

Vajra = thunderbolt or diamond symbolizes great power and great voice to declare the Dharma diamond symbolizes the indestructability of faith and also of the Dharma itself Pala = protector. Therefore the name can be read either as: protector of the Vajra i.e. protector of the highest Dharma or the Vajra that protects, i.e. she who, with her Vajra, protects the sangha."



It is clear here that I got a very strong challenge from my teacher for an indestructible devotion and commitment to the three gems, even to protect them, which means for me a high level of fidelity and loyalty to them in all worlds. And it withholds to also be protected by the Name, which is a source of eternal grace and blessings. Namo Amida Bu Namo Amida Bu Namo Amida Bu

Born in 1957 in Belgium and baptized as Lutgard, sister of 3, mother of 2, aunt of 1, I studied and worked as a social worker in care for drug-addicted persons and elderly persons. I am currently taking care of my father (90) after my mother passed away in 2017, following a long illness.

As a young person, I felt a great longing for 'another life', far away from the conventional life, a life devoted to the essential in close contact with nature and deeper connectedness with others. After struggling with depression, resistance and delusion, and very much trying to find ways to a meaningful life, including therapy and group work, in 1998 I came in contact with eastern spirituality which was a revelation. In 2004 with Buddhism, first Tibetan, later with Triratna and Thich Nhat Hanh groups in Ghent. That year I had a first retreat with Dharmavidya and Caroline Brazier. Some years later I discovered Dharmavidya's books and the Belgian Amida Sangha and found faith and refuge.

In 2011, three of us established the Pureland Exercise-group which led to the Belgian Amida Sangha, where I still have a leading role. I became an active order member in 2015 as a Gankonin, and as an Amitarya in December.

From 2012-2014, 13 weekend workshops in Buddhist Psychology with Caroline Brazier were held in our house in Ghent, where we also held Sangha meetings of other Buddhist groups. I feel much gratitude for Dharmavidya's teachings, as well for Jnanamati and Susthama's ongoing support.



Dharma-work together with others in the Global Sangha, Services and Sangha-meetings is a joy and a pleasure. I hope to find ways, together with the other Amitaryas, to establish a strong and supporting Order and a learning-and-living-community.