

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)

3. The Book of the Threes (3. Tikanipāto)

[Thig 3.1-3.8, PTS 128-130]



PaliVerse

5. The Collection of Minor Texts

09. Verses of the Elder Nuns

3. The Book of the Threes

1. Verses of the Elder Nun Aparā Sāmā

- 39.** "Twenty-five years, since I went forth;
I do not know of having attained tranquillity of mind at any time.
- 40.** "Not having gained peace of mind, not having control over my mind;
Then I attained religious emotion, having remembered the Conqueror's
Dispensation.
- 41.** "By many painful states, for me who delights in heedfulness;
The elimination of craving has been attained, the Buddha's teaching has been
fulfilled;
Today is my seventh night, since when craving was dried up."

... Another Elder Nun Sāmā...

2. Verses of the Elder Nun Uttamā

- 42.** "Four times, five times, I went out from the dwelling;
Not having gained peace of mind, not having control over my mind.
- 43.** "I approached a nun, who was trustworthy to me;
She expounded the Teaching to me, the aggregates, sense bases, and
elements.
- 44.** "Having heard the teaching from her, as she instructed me;
For seven days in a single cross-legged posture, I sat, endowed with joy and
happiness;
On the eighth day I stretched out my feet, having shattered the mass of
darkness."

... The Elder Nun Uttamā...

3. Verses of the Elder Nun Aparā Uttamā

- 45.** "These seven factors of enlightenment, the path for the attainment of
Nibbāna;
All of them were developed by me, as taught by the Buddha.
- 46.** "Of emptiness and the signless, I am an obtainer at will;
A legitimate daughter of the Buddha, always delighting in Nibbāna.
- 47.** "All sensual pleasures have been cut off, those that are divine and those that

are human;
The cycle of birth and wandering is eliminated, there is now no more rebirth."

... Another Elder Nun Uttamā...

4. Verses of the Elder Nun Dantikā

- 48.** "Having come out from the day residence, on Vulture's Peak mountain;
I saw an elephant that had plunged in and emerged, on the riverbank.
- 49.** "A man, having taken a goad, requests 'Give your foot';
The elephant stretched out its foot, the man mounted the elephant.
- 50.** "Having seen the untamed one tamed, come under the control of human
beings;
Thereupon I concentrated my mind, indeed having gone to the forest for that
reason."

... The Elder Nun Dantikā...

5. Verses of the Elder Nun Ubbirī

- 51.** "Mother, 'Jīvā!' you weep in the forest, understand yourself, Ubbirī;
Eighty-four thousand, all bearing the name Jīvā;
Were cremated at this cremation ground, for which of them do you grieve?"
- 52.** "He has indeed drawn out my dart, difficult to see, lodged in my heart;
He who, for me overcome with sorrow, dispelled my grief for my daughter.
- 53.** "Today I have the dart pulled out, without hunger, attained final Nibbāna;
I go to the Buddha, the Teaching, and the Community for refuge, the sage."

... The Elder Nun Ubbirī...

6. Verses of the Elder Nun Sukkā

- 54.** "What have the people of Rājagaha done, that they lie as if drunk on honey;
Who do not attend upon Sukkā, teaching the Buddha's teaching.
- 55.** "And that which is irresistible, full and delicious in itself, nourishing;
The wise drink it, methinks, like travellers from a rain cloud.
- 56.** "Sukkā, with bright qualities, without lust, concentrated;
Bears her final body, having conquered Māra with his army."

... The Elder Nun Sukkā...

7. Verses of the Elder Nun Selā

- 57.** "There is no escape in the world, what will you do with seclusion;
Enjoy sensual delights, do not be one who regrets afterwards."
- 58.** "Sensual pleasures are like stakes of spears, the aggregates are their

chopping block;
What you call 'sensual delight', that is now discontent for me.

- 59.** "Delight has been destroyed everywhere, the mass of darkness has been split open;
Know thus, Evil One, you are defeated, O Death."

... The Elder Nun Selā...

8. Verses of the Elder Nun Somā

- 60.** "That state which is to be attained by sages, difficult to reach,
That cannot be attained by a woman with her two-finger wisdom."
- 61.** "What does womanhood matter to us when the mind is well concentrated,
When knowledge is progressing, rightly seeing the Teaching."
- 62.** "Delight has been destroyed everywhere, the mass of darkness has been split open;
Know thus, Evil One, you are defeated, O Death."

... The Elder Nun Somā...

The Book of Threes 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 (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.

PDF Creation Date: 14 September 2026

HOW TO CITE

PaliVerse (2026). The Triple Canon. The Canon of Discourses. 5. The Collection of Minor Texts. 09. Verses of the Elder Nuns. 3. The Book of the Threes Retrieved from paliverse.org

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