

# Hymn for the Standing Buddhas of Bamiyan

## Variations for the Guitar

Theme by Joseph Dillon Ford  
Arranged for the guitar by Mark Shippy

8va

T	1	3	0	3	5	3	0	3	0	1	3	0	1
A			0		6	1		2	2		0	2	0
B	3				2	0		0	3		0		3

8va

5

T	1	3	0	3	5	8	5	3	0	1	3	1	2
A			0		6	6		1	0		0		3
B	3				5	5		0	2		3		3

8va

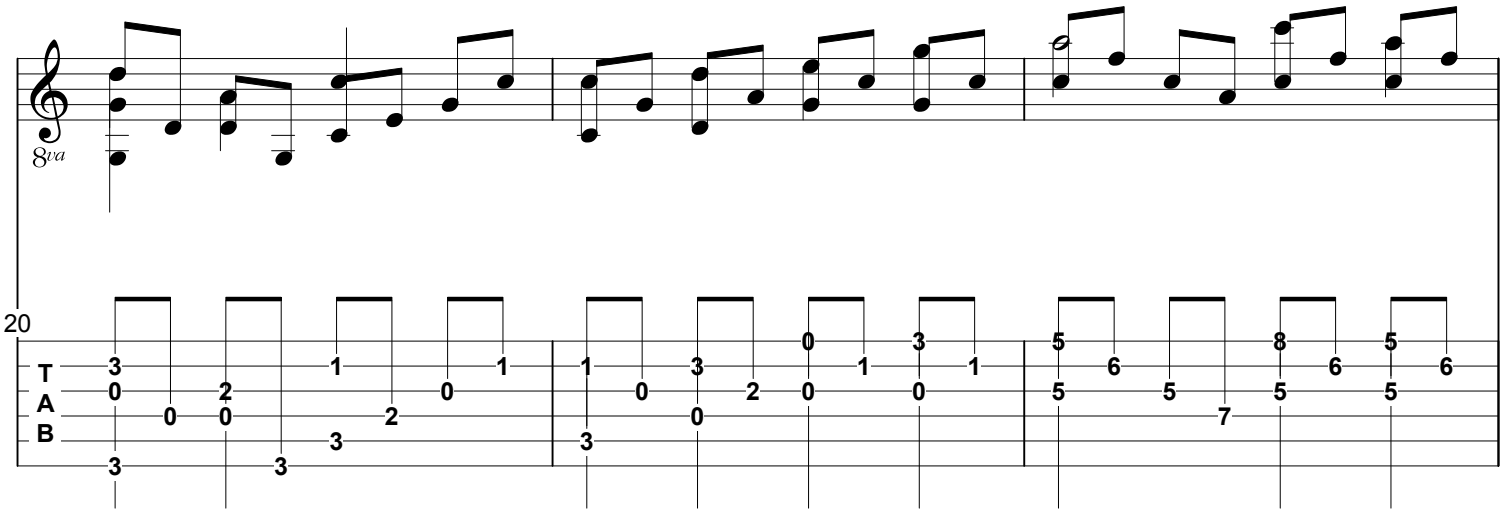
9	1	3	0	3	5	3	0	8	5	3	5	0	3
T					6	1		10	1		1		0
A			0		5	0		5			2		0
B	3												

8va

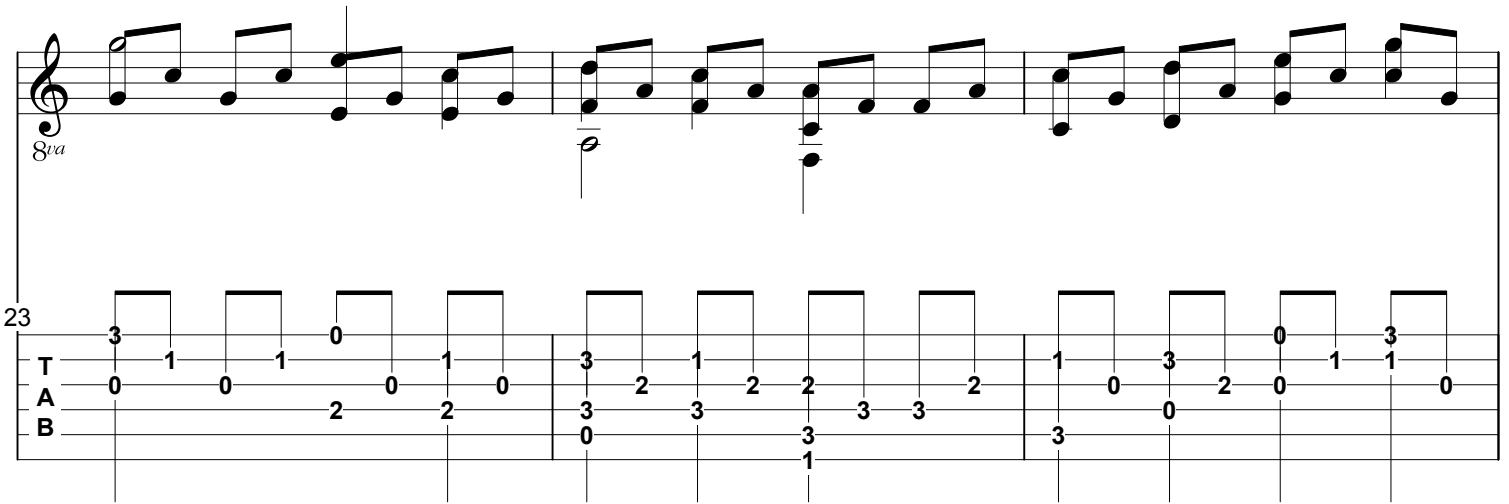
13	1	3	0	3	5	3	0	1	1			1	
T													1
A			0		3			3			2		0
B	3				3			1	3				3

8va

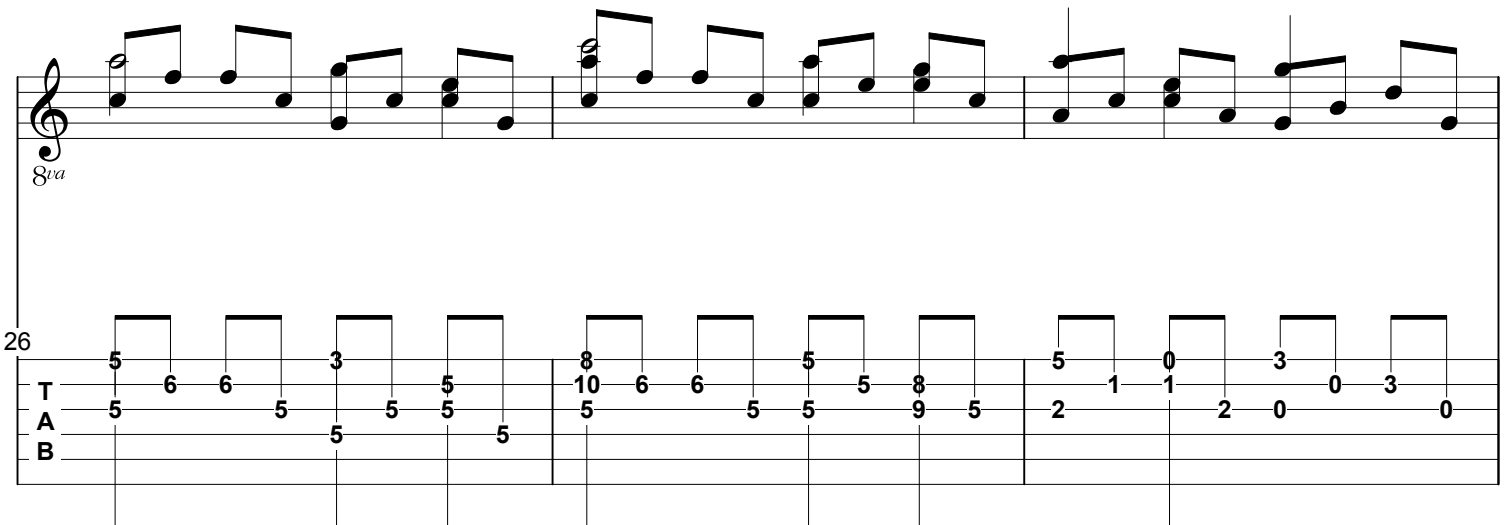
17	1	0	3	0	3	1	5	6	1	2	1	3	1	0	1	3	2	3	2	0	1	2
T		0		0	0	0	2	2	2	0	0	0	0	1	3	2	3	2	3	2	3	2
A		0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	3	2	3	2	3	2
B	3		0	3											0	3	3	3	3			



Musical notation for measures 20-22. The top staff is a treble clef with an 8va marking. The bottom staff shows guitar tablature for strings T, A, and B. Measure 20 starts with a 3 on the T string and a 0 on the A string. Measure 21 continues with various fret numbers. Measure 22 ends with a 5 on the T string and a 6 on the A string.



Musical notation for measures 23-25. The top staff is a treble clef with an 8va marking. The bottom staff shows guitar tablature for strings T, A, and B. Measure 23 starts with a 3 on the T string and a 0 on the A string. Measure 24 continues with various fret numbers. Measure 25 ends with a 1 on the T string and a 0 on the A string.



Musical notation for measures 26-28. The top staff is a treble clef with an 8va marking. The bottom staff shows guitar tablature for strings T, A, and B. Measure 26 starts with a 5 on the T string and a 5 on the A string. Measure 27 continues with various fret numbers. Measure 28 ends with a 0 on the T string and a 0 on the A string.

8va

29

T	1	0	3	2	0	1	0	5	2	5	5	3	5	5	1	2	2	3	2	3	2	3	3	
A																								
B	3		0		3			3				3									0		3	3

8va

32

T	1	1	3	0	3	5	3	0	3	0	0	1												
A	0	2		0	0	6	0	0	2	0	0	2	0	2	0	2	0	2	0	2	0	2	0	0
B	3	0	0	2	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

8va

36

T	3	2	1		1	3	0	3	5	8	5	3	0	1										
A	0	2	2	2	2	2	0	0	6	7	2	5	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
B	2		2		2		2		2					2		2								

8va

40

T	3	1			1	3	0	3	5	3	5	8	5	8
A	2		2	2	2	2	0	0	5	2	4	9	5	9
B	3	0	3		2	2	2				5	7		9
	0		5		0					7				10
														12

8va

44

T	5	0	3		1	3	0	3	5	3	0	1	1	
A	1	1	0	0	2	2	0	0	3	2	0	3	3	2
B	0		2		2	2	2		3	2	2	1	3	3
					0								3	3

8va

48

T	1		3		0	3		5	3	3	3	3	0
A	0		0	0	0	0		6	5	3	3	3	0
B	3		2	3	3	3	3	7	8	3	3	3	3
			3	3	3	3	3			3	3	3	3

8va

51

T	3	0	1	3	1	1	3	0	3
A	2	2	2	0	0	0	3	0	1
B	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	2	2

3 3 3 3 3 3 2 2 2 2

8va

54

T	5	8	5	3	0	0	1	3	1
A	5	6	1	1	1	0	0	0	0
B	3	3	3	3	0	0	0	0	0

3 3 3 3 0 3 0 3 3 3 3 0 0 0

8va

57

T	1	3	0	3	5	3	0	8	1	1	1	5	3
A	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	1	1	1	1	1
B	2	0	0	0	3	3	3	3	0	0	0	0	0

3 2 3 2 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3

8va

60

T	5	0	3	0	0	0	0	1	3	0	3	5	3	0
A	1	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	2	3	0
B	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	2	2	3	3	2

8va

63

T	1	1	1	1	1	0	2	1	0	0	1
A	2	3	0	2	2	2	2	2	2	0	2
B	3	3	2	3	3	3	3	3	3	2	3

Variations for the guitar on Hymn for the Standing Buddhas of Bamiyan  
by Joseph Dillon Ford

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Created by:

Mark Shippy

Amaranth Publishing

2705 8th Avenue

Fort Worth, Texas 76110

<http://www.amaranthpublishing.com>

[info@amaranthpublishing.com](mailto:info@amaranthpublishing.com)

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### Hymn for the Standing Buddhas of Bamiyan

On 8 March 2001 at 1:15 local time in Afghanistan's Bamiyan Province, the Taliban demolished by explosion the world's two largest statues of the standing Buddha. These priceless antiquities, measuring 53 and 35 meters in height, were carved into a sandstone cliff in the Hindu Kush mountains of central Afghanistan some 1600 to 1700 years before. Both images had already been subjected to anti-aircraft and tank fire before holes were drilled in their torsos and filled with dynamite. All appeals by the international community to save these sacred art treasures from destruction fell on deaf ears, as the Taliban relentlessly carried out their plan to rid Afghanistan of "idols" they considered offensive to Islam.

This savage act perpetrated by Muslim extremists, however grievous its consequences for all lovers of art and culture, was, in the end, merely symbolic. In their misguided zeal to establish a pure Islamic state, the Taliban have produced only ugliness and have demonstrated a degree of religious intolerance that has shocked and repulsed both their countrymen and the world. But the gentle spirit of Buddha--the Indian prince who renounced all earthly possessions in his great quest for understanding and enlightenment--has by no means been diminished by this tragic perversion of spirituality.

### Hymn for the Standing Buddhas of Bamiyan

On 21 May 2001, Joseph Dillon Ford composed the "Hymn for the Standing Buddhas of Bamiyan". It was intended from the beginning to be the germinal seed of a nonsectarian project requiring the voluntary participation of composers throughout the world, each of whom is invited to create a variation on this simple sixteen-measure pentatonic theme to celebrate the beauty of selfless awareness.

For more information go to the following Web Site:

<http://www.newmusicclassics.com/buddha.html>