

The
**Diamond
Cutter Sutra**
Story - 2022




1

Refuge & Bodhichitta

I go for refuge until I am enlightened

To the Buddha, the Dharma, and the Supreme Assembly

By the merits I create through listening to the Dharma, May I become a buddha to benefit all sentient beings.



2


Four Immeasurables

May all sentient beings have happiness and the causes of happiness.

May all sentient beings be free from suffering and the causes of suffering.

May all sentient beings never be separated from the happiness that is free from suffering.

May all sentient beings abide in equanimity, free from attachment for friends and hatred for enemies.



3

Seven Limb Prayer

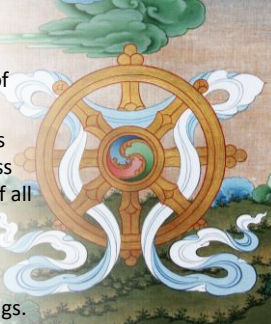
Reverently I prostrate with my body, speech, and mind;

I present clouds of every type of offering, actual and imagined;

I declare all my negative actions accumulated since beginningless time, and rejoice in the merit of all holy and ordinary beings.

Please, remain until the end of cyclic existence, and turn the wheel of Dharma for living beings.

I dedicate my own and other's merits to the great enlightenment.



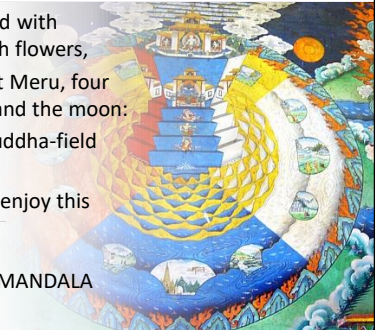
4

Mandala Offering

This ground, anointed with perfume, strewn with flowers, Adorned with Mount Meru, four continents, the sun and the moon: I imagine this as a buddha-field and offer it.

May all living beings enjoy this pure land!

IDAM GURU RATNA MANDALA
KAM NIRYATA YAMI



5

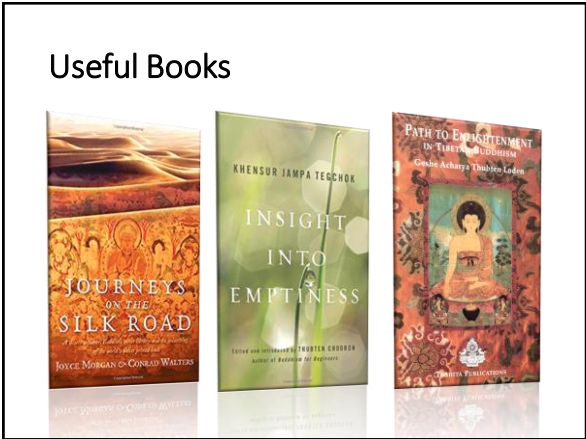
Our Topics Today

- The Silk Road
- The caves
- Discovery of the text
- On to England



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Useful Books



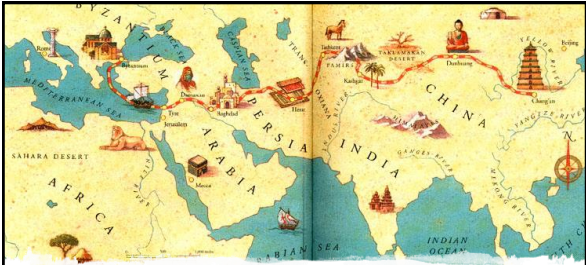
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Benefits of Studying this Sutra

- You could...*
- Realise the great kindness of Buddha
 - Understand the subject matter to be the foundation of all other fields of study
 - Begin to act in accordance with Buddha's teaching on karmic cause and effect



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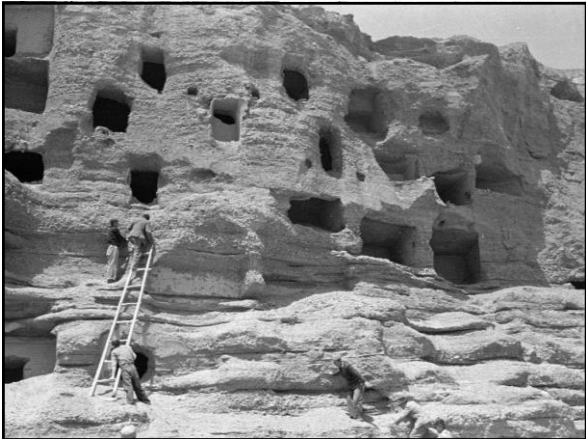
The Silk Road

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The Silk Road

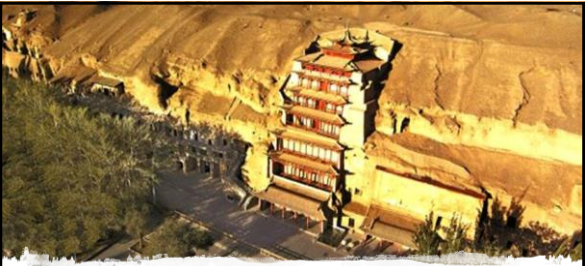


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Caves of the Thousand Buddhas



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Wang’s Discovery

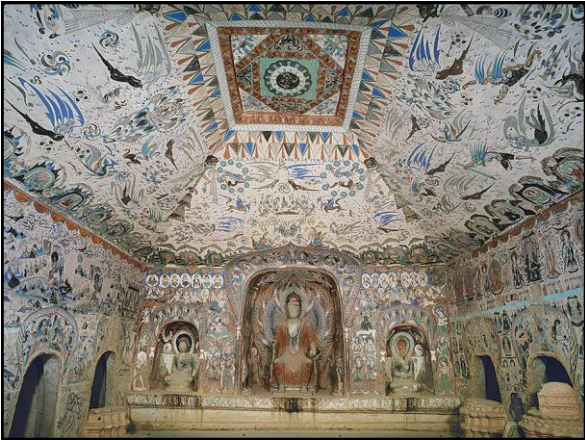


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Ariel Stein and the Research Team

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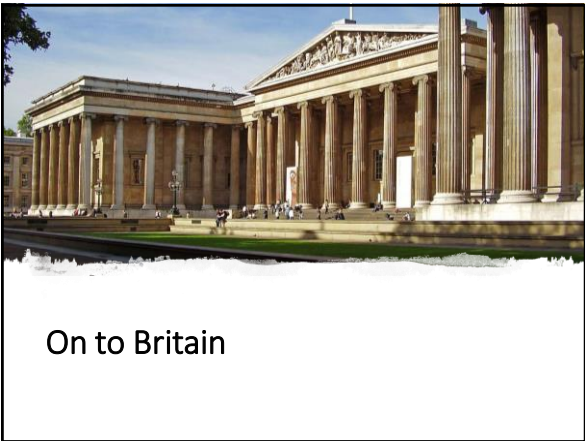


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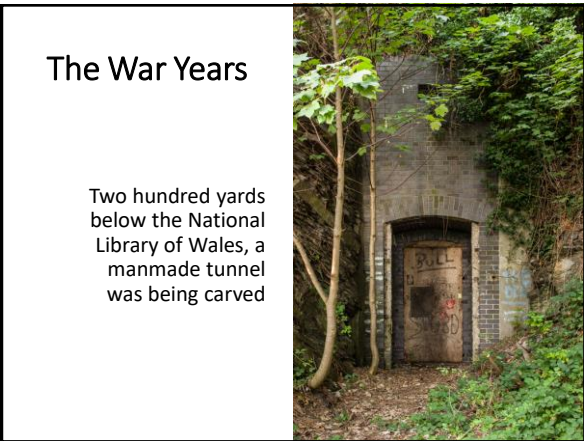
“Wherever this sutra is kept
is a sacred site”

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On to Britain

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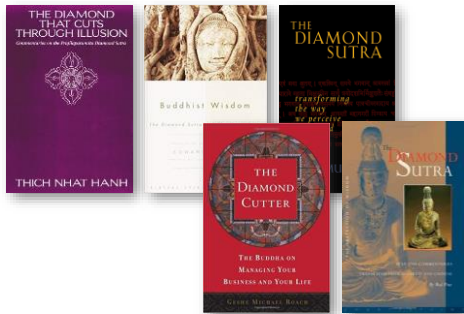


The War Years

Two hundred yards
below the National
Library of Wales, a
manmade tunnel
was being carved

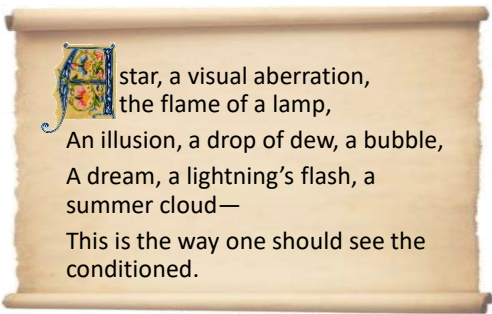
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Recent Publications



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The Gatha in Section 32



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The Nine Similes


Empty and Dependent	Duhkha, Impermanent and Unsatisfactory	Empty of Inherent Existence
A star	An illusion (drawn into duhkha)	A dream
A visual aberration	A dewdrop (things are impermanent and unstable)	A flash of lightning
A flame of a lamp	A bubble (feelings are unsatisfactory)	A Summer cloud

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The Two Truths


CONVENTIONAL TRUTH

A fact about a phenomenon that conceals a deeper fact about the same phenomenon.



ULTIMATE TRUTH

A fact about a phenomenon that is concealed by a more superficial fact about the same phenomenon.




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What's My Take-Away?

- You know a little of the history behind the sutra.
- You have an outline for the 9 similes within the four-line verse

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Read

- The four-line verse and memorise it
- Memorize the outline of the four-line verse

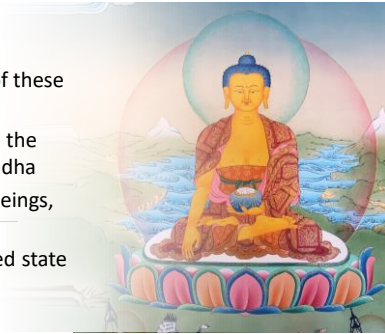
Coming up

- The similes within the verse

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Dedication

Due to the merits of these
virtuous actions
May I quickly attain the
state of a Guru-Buddha
And lead all living beings,
without exception,
Into that enlightened state



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Bodhicitta Verses

May the supreme jewel bodhicitta
Not yet born, arise and grow
May that born have no decline
But increase forever more

And as long as space endures,
As long as sentient beings abide,
May I too remain
To dispel the sorrows of the world



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