

Illuminating Tara's Clear Light – A Commentary
Taking refuge in the Three Jewels.

Despite the ravings of fundamentalists
taking refuge in the Buddha's
example, teachings, and students

is NOT accomplished
by the mindless recitation
of a bit of Sanskrit.

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From the point of view
of the Buddha's flexible flow
of love and letting go
refuge comes down to three things:

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**FIRST – enthusiastically and joyfully
following the Buddha's example
as best we can.**

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In a best case scenario
this is what fundamentalists infer
as they mumble the Sanskrit phrase

“Na-mo Bud-dha-ya”
or homage to the Buddha.

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The **SECOND** component
of Buddhist refuge – is the
enthusiastic and joyful application
of the Buddha's instructions.

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Joyful enthusiasm is reference
to the sixth fold
of the eight-fold path

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as well as a reference
to the fourth and third
enlightenment factors
(respectively).

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In a best case scenario
this is what members of patriarchy infer
as they mumble the Sanskrit phrase

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“Na-mo Dhar-ma-ya”
or homage to the Dharma
*(which is Sanskrit
for the Buddha's teachings).*

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The **THIRD** component
of Buddhist refuge – is the
enthusiastic and joyful reliance

upon the Buddha's students
performed humbly, respectfully,
as well as gratefully;

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and by way of reciprocity
also infers supporting others

through the generous use
of our skill-set:
personal and professional
whatever they may be.

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In a best case scenario
this is what those who practice

Devadatta's domineering duality
of dread and desire infer
as they mumble the Sanskrit phrase

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“Na-mo Sang-ha-ya”
or homage to the Sangha

(which is Sanskrit
for the assembly
of the Buddha's students).

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Regardless of the promises
of the superstitious
this is not a supernatural practice

but merely a useful tool
for setting intention
upon enlightenment's path.

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This would be an excellent time
for you to chant
the recitation of refuge and Bodhichitta
for one repetition:

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Éternally I rely upon Buddha's:
example, teachings, and students
as well as practice Green Tara
for the benefit of all.

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