

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)

3. The Chapter on Mind (3. Cittavaggo)

[Dhp 33-43, PTS 6]



PaliVerse

5. The Collection of Minor Texts

02. The Teaching in Verses

3. The Chapter on Mind

- 33.** The mind is agitated and fickle, difficult to guard and difficult to restrain;
The wise one makes it straight, as a fletcher does an arrow.
- 34.** Like a fish thrown on dry ground, pulled out from its watery abode;
This mind trembles, to abandon the realm of Māra.
- 35.** Of the mind difficult to control, quick, alighting wherever it wishes;
The taming of the mind is good, a tamed mind brings happiness.
- 36.** Very difficult to see, very subtle, falling wherever it wishes;
The wise one should guard the mind, a guarded mind brings happiness.
- 37.** Far-wandering, travelling alone, bodiless, dwelling in the cave;
Those who will restrain the mind, will be freed from Māra's bondage.
- 38.** For one of unsettled mind, not understanding the Good Teaching,
For one of wavering confidence, wisdom is not fulfilled.
- 39.** For one whose mind is not filled with desire, whose heart is not struck;
For one who has abandoned merit and evil, there is no fear for the vigilant one.
- 40.** Having understood this body to be like a pot, having established this mind to be like a citadel;
One should fight Māra with the weapon of wisdom, and should protect what is conquered, being without attachment.
- 41.** Before long, indeed, this body will lie upon the earth;
Discarded, devoid of consciousness, like a useless log.
- 42.** Whatever an enemy might do to an enemy, or else a foe to a foe;
A wrongly directed mind can do worse to him than that.
- 43.** Not that could mother or father do, nor even other relatives;
A rightly directed mind can do better for him than that.

The Chapter on the Mind is concluded as third.



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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