

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)

23. The Chapter on Ālambaṇadāyaka
(23. Ālambaṇadāyakavaggo)

[Tha Ap 223-232, PTS 1.214-1.217]



PaliVerse

5. The Collection of Minor Texts

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

23. The Chapter on Ālambaṇadāyaka

1. The Life History of the Elder Ālambaṇadāyaka

1. "For the Blessed One Atthadassī, the foremost of the world, such a one;
A support was given by me, to the lord of bipeds, such a one.
2. "I proceed upon the earth, extensive, with the ocean as its boundary;
And I exercise supremacy over living beings, and over the earth.
3. "Mental defilements have been burnt by me, all existences have been
uprooted;
The three true knowledges have been attained, the Buddha's teaching has
been fulfilled.
4. "Sixty-two cosmic cycles from now, three were warriors;
Named Ekāpassita, wheel-turning monarchs of great power.
5. "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 Ālambaṇadāyaka spoke these verses.

The Life History of the Elder Ālambaṇadāyaka is the first.

2. The Life History of the Elder Ajinadāyaka

6. "Thirty-one cosmic cycles ago from now, I was a teacher of a group;
I saw the stainless Buddha, the receiver of oblations.
7. "A piece of leather was given by me, to Sikhi, the kinsman of the world;
By that action, lord of bipeds, eldest of the world, bull among men.
8. "Having experienced success, I burnt up the defilements;
I bear my final body in the teaching of the Perfectly Enlightened One.
9. "Thirty-one cosmic cycles ago from now, when I gave an antelope skin;
I do not know of an unfortunate realm, this is the fruit of the antelope skin.
10. "Five cosmic cycles from now, I was a king, a great giver;
Endowed with the seven treasures, a wheel-turning monarch of great power.
11. "The four analytical knowledges, etc. the Buddha's teaching has been fulfilled."

Thus the Venerable Elder Ajinadāyaka spoke these verses.

The Life History of the Elder Ajinadāyaka is the second.

3. The Life History of the Elder Dverataniya

- 12.** "Formerly I was a deer hunter, in the forest grove;
I saw the stainless Buddha, the receiver of oblations.
- 13.** "A slice of flesh was given by me, to Vipassī, the great sage;
In the world including the gods, I make him lord.
- 14.** "By this gift of meat, a jewel arises for me;
These two jewels in the world, for the attainment of the present life.
- 15.** "I experience all these, through the power of giving meat;
And my body is soft, my wisdom is a discerner of subtleties.
- 16.** "Ninety-one cosmic cycles ago from now, when I gave meat then;
I do not know of an unfortunate realm, this is the fruit of giving meat.
- 17.** "Four cosmic cycles from now, I was the sole lord of men;
Named Mahāroḥita, a wheel-turning monarch of great power.
- 18.** "The four analytical knowledges, etc. the Buddha's teaching has been fulfilled."

Thus the Venerable Elder Dverataniya spoke these verses.

The Life History of the Elder Dverataniya is the third.

The tenth recitation section.

4. The Life History of the Elder Ārakkhadāyaka

- 19.** "For the Blessed One Siddhattha, a platform was caused to be made by me;
And protection was given by me, to the Fortunate One, the great sage.
- 20.** "By that distinction of action, I did not see fear and dread;
Wherever I am reborn, fear does not exist in me.
- 21.** "Ninety-four cosmic cycles ago from now, when I had a railing built formerly;
I do not know of an unfortunate realm, this is the fruit of the railing.
- 22.** "In the sixth cosmic cycle from now, named Apassena;
Endowed with the seven treasures, a wheel-turning monarch of great power.
- 23.** "The four analytical knowledges, etc. the Buddha's teaching has been fulfilled."

Thus the Venerable Elder Ārakkhadāyaka spoke these verses.

The Life History of the Elder Ārakkhadāyaka is the fourth.

5. The Life History of the Elder Abyādhika

- 24.** "To the Blessed One Vipassī, I gave a fire hall;
And a residence for the sick, a receptacle for hot water.
- 25.** "By that action this body of mine is well created;
I do not know of illness, this is the fruit of meritorious action.
- 26.** "Ninety-one cosmic cycles ago from now, when I gave a hall then;
I do not know of an unfortunate realm, this is the fruit of the fire hall.
- 27.** "And seven cosmic cycles from now, I was twenty-one times unconquered;
Endowed with the seven treasures, a wheel-turning monarch of great power.
- 28.** "The four analytical knowledges, etc. the Buddha's teaching has been fulfilled."

Thus the Venerable Elder Abyādhika spoke these verses.

The Life History of the Elder Abyādhika is the fifth.

6. The Life History of the Elder Aṅkolapupphiya

- 29.** "Nārada is my name, the wise know me as Kassapa;
I saw the foremost of ascetics, Vipassī, honoured by the gods.
- 30.** "The Buddha, bearer of the features, the receiver of oblations;
Having held up an aṅkola flower, I placed it upon the Buddha.
- 31.** "Ninety-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.
- 32.** "Seventy-four cosmic cycles ago, a warrior named Romasa;
Wearing garlands and ornaments, with vehicles, forces and mounts.
- 33.** "The four analytical knowledges, etc. the Buddha's teaching has been fulfilled."

Thus the Venerable Elder Aṅkolapupphiya spoke these verses.

The Life History of the Elder Aṅkolapupphiya is the sixth.

7. The Life History of the Elder Sovaṇṇavaṭṭasākiya

- 34.** "While being driven out to the pleasure ground, I saw the leader of the world;
Having taken a wreath, golden, well fashioned.
- 35.** "Quickly from there having climbed up, I was seated on the elephant's back;
I placed it upon the Buddha, Sikhi, the kinsman of the world.
- 36.** "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 flower-offering.
- 37.** "Twenty-seven cosmic cycles ago from now, I was the sole lord of men;
Named Mahāpatāpa, a wheel-turning monarch of great power.

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

Thus the Venerable Elder Sovaṇṇavaṭṭasākiya spoke these verses.

The Life History of the Elder Sovaṇṇavaṭṭasākiya is the seventh.

8. The Life History of the Elder Miṇḍavaṭṭasākiya

39. "When the Lord of the World was quenched, Sikhī, the best of speakers;
I made an offering to the Bodhi tree, strewn with head-wreaths.

40. "Thirty-one cosmic cycles ago from now, when I made that offering then;
I do not know of an unfortunate realm, this is the fruit of honouring the
enlightenment.

41. "Twenty-six cosmic cycles from now, I was one named Meghabbha;
Endowed with the seven treasures, a wheel-turning monarch of great power.

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

Thus the Venerable Elder Miṇḍavaṭṭasākiya spoke these verses.

The Life History of the Elder Miṇḍavaṭṭasākiya is the eighth.

9. The Life History of the Elder Sukatāveḷiya

43. "Asita by name, I was then a garland-maker;
Having taken up a garland, I went to give it to the king.

44. "Not having arrived at the king, I saw Sikhi the leader;
Joyful, with a joyful mind, I placed it upon the Buddha.

45. "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.

46. "Twenty-five cosmic cycles ago from now, I was a king of great power;
Vebhāra by name, a wheel-turning monarch of great power.

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

Thus the Venerable Elder Sukatāveḷiya spoke these verses.

The Life History of the Elder Sukatāveḷiya is the ninth.

10. The Life History of the Elder Ekavandaniya

48. "The bull, the excellent, the hero, Vessabhū, the victorious;
With a confident mind, glad at heart, I paid homage to the foremost Buddha.

49. "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 homage.

50. In the twenty-fourth cosmic cycle, named Vikatānanda;

Endowed with the seven treasures, a wheel-turning monarch of great power.

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

Thus the Venerable Elder Ekavandaniya spoke these verses.

The Life History of the Elder Ekavandaniya is the tenth.

The Ālambaṇadāyaka Chapter is the twenty-third.

Its summary:

Ālambaṇa and Ajina, Maṃsadāyaka, Ārakkhadāyaka;
Abyādhi, Aṅkola, Soṇṇa, Miñja, Āveḷa, Vandana;
Fifty-five verses, counted by those intent upon the good.



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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