

Pisces/Virgo Full Moon

Ritual written and led by Janine Donnellan
(Friday 2/3/07)*

Background Information...

Lunar Eclipse

The first lunar eclipse of 2007 is a total eclipse on March 3rd, at 13°00' Virgo, conjunct the fortunate Fixed Star Coxa (good for voyages, gain by merchandise, redemption of captives; prophetic ability; strength; wisdom). At the same time, the Sun at 13°00' of Pisces is conjunct the Fixed Star Achernar, giving the wise access to the ocean of unity. This is because the Sun and Moon are opposed at a lunar eclipse.

Goddess Tara

The Goddess Tara is worshipped in many forms, but the best known are the peaceful, compassionate White Tara, the goddess Tara who protects and brings health, long life and peace, and the more dynamic Green Tara, who is the goddess Tara that brings fertility to the earth, overcomes obstacles, and saves us from physical and spiritual danger.

In Buddhist tradition, Tara is much greater than a goddess -- she is a female Buddha, an enlightened one who has attained the highest wisdom, capability and compassion. The goddess Tara is "one who can take human form and remain in oneness with the universe".

Best known in her Chinese and Hindu incarnations, a version of the Goddess Tara exists in virtually every culture. Indeed, it is said that the Goddess Tara will assume as many forms on earth as there are needs for by the people.

The Celts called their "Great Goddess" Tara. Her name is thought to be the root of the word Tor, which is a mound of earth or hillock imbued with spiritual energy or connection to the spirit world. In Native American legends, the Tara goddess is known by the "Star Woman".

Lord Shiva

Lord Shiva represents the aspect of the Supreme Being (Brahman of the Upanishads) that continuously dissolves to recreate in the cyclic process of creation, preservation, dissolution and recreation of the universe. As stated earlier, Lord Shiva is the third member of the Hindu Trinity, the other two being Lord Brahma and Lord Vishnu.

Owing to His cosmic activity of dissolution and recreation, the words destroyer and destruction have been erroneously associated with Lord Shiva. This difficulty arises when people fail to grasp the true significance of His cosmic role. The creation sustains itself by a delicate balance between the opposing forces of good and evil. When this balance is disturbed and sustenance of life becomes impossible, Lord Shiva dissolves the universe for creation of the next cycle so that the unliberated souls will have another opportunity to liberate themselves from bondage with the physical world. Thus, Lord Shiva protects the souls from pain and suffering that would be caused by a dysfunctional universe. In analogous cyclic processes, winter is essential for spring to appear and the night is necessary for the morning to follow.

Guardians of the Directions

The Guardians of the Directions (Sanskrit Dikpalas) are the deities who rule the specific directions of space according to Hinduism and Vajrayana Buddhism. When with eight deities, they're called Asta-Dikpalas, literally meaning guardians of eight directions.

The Ritual

East

Indra, who lifted up the outcast who was oppressed, who glorified the blind and the lame.
I call thee to come forth and protect and charge this circle
Om Lam Indraya Namah

North East

Isana, warrior of death, give us knowledge of peace and understanding.
I call thee to come forth and protect and charge this circle
Om Ham Isanaya Namah

North

Kubera, god of wealth, guardian of all the treasures of the earth.
I call thee to come forth and protect and charge this circle
Om Sham Kuberaya Namah

North West

Vayu, god of Life and the vital breath.
I call thee to come forth and protect and charge this circle
Om Yam Vayuve Namah

West

Varuna, god of the sky, of rain and of the celestial ocean, as well as a god of law and of the underworld.
I call thee to come forth and protect and charge this circle
Om Vam Varunaya Namah

South West

Raksasa, extraterrestrial being of the stable fields.
I call thee to come forth and protect and charge this circle
Om Ksam Raksasaya Namah

South

Yama, God of the celestial abodes, and ruler of the departed.
I call thee to come forth and protect and charge this circle
Om Mam Yamaya Namah

South East

Agni, high priest, god, minister of sacrifice, The invoker, lavishest of wealth.
I call thee to come forth and protect and charge this circle
Om Ram Agnaye Namah

Invocation to Tara

May all beings realize bliss and the cause of bliss.
May all beings be free from sorrow and the cause of sorrow.
May all beings attain union with the sacred bliss, which is devoid of suffering.
And may all beings abide in the limitless equanimity that is clear,
Free from attraction and aversion, the cause of pleasure and pain.
O Mother of all sentient beings.
Tara who crushes the nightmares of delusion,
Divinity who knows things as they are,
together with your entourage, pray descend.
OMm TAH Reh TEW TAh RAY TEW RAY SO HAA

Invocation to Shiva

From the unreal lead me to the real
From darkness lead me to light
From death lead me to immortality
May all beings dwell in happiness
May all beings dwell in peace
May all beings attain oneness
May all beings attain auspiciousness
May all happiness be unto the whole world
OM NAMAH SHIVAYE

Intent

To connect with Tara & Shiva so that we can strengthen our understanding of our purpose here on earth and to learn to follow our bliss.

Closing

Goddess

Tara thank you for helping us realise our bliss.
We bid you hail & farewell
OMm TAH Reh TEW TAh RAY TEW RAY SO HAA

God

Shiva thank you for leading us from the unreal to the real.
We bid you hail & farewell
OM NAMAH SHIVAYE

South East

Agni, high priest, god, minister of sacrifice, The invoker, lavishest of wealth.
Thank you for protecting this circle
Hail & farewell
Om Ram Agnaye Namah

South

Yama, God of the celestial abodes, and ruler of the departed.
Thank you for protecting this circle
Hail & Farewell
Om Mam Yamaya Namah

South West

Raksasa, extraterrestrial being of the stable fields
Thankyou for protecting this circle
Hail & farewell
Om Ksam Raksasaya Namah

West

Varuna, god of the sky, of rain and of the celestial ocean, as well as a god of law and of the underworld.
Thank you for protecting this circle
Hail & farewell
Om Vam Varunaya Namah

North West

Vayu, god of Life and the vital breath.
Thankyou for protecting this circle
Hail & farewell
Om Yam Vayuve Namah

North

Kubera, god of wealth, guardian of all the treasures of the earth.
Thankyou for protecting this circle
Hail & farewell
Om Sham Kuberaya Namah

North East

Isana, warrior of death, give us knowledge of peace and understanding.
Thankyou for protecting this circle
Hail & farewell
Om Ham Isanaya Namah

East

Indra, who lifted up the outcast who was oppressed, who glorified the blind and the lame
Thankyou for protecting this circle
Hail & farewell
Om Lam Indraya Namah

May this circle be open but unbroken
May the peace of the Goddess be ever in our hearts.
Merry Meet and Merry Part
and Merry Meet again.



** This ritual is a combination of the author's original ideas and information obtained from various books and/or internet sources.*