

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)

10. Past Life Histories-1 - of the Elder Monks (10. Apadānapāḷi-1 -
Therāpadānapāḷi)

16. The Chapter on Bandhujīvaka (16. Bandhujīvaka-vaggo)

[Tha Ap 153-162, PTS 1.176-1.181]



PaliVerse

5. The Collection of Minor Texts

10. Past Life Histories-1 - of the Elder Monks

16. The Chapter on Bandhujīvaka

1. The Life History of the Elder Bandhujīvaka

1. Like the moon, spotless, pure, serene, undisturbed;
With delight and existence utterly eliminated, one who has crossed over attachment in the world.
2. "Extinguishing the populace, crossed over, the excellent among those who help cross over;
The sage meditating in the forest, fully focused, well concentrated.
3. "Having strung China-rose flowers with thread, I
Placed them upon the Buddha, Sikhi, the kinsman of the world.
4. "Thirty-one cosmic cycles ago from now, the action which I did then;
I do not know of an unfortunate realm, this is the fruit of honouring the Buddha.
5. "Seven cosmic cycles from now, a lord of men of great fame;
Samantacakkhu was his name, a wheel-turning monarch of great power.
6. "The four analytical knowledges, and these eight deliverances;
The six higher knowledges have been realised, the Buddha's teaching has been fulfilled."

Thus the Venerable Elder Bandhujīvaka spoke these verses.

The Life History of the Elder Bandhujīvaka Flower Offerer is the first.

2. The Life History of the Elder Tambapupphiya

7. "Engaged in working for others, I committed an offence;
I shall run to the forest's end, beset by fear and enmity.
8. "Having seen a flowering tree, a cluster well-fashioned;
Having taken copper-coloured flowers, I scattered them on the Bodhi tree.
9. "Having swept that Bodhi, the trumpet-flower tree, the best of trees;
Folding my legs crosswise, I sat down at the foot of the Bodhi tree.
10. "Seeking the path that had been traversed, they came to my presence;
And having seen them there, I reflected upon the highest enlightenment.
11. "Having paid homage to the Bodhi tree, with a clear mind;

I fell into a frightful mountain fortress with many levels.

- 12.** "Ninety-one cosmic cycles ago from now, when I offered the flower;
I do not know of an unfortunate realm, this is the fruit of honouring the
enlightenment.
- 13.** "And three cosmic cycles from now, I was a king, thoroughly restrained;
Endowed with the seven treasures, a wheel-turning monarch of great power.
- 14.** "The four analytical knowledges, etc. the Buddha's teaching has been fulfilled."

Thus the Venerable Elder Tambapupphiya spoke these verses.

The Life History of the Elder Copper-coloured Flower Offerer is the second.

3. The Life History of the Elder Vīthisammajjaka

- 15.** "Like the rising sun with a hundred rays, like the luminous moon with golden
rays;
Like the moon on the fifteenth, I saw the leader of the world going forth.
- 16.** "Sixty-eight thousand, all were ones who had eliminated the mental
corruptions;
They surrounded the Perfectly Enlightened One, the lord of bipeds, the lord of
men.
- 17.** "Having swept that street, when the leader of the world was being led out;
I raised a flag there, with a clear mind.
- 18.** "Ninety-one cosmic cycles ago from now, when I placed the banner;
I do not know of an unfortunate realm, this is the fruit of giving a banner.
- 19.** "Four cosmic cycles from now, I was a king of great power;
Accomplished in every way, renowned as Sudhaja.
- 20.** "The four analytical knowledges, etc. the Buddha's teaching has been fulfilled."

Thus the Venerable Elder Vīthisammajjaka spoke these verses.

The Life History of the Elder Vīthisammajjaka is the third.

4. The Life History of the Elder Kakkārupupphapūjaka

- 21.** "Being a young god, I worshipped Sikhi the leader;
Having held up a kakkāru flower, I placed it upon the Buddha.
- 22.** "Thirty-one cosmic cycles ago from now, the flower that I offered;
I do not know of an unfortunate realm, this is the fruit of honouring the
Buddha.
- 23.** "And nine cosmic cycles from now, I was the highest of beings, a king;
Endowed with the seven treasures, a wheel-turning monarch of great power.

- 24.** "The four analytical knowledges, etc. the Buddha's teaching has been fulfilled."

Thus the Venerable Elder Kakkārupupphapūjaka spoke these verses.

The Life History of the Elder Kakkārupupphapūjaka is the fourth.

5. The Life History of the Elder Mandāravapupphapūjaka

- 25.** "Being a young god, I worshipped Sikhi the leader;
With a mandārava flower, I placed it upon the Buddha.
- 26.** "For seven days there was a covering, a divine garland upon the Truth-finder;
All people, having assembled together, paid homage to the Truth-finder.
- 27.** "Thirty-one cosmic cycles ago from now, the flower that I honoured;
I do not know of an unfortunate realm, this is the fruit of honouring the Buddha.
- 28.** "And ten cosmic cycles from now, I was a king, resplendent;
Endowed with the seven treasures, a wheel-turning monarch of great power.
- 29.** "The four analytical knowledges, etc. the Buddha's teaching has been fulfilled."

Thus the Venerable Elder Mandāravapupphapūjaka spoke these verses.

The Life History of the Elder Mandāravapupphapūjaka is the fifth.

6. The Life History of the Elder Kadambapupphiya

- 30.** "Not far from the Himalayas, there is a mountain named Kukkuṭa;
At the foot of that mountain, seven Buddhas dwell there.
- 31.** "Having seen a kadamba tree in bloom, risen up like the king of lights,
Having held up with both hands, I sprinkled the seven Buddhas.
- 32.** "Ninety-four cosmic cycles ago from now, the flower that I offered;
I do not know of an unfortunate realm, this is the fruit of honouring the Buddha.
- 33.** "Ninety-two cosmic cycles ago from now, there were seven named Puppha;
Accomplished with the seven treasures, wheel-turning monarchs of great power.
- 34.** "The four analytical knowledges, etc. the Buddha's teaching has been fulfilled."

Thus the Venerable Elder Kadambapupphiya spoke these verses.

The Life History of the Elder Kadambapupphiya is the sixth.

7. The Life History of the Elder Tiṇasūlaka

- 35.** "Not far from the Himalayas, there is a mountain named Bhūtagaṇa;
There dwelt alone the Conqueror, self-become, escaped from the world.

- 36.** "Having taken a jasmine flower, I placed it upon the Buddha;
For ninety-nine thousand cosmic cycles, I was not one who fell into misfortune.
- 37.** "Eleven cosmic cycles from now, twenty-one lords of the earth;
Endowed with the seven treasures, a wheel-turning monarch of great power.
- 38.** "The four analytical knowledges, etc. the Buddha's teaching has been fulfilled."

Thus the Venerable Elder Tiṇasūlaka spoke these verses.

The Life History of the Elder Tiṇasūlaka is the seventh.

8. The Life History of the Elder Nāgapupphiya

- 39.** "Suvaccha by name, a brahmin gone beyond the sacred texts;
Honoured by his pupils, he dwelt in the mountain caves.
- 40.** "The Conqueror named Padumuttara, the receiver of oblations;
Wishing to uplift me, he came to my presence.
- 41.** "He walks up and down in the sky, emits smoke and likewise blazes;
Having known my joy, he departed facing east.
- 42.** "Having seen that marvel, wonderful, hair-raising;
Having taken nāga flowers, I scattered them on the path he had gone.
- 43.** "A hundred thousand cosmic cycles ago, the flower which I scattered;
By that confidence of mind, I was not reborn in an unfortunate realm.
- 44.** "Thirty-one hundred cosmic cycles ago, there was a king, very precious;
Endowed with the seven treasures, a wheel-turning monarch of great power.
- 45.** "The four analytical knowledges, etc. the Buddha's teaching has been fulfilled."

Thus the Venerable Elder Nāgapupphiya spoke these verses.

The Life History of the Elder Nāgapupphiya is the eighth.

9. The Life History of the Elder Punnāgapupphiya

- 46.** "Having entered the forest grove, I dwell as a hunter;
Having seen the flowering Punnāga tree, I recollected the foremost Buddha.
- 47.** "Having plucked that flower, fragrant, scented, beautiful;
Having made a monument on the sandbank, I placed it upon the Buddha.
- 48.** "Ninety-two cosmic cycles ago from now, the flower that I honoured;
I do not know of an unfortunate realm, this is the fruit of honouring the Buddha.
- 49.** "In the ninety-first cosmic cycle, I was the sole dispeller of darkness;
Endowed with the seven treasures, a wheel-turning monarch of great power.

50. "The four analytical knowledges, etc. the Buddha's teaching has been fulfilled."

Thus the Venerable Elder Punnāgapupphiya spoke these verses.

The Life History of the Elder Punnāgapupphiya is the ninth.

10. The Life History of the Elder Kumudadāyaka

51. "Not far from the Himalayas, there was a great natural lake;
Covered with lotuses and water lilies, spread over with white lotuses.

52. "Kukuttha by name, I was there a bird then;
Virtuous, endowed with higher intelligence, skilled in merit and demerit.

53. "Padumuttara, knower of the world, the receiver of oblations;
Not far from a natural lake, the great sage wandered about.

54. "Having cut a water-born white water lily, I presented it to the great sage;
Having understood my thought, the great sage accepted.

55. "Having given that gift, urged on by wholesome root;
For a hundred thousand cosmic cycles, I was not reborn in an unfortunate realm.

56. "In sixteen hundred cosmic cycles, there were those named Varuṇa;
Eight were these lords of men, wheel-turning monarchs of great power.

57. "The four analytical knowledges, etc. the Buddha's teaching has been fulfilled."

Thus the Venerable Elder Kumudadāyaka spoke these verses.

The Life History of the Elder Kumudadāyaka is the tenth.

The Chapter on Bandhujīvaka is the sixteenth.

Its summary:

Bandhujīva, Tambapupphī, Vīthika, Kakkārupupphiya;
Mandārava and Kadambī, Sūlaka, Nāgapupphiya;
Punnāga, Komudī - fifty-six verses have been praised.



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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