Khenpo Karten Rinpoche's Preliminary Recitations Before Teaching

O benevolent root Guru who is, in essence, all Buddhas of the past, present, and future,
with great devotion I prostrate to you and go for refuge to you with my body, speech, and mind.
Please grant your blessings to be cared for by you, inseparably,
in this lifetime and all of my future lives.

First, Honoring Lord Buddha

Clean ground of pure ethical discipline
Beautified by mountains of unfathomable samadhi
Illuminating all things with wisdom-light of the sun and moon
Supreme Buddha who accomplishes the welfare of all, please bestow virtue and goodness!

Second, Honoring the Incomparable Gampopa Sonam Rinchen

Your mandala expanding throughout space in knowledge of all things,
Beautiful thousand-fold light striking the lands of trainees,
Fully illuminating all of Buddha's Teachings in their entirety,
With devotion I prostrate to the Great Jewel of the Kagyu.

Third, Again Honoring All of My Root Gurus

O glorious and precious root Guru
Please take seat of lotus at my heart.
Caring for me in your great kindness,
Please grant attainments of body, speech, and mind.

Equal to all Buddhas in qualities of realization,
Yet surpassing all Buddhas in kindness to me,
I pray at the feet of my root Guru, O Protector,
Please turn the minds of myself and all beings towards the Dharma.

All you who have become disciples of the Sugatas, Those Gone to Bliss,
Throughout the billions of worlds of the ten directions
All of you who wish to hear the Dharma
Raining down here and now, may you come here!

NAMO
In languages of devas, nagas, and yakshas,
Languages of kumbhandas and human beings,
In the sounds of whatever beings exist,
In every language, I shall teach the Dharma.

Please listen well, with a motivation of bodhicitta, thinking, All mother sentient beings
equal to the extent of space must by all means attain unexcelled eternal bliss of perfect, complete
Buddhahood. To accomplish this I shall listen carefully, without distraction, to the Mahayana
Teachings being given here and put them into practice.