regions [Taisho 2087] (1996)

Senchaku Hongan Nembutsu Shū (A Collection of Passages on the Nembutsu Chosen in the Original Vow) [Taisho 2608] (1997)

The Pratyutpanna Samādhi Sutra [Taisho 418] and the Surangama Samādhi Sutra [Taisho 642] (1998)

The Blue Cliff Record [Taisho 2003] (1999)

Three Chan Classics [Taisho 1985, 2005 & 2010] (1999)

Three Texts on Consciousness Only [Taisho 1585, 1586 & 1590] (1999)

The Scriptural Text: Verses of the Doctrine, with Parables [Taisho 211] (2000)

Buddhist Monastic Traditions of Southern Asia [Taisho 2125] (2000)

The Scripture on the Explication of Underlying Meaning [Taisho 676] (2000)

- Kaimokusho or Liberation from Blindness [Taisho 2689] (2000)
 The Platform Sutra of the Sixth Patriarch [Taisho 2008] (2000)
 A Comprehensive Commentary on the Heart Sutra [Taisho 1710] (2001)
 Two Esoteric Sutras [Taisho 865 & 893] (2002)
 Lives of Great Monks and Nuns [Taisho 2046, 2047, 2049, 1063 and 2085] (2002)
 Interpretation of the Buddha Land [Taisho 1530] (2002)

These volumes can be purchased through most bookstores, online at Amazon.com, Barnes and Noble's BN.net, from the Buddhist Bookstore in San Francisco or directly from the Numata Center for Buddhist Translation & Research in Berkeley, California (please see our website at www.numatacenter.com)

The Publication Committee is headed by Dr. Francis H. Cook, retired professor of religion at the University of California, Riverside. Dr. Cook brings to the Committee and the English Tripitaka Project many years of presenting Buddhist thought and theory, including several years of study at Kyoto University. He is also the translator of the series' title *Three Texts on Consciousness Only* (1999).

At the end of 2001, the Numata Center for Buddhist Translation and Research in Berkeley, California, which is responsible for the American operations of the Translation Project, had a change of command with the retirement of the Rev. Seishin Yamashita from the position of President/Director of the Center. Brian Kensho Nagata was appointed the new President/Director and Rev. Yamashita continues in an advisory position to the Center and the project. The Project expresses its deepest appreciation and gratitude to Rev. Yamashita for his 18 years of leadership and guidance to the BDK English Tripitaka Project.

Bukkyo Dendo Kyokai (Society for the Promotion of Buddhism), the Publication Committee and the Numata Center for Buddhist Translation & Research are continuing to press ahead to publish volumes of the BDK English Tripitaka Series. Through these efforts, we can continue the legacy and dream of founder Dr. Rev. Yehan Numata in making the teaching of the Buddha available to the English-speaking world.

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The Pacific World—Its History

Throughout my life, I have sincerely believed that Buddhism is a religion of peace and compassion, a teaching which will bring spiritual tranquillity to the individual, and contribute to the promotion of harmony and peace in society. My efforts to spread the Buddha's teachings began in 1925, while I was a graduate student at the University of California at Berkeley. This beginning took the form of publishing the Pacific World, on a bi-monthly basis in 1925 and 1926, and then on a monthly basis in 1927 and 1928. Articles in the early issues concerned not only Buddhism, but also other cultural subjects such as art, poetry, and education, and then by 1928, the articles became primarily Buddhistic. Included in the mailing list of the early issues were such addressees as the Cabinet members of the U.S. Government, Chambers of Commerce, political leaders, libraries, publishing houses, labor unions, and foreign cultural institutions.

After four years, we had to cease publication, primarily due to lack of funds. It was then that I vowed to become independently wealthy so that socially beneficial projects could be undertaken without financial dependence on others. After founding the privately held company, Mitutoyo Corporation, I was able to continue my lifelong commitment to disseminate the teachings of Buddha through various means.

As one of the vehicles, the Pacific World was again reactivated, this time in 1982, as the annual journal of the Institute of Buddhist Studies. For the opportunity to be able to contribute to the propagation of Buddhism and the betterment of humankind, I am eternally grateful. I also wish to thank the staff of the Institute of Buddhist Studies for helping me to advance my dream to spread the spirit of compassion among the peoples of the world through the publication of the Pacific World.

Yehan Numata
Founder, Mitutoyo Corporation

In Remembrance

In May of 1994, my father, Yehan Numata, aged 97 years, returned to the Pure Land after earnestly serving Buddhism throughout his lifetime. I pay homage to the fact that the Pacific World is again being printed and published, for in my father's youth, it was the passion to which he was wholeheartedly devoted.

I, too, share my father's dream of world peace and happiness for all peoples. It is my heartfelt desire that the Pacific World helps to promote spiritual culture throughout all humanity, and that the publication of the Pacific World be continued.

Toshihide Numata
Chairman, Mitutoyo Corporation