A Mahakala Practice
An Offering to the Dharma Protectors

Mahakala
(Tib. Nakpo Chenpo)
A Mahakala Prayer

OM MA DAG NÖ CHÜ TONG PAR JANG
OM The impure world and beings are purified into emptiness.

TONG PAY NGANG LE YE SHE KYI
From emptiness appears wisdom’s wind,

LUNG ME THÖ GYE TENG NYI DU
Fire, and hearth-stone skulls.

THÖ PAR SHA NGA DÜ TSI NGA
Upon them is a kapala containing the five meats and five amritas.

LUNG ME KOL WAY DAM TSIK PAY
The air and fire cause the samaya-amrita to boil;

DÜ TSI RAB BAR Ö NYI DE
It shines with intensely bright light

YE SHE DÜ TSI CHEN DRANG NE
That invites the jnana-amrita.

YER ME OM DANG AH HUNG GI
The amritas become inseparable, are blessed by OM AH HUNG,

JIN LAB DRI RO TSUNG ME GYUR
And have an unequaled flavor and aroma.

TSA GYU LAMA YIDAM HLA TSOK DANG
The root and lineage gurus, the yidam deities,
The dakas, dakinis, and dharma protectors are invited.

They gather as thick as clouds in space before me.

I offer to the root guru, who is the union of all the yidams;

I offer to the root guru, who is the union of the three jewels;

I offer to the root guru, who is the union of all the dharma protectors;

I offer, in particular, to the dharma protectors who wear a cloak (Mahakala)

And to Palden Lhamo Rangjung Gyalmo (Mahakali).

To this Mahakala and Mahakali, and to their entourage,

King Vaisravana, who is king of the northern direction and Ngadak,

Dorje Legpa, Singon, and Shing-kyong,

Karnak Dorje Gyalpo, and all the others
KARMAPA YI TEN PA KYONG NAM LA
Who protect the teachings of the Karmapas,

ZAG ME SHA NGA DÜ TSI NGA CHOK GI
Receive this offering of the supreme torma

TORMA TSA GYE PENTSA AMRITA
Of the immaculate five meats and amritas,

DZA GE RAK TAY YÖN CHAB CHÖ PAR ZHE
The living five amritas

DÖ YÖN NGA DANG SANG WAY CHÖ PA DANG
With eight principal ingredients, and the liquid offering of rakta.

DE KHO NA YI KÜN ZANG CHÖ PE CHÖ
I make the Samantabhadra offering of the five sensory pleasures,

CHÖ KYI KYÖN DAG YÖN TEN DZOG PA DEY
The secret offerings and the “thatness” offering,

NE TSUL JI ZHIN TOK PAY GO SUM GYI
With a true understanding of the actual nature of your perfection of qualities and your faultlessness,

TÖ PA MA LU PA YI TÖ PAR GYI
I praise you with every single praise that can be made by body, speech, and mind.

KHYÖ LA DÖ DÖN SOL WA TAB PA NI
I pray to you for the fulfillment of my wishes.

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DAG SOG KÜN LA CHOK DANG THUN MONG GI
Bestow upon me and all others as I sit upon this seat,

NGÖ DRUP TEN THOG DI LA TSÖL WA DANG
The supreme and the common siddhis.

KHYE PAR TSE RING NE ME PAL JOR GYE
I pray in particular for the increase of our life spans, health, prosperity, and wealth.

YI LA SAM TSE KE CHIK TSAM NYI LA
I pray that all I wish for in my mind will be instantly accomplished,

DRUP NE KARMAPA YI ZHE PA KÜN
So that I will quickly accomplish every teaching of the Karmapas.

DA GI MA LU NYUR DU DRUP PA DANG
I pray that you grant me, in this very moment,

KARMAPA YI TEN LA NÖ CHE NAM
The powers that will enable me

DAG GI THAL WA ZHIN DU LOG PA YI
To destroy into dust

NÜ PA DA TA NYI DU TSAL DU SOL
All those who harm the teachings of the Karmapas.

DE TAR CHÖ TÖ DE PAY GEWA DE
I dedicate the positive power of my offering, praise, and faith

MA GYUR DRO WA SEM CHEN THAM CHE KÜN
To all beings, who have all been my mother,
So that they will obtain the state of complete Buddhahood.

Composed by Jetsun Mikyo Dorje, The Eighth Karmapa (1507-1554), in answer to the supplication made by Rinchen Palmo.

Mahakala’s Mantra:

OM SHRI MAHAKALA YAK KHYA BETALI HUNG DZA

Translated by Peter Roberts, Scotland, 1990