

TR You-mun

Fo-shuo Mi-le Lai-shih-ching<sup>1</sup>

Sāriputra, the first disciple of the Buddha, thought about the worldly beings with compassionate mind. He went to the Buddha's place and knelt in front of the Buddha with ajañli mudra and asked: "You, the Holy One, always say that after you pass away, Maitreya should come after you. I would like to hear why you say so ." The Holy One said: "When the Buddha Maitreya is about to come, trees, woods of Jambudvīpa are burned and dead which cover 600,000 lis in width of the present Jambudvīpa. When Maitreya comes, on the Jambudvīpa, about 400,000 lis width from east to west and 320,000 lis long from south to north, there will be five kinds of fruits and melons all growing up spontaneously. There will be no mountains, mounds, valleys. The ground will be as flat as a flat stone. Trees are grown up. At that time, only few people will be greedy, lewd, jealous, angry, stupid, idiotic. There will be many people. They will live together in many villiages. Cock-crow of other villages will be heard. The people will live up to 8,400 years old. Females will get married at the age of 500. There will be no pains and illnesses. Throughout the world, there will be only three weaknesses. The first <sup>will</sup> be desire ; the second <sup>will</sup> be hungry and thirsty; the third <sup>will</sup> be old age. The faces of its people will be all pink in color. The people will all respect to each other."

"There will be a city named Ketumatī which is a kingdom. Surrounding the city about 480 lis, the city walls will be made out of earth and covered with wood. In addition, it will be ornated by gold, silver, glass, crystal, precious jealery. There will be 12 gates at four sides. All of them will be carved and adorned with gold, silver, glass, crystal, pre-