A Prayer for a Newborn

By Venerable Master Hsing Yun

Oh great, compassionate Buddha! With great sincerity we would like to tell you That a new life has arrived! Our child has come into this world. We pray that, with your blessing and protection The child may suffer no calamity, And may be healthy in both mind and body; May the child have good luck every moment, And grow up safely; May the child be endowed with intelligence, wisdom, and discernment, And learn without hindrance: May the child embody both merits and virtues, And be loved by people. Oh great, compassionate Buddha! Please grant the child not only the fruits of happiness, But also a few challenges and some forging of character: Not only the garden of joy, But also a few brambles and underbrush; Not only the encouragement of honor, But also a few trials and undertakings; Not only the faith of Buddhism, But also the needed, unadulterated diligence and patience. May the child have the gift of being grateful to

others:

May the child have self-reflection to humble himself/herself;

May the child have the virtues of cultivating repayment;

May the child have belief in right knowledge and right view.

Oh great, compassionate Buddha, In the future may the child: Become a son/daughter in the family Who is honest and filial: Become a student in school Who respects teachers and their teachings;

Become an upright person at work Who is diligent and modest; Become a disciple in Buddhism Who protects and upholds the Triple Gem.

Oh great, compassionate Buddha! We pray that, under the illumination of your Buddha

light:

May the child grow up to be well-behaved, and to live securely;

May the child not be blinded and confused by vanity;

May the child not be misled by temptation of the senses.

Oh great, compassionate Buddha! I pray for your blessing and protection;

Please give the child confidence and courage

When he/she is defeated.

And do not let him/her be heartbroken and sad;

Please give him/her wisdom and strength

When he/she despairs,

And do not let him/her be woeful and disappointed.

Oh great, compassionate Buddha!

We hope that this humble heart

We hope that this vow

Can reach into the unlimited, unbounded future;

Can spread throughout the entire universe;

May this young and tender life

Never lose his/her innocent nature;

May this young and tender life

Never lose his/her benevolent and beautiful true feelings.

Oh great, compassionate Buddha, This is your disciples' pious prayer;

Please kindly accept it!

Oh great, compassionate Buddha,

This your disciples' pious prayer;

Please kindly accept it!

Namo Shakyamuni Buddha.