

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)

09. Verses of the Elder Nuns (09. Therīgāthāpāḷi)

12. The Book of the Sixteens (12. Soḷasaṇipāto)

[Thig 12.1, PTS 146-147]



PaliVerse

5. The Collection of Minor Texts

09. Verses of the Elder Nuns

12. The Book of the Sixteens

1. Verses of the Elder Nun Puṇṇā

- 236.** "A water-carrier I was in the cold, always going down into the water;
Frightened by fear of punishment from my masters, afflicted by fear of verbal
blame.
- 237.** "Frightened of whom, brahmin, do you always descend into the water;
With trembling limbs, you feel the cold intensely."
- 238.** Knowing me indeed, dear lady, Puṇṇikā, you inquire;
Doing wholesome action, preventing evil that has been done.
- 239.** "Whether one is old or young, whoever commits an evil deed;
By sprinkling with water, even he is freed from evil deeds."
- 240.** "Who then told you this, one not knowing to one not knowing;
By sprinkling with water, one is freed from evil deeds."
- 241.** "Surely they will go to heaven, all the frogs and turtles;
Serpents and crocodiles too, and whatever others dwell in water.
- 242.** "Sheep-butchers, pig-butchers, fishermen, deer-hunters;
Thieves and executioners too, and whatever others are evil-doers;
By sprinkling with water, even they would be freed from evil deeds.
- 243.** "If these rivers would carry away for you the much evil done before;
They would also carry away your merit, thereby you would be an outsider.
- 244.** "That of which, brahmin, you are frightened, always descending into the
water;
That very thing, brahmin, do not do, let not the cold harm your skin."
- 245.** "Me, who had entered the wrong path, you brought to the noble path;
By sprinkling with water, dear lady, I give you this cloth."
- 246.** "Let the cloth be yours alone, I do not wish for a cloth;
If you fear suffering, if suffering is unpleasant to you.
- 247.** "Do not do evil action, whether openly or in secret;
If you will do or are doing evil action.
- 248.** There is no freedom from suffering for you, even if you approach and flee;
If you fear suffering, if suffering is unpleasant to you.

- 249.** "Go to the Buddha, the Teaching, and such a Community for refuge;
Take upon yourself the moralities, that will be for your benefit."
- 250.** "I go to the Buddha, the Teaching, and such a Community for refuge;
I take upon myself the moralities, that will be for my benefit."
- 251.** "Formerly I was a kinsman of Brahma, today I am a true brahmin;
I am a possessor of the threefold true knowledge, accomplished in the Vedas,
a learned one, and I am one who has bathed."

... The Elder Nun Puṇṇā...

The Chapter of Sixteens 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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