

THE BUDDHIST COMMUNITY

དགོ་འདུན

Tibetan: GEN DÜN

Sanskrit: SANGHA.

(Pronounced SONG GAH)

Community

In Buddhism, Sangha is the third of the Three Jewels in which all Buddhists take refuge.

Sangha has several meanings. In a narrower sense the sangha consists of ordained

Buddhist monks, nuns, and novices. In a wider sense, the sangha also includes the

community of practicing lay followers.

Finally, in its widest sense, sangha can mean the assembly of all beings possessing some

high degree of realization, referred to as the *arya-sangha* or noble sangha. This last group

would be comprised of Bodhisattvas of the various levels as well as masters of the

lineage.

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