

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)

2. The Chapter on Sīhāsaniya (2. Sīhāsaniyavaggo)

[Tha Ap 13-22, PTS 1.55-1.66]



PaliVerse

5. The Collection of Minor Texts

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

2. The Chapter on Sīhāsaniya

1. The Life History of the Elder Sīhāsanadāyaka

1. "When the Lord of the World was quenched, Siddhattha, the highest of two-footed beings;
When the Scriptures were widespread, when the Dispensation belonged to the public.
2. "With a confident mind, glad at heart, I made a lion's seat;
Having made the lion's seat, I made a footstool.
3. "And when it was raining on the lion's seat, I made a house there;
By that confidence of mind, I was reborn in Tusita.
4. "Twenty-four yojanas in length, it was at that very moment;
A mansion well made for me, fourteen in breadth.
5. "A hundred thousand maidens surround me always;
And a golden divan, in a divine mansion, was well-fashioned.
6. "Elephant vehicles, horse vehicles, divine vehicles are available;
Mansions and palanquins too, arise at will.
7. "Divans made of jewels, and many others made of hardwood;
All arise for me, this is the fruit of the lion's seat.
8. "Made of gold, made of silver, made of crystal and lapis lazuli;
I ascend the sandals, this is the fruit of the footstool.
9. "Ninety-four cosmic cycles ago from now, the action which I did then;
I do not know of an unfortunate realm, this is the fruit of meritorious action.
10. "Seventy-three cosmic cycles from now, three persons named Inda;
Seventy-two cosmic cycles from now, three named Sumana.
11. "Seventy cosmic cycles from now, three named Varuṇa;
Accomplished with the seven treasures, lords of the four continents.
12. "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 Sīhāsanadāyaka spoke these verses.

2. The Life History of the Elder Ekatthambhika

- 13.** "Of the Blessed One Siddhattha, there was a great group of guilds;
And they went for refuge to the Buddha, they believe in the Truth-finder.
- 14.** "All having come together and consulted, they make a pavilion for the
Teacher;
Not finding a single pillar, they search in the great forest.
- 15.** "Having seen them in the forest, having approached the group then;
Having raised my joined palms, I questioned the group.
- 16.** "Those moral lay followers, when asked by me, explained;
'We are willing to make a pavilion, but a single pillar cannot be obtained.'
- 17.** "Give me a single pillar, I will give it to the Teacher;
I will bring the pillar, may you be living at ease."
- 18.** "They gave me a pillar, devoted, with satisfied minds;
Then, having turned back, they went to their own house.
- 19.** "Not long after the group of guilds had gone, I then brought the pillar;
Joyful, with a joyful mind, I raised it up for the first time.
- 20.** "By that confidence of mind, I was reborn in a mansion;
My dwelling was lofty, risen up with seven stories.
- 21.** "While drums were being beaten, I always enjoyed myself;
For fifty-five cosmic cycles, I was a famous king.
- 22.** "Even there my dwelling, risen up with seven stories;
Endowed with excellent pinnacle buildings, with a single pillar, delightful.
- 23.** "Twenty-one cosmic cycles ago, a warrior named Udena;
There too my dwelling was risen up with seven stories.
- 24.** "Whatever realm of rebirth I am reborn in, whether divinity or human;
I experience all happiness, this is the fruit of a single pillar.
- 25.** "Ninety-four cosmic cycles ago from now, when I gave a pillar then;
I do not know of an unfortunate realm, this is the fruit of a single pillar.
- 26.** "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 Ekatthambhika spoke these verses.

3. The Life History of the Elder Nanda

- 27.** "When the Blessed One Padumuttara, the foremost of the world, such a one,
A linen cloth was given by me to the self-born great sage.
- 28.** "The Buddha explained that to me, the one named Jalajuttara;
'By this gift of cloth, you will become golden-coloured.
- 29.** "'Having experienced the two successes, urged on by wholesome roots;
You will become the youngest brother of the Blessed One Gotama.
- 30.** "'Infatuated with lust, of pleasure-loving nature, attached to greed in sensual
pleasures;
Urged by the Buddha, being peaceful, then you will go forth.
- 31.** "'Having gone forth there, urged on by wholesome root;
Having fully understood all mental corruptions, you will attain nibbāna, without
mental corruptions.'
- 32.** "Seven thousand cosmic cycles ago, four were named Ceḷa;
Sixty thousand cosmic cycles ago, four persons were Upacela.
- 33.** "Five thousand cosmic cycles ago, four people named Ceḷa;
Accomplished with the seven treasures, lords of the four continents.
- 34.** "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 Nanda spoke these verses.

The Life History of the Elder Nanda is third.

4. The Life History of the Elder Cūḷapanthaka

- 35.** "The Conqueror named Padumuttara, the receiver of oblations;
Withdrawn from the group, he dwelt in the Himalayas then.
- 36.** "I too, in the Himalayas, dwelt in a hermitage then;
The great hero who had recently arrived, the leader of the world, I
approached.
- 37.** "Having taken a flower umbrella, I approached the lord of men;
As he was entering concentration, I caused an obstacle.
- 38.** "Having held up with both hands, I gave a flower umbrella;
The Blessed One accepted, Padumuttara, the great sage.
- 39.** "All the gods, delighted, they approach the Himalaya;
They uttered applause, the one with vision will give thanks.
- 40.** Having said this, those gods approached the highest among men;

Holding in the sky the excellent lotus umbrella.

- 41.** "Having held up a lotus umbrella, the ascetic gave it to me;
'Him I will explain, listen to me as I speak.
- 42.** "'For twenty-five cosmic cycles, he will exercise divine kingship;
And thirty-four times, he will be a wheel-turning monarch.
- 43.** "Whatever realm of rebirth he transmigrates to, whether divinity or human;
A lotus will shelter him as he stands in the open air."
- 44.** "In a hundred thousand cosmic cycles, of the Okkāka clan origin;
Gotama by name, by clan, the Teacher in the world will be.
- 45.** "'When the Scriptures have been made known, he will obtain human
existence;
In the mind-made body, he will be the highest.
- 46.** "'Two brothers there will be, both named Panthaka;
Having experienced the highest good, they will illuminate the Dispensation.'
- 47.** "Being eighteen years old, I went forth into homelessness;
I find no distinction in the Sakyan son's Dispensation.
- 48.** "Slow was my progress, I was despised before;
And my brother dismissed me, 'Go now to your own home.'
- 49.** "I, having been dismissed, being at the porch of the monastery;
Unhappy, I stood there, expectant in the ascetic life.
- 50.** "The Blessed One came there, he fondled my head;
Having taken me by the arm, he led me into the monastery.
- 51.** "Out of compassion for me, the Teacher gave a mat for the feet;
'Keep this pure,' I determined it to one side.
- 52.** "Having grasped it with my hands, I remembered the red lotus;
There my mind was liberated, I attained arahantship.
- 53.** "In mind-made bodies, I have gone to perfection in all respects;
Having fully understood all mental corruptions, I dwell without mental
corruptions.
- 54.** "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 Cūḷapanthaka spoke these verses.

The Life History of the Elder Cūḷapanthaka is fourth.

5. The Life History of the Elder Pilindavaccha

- 55.** "When the Lord of the World was quenched, the wise one, the foremost person;
With a confident mind, glad at heart, I made an offering to the stupa.
- 56.** "And those who had eliminated the mental corruptions there, possessing the six higher knowledges, of great supernormal power;
Having brought them together there, I made a meal for the Community.
- 57.** "The Blessed One Sumedha's attendant then was;
Sumedha by name, he gave thanks then.
- 58.** "By that confidence of mind, I was reborn in a mansion;
Eighty-six thousand nymphs delighted me.
- 59.** "They always conform to me, with all sensual pleasures;
I outshine the other gods, this is the fruit of meritorious action.
- 60.** "Twenty-five cosmic cycles ago, a warrior named Varuṇa;
I was one of pure food, a universal monarch then.
- 61.** "They do not sow seeds, nor are ploughs drawn;
Humans consume rice ripening without cultivation.
- 62.** "Having exercised kingship there, I went again to divinity;
Even then such accomplishment of wealth arose for me.
- 63.** "Neither friends nor enemies, no living beings harm me;
I am dear to all of them, this is the fruit of meritorious action.
- 64.** "In thirty thousand cosmic cycles, the gift that I gave then;
I do not know of an unfortunate realm, this is the fruit of the offering of fragrant ointment.
- 65.** "In this fortunate cosmic cycle, I was the sole lord of men;
A king of great might, a wheel-turning monarch of great power.
- 66.** "Having established many people in the five precepts,
Having led them only to a fortunate destination, I was dear to the deities.
- 67.** "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 Pilindavaccha spoke these verses.

The Life History of the Elder Pilindavaccha is fifth.

6. The Life History of the Elder Rāhula

- 68.** "When the Blessed One Padumuttara, the foremost of the world, such a one,

In a seven-storied mansion, I spread out a mirror.

- 69.** "Surrounded by a thousand who eliminated the mental corruptions, the great sage;
Approached the perfumed chamber, the lord of bipeds, the lord of men.
- 70.** "Illuminating the perfumed chamber, the god of gods, the lord of men;
The Teacher, standing in the community of monks, spoke these verses.
- 71.** "'By whom this sleeping place is illuminated, well spread like a mirror;
Him I will explain, listen to me as I speak.
- 72.** "'Made of gold, made of silver, and also made of lapis lazuli;
Mansions will arise, whatever are dear to the mind.
- 73.** "'Sixty-four times as lord of the gods, he will exercise divine kingship;
A thousand times he will be a wheel-turning monarch, immediately after.
- 74.** "Twenty-one cosmic cycles ago, a warrior named Vimala;
Ruler of the four quarters, victorious, will be a wheel-turning monarch.
- 75.** "'A city named Reṇuvatī, well built with bricks;
Three hundred in length, combined with a square shape.
- 76.** "'The mansion named Sudassana, created by Vissakamma;
Furnished with excellent pinnacle chambers, adorned with the seven jewels.
- 77.** "That place, secluded from the ten sounds, crowded with sorcerers,
Will be like the city Sudassana, of the deities.
- 78.** "'Radiance goes forth from it, just as the sun rises;
It shines brilliantly always, for eight yojanas all around.
- 79.** "In a hundred thousand cosmic cycles, of the Okkāka clan origin;
Gotama by name, by clan, the Teacher in the world will be.
- 80.** "'Having fallen away from Tusita, urged on by wholesome root;
He will be the son of the Blessed One Gotama.
- 81.** "If he were to dwell in a house, he would become a universal monarch;
This is impossible, that such a one would attain delight in household life.
- 82.** 'Having gone forth from home, one of good conduct will go forth;
Rāhula by name, he will become a Worthy One.'
- 83.** "As a blue jay would guard her egg, as a yak its tail;
Prudent, accomplished in morality, the great sage protected me.
- 84.** "Having understood his Teaching, I dwelt delighted in the Dispensation;
Having fully understood all mental corruptions, I dwell without mental corruptions.

- 85.** "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 Rāhula spoke these verses.

The Life History of the Elder Rāhula is sixth.

7. The Life History of the Elder Upasena Vaṅgantaputta

- 86.** "The Blessed One Padumuttara, the elder of the world, the lord of men;
Sitting on a mountain slope, I approached the highest among men.
- 87.** "Having seen a kaṇikāra flower, having cut it at the stalk, I then;
Having adorned the umbrella, placed it upon the Buddha.
- 88.** "And I gave almsfood, supreme food, excellent nourishment;
With the Buddha as the ninth there, I fed eight ascetics.
- 89.** "The great hero, the self-become one, the foremost person, gave thanks;
By this gift of an umbrella, by the offering of the finest food.
- 90.** "By that confidence of mind, you will experience success;
Thirty-six times as lord of the gods, he will exercise divine kingship.
- 91.** "And twenty-one times he will be a wheel-turning monarch;
Principality over a district, extensive, incalculable by counting.
- 92.** "A hundred thousand cosmic cycles from now, of the Okkāka clan origin;
Gotama by name, by clan, the Teacher in the world will be.
- 93.** "When the Dispensation is being exalted, he will go to human existence;
His heir in the teachings, legitimate, created by the Teaching.
- 94.** 'Upasena by name, will be a disciple of the Teacher;
Because of being all-pleasing, he will establish him in the highest state.
- 95.** "The final existence goes on for me, all existences have been uprooted;
I bear my final body, having conquered Māra with his army.
- 96.** "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 Upasena Vaṅgantaputta spoke these verses.

The Life History of the Elder Upasena Vaṅgantaputta is seventh.

The Third Recitation Section.

8. The Life History of the Elder Raṭṭhapāla

- 97.** "When the Blessed One Padumuttara, the foremost of the world, such a one,

A noble elephant was given by me, with tusks as long as a plough-pole, fully grown.

- 98.** "Adorned with a white parasol, with trappings, together with the elephant;
Having valued all that, I had a monastery built for the Community.
- 99.** "Fifty-four thousand mansions I had built;
Having made a great flood of giving, I dedicated them to the great sage.
- 100.** "The great hero, the self-become one, the foremost person, gave thanks;
Gladdening all people, he taught the Deathless state.
- 101.** "The Buddha explained that to me, the one named Jalajuttara;
Having sat down in the community of monks, he spoke these verses.
- 102.** "Fifty-four thousand mansions this one had built;
I will explain the result, listen to me as I speak.
- 103.** "Eighteen thousand pinnacle chambers there will be;
Arisen in the highest Brahmā realm, and entirely made of gold are they.
- 104.** "'Fifty times as lord of the gods, he will exercise divine kingship;
And fifty-eight times he will be a wheel-turning monarch.
- 105.** "In a hundred thousand cosmic cycles, of the Okkāka clan origin;
Gotama by name, by clan, the Teacher in the world will be.
- 106.** "'Having fallen away from the world of the gods, urged on by wholesome root;
He will be reborn at that very moment in a wealthy family of great possessions.
- 107.** "'He, having gone forth afterwards, urged on by wholesome root;
Raṭṭhapāla by name, will be a disciple of the Teacher.
- 108.** "He, with self resolute in striving, at peace, without clinging;
Having fully understood all mental corruptions, he will attain nibbāna, without mental corruptions.'
- 109.** "Having risen, having gone forth, accomplishment of wealth was given up;
Like a lump of spittle, love for wealth does not exist in me.
- 110.** "Energy is my beast of burden, carrying me to freedom from bondage;
I bear my final body in the teaching of the Perfectly Enlightened One.
- 111.** "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 Raṭṭhapāla spoke these verses.

The Life History of the Elder Raṭṭhapāla is eighth.

9. The Life History of the Elder Sopāka

- 112.** "While I was cleaning the cave, in the forest on the highest mountain;
The Blessed One named Siddhattha came to my presence.
- 113.** "Having seen the Buddha who had approached, such a one, the foremost of
the world;
Having spread out a mat, I gave a seat of flowers.
- 114.** "Having sat down on a flower seat, Siddhattha, the leader of the world;
And having understood my destination, spoke of impermanence.
- 115.** "Impermanent indeed are activities, having the nature of arising and falling;
Having arisen, they cease; their appeasement is happiness."
- 116.** "Having said this, the Omniscient One, the elder of the world, the lord of men;
The hero rose up into the sky, like a king of swans in the firmament.
- 117.** "Having abandoned my own view, I developed the perception of
impermanence;
Having developed it for one day, there I passed away.
- 118.** "Having experienced the two successes, urged on by wholesome root;
When the final existence was attained, I went to the realm of an outcast.
- 119.** "Having gone forth from home, I went forth into homelessness;
Seven years old by birth, I attained arahantship.
- 120.** "Putting forth strenuous energy, resolute, well concentrated in morality;
Having pleased the great elephant, I received full ordination.
- 121.** "Ninety-four cosmic cycles ago from now, the action which I did then;
I do not know of an unfortunate realm, this is the fruit of the gift of flowers.
- 122.** "Ninety-four cosmic cycles ago from now, the perception which I developed
then;
Developing that perception, the elimination of mental corruptions has been
attained by me.
- 123.** "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 Sopāka spoke these verses.

The Life History of the Elder Sopāka is ninth.

10. The Life History of the Elder Sumaṅgala

- 124.** "Wishing to make an oblation, having prepared food;
Waiting for brahmins, standing in a spacious pavilion.

- 125.** "Then I saw the Perfectly Enlightened One, Piyadassin of great fame;
The guide of all the world, the Self-Become One, the foremost person.
- 126.** "The Blessed One, the brilliant one, honoured by disciples;
Shining like the sun, proceeding along the road.
- 127.** "Having raised my joined palms, I gladdened my own mind;
With my mind alone I invited, 'Let the great sage come.'
- 128.** "Having understood my thought, the Teacher, unsurpassed in the world,
With a thousand who eliminated the mental corruptions, approached my door.
- 129.** "Homage to you, thoroughbred among men, homage to you, highest of men;
Having ascended the mansion, please sit down on the lion's seat.
- 130.** "Tamed, with a tamed retinue, crossed over, the excellent among those who
help cross over;
Having ascended the mansion, he sat down on the noble seat.
- 131.** "Whatever material gains I had prepared in my own house;
That I gave to the Buddha, devoted, with my own hands.
- 132.** "With a confident mind, glad at heart, filled with joy, with joined palms;
I pay homage to the foremost Buddha, oh, the greatness of the Buddha!
- 133.** "Attending upon the eight, consuming, many who have eliminated the mental
corruptions;
This is your power alone, I go to you for refuge.
- 134.** "The Blessed One Piyadassī, the elder of the world, the lord of men;
Having sat down in the community of monks, he spoke these verses.
- 135.** "Whoever fed the Community, upright and concentrated;
And the Truth-finder, the Perfectly Enlightened One, listen to me as I speak.
- 136.** "'Twenty-seven times, he will exercise divine kingship;
Satisfied by his own deeds, he will delight in the heavenly world.
- 137.** "'Eighteen times he will be a wheel-turning monarch;
Five hundred times kingship on earth, he will inhabit the earth.'
- 138.** "Having plunged into the forest wilderness, the grove frequented by tigers;
Having striven in striving, mental defilements have been burnt by me.
- 139.** "In eighteen hundred cosmic cycles, the gift that I gave then;
I do not know of an unfortunate realm, this is the fruit of giving food.
- 140.** "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 Sumaṅgala spoke these verses.

The Life History of the Elder Sumaṅgala is tenth.

Its summary:

Sīhāsanī, Ekathambhī, and Nanda and Cūḷapanthaka;
Pilindavaccha and Rāhula, Vaṅganta and Raṭṭhapāla.

Sopāka and Maṅgala, ten only in the second chapter;
And one hundred and thirty-eight verses here have been proclaimed.

The Sīhāsaniya Chapter is second.



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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