

Sanskrit-Mahāyāna Chán/Dhyāna Lexicon

Special letters: Ā, ā, ṃ ī ṣ ṣ ṣ ṣ ū ṇ ṇ ñ ḍ ṛ Ś ḥ Ū

IAST	Devanāgarī	English
A		Ā, ā,
Abhidharma	अभिधर्म	The Buddhist doctrine
Ācārya	आचार्य	Teacher
Adinnādānā veramaṇī sikkhāpadaṃ samādiyāmi		2 nd Śīla
Adhiṣṭhāna	अधिष्ठान)	Determination
Ādi-Buddha	आदिबुद्ध	Primordial Buddha/Vairocana
ĀjñātaKaundinya	??- कौण्डिन्य	Disciple of the Buddha
Āgama	आगम	Small stories
Ahiṃsā	अहिंसा	Non-violence
Ālāyavijñāna	आलयविज्ञान	Storehouse Consciousness
Akṣobhya Buddha	अक्षोभ्य-बुद्ध	1 of the 5 Dhyani Buddhas
Amitābha Buddha	अमिताभ-बुद्ध	1 of the 5 Dhyani Buddhas
Amoghasiddhi Buddha	अमोघसिद्धि-बुद्ध	1 of the 5 Dhyani Buddhas
Amitāyus	अमितायुस्	Variation of Amitābha
Anāgāmin	अनागामिन्	Non-returner
Anagārika	अनगारिक	8-precepts lay-person
Ānāpānasati (Pali)		Breathing technique
Ānāpānasmṛti (Sanskrit)	आनपानस्मृति	Breathing technique
Anātmalakṣaṇa Sūtra		Sūtra of No-self

Anātman	अनात्मन्	Non-ego
Anavamadarśin Buddha	अनवमदर्शिन्- बुद्ध	10 th Prehistoric Buddha
Anitya	अनित्य	Impermanence
Anjāli	अञ्जलि	Greeting
Anuttara	अनुत्तर	Unsurpassed
Anuttara Samyak Sambodhi	अनुत्तर-सम्यक्-बोधि	Unsurpassed True Enlightenment
Arhat	अर्हत्	Worthy One
Arthadarśin Buddha	अर्थदर्शिन्-बुद्ध	17 th Prehistoric Buddha
Asaṅga	आसङ्ग	Co-Founder of Yogaçara
Āsrava	आसव	Fluxes
Asura	असुर	Demigod
Āryā	आर्य	Noble
Āryāṣṭāṅgamārga	आर्याष्टाङ्गमार्ग	Noble 8-fold Path
Aśvaghoṣa		Scholarmonk
Ātman	आत्मन्	Self
Avalokiteśvara	अवलोकितेश्वर	A Bodhisattva
Avataṃsaka	आवतंसक	Flower Ornament
Avidyā	अविद्या	Ignorance
B		
Bhava	भाव	Becoming
Bhāvaçakra	भवचक्र	Wheel of Existence
Bhāvaviveka		500-570
Bhāvāna	भावना	Meditation
Bhikṣu	भिक्षु	Fully ordained Monk
Bhikṣuni	भिक्षुणी	Fully ordained Nun

Bhutatahātā		Buddhanature
Bīja	बीज	Seed
Bodhi	बोधि	Awakening
Bodhicitta	बोधिचित्त	Awakening spirit
Bodhisattva	बोधिसत्त्व	Holy being
Brahmavihārā	चत्वारि ब्रह्मविहारा	4 noble meditations
Buddha	बुद्ध	
C, Ç,		
Catvāri Āryasatyāni	चत्वारि आर्यसत्यानि	4-fold Noble Truths
Çandrakīrti		600-650
Cetanā	चेतना	Volition
Caitya	चेतिय	Relikkārl
Chandas	छन्दस्	Purposes
D		
Dākinī	डाकिनी	Female demon
Dāna	दान	Giving/Sharing
Davādasa Nidāna		12 Dependent Originations
Dharmadarśin Buddha		18 th Prehistoric Buddha
Dhammapada	धम्मपद	Book
Deva	देव	God
Dhāraṇī	धारणी	Long mantra/Holy Spell
Dharmaçakra	धर्मचक्र	Wheel of the Law
Dharṃadhātu	धर्म??	Realm of reality
Dharṃākāra	धर्म??	Amithāba

Dharmalakṣana	धर्म??	Dharma characteristics
Dharmakāya	धर्मकाय	Law Body/Dharma Realm
Dharmaṃ	धर्म	The Teaching/Ritual Spelling
Dharmatā		Nature of Reality/See Tathātā
Dharmapāla	धर्मपाल	A Wrathful Deity
Dhyāna	ध्यान	Meditation/Chán/ Zen
Dīpankara Buddha	दीपंकर-बुद्ध	4 th Prehistoric Buddha
Duḥkha	दुःख	Sorrow, suffering
Dveṣa	द्वेष	Aversion
E		
Ekāyāna	एक-यान	The One Path
“Evaṃ me sūttam..” (Pali) Evaṃ mayā śrūtaṃ (Sanskrit)		“Such Have I Heard..”
F		
G		
Garuḍa	गरुड़	Mythical bird-god
Gaté Gaté Pāragate, Pārasaṃgate Bodhi Svāhā		Heart Mantra: Gone Gone Gone Beyond Gone Further Than Enlightenment, Svaha
Ḡḍhrakūṭa		A Holy Mountain
Gautama	गौतम	The Buddha
H		
Hīnayāna	हीनयान	Smaller Vehicle/Theravada
I		
Isipatana		A Place/Park

J		
Jambudvīpa	जम्बुद्वीप	India, Mythical
Jñānagupta	ज्ञानगुप्त	523-600
K		
Kāmesu micchācāra veramaṇī sikkhāpadaṃ samādiyāmi		3 rd Sīla
Kanakamuni Buddha	कनकमुनि- बुद्ध	26 th Prehistoric Buddha
Karman	कर्मन्	Law of Retribution
Karmadana	कर्मन्-दान	Superintendent
Karmasthana		Meditational Work- place
Karuṇā	करुणा	Compassion
Kāśyapa Buddha	काश्यप- बुद्ध	27 th Prehistoric Buddha
Kāśyapa Mātaṅga	कश्यप-???	First Indian Monk in China (78C.E).
(Maha-)Kāśyapa	(महा-)कश्यप	1 st Chán Ancestor
Kauṇḍinya	कौण्डिन्य	5 th Prehistoric Buddha/Disciple of The Buddha, 1 st Arhat
Kāya	काय	Realm
Kiṃnara	किंनर	Celestial Musicians/Lovers
Kleśa	क्लेश	3 Poisons
Koṇāgamana Buddha/ Kanakumi Buddha	??-बुद्ध	26 th Prehistoric Buddha
Krakucchaṃḍa Buddha	क्रकुच्छंद-बुद्ध	25 th Prehistoric Buddha
Kṣānti		Endurance/ 3 rd Pāramitā

Kumārajīva	कुमारजीव	344-409/13
Kumbhāṇḍa	कुम्भाण्ड	Small ugly spirit
Kuśala	कुशल	Wholesome
Kuṣāṇ		Korean Empire
L		
Laṅkāvatāra Sūtra	लंकावतारसूत्र	Basic Chán Sūtra
Loṣanā Bodhisattva		
Lokapāla	चतुर्महाराज	4 Guardian Kings
M		m
Mādhyamā-prati-pada	मध्यम-????-पद	The Middle Way
Mādhyamaka	मध्यमक	School
Mādhyamika	महायान	Practitioner of Madhyamaka
Mahā	महा	Large
Mahābhūta	महा-भूत	4 Great Elements
Mahāmudrā	महा-मुद्रा	Direct understanding of Sunyata-Samsara
Mahāsiddha	महा-सिद्ध	Great Adept
Maitreya Buddha	मैत्रेय-बुद्ध	Future Buddha
Mahāyāna	महायान	Great Vehicle
Mahāyāna – Śraddhotpāda-śāstra	महायान-????-सूत्र	Awakening Of faith In The Mahāyāna
Mahāvaiṣṭya Buddhā-vataṃsaka Sūtra	महा ????? सूत्र	The Flower Ornament Scripture
Mahā Parinirvāṇa Sūtra	महा परिनिर्वाण सूत्र	The Post Nirvāṇa Scripture
Mahā Prajñā Pāramitā Sūtra	महा प्रज्ञा पारमिता सूत्र	

Mahāsatiṭṭhāna Sutta	महास्मृतिपट्टनसूत्र	Meditation Manual
Mahāsattva	महासत्त्व	Great Liberated Being
Mahāsthāmaprāpta	महास्थामप्राप्त	A Monk
Mahoraga	महोरग	Deity
Maitri	मैत्री	Maitri
Maṅgala Buddha	??- बुद्ध	6th Prehistoric Buddha
Māna	मान	Arrogance
Manas-vijñāna	मानस-विज्ञान	7th Conciusness
Maṅḍala	मण्डल	Meditational Diagram
Mantra	मन्त्र	Repetitive formula
Māra	मार	The Devil
Mārga	मार्ग	The Path
Medhaṅkara Buddha	??- बुद्ध	2nd Prehistoric Buddha
Moha	मोह	Ignorance
Mokṣa	मोक्ष	Freedom from rebirth
Mudrā	मुद्रा	Symbolic hand positions
Mulamādhyama-kakarika		A Middle Way Scripture
Musāvādā veramaṇī sikkhāpadaṃ samādiyāmi	(Pali)	4th Śīla
N, Ñ,	ṇ ,ṇ, ñ,	
Nāgārjuna	नागार्जुन	2nd Century
Nāmarūpa	नामारूपा	"Name & Form"
Nāmó/Namaḥ	नमः	Veneration/Hail

Nārada Buddha	??- बुद्ध	12 th Prehistoric Buddha
Nāraka	नरक	Cold & Hot Hells
Nikāya	निकाय	Kind of Scripture
Nirmāṇakāya	निर्माणकाय	3 rd Aspect of the Buddha
Nirodha	निरोध	Cessation
Nirvāṇa	निर्वाण	Freedom from Rebirth/Enlightenment
O		
P		
Paduma Buddha	??- बुद्ध	11 th Prehistoric Buddha
Padmottara Buddha	पद्मोत्तर- बुद्ध	13 th Prehistoric Buddha
Pañca	पञ्चन्	Five
Pañca Śīla	पञ्चशील	5 Moral Rules
Pañca Skandha	स्कन्ध	5 Aggregates
Pāṇātipātā veramaṇī sikkhāpadaṃ samādiyāmi	(Pali)	1 st Śīla
Paramārtha Satya		2 Truth Doctrine
Pāramitā	पारमिता	Perfection
Parinirvāṇa	परिनिर्वाण	Nirvāṇa after death
Pātra		Set of monks 3 eating bowls
Piṇḍapāta	पिण्डपात	Alms round
Piṭaka	पिटक	Kind of Scripture
Prajñā	प्रज्ञा	Wisdom
Prajñāpāramitā	प्रज्ञापारमिता	Truth of Wisdom
Prajñātārā		Prajnadhara

Prajñāpāramitāhṛdaya Sūtra	प्रज्ञापारमिता-हृदय- सूत्र	Heart of Wisdom Scripture
Prasaṅgika	प्रासङ्गिक	A Mādhyamaka School
Pratītyasamutpāda	प्रतीत्यसमुत्पाद	Dependent Origination
Pratyeka Buddha	??- बुद्ध	One who achieves enlightenment alone
Pravrajya	प्रव्रज्य	Leaving Home/Go Forth
Priyadarśin Buddha	??- बुद्ध	16 th Prehistoric Buddha
Pūjā	पूजा	Devotional Chanting
Punarbhava		Rebirth
Puṇya		Merit
Puruṣa	पुरुष	Cosmic Being/Self
Puṣya Buddha	पुष्य- बुद्ध	21 st Prehistoric Buddha
R	ṛ	
Rāga	राग	Clinging
Raivata Buddha	??- बुद्ध	8 th Prehistoric Buddha
Ratnasambhava Buddha	रत्नसम्भव-बुद्ध	Dhyāni-Buddha, The Jewel Born
Rūpa	रूप	Form
S, Ś		
Saddharma Puṇḍarīka Sūtra	सद्धर्म पुण्डरीक सूत्र	The Lotus Sūtra
Sahā	सह	Division of the world/Mighty
Śākya	शक्य	Able
Śakyamuni	शाक्यमुनि	Sage of the Śakyas
Sakradāgāmin	सकृदागामिन्	“Once Returner”
Śamatha	शमथ	Tranquility
Samādhi	समाधि	Trancendent Union

Sambhogakāya	संभोगकाय	Body of Bliss
Samghaṃ	सङ्घ	Ritual form of Saṅgha
Samjñā	संज्ञा	To know
Samkalpa	संकल्प	Resolve
Samsāra	संसार	Cycle of birth and death
Saṃskāra	संस्कार	Formations
Samudaya	समुदय	Origin of Suffering
Samyag	सम्यक्	Complete
Samvṛti Satyá	???-सत्य	Conventional Truth
Samyutta Nikāya	???- निकाय	Connected Discourses. No 3 of Sūtra Piṭaka
Saṅgha	सङ्घ	Community
Saṅkhāra	संस्कार	Pali form of Saṃskāra
Saptakoṭibuddhamātr Cundī Dhāraṇī Sūtra		
Śaraṇa	शरण	Refuge
Śaraṇaṃkara Buddha	??- बुद्ध	3 rd Prehistoric Buddhas
Śāriputra	शारिपुत्र	Ca 500 b.c.
Śarīra	शरीर	Relic
Sarvāstivāda		School/Abhidharma tradition
Śāstra	शास्त्र	Kind of Scripture
Satipaṭṭhāna Sutta	स्मृत्युपस्थान	Pali for Smṛtyupasthāna
Ṣaṭh	साथ	60/To go with
Satya	सत्य	True/Truth
Sautrāntika		School/"Those who rely upon the sutras"
Siddhārtha	सिद्धार्थ	Birth name of the Buddha

Siddhārtha Buddha	सिद्धार्थ-बुद्ध	19 th Prehistoric Buddha
Śikhīn Buddha	शिखिन्-बुद्ध	23 rd Prehistoric Buddhas (of 28)
Śīla	सील	Rule
Smṛti	स्मृति	Mindfulness
Smṛtyupasthāna	स्मृत्युपस्थान	Foundation of Mindfulness
Śobhita Buddha		9 th Prehistoric Buddha
Śramaṇa	श्रमण	Mendicant
Śrāmaṇera	श्रामणेर	Novice monk
Śrāvaka	श्रावक	“Hearer”/Disciple
Śrāvakayāna	श्रावकयान	Vehicle of the listeners
Śrāvastī	श्रावस्ती	A City
Śrīmālādevī		Queen, 6 th century B.C.
Śrotāpanna		Stream-enterer
Sthavira	स्थविर	Elder
Sthaviravadin		Sect of the Elders
Śubhakarasiṃha		637-735
Subhūti		6 th century B.C.
Sudhanakumāra		
Sujāta Buddha	सुजात-बुद्ध	15 th Prehistoric Buddha
Sukha	सुख	Bliss
Sukhāvātī	सुखावती	The Pure Land
Sukhāvātivyūha Sūtra		Greater & Smaller Pure Land Scriptures
Sumanas Buddha		7 th Prehistoric Buddha
Sumedha Buddha	सुमेध-बुद्ध	14 th Prehistoric Buddha
Sunīta		Disciple of the Buddha

Śūnyavāda	शून्य-वाद	Sect of Śūnyatā followers
Śūnyatā	शून्यता	“Devoid of..”
Surāmeraya Majja Pamādatṭhānā Veramaṇī Sikkhāpadaṃ Samādiyāmi		5 th Śīla
Śurangama Sūtra	शूरङ्गम सूत्र-सूत्र	Important Chán Scripture
Śurangama Samādhi Sūtra	शूरङ्गम सूत्र- समाधि-सूत्र	Esoteric Meditation Scripture
Sūtra	सूत्र	Holy Scripture
Sūtra-Piṭaka	सूत्र पिटक	Theravāda Scripture
Svabhāva	स्वभाव	Essential Nature
T		
Tathāgata	तथागत	The Fully Enlightened One
Tathāgatagarba	तथागत-गर्भ	Buddha-nature
Tathātā	तथाता	“Suchness”
Theravāda	थेरवाद	Path of the Elders
Tiṣya	??-बुद्ध	20 th Prehistoric Buddha
Trikāya	त्रि-?	3 Bodies/Realms of the Buddha
Trilakṣaṇa	त्रिलक्षण	3 Characteristics of all phenomena
Triloka	त्रि-लोक	3 Worlds
Tripitaka	त्रिपिटक	3 Baskets
Triratna	त्रि-रत्न	3 Juvels
Triviṣa	त्रिविष	3 Poisons
Tṛṣṇā	तृष्णा	Desire/Thirst for..
Tṛṣṇaṃkara Buddha	??-बुद्ध	1 st Prehistoric Buddha
U	ū	

Upādāna	उपादान	Clinging
Upādhyāy	उपाध्याय	Guru/Teacher
Upāsaka	उपासक	Lay Male Adept
Upāsikā	उपसक	Lay Female Adept
Upāya	उपाय	Expedient Means
Upekṣā	उपेक्षा	Equanimity
Ṃrṇā	ऊर्णा	Spiral hairdot between eyebrows (3 rd eye)
V		
Vaiśravaṇa	वैश्रवण	A Heavenly King
Vairocana Buddha	वैरोचन-बुद्ध	THE Buddha
Vaiśākha	वैशाख	The Buddhas Birthday in May
Vajracchedikā Prajñāpāramitā Sūtra	वज्रच्छेदिकाप्रज्ञापारमितासूत्र	Diamond-cutter Scripture
Vajrayāna	वज्रयान	The Diamond Vehicle/Tib. Buddhism
Varanasi	बनारस	Banāras
Vāsanā	वासना	Habitual
Vasubandhu	वसुबन्धु	Co-founder of Yogaçara
Vedanā	वेदना)	Feeling/Sensation; 2 nd of 5 Skandhas
Vijñāna	विज्ञान	Discrimination 5 th of 5 Skandhas
Vimalakīrti Nirdeśa Sūtra	विमलकीर्तिनिर्देश-सूत्र	Layman Vimalakīrti's instructions
Vinaya	विनय	Rules/Regulations
Vinaya-Piṭaka	विनय-पिटक	“Basket” of Monks Rules
Vipaśyin Buddha		22 nd Prehistoric Buddha
Vipaśyanā	विपश्यना	Insight

Vīrya	वीर्य	Energy/4 th of 6 Pāramitā's
Viśvabhū Buddha	विश्वभू-बुद्ध,	24 th of Prehistoric Buddhas
Vyāyāma	व्यायाम	Right Effort/6 th of 8-fold Path
Z		
Y		
Yāna	यान	Path/Vehicle
Yakṣa	यक्ष	Benevolent Spirit
Yogaçara	चर-योग	School

Ā, ā, ṃ ī ṣ ṣ ç ś ū ṇ ṇ ñ ḍ ṛ Ś ḥ Ū