

VOTIVE MARBLE

With a triad countersunk in high relief: in the center Buddha enthroned on a lotus seat, surrounded by two Bodhisatvas holding lotuses and standing on lotuses, the stalks of which connect with Buddha's lotus. The flat surfaces are beautifully engraved with floral designs of T'ang decorative style and two worshiping women carrying lotuses. The inscription on the reverse, consisting of twenty-one lines, contains the text of a Dhāraṇī (prayer formula) from the sacred scriptures (Tripitaka) and yields the date A.D. 709.

T'ANG PERIOD