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| Anagarika | ‘Homeless’, those who have made a partial commitment to the monastic sangha and keep some of the patimokka rules |
| Bhikku | Theravadin monks |
| Bhikkuni | A Theravadin nun |
| Buddham saranam gacchami | ‘To the Buddha I go for refuge’  |
| Dhamman saranam gacchami | ‘To the Dharma I go for refuge’  |
| Lama | ‘Higher one’, a teacher in the Tibetan tradition |
| Patimokka | The set of 227 rules for monks and 311 for nuns |
| Precepts | Obligations that Buddhists undertake. There are five for lay people, and ten for monks and nuns.  |
| Sangham saranam gacchami | ‘To the community I go for refuge’ |
| Thera | ‘Elder’, a senior member of a monastic sangha |
| Therigata | Part of the Pali canon, containing stanzas written by nuns |
| Triratna | The three jewels of Buddhism (Dharma, Buddha and Sangha) |
| Vihara | Monastery (Theravada) |
| Vinaya | The portion of the Pali canon that contains the code of discipline for the Sangha. |