

THE PALIVERSE PROJECT

The Universe of Buddha's Wisdom

The Triple Canon (Tipiṭaka)

The Canon of Discourses (Sutta Piṭaka)

5. The Collection of Minor Texts (5. Khuddaka Nikāya)

14. The Book of Birth Stories-1 (14. Jātakapāḷi-1)

1. The Book of the Ones (1. Ekakanipāto)

[Ja 1-150, PTS 1.104-1.511]



PaliVerse

5. The Collection of Minor Texts

14. The Book of Birth Stories-1

Homage to the Blessed One, the Worthy One, the Perfectly Enlightened One

In the Minor Collection

Jātaka Pāṭi

(First Part)

1. The Book of the Ones

1. The Chapter on the Incontrovertible Ground

1. The Birth Story of the Incontrovertible Ground

1. Some declare the incontrovertible ground; the reasoners declare a second. Knowing this, the wise one should take up that which is incontrovertible.

The Birth Story of the Incontrovertible Ground is first.

2. The Sandy Waste Birth Story

2. Untiring, digging in the sandy waste, in the open ground there they found water;
Thus the sage, possessed of the power of energy, untiring, may find peace of heart.

The Sandy Waste Birth Story is second.

3. The Seriva Merchant Birth Story

3. If here you fail to attain the fixed course of the Good Teaching;
For a long time you will regret, like the merchant of Serivā.

The Seriva Merchant Birth Story is third.

4. The Minor Millionaire Birth Story

4. Even with little, the wise one, discerning with his capital;
Raises himself up, like one fanning a small fire.

The Minor Millionaire Birth Story is fourth.

5. The Measure of Rice Birth Story

5. "What is the worth of a measure of rice, tell me the price of horses, O king;
Bārāṇasī within and without, this is the worth of a measure of rice."

The Measure of Rice Birth Story is fifth.

6. The Divine Virtue Birth Story

- 6.** Accomplished in shame and moral fear, established in bright qualities;
Peaceful good persons in the world are called 'those with divine qualities'.

The Divine Virtue Birth Story is sixth.

7. The Wood-Gatherer Birth Story

- 7.** "I am your son, great king, support me, O lord of people;
The king supports others too, why not the king his own offspring?"

The Wood-Gatherer Birth Story is seventh.

8. The Village Headman Birth Story

- 8.** Even for those who are unhurried, the hope for fruit succeeds;
I am one whose holy life has ripened, know this thus, headman."

The Village Headman Birth Story is eighth.

9. The Maghadeva Birth Story

- 9.** The hairs on my head, these have arisen as snatchers of life;
Divine messengers have appeared, it is time for my going forth.

The Maghadeva Birth Story is ninth.

10. The Happy Dweller Birth Story

- 10.** "Whom others do not protect, and who does not protect others;
He indeed, O king, sleeps happily, without expectation towards sensual pleasures."

The Happy Dweller Birth Story is tenth.

The Chapter on the Incontrovertible Ground is first.

Its summary:

Excellent, Unmistakable, Sandy Waste, Serivara, Wise, Measure of Rice;
Shame, Son, Excellent, Spoken, Village Headman, and Who Does Not Protect -
with these, ten.

2. The Chapter on Morality

11. The Marked Deer Birth Story

- 11.** There is benefit for those of good conduct, for those whose practice is friendly welcome;
See Lakkhaṇa coming, honoured by the congregation of kinsmen;
Then see this dark one, quite bereft of kinsmen, indeed.

The Marked Deer Birth Story is first.

12. The Banyan Deer Birth Story

- 12.** One should resort to the banyan tree, one should not dwell with a branch;
Death in the banyan tree is better, than life in a branch.

The Banyan Deer Birth Story is second.

13. The Arrow Birth Story

- 13.** Shame on the arrow with a shaft, that deeply pierces a man;
Shame on that country, where a woman is the leader;
And those beings too are despised, who have come under the control of
women.

The Arrow Birth Story is third.

14. The Wind Deer Birth Story

- 14.** There is surely nothing worse than flavours, or than residences or intimacies;
Sañjaya brought under his control with flavours the wind-deer dwelling in the
thicket.

The Wind Deer Birth Story is fourth.

15. The Rough-Eating Birth Story

- 15.** The deer with eight hooves, O Kharādiya, with horns bent and very bent;
Having transgressed the time on seven occasions, I do not endeavour to
exhort him.

The Rough-Eating Birth Story is fifth.

16. The Three-Posture Deer Birth Story

- 16.** The deer with three lying postures, of many deceits, with eight hooves,
drinking water at midnight;
Breathing on the ground with one nostril, he will outwit with six tricks, dear
sister, the nephew.

The Three-Posture Deer Birth Story is sixth.

17. The Wind Birth Story

- 17.** Whether in the dark fortnight or in the bright, whenever the wind blows;
For cold spells are born of wind, you are both undefeated in this matter.

The Wind Birth Story is seventh.

18. The Food for the Dead Birth Story

- 18.** If beings knew thus, that birth and continued existence are suffering;

No living being would kill another living being, for one who destroys life grieves.

The Food for the Dead Birth Story is eighth.

19. The Requested Food Birth Story

- 19.** If you would be free, be free after death, for one becoming free is bound;
Not in this way do the wise become free, freedom is bondage for the fool.

The Requested Food Birth Story is ninth.

20. The Reed Drink Birth Story

- 20.** Having seen a footprint not come out, having seen a footprint gone down;
We shall drink water with a reed, you will indeed not kill me.

The Reed Drink Birth Story is tenth.

The Morality Chapter is second.

Its summary:

Then Lakkhaṇa, Branch, Shame On, Again, Surely There Is Not, with Flavours,
Rough and so on;
Excels, Excellent, Wind, Living Being, with Release, with the one named Reed -
these are ten.

3. The Chapter on the Antelope

21. The Antelope Deer Birth Story

- 21.** This is known to the antelope, that you, Sepaṇṇi, lie;
I go to another Sepaṇṇi, your fruit does not please me.

The Antelope Deer Birth Story is first.

22. The Dog Birth Story

- 22.** Those dogs raised in the royal family, of good breed, endowed with beauty and strength;
They are not to be killed, we are to be killed, this is not impartial, it is the slaughter of the weak.

The Dog Birth Story is second.

23. The Thoroughbred Ox Birth Story

- 23.** Even lying on one side, pierced by darts;
Better than a mare is a thoroughbred, harness me, O charioteer.

The Thoroughbred Ox Birth Story is third.

24. The Thoroughbred Birth Story

- 24.** Whenever, wherever, whenever, wherever, whenever, whenever;
The thoroughbred exerts its force, the mares fall behind there.

The Thoroughbred Birth Story is fourth.

25. The Ford Birth Story

- 25.** "At different fords, charioteer, give the horse to drink;
A person through overeating, even with milk-rice becomes satisfied."

The Ford Birth Story is fifth.

26. The Woman's Face Birth Story

- 26.** Having heard the words of the ancient thieves, the woman-faced one went
about killing;
But having heard the words of the well-restrained, the noble elephant stood
firm in all virtues.

The Woman's Face Birth Story is sixth.

27. The Frequent Birth Story

- 27.** He was not able to take a mouthful, nor almsfood, nor kusa grass, nor to be
rubbed;
I think from frequent seeing, the elephant developed affection for the dog.

The Frequent Birth Story is seventh.

28. The Nandivīsāla Birth Story

- 28.** One should speak only what is pleasant, never what is unpleasant;
For one speaking pleasantly, he lifted the heavy burden;
And he obtained wealth for him, thereby he was delighted.

The Nandivīsāla Birth Story is the eighth.

29. The Kaṇha Birth Story

- 29.** Wherever the burden is heavy, wherever the road is deep;
Then they yoke the black one, and he bears that burden.

The Kaṇha Birth Story is the ninth.

30. The Munika Birth Story

- 30.** Do not envy the sage, he eats food for the sick;
Living at ease, eat chaff, this is the characteristic of long life.

The Munika Birth Story is the tenth.

The Kuruṅga Chapter is the third.

Its summary:

Antelope, Dog, Ox, Swift, Excellent, again Fierce, Rains, Glory, Named;
Woman, Face, Name, Delightful, Excellent, bears the burden - with Sage, ten.

4. The Chapter on the Nest

31. The Kulāvaka Birth Story

- 31.** "The nests, Mātali, in the silk-cotton tree, avoid them with the chariot-pole;
We would rather give up our lives among the titans, than that my twice-born
birds should become nestless."

The Kulāvaka Birth Story is the first.

32. The Dancing Birth Story

- 32.** Your cry is delightful and your back is beautiful, and your neck resembles the
colour of lapis lazuli;
And your tail-feathers are a fathom in length, but because of your dancing we
do not give you our daughter.

The Dancing Jātaka, the second.

33. The Sammodamāna Birth Story

- 33.** Being joyful they go, the birds having taken up the net;
When they quarrel, then they will come under my control.

The Sammodamāna Birth Story is the third.

34. The Fish Birth Story

- 34.** Neither cold nor heat afflicts me, nor the snaring in the net;
But that the she-fish imagines me gone to another for delight.

The Fish Jātaka, the fourth.

35. The Vaṭṭaka Birth Story

- 35.** There are wings, but unable to fly, there are feet, but unable to walk;
Mother and father have departed, fire, go back.

The Vaṭṭaka Birth Story is the fifth.

36. The Sakuṇa Birth Story

- 36.** The tree upon which the birds depended, that itself emits fire;
Seek the directions, O crooked-limbed ones, fear has arisen from the refuge.

The Sakuṇa Birth Story is the sixth.

37. The Tittira Birth Story

- 37.** Those men who honour the senior, skilled in the Teaching;
Praiseworthy in this very life, and a fortunate realm in the future state.

The Tittira Birth Story is the seventh.

38. The Baka Birth Story

- 38.** One wise in fraud does not perpetually thrive in happiness through fraud;
One wise in fraud obtains, like a heron with a crab.

The Baka Birth Story is the eighth.

39. The Nanda Birth Story

- 39.** Methinks a heap of golden things, and a golden wreath, and Nandaka;
Where the slave, born a slave, standing, roars rough words.

The Nanda Birth Story is the ninth.

40. The Khadiraṅgāra Birth Story

- 40.** I would rather fall into hell, feet upward, head downward;
I will not do what is ignoble, come, accept the almsfood.

The Khadiraṅgāra Birth Story is the tenth.

The Kulāvaka Chapter is the fourth.

Its summary:

Siri, Mātali, Daughter, King of Birds, Delight, Come, Mother and Father, and again;
Tree, Senior, Parrot and Crab, likewise with Nandaka and Excellent Almsfood - ten.

5. The Chapter on the Well-wisher

41. The Losaka Birth Story

- 41.** Whoever, when being admonished by one who wishes his welfare, who is
compassionate for his good, does not follow the instruction;
He grieves like Mittaka, clinging to the goat's foot.

The Losaka Birth Story is the first.

42. The Kapota Birth Story

- 42.** Whoever, when being admonished by one who wishes his welfare, who is
compassionate for his good, does not follow the instruction;
Not having heeded the word of the pigeon, he lies as one gone into the hands
of enemies.

The Kapota Birth Story is the second.

43. The Veḷuka Birth Story

- 43.** Whoever, when being admonished by one who wishes his welfare, who is
compassionate for his good, does not follow the instruction;

Thus he lies slain, like the father of Veḷuka.

The Veḷuka Birth Story is the third.

44. The Makasa Birth Story

- 44.** Better is an enemy endowed with wisdom, than a friend devoid of wisdom;
For the idiot, thinking "I will kill the mosquito," split open his father's head.

The Makasa Birth Story is the fourth.

45. The Rohiṇī Birth Story

- 45.** Better is a wise enemy, than a foolish compassionate one;
See the contemptible Rohiṇikā, having killed her mother, she grieves.

The Rohiṇī Birth Story is the fifth.

46. The Ārāmadūsaka Birth Story

- 46.** Indeed, by one unskilled in benefit, beneficent conduct does not bring
happiness;
The imprudent one neglects the benefit, just as the monkey monastery
attendant.

The Ārāmadūsaka Birth Story is the sixth.

47. The Vāruṇidūsaka Birth Story

- 47.** Indeed, by one unskilled in benefit, beneficent conduct does not bring
happiness;
The imprudent one neglects the benefit, just as Koṇḍañña did the spirits.

The Vāruṇidūsaka Birth Story is the seventh.

48. The Vedabba Birth Story

- 48.** Whoever desires benefit by wrong means, he suffers;
The hunters killed Vedabba, all of them met with disaster.

The Vedabba Birth Story is the eighth.

49. The Nakkhatta Birth Story

- 49.** While waiting for the constellation, the benefit passed the fool by;
The benefit itself is the constellation for benefit, what will the stars do?

The Nakkhatta Birth Story is the ninth.

50. The Dummedha Birth Story

- 50.** With a thousand imprudent ones, a sacrifice was entreated of me;
Now I shall sacrifice, for many are the unrighteous people.

The Dummedha Birth Story is the tenth.

Its summary:

Then Friend, Mother, Excellent Pigeon, likewise Bamboo, Idiot, Rohiṇī;
Monkey, Liquor, and Mind-Reader again, likewise with Star and Excellent
Sacrifice - ten.

The first fifty.

6. The Chapter on Aspiration

51. The Mahāsīlava Birth Story

- 51.** A person should indeed hope, a wise one should not become weary;
I see myself, as I wished, so it came to be.

The Mahāsīlava Birth Story is the first.

52. The Cūḷajanaka Birth Story

- 52.** A person should indeed strive, a wise one should not become weary;
I see myself lifted from the water to dry land.

The Cūḷajanaka Birth Story is the second.

53. The Puṇṇapāti Birth Story

- 53.** Likewise the bowls are full, the talk proceeds differently;
By this reason I know, this is not good liquor.

The Puṇṇapāti Birth Story is the third.

54. The Kiṃphala Birth Story

- 54.** This tree is not hard to climb, nor is it far from the village;
By this reason I know, this is not a tree with sweet fruit.

The Kiṃphala Birth Story is the fourth.

55. The Pañcāvudha Birth Story

- 55.** Whoever, with an unslothful mind, a man of unslothful consciousness;
Develops wholesome mental states, for the attainment of freedom from
bondage;
May reach gradually the elimination of all fetters.

The Pañcāvudha Birth Story is the fifth.

56. The Birth Story of the Mass of Gold

- 56.** Whoever, with a delighted mind, a man of delighted consciousness;
Develops wholesome mental states, for the attainment of freedom from
bondage;
May reach gradually the elimination of all fetters.

The Birth Story of the Mass of Gold, the sixth.

57. The Birth Story of the Monkey King

- 57.** For whom these four qualities exist, monkey-king, just as for you;
Truth, the Teaching, steadfastness, generosity - he overcomes the foe.

The Birth Story of the Monkey King, the seventh.

58. The Birth Story of the Three Qualities

- 58.** For whom these three qualities exist, monkey-king, just as for you;
Dexterity, courage, wisdom - he overcomes the foe.

The Birth Story of the Three Qualities, the eighth.

59. The Birth Story of the Drummer

- 59.** Blow, blow, but do not over-blow, for over-blowing is evil;
For by blowing a hundred was gained, by over-blowing it was destroyed.

The Birth Story of the Drummer, the ninth.

60. The Birth Story of the Conch Blower

- 60.** Blow, blow, but do not over-blow, for over-blowing is evil;
The wealth obtained by blowing, my father squandered by blowing.

The Birth Story of the Conch Blower, the tenth.

The Chapter on Aspiration, the sixth.

Its summary:

As I Wished, So It Was, Water, Dry Land, Liquor, Sweet Fruit, and Unwavering
Mind;
Gladdened Mind, Four and Three, Hundred Obtained, with Wealth and Riches -
ten.

7. The Chapter on Women

61. The Birth Story of the Unpleasant Spell

- 61.** Women of the world are indeed wretched, no limit is found for them;
Filled with lust and bold, just as fire consumes all;
Having left them, I shall go forth, cultivating seclusion.

The Birth Story of the Unpleasant Spell, the first.

62. The Birth Story of the Embryo

- 62.** Why the brahmin played the lute, with his face wrapped up;
A wife maintained from the egg-state, who would ever trust in such women?

The Birth Story of the Embryo, the second.

63. The Birth Story of the Wise Reasoner

- 63.** Prone to wrath and ungrateful, divisive and friend-breaking;
Live the holy life, monk, he does not abandon happiness.

The Birth Story of the Wise Reasoner, the third.

64. The Birth Story of the Difficult to Know

- 64.** Do not rejoice "She desires me", do not grieve "She does not desire me";
The nature of women is hard to know, like a fish's course in water.

The Birth Story of the Difficult to Know, the fourth.

65. The Birth Story of Discontent

- 65.** Just as a river and a road, a drinking booth, an assembly hall, and a wayside
water-shed;
So are women of the world, the wise do not become angry with them.

The Birth Story of Discontent, the fifth.

66. The Birth Story of the Soft Characteristic

- 66.** One desire I had before, not having obtained Mudulakkhaṇā;
Since I obtained the wide-eyed one, desire gave birth to desire.

The Birth Story of the Soft Characteristic, the sixth.

67. The Birth Story of the Lap

- 67.** "A son on my lap, O king, a husband for one running on the path;
But that region I do not see, from where I might bring a brother."

The Birth Story of the Lap, the seventh.

68. The Birth Story of Sāketa

- 68.** In whom the mind settles, and the consciousness becomes clear;
Even in a person never seen before, one surely trusts in him.

The Birth Story of Sāketa, the eighth.

69. The Birth Story of the One Who Vomits Poison

- 69.** Shame on that vomited poison, which I, for the sake of life;
Would swallow back again once vomited, death is better for me than life.

The Birth Story of the One Who Vomits Poison, the ninth.

70. The Birth Story of the Spade

- 70.** That conquest is not well conquered, which conquest is undone;
That conquest is indeed well conquered, which conquest is not undone.

The Birth Story of the Spade, the tenth.

The Chapter on Women, the seventh.

Its summary:

Sikhī, All-Devourer, and Lute-Excellent, Divisive, Friend-Breaking, Delight,
River;
Soft-Characteristic, Born-of-Same-Mother, and Mind, Poison, with Well-
Conquered - these are ten.

8. The Chapter on Varuṇa

71. The Birth Story of Varuṇa

- 71.** "He who wishes to do afterwards what should be done before;
Like the breaker of varuṇa wood, he afterwards feels remorse."

The Birth Story of Varuṇa, the first.

72. The Birth Story of the Virtuous Elephant

- 72.** For an ungrateful person, always looking for faults;
Even if one were to give him the whole earth, one would indeed not please
him.

The Birth Story of the Virtuous Elephant, the second.

73. The Birth Story of Truth Indeed

- 73.** "Truly indeed thus they said, some men here;
A piece of wood rescued is better, but not indeed some men."

The Birth Story of Truth Indeed, the third.

74. The Birth Story of the Nature of Trees

- 74.** Good are many relatives, even trees born in the forest;
The wind carries away one standing alone, even a great lord of the forest.

The Birth Story of the Nature of Trees, the fourth.

75. The Fish Birth Story

- 75.** Thunder forth, O Rain-God, destroy the treasure of the crow;
Afflict the crow with sorrow, and release me from sorrow.

The Birth Story of the Fish, the fifth.

76. The Birth Story of the Unsuspected

- 76.** I am without fear in the village, in the forest there is no fear for me;
Having ascended the straight path, through friendliness and compassion.

The Birth Story of the Unsuspected, the sixth.

77. The Birth Story of the Great Dream

- 77.** Bulls are trees, cows are oxen, a horse is a plate, a jackal is a water-pot;
A pond and unripe sandalwood, gourds sink and stones float.

Frogs swallow black snakes, supaññas surround a crow;
Trembling wolves are in fear of goats, perversion exists, there is no sense
here.

The Birth Story of the Great Dream, the seventh.

78. The Birth Story of Illisa

- 78.** Both are lame, both are crippled, both are squint-eyed;
Boils have arisen on both, I do not see Illisa.

The Birth Story of Illisa, the eighth.

79. The Birth Story of the Rough Voice

- 79.** When cattle were plundered and destroyed, houses burnt and people led
away;
Then came the son to her whose son was destroyed, beating a harsh-sounding
drum.

The Birth Story of the Rough Voice, the ninth.

80. The Birth Story of Bhīmasena

- 80.** What you boasted of before, then afterwards your putrid streams flow forth;
Both do not agree, O Bhīmasena, your talk of battle and this your distress.

The Birth Story of Bhīmasena, the tenth.

The Chapter on Varuṇa, the eighth.

Its summary:

Varuṇa, Ungrateful, Excellent, Truth-Excellent, with Forest-Lord and
Thundering;
With Compassion, Stone-Raft, Illisa, again with Drum and Putrid Stream - ten.

9. The Chapter on Drinking

81. The Birth Story of Drinking Liquor

- 81.** We drank, we danced, we sang, and we cried;
Having drunk that which causes unconsciousness, we were seen as monkeys.

The Birth Story of Drinking Liquor, the first.

82. The Birth Story of Mittavindaka

- 82.** Having passed beyond the crystal, and the ever-intoxicating treacherous one;
You are seated on a stone, from which you will not be freed while living.

The Birth Story of Mittavindaka, the second.

83. The Kālakaṇṇi Birth Story

- 83.** One becomes a friend indeed by seven steps, but a companion by twelve;
By a month or a fortnight one becomes a relative, beyond that even like
oneself;
How then could I, for the sake of my own happiness, abandon the wretch
acquainted for a long time?

The Kālakaṇṇi Birth Story is the third.

84. The Door to Welfare Birth Story

- 84.** One should wish for health and supreme gain, morality approved by the
seniors, and learning;
And acting in conformity with the Dhamma, and non-sluggishness - these six
are the chief doors to benefit.

The Door to Welfare Birth Story is the fourth.

85. The Kimpakka Fruit Birth Story

- 85.** Not knowing the danger in the future, whoever indulges in sensual pleasures;
At the end of the result they strike him, like having eaten a poisonous fruit.

The Kimpakka Fruit Birth Story is the fifth.

86. The Morality Investigator Birth Story

- 86.** Morality indeed is good, morality is unsurpassed in the world;
See the serpent with terrible poison, being moral he is not killed.

The Morality Investigator Birth Story is the sixth.

87. The Blessing Birth Story

- 87.** For whom blessings have been uprooted, omens, dreams, and characteristics;
He, having transcended the faults of blessings, having overcome the pairs and
bonds, surely does not come to this again.

The Blessing Birth Story is the seventh.

88. The Rivalry Birth Story

- 88.** One should utter only what is good, one should not utter what is evil;
Release of good speech is excellent, having uttered evil one is tormented.

The Rivalry Birth Story is the eighth.

89. The Deceitful Birth Story

- 89.** Your speech indeed was smooth, you speaker of kind words;

You clung to a mere blade of grass, yet they carry off a hundred gold coins.

The Deceitful Birth Story is the ninth.

90. The Ungrateful Birth Story

- 90.** He who does not understand the good done for him before, the benefit done;
When a task arises afterwards, he does not find one to do it.

The Ungrateful Birth Story is the tenth.

The Apāyimha Chapter is the ninth.

Its summary:

We Drank and Treacherous, Positions of Beings, Six Doors and Future, and
again;
Snake, Moral, Auspicious, Evil Woman, Hundred Coins, with Benefit Done Best
- these are ten.

10. The Chapter on Smeared

91. The Smeared Birth Story

- 91.** "Smeared with supreme potency, the man does not understand the smearing
he swallows;
Swallow, you, swallow, wicked cheat, afterwards it will be bitter for you."

The Smeared Birth Story is the first.

92. The Great Lake Birth Story

- 92.** In superior situations they desire a hero, in councils one who is not excitable;
And a dear one when food and drink are present, and a wise person when a
matter has arisen.

The Great Lake Birth Story is the second.

93. The Intimate Meal Birth Story

- 93.** One should not trust the untrustworthy, nor should one trust even the
trustworthy;
From trust, danger follows, like a lion follows a hoofed animal.

The Intimate Meal Birth Story is the third.

94. The Terror Birth Story

- 94.** Scorched and soaked, alone in the frightful forest;
Naked, not sitting by a fire, the sage devoted to the search.

The Terror Birth Story is the fourth.

95. The Mahāsudassana Birth Story

- 95.** "Impermanent indeed are activities, having the nature of arising and falling;
Having arisen, they cease; their appeasement is happiness."

The Mahāsudassana Birth Story is the fifth.

96. The Oil Bowl Birth Story

- 96.** Just as one would carry a bowl of oil filled to the brim without spilling;
So one should guard one's own mind, aspiring to the direction never gone to
before.

The Oil Bowl Birth Story is the sixth.

97. The Success by Name Birth Story

- 97.** Having seen Jīvaka dead, and Dhanapāli in misery;
And Panthaka lost in the forest, the evil one returned again.

The Success by Name Birth Story is the seventh.

98. The Dishonest Trader Birth Story

- 98.** Good indeed is a wise one, but not one too clever;
By a son too clever, I have been singed in my mind.

The Dishonest Trader Birth Story is the eighth.

99. The More Than a Thousand Birth Story

- 99.** Even if more than a thousand were assembled, they might cry for a hundred
years, those without wisdom;
Better is one person with wisdom, who cognises the meaning of what is
spoken.

The More Than a Thousand Birth Story is the ninth.

100. The Unpleasant Form Birth Story

- 100.** The unpleasant in the guise of the pleasant, the disagreeable in the guise of
the dear;
Suffering in the guise of happiness, overcomes the heedless one.

The Unpleasant Form Birth Story is the tenth.

The Litta Chapter is the tenth.

Its summary:

Sick, contempt, curiosity, mother's debt, by the sage and impermanence, the
excellent bowl;
Dhanapāli, the excellent, the too clever, with more than a thousand, the
unpleasant, ten.

The Middle Fifty.

11. The Chapter on More Than a Hundred

101. The More Than a Hundred Birth Story

- 101.** Even if more than a hundred were assembled, they might meditate for a hundred years, those without wisdom;
Better is one person with wisdom, who cognises the meaning of what is spoken.

The More Than a Hundred Birth Story is the first.

102. The Green-Grocer Birth Story

- 102.** He who would be a shelter for one touched by suffering, my father, commits treachery in the forest;
To whom shall I cry out in the midst of the forest, he who was my protector commits violence.

The Green-Grocer Birth Story is the second.

103. The Enemy Birth Story

- 103.** Where an enemy dwells, a wise one should not dwell there;
For one night or two nights, one who has enemies dwells in suffering.

The Enemy Birth Story is the third.

104. The Birth Story of Mittavindaka

- 104.** With four he attained eight, and with eight also sixteen;
And with sixteen thirty-two, through excessive greed he encountered the wheel;
For the man destroyed by desire, the wheel revolves upon his head.

The Mittavindaka Birth Story is the fourth.

105. The Weak Wood Birth Story

- 105.** Much is this wood in the forest, the wind breaks the weak;
If you fear that, O noble one, surely you will become lean.

The Weak Wood Birth Story is the fifth.

106. The Water-Drawer Birth Story

- 106.** "Happy indeed me living, tormenting like a water-pot;
A thief, under the guise of wife, requests oil and salt."

The Water-Drawer Birth Story is the sixth.

107. The Sālittaka Birth Story

- 107.** Good indeed is a craft, whatever kind it may be;
See, by the lame one's blow, villages in the four directions were obtained.

The Sālittaka Birth Story is the seventh.

108. The Bāhiya Birth Story

- 108.** One should train in what should be trained, there are people with desire for that;
For a woman from the countryside, through good conduct, pleased the king.

The Bāhiya Birth Story is the eighth.

109. The Kuṇḍa Cake Birth Story

- 109.** As is the food of the man, so is the food of his deity;
Bring that cake made of husked grain, do not destroy my share.

The Kuṇḍa Cake Birth Story is the ninth.

110. The Sabbasaṃhāraḥakapañha Birth Story

- 110.** There is no all-compiler, pure millet diffuses its fragrance;
The cheat fears falsehood, the old woman spoke truth.

The Sabbasaṃhāraḥakapañha Birth Story is the tenth.

The Parosata Chapter is the eleventh.

Its summary:

More Than A Hundred, Protected, Enemy, Again, Whirling Wheel, and Named Nāgasiri;
Happiness, and Indeed, Craftsman, Bāhiyā, Kuṇḍa Cake, and Old Woman - these are ten.

12. The Chapter on "If Indeed"

111. The Gadrabhapañha Birth Story

- 111.** If you think thus, O foremost king, that a father is better than a son;
Well then, here is your mule, for the father of a mule is a donkey.

The Gadrabhapañha Birth Story is the first.

112. The Amarādevīpañha Birth Story

- 112.** By which there is flour and vinegar, and the double-leaved tree in bloom;
By which I give, by that I speak; by which I do not give, by that I do not speak;
This is the path of the barley-middler, know this as the concealed way.

The Amarādevīpañha Birth Story is the second.

113. The Siṅgāla Birth Story

- 113.** Do you believe the jackal, the one who has drunk liquor, brahmin?
There is not a hundred oyster shells, whence then two hundred bronze plates?

The Siṅgāla Birth Story is the third.

114. The Mitacinti Birth Story

- 114.** Much-Thinker and Little-Thinker, both were caught in the net;
Measured-Thinker released them, both there came together.

The Mitacinti Birth Story is the fourth.

115. The Anusāsika Birth Story

- 115.** She who instructs others, herself being one who acts with greed;
She now lies with broken wings, the instructing bird destroyed by a wheel.

The Anusāsika Birth Story is the fifth.

116. The Dubbaka Birth Story

- 116.** Teacher, you have done an excessive deed, even to me this is not pleasing;
Having leaped over the fourth, you are now enveloped by the fifth.

The Dubbaka Birth Story is the sixth.

117. The Tittira Birth Story

- 117.** Too lofty and too talkative, spoken for too long a time;
Speech kills the fool, as excessive rain does the partridge.

The Tittira Birth Story is the seventh.

118. The Vaṭṭaka Birth Story

- 118.** A person who does not think, does not attain distinction;
See the fruit of thinking, I am freed from murder and bondage.

The Vaṭṭaka Birth Story is the eighth.

119. The Akālarāvi Birth Story

- 119.** Not brought up by mother and father, dwelling in a family without a teacher;
This cock does not directly know the proper time or the improper time.

The Akālarāvi Birth Story is the ninth.

120. The Bandhanamokkha Birth Story

- 120.** The unbound are bound there, where fools speak out;
Even the bound are freed there, where the wise speak out.

The Bandhanamokkha Birth Story is the tenth.

The Haṃci Chapter is the twelfth.

Its summary:

Then donkey, flour, hundred plates, much-thinking, hare, going, over-acting;
Protracted time, distinction, mind, teacher, with wise-speaking-delight - these
are ten.

13. The Chapter on the Grass Reed

121. The Kusanāḷi Birth Story

- 121.** Whether an equal would do it, or also one who is superior, or even an inferior
one alone would do it;
These would do the highest good in disaster, just as I and Kusanāḷi did for
Rucā."

The Kusanāḷi Birth Story is the first.

122. The Dummedha Birth Story

- 122.** Having obtained fame, the imprudent one works for his own harm;
He proceeds towards the injury of himself and others.

The Dummedha Birth Story is the second.

123. The Naṅgalīsa Birth Story

- 123.** The fool speaks everywhere speech that does not apply everywhere;
This one knew neither curds nor the plough-pole, he imagines curds and milk
to be the plough-pole.

The Naṅgalīsa Birth Story is the third.

124. The Amba Birth Story

- 124.** A person should indeed strive, a wise one should not become weary;
See the fruit of effort, the mangoes eaten are not based on hearsay.

The Amba Birth Story is the fourth.

125. The Kaṭāhaka Birth Story

- 125.** Even though he might boast much, having gone to another country;
Having followed, he would ruin him, enjoy your wealth, Kaṭāhaka."

The Kaṭāhaka Birth Story is the fifth.

126. The Asilakkhaṇa Birth Story

- 126.** That same thing is good for one, that same thing is evil for another;
Therefore not all is good, nor also is all evil.

The Asilakkhaṇa Birth Story is the sixth.

127. The Kalaṇḍuka Birth Story

- 127.** Those regions, those sites, and I am a forest-dweller;
Having found out, they would seize you, drink the milk, Kalanduka."

The Kalaṇḍuka Birth Story is the seventh.

128. The Biḷāravata Birth Story

- 128.** He who indeed, having made the Teaching his banner, concealed, would practise evil;
Having gained the trust of beings, they call that one's practice the cat's practice.

The Biḷāravata Birth Story is the eighth.

129. The Aggikabhāradvāja Birth Story

- 129.** This topknot is not for the sake of merit, this topknot is for the sake of food;
It does not go to the counting of thumbs, let that be enough for you, Aggikā.

The Aggikabhāradvāja Birth Story is the ninth.

130. The Kosiya Birth Story

- 130.** Eat according to your speech, and speak according to what you have eaten;
Both do not agree for you, your speech and what you have eaten, Kosiya.

The Kosiya Birth Story is the tenth.

The Kusanāḷi Chapter is the thirteenth.

Its summary:

Kusanāḷi, Siri by name, and Fame, Curds, Mango, with Cauldron as the fifth;
Then Evil, Milk, Cat's Vow, Peacock, with Kosiya by name - these are ten.

14. The Chapter on Not Giving

131. The Asampadāna Birth Story

- 131.** For one who does not give to any whatsoever, for a fool, friendships become misfortune;
Therefore I take the abundant half-measure, may my friendship not be lost forever.

The Asampadāna Birth Story is the first.

132. The Bhīruka Birth Story

- 132.** Through firm resolution in wholesome instruction, and through fearlessness and courage without turning back;
We did not come under the control of the ogresses, that safety of mine came through great fear.

The Bhīruka Birth Story is the second.

133. The Ghatāsana Birth Story

- 133.** Where there was security, there an enemy has arisen, in the midst of the water the ghee-eater blazes;
Today there is no dwelling on the earth in the tree, seek the directions, from the refuge today fear has arisen for us.

The Ghatāsana Birth Story is the third.

134. The Jhānasodhana Birth Story

- 134.** Whatever beings are conscious, they too are ill-fated, and whatever beings are unconscious, they too are ill-fated;
Having avoided both of these, that attainment-happiness is without blemish.

The Jhānasodhana Birth Story is the fourth.

135. The Candābha Birth Story

- 135.** Whoever here stands fast with wisdom in the radiance of the moon and the radiance of the sun,
With meditative absorption without applied thought, becomes one who reaches the radiant realm.

The Candābha Birth Story is the fifth.

136. The Golden Swan Birth Story

- 136.** One should be satisfied with what is obtained, for excessive greed is evil;
Having seized the king of swans, you have fallen away from the gold.

The Suvaṇṇahaṃsa Birth Story is the sixth.

137. The Cat Birth Story

- 137.** Where one cat obtains, a second arises there;
And a third and a fourth, this is the den of those cats.

The Cat Birth Story is the seventh.

138. The Iguana Birth Story

- 138.** What is the use of your matted hair, O imprudent one, what is the use of your garment of skin?
Within you is a thicket, yet you polish the outside.

The Iguana Birth Story is the eighth.

139. The Fallen on Both Sides Birth Story

- 139.** The dice broken, the cloth lost, and a quarrel at the friend's house;
Activities ruined on both sides, in water and on land.

The Fallen on Both Sides Birth Story is the ninth.

140. The Crow Birth Story

- 140.** Always with agitated hearts, vexing the whole world;
Therefore there is no power for them, our relatives the crows.

The Crow Birth Story is the tenth.

The Non-Giving Chapter is the fourteenth.

Its summary:

Whatsoever, Ogress, Khemiya, and with More Than A Hundred Questions,
Radiant again;
Then Swan, Excellent, Best, Cat, Matted Hair, Fallen, Eight, with Crow King -
ten.

15. The Chapter on the Lizard

141. The Iguana Birth Story

- 141.** One who associates with evil people does not gain perpetual happiness;
Like a chameleon with an iguana family, he brings misfortune upon himself.

The Iguana Birth Story is the first.

142. The Siṅgāla Birth Story

- 142.** This indeed is difficult for you to understand, that you lie like one dead;
When you are being dragged, the stick is not released from your hand.

The Jackal Birth Story is the second.

143. The Viroca Birth Story

- 143.** Your brain has come out, and your head is split open;
All your ribs are broken, today indeed you shine.

The Viroca Birth Story is the third.

144. The Tail Birth Story

- 144.** "Much is this for the unvirtuous, O fire, that we honour you with a tail;
For one deserving meat there is no meat today, may the venerable one accept
even the tail."

The Tail Birth Story is the fourth.

145. The Rādha Birth Story

- 145.** You do not understand, Rādha, midnight has not yet come;
You talk nonsense, Kosiyāyanī is dispassionate.

The Rādha Birth Story is the fifth.

146. The Sea Crow Birth Story

- 146.** Are our jaws wearied, and does the mouth dry up?

We draw from this side but do not reach the other, the great ocean just keeps filling up.

The Sea Crow Birth Story is the sixth.

147. The Red Flower Birth Story

- 147.** This is not suffering, that is suffering, that a crow pecks at me;
That my dark-skinned wife, in flower-red garments, will not enjoy the Kattika festival.

The Red Flower Birth Story is the seventh.

148. The Singāla Birth Story

- 148.** Not again, and not again, and also not again and again;
Will I enter the elephant's body, for thus I am frightened by fear.

The Jackal Birth Story is the eighth.

149. The Single Leaf Birth Story

- 149.** This tree has but a single leaf, not four inches from the ground;
With fruit like poison, what will it become when it is great?

The Single Leaf Birth Story is the ninth.

150. The Sañjīva Birth Story

- 150.** Whoever encourages the wicked, and associates with the wicked;
He makes himself their food, just as the tiger did to Sañjīvaka.

The Sañjīva Birth Story is the tenth.

The Chameleon Chapter is the fifteenth.

Its summary:

Thrives in Happiness, Excellent Stick, and again, Shone, Tail, Fifth, Excellent Chariot;
Ocean, Kattika, Body, again, with Four Inches and Excellent Tiger - ten.

(The Upper Fifty.)

Then the chapter summary:

Incontrovertible Ground, Morality Chapter, Antelope, Nest, with Welfare-Desiring as fifth;
Blessing, Woman, Varuṇa, Drank, with Smeared Chapter - these are ten;
More Than a Hundred, If, Kusanāḷi, Lack of Accomplishment, Chameleon Chapter.

Thus ends the One-Verse Collection.

The One-Verse Collection is concluded.



ABOUT THIS TRANSLATION

This translation is part of the PaliVerse Project - the first complete, unified English translation of the Pāli Canon together with its Commentaries (Aṭṭhakathā) and Subcommentaries (Tīkā), accompanied by interactive study tools. PaliVerse is an ongoing project. The AI translations are continuously improved through experts' revisions and feedback. This text is the latest translation as of the date of download.

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