

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)

02. The Teaching in Verses (02. Dhammapadapāḷi)

18. The Chapter on Impurities (18. Malavaggo)

[Dhp 235-255, PTS 35-37]



PaliVerse

5. The Collection of Minor Texts

02. The Teaching in Verses

18. The Chapter on Impurities

- 235.** You are now like a withered leaf, and the messengers of death stand ready for you;
You stand at the threshold of departure, yet you have no provisions for the journey.
- 236.** So make an island for yourself, strive quickly, be wise;
With stain blown off, without blemish, you will reach the divine noble plane.
- 237.** Your life has been brought to its end now, you have set out towards the presence of Yama;
There is no resting place for you in between, and you have no provisions for the journey.
- 238.** So make an island for yourself, strive quickly, be wise;
With stain blown off, without blemish, you will not again undergo birth and ageing.
- 239.** Gradually the wise one, little by little, moment by moment,
Like a smith with silver, should blow away one's own stain.
- 240.** Just as rust arisen from iron, having arisen from it, eats that very iron;
So one's own actions lead to an unfortunate realm one who indulges too much.
- 241.** Non-recitation is the stain of spells, inactivity is the stain of houses;
Idleness is the stain of beauty, negligence is the stain of one who guards.
- 242.** "Misconduct is the stain of a woman, stinginess is the stain of one who gives;
Evil mental states are indeed stains, in this world and the next.
- 243.** More staining than those stains, ignorance is the supreme stain;
Having abandoned this stain, be stainless, monks.
- 244.** Easy is the life for one who is shameless, bold as a crow, a backbiter,
A braggart, reckless, defiled in living.
- 245.** Hard to live for one with shame, always seeking what is pure;
Not sluggish, not impudent, living purely, seeing clearly.
- 246.** "Whoever kills a living being, and speaks lying;
Takes what is not given in the world, and goes to another's wife.
- 247.** And the drinking of spirits and liquor, whatever man engages in;
Right here in this world, he uproots himself.

- 248.** Thus, good man, know this: those of bad character are unrestrained;
Let not greed and what is not the Teaching afflict you for a long time unto
suffering.
- 249.** People give according to their faith, according to their confidence;
Whoever therein becomes ashamed regarding others' drink and food;
He, neither by day nor by night, attains concentration.
- 250.** For one in whom this is cut off, destroyed at the root, uprooted;
He indeed, by day or by night, attains concentration.
- 251.** There is no fire like lust, there is no grip like hate;
There is no net like delusion, there is no river like craving.
- 252.** Easy to see is the fault of others, but one's own is difficult to see;
For he winnows the faults of others just as chaff;
But one's own he conceals, like a cheat, the fraudulent gambler.
- 253.** For one observing others' faults, always intending on finding fault;
His mental corruptions grow, he is far from the elimination of mental
corruptions.
- 254.** Just as in space there is no track, there is no ascetic outside;
People are fond of obsession, the Truth-finders are without obsession.
- 255.** Just as in space there is no track, there is no ascetic outside;
Activities are not eternal, there is no perturbation for the Buddhas.

The Chapter on Stains is concluded as eighteenth.



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 (Ṭīkā), 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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