

Maha Buddha Mantra

OM ma - ni ma - ni Ma - ha - ha Mu - ni - c Sa - kya
Mu - ni Sva - ha OM Shan - ti OM OM Shan - ti OM

Music W&A van der Zwan
Lyrics Traditional Buddhist
Guitar Pentatonic scale, open tuning (DGDGBD, capo V)

The Maha Buddha Mantra is a mantra to honor Lord Buddha. The mantra is said to contain the essence of the Buddha.

Muni means silent or holy one, or saint, and is used for an ascetic who has taken the vow of silence. *Maha* means great and *svaha* (so be it, also used in its Tibetan form *soha*) is the common ending of a Buddhist prayer, similar to the Middle Eastern *amen*. This offers the following translation:

*Oh Holy One, Holy One, Greatest Holy One,
Holy one of the Sakya clan, so be it!*

The Buddha is the silent one, as he vowed to meditate until he had found the cause of human suffering and the way to release this suffering. His realization is captured in the Four Noble Truths, starting with the observation that all suffering (*dukkha*) comes from attachment and offering the way out of suffering through the Eightfold Path, the pathway to pure happiness.