

MAHAMANGALASUTTAM

THE GREAT DISCOURSE ON THE AUSPICES



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*Evam me suttam. Ekam samyam Bhagava Savatthiyam viharati Jetavane
Anatapindhikassa arame. Atha kho annatara devata, abhikkantaya rattiya,
abhikkhantavanna, kevalakappam Jetavanam obhasetva, yena Bhagava
ten'upasankami. Upasamkamitva Bhagavantam abhivadetva ekamantam
gathaya ajjhabhasi: -*

**Thus it has been heard by me. Once upon a time the Lord was
sojourning in Savatthi in Jeta's grove at the park of Anathapindika.
Then, indeed, a certain deity, when the night was advanced, in
surpassing colour, making radiant the whole of Jeta's grove,
approached where the Lord was. Having approached and worshipped
the Lord (he) sat on a side. That deity, having sat on a side spoke to the
Lord in a stanza:**

- 1. Bahu deva manussa ca
mangalani acintayum,
Akankhamana sotthanam.
Bruhi mangalam uttamam.*

**Many gods and men
Thought about the auspices,
Wishing happiness.
Please say what the highest auspice is.**

2. *Asevana ca balanam*
Panditanan ca sevana,
Puja ca pujaniyanam -
Etam mangalam uttamam.

**Non-association of fools,
Association of the wise,
Respecting the respectable -
This is the highest auspice.**

3. *Patirupadesavaso ca*
Pubbe ca katapunnata,
Attasamma panidhi ca -
Etam mangalam uttamam.

**Living in suitable premises and
Having merit performed before,
Establishing the self perfectly -
This is the highest auspice.**

4. *Bahusaccan ca sippan ca,*
Vinayo ca susikkhito,
Subhasita ca ya vaca -
Etam mangalam uttamam.

**Profound knowledge, and being (learned in) the arts,
Discipline well trained,
That word which is well spoken -
This is the highest auspice**

5. *Matapitu-upatthanam,*
Puttadarassa sangho,
Anakula ca kammanta -
Etam mangalam uttamam.

**Attending on the mother and father,
Looking after the children and wife,
Blameless jobs -
This is the highest auspice**

6. *Danan ca dhammacariya ca
Natakanan ca Sangho,
Anavajjani kammani -
Etam mangalam uttamam.*

**Generosity and living the good life,
Looking after the relatives,
Faultless work -
This is the highest auspice**

7. *Arati virati papa,
Majjapana ca sannamo,
Appamado ca dhammaesu
Etam mangalam uttamam.*

**Leaving off and abstinence from evil,
Restraint intoxicating drinks,
Watchfulness in (good) acts -
This is the highest auspice**

8. *Garavo ca nivato ca,
Santutthi ca katannuta,
Kalena dhammasavanam -
Etam mangalam uttamam.*

**Forbearance and suavity,
The sight of recluses,
Discussion on the Doctrine at the proper time -
This is the highest auspice.**

9. *Khanti ca sovacassata,
Samanananca dassanam,
Kalena dhammasakaccha -
Etam mangalam uttamam.*

**Forbearance and suavity,
The sight of recluses,
Discussion on the Doctrine at the proper time -
This is the highest auspice**

*10. Tapo ca brahmacariyan ca,
Ariyasaccana dassanam,
Nibbanasacchikiriya ca -
Etam mangalam uttamam.*

**Austerity and living the good life (i.e. chastity),
Seeing the noble truths,
Realising Nibbana (i.e. emancipation) -
This is the highest auspice.**

*11. Phutthassa lokadhammehi
Cittam yassa na kampati,
Asokam, virajam, khemam -
Etam mangalam uttamam.*

**When affected by worldly conditions
If one's mind does not tremble,
(That is) free from sorrow, free from taint, safe -
This is the highest auspice.**

*12. Etadisani katvana,
Sabbattham aparajita,
Sabbattha sotthim gacchanti, tam,
Tesam mangalam uttaman' ti.*

**Having done what has been aforesaid,
Undefeated everywhere,
They go everywhere to happiness, that,
Is the highest auspice for them**



