

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)

31. The Chapter on Padumakesara (31. Padumakesaravaggo)

[Tha Ap 303-312, PTS 1.249-1.252]



PaliVerse

5. The Collection of Minor Texts

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

31. The Chapter on Padumakesara

1. The Life History of the Elder Padumakesariya

1. "In the past, among a community of sages, I was a fierce elephant of the Mātāṅga breed;
Through confidence in the great sages, I scattered lotus pollen upon them.
2. "Among the foremost Solitary Conquerors, among such ones who had shaken off lust;
Having gladdened my mind in them, I rejoiced in heaven for a cosmic cycle.
3. "Ninety-one cosmic cycles ago from now, I scattered filaments then;
I do not know of an unfortunate realm, this is the fruit of honouring the Buddha.
4. "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 Padumakesariya spoke these verses.

The life history of the elder Padumakesariya is the first.

2. The Life History of the Elder Sabbagandhiya

5. "A garland of fragrance was given by me, to Vipassī, the great sage;
I gave to one upright, the finest silk cloth.
6. "Ninety-one cosmic cycles ago from now, when I gave a cloth formerly;
I do not know of an unfortunate realm, this is the fruit of the gift of fragrance.
7. "Fifteen cosmic cycles from now, a warrior named Suceḷa;
Endowed with the seven treasures, a wheel-turning monarch of great power.
8. "The four analytical knowledges, etc. the Buddha's teaching has been fulfilled."

Thus the Venerable Elder Sabbagandhiya spoke these verses.

The life history of the elder Sabbagandhiya is the second.

3. The Life History of the Elder Paramannadāyaka

9. "Shining like a kaṇikāra tree, like the radiant sun rising;
I saw the Buddha Vipassī, the elder of the world, the lord of men.

10. Having raised my joined palms, I led him to my own house;
Having led the Enlightened by himself, I gave him the finest food.
11. "Ninety-one cosmic cycles ago from now, I gave supreme food then;
I do not know of an unfortunate realm, this is the fruit of that supreme food.
12. "The four analytical knowledges, etc. the Buddha's teaching has been fulfilled."

Thus the Venerable Elder Paramannadāyaka spoke these verses.

The life history of the elder Paramannadāyaka is the third.

4. The Life History of the Elder Dhammasañña

13. "For the Blessed One Vipassī, there was a great Bodhi-tree festival;
The Perfectly Enlightened One, the elder of the world, the lord of men,
appeared as if standing by a tree.
14. "The Blessed One at that time, honoured by the Community of monks;
Makes known the four truths, uttering speech with a gentle voice.
15. Teaching in brief and teaching in detail;
The remover of the veil, the Perfectly Enlightened One, extinguished the great
multitude.
16. "Having heard his Teaching, of the foremost of the world, such a one;
Having paid homage at the Teacher's feet, I departed facing north.
17. "Ninety-one cosmic cycles ago from now, when I heard the teaching then;
I do not know of an unfortunate realm, this is the fruit of hearing the teaching.
18. "Thirty-three cosmic cycles ago from now, I was the sole lord of the earth;
Sutavā by name, a wheel-turning monarch of great power.
19. "The four analytical knowledges, etc. the Buddha's teaching has been fulfilled."

Thus the Venerable Elder Dhammasañña spoke these verses.

The life history of the elder Dhammasañña is the fourth.

5. The Life History of the Elder Phaladāyaka

20. "On the bank of the Bhāgīrathī river, there was a hermitage then;
To that hermitage I went, with fruit in hand, expectant.
21. "There I saw Vipassī, like the luminous sun with golden rays;
Whatever fruit I had, all of it, I gave to the Teacher.
22. "Ninety-one cosmic cycles ago from now, when I gave that fruit then;
I do not know of an unfortunate realm, this is the fruit of giving fruit.
23. "The four analytical knowledges, etc. the Buddha's teaching has been fulfilled."

Thus the Venerable Elder Phaladāyaka spoke these verses.

The life history of the elder Phaladāyaka is the fifth.

6. The Life History of the Elder Sampasādaka

- 24.** "Homage to you, Buddha, hero, you are free everywhere;
I have fallen into disaster, be my refuge."
- 25.** "Siddhattha, without equal in the world, explained to him:
'The monastic community is like the great ocean, immeasurable, unsurpassed.
- 26.** "'There you, in the stainless field, the giver of infinite fruit;
Having gladdened your mind in the Community, plant a good seed.
- 27.** "Having said this, the Omniscient One, the elder of the world, the lord of men;
Having instructed me, rose up into the sky.
- 28.** "Not long after the Omniscient One, the lord of men, had passed away;
Having reached death, I was reborn in Tusita.
- 29.** "Then I, in the stainless field, the giver of infinite fruit;
Having gladdened my mind in the Community, I rejoiced in heaven for a
cosmic cycle.
- 30.** "Ninety-four cosmic cycles ago from now, I gained confidence then;
I do not know of an unfortunate realm, this is the fruit of confidence.
- 31.** "The four analytical knowledges, etc. the Buddha's teaching has been fulfilled."

Thus the Venerable Elder Sampasādaka spoke these verses.

The life history of the elder Sampasādaka is the sixth.

7. The Life History of the Elder Ārāmadāyaka

- 32.** "For the Blessed One Siddhattha, a park was planted by me;
Among trees giving dense shade, among birds that were calm.
- 33.** "I saw the stainless Buddha, the receiver of oblations;
I dedicated a monastery to the elder of the world, the lord of men.
- 34.** "Joyful, with a joyful mind, I gave fruit and flowers;
Then, with confidence arisen, I diverted that forest.
- 35.** "Whatever I gave to the Buddha, with a clear mind;
When arising in existence, the fruit arises for me.
- 36.** "Ninety-four cosmic cycles ago from now, when I gave a park then;
I do not know of an unfortunate realm, this is the fruit of the park.
- 37.** "Thirty-seven cosmic cycles ago from now, there were seven soft and cool;

Accomplished with the seven treasures, wheel-turning monarchs of great power.

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

Thus the Venerable Elder Ārāmadāyaka spoke these verses.

The life history of the elder Ārāmadāyaka is the seventh.

8. The Life History of the Elder Anulepadāyaka

39. "I saw a disciple of the sage Atthadassī;
Who was doing new construction work, I approached the boundary.

40. "When the new construction work was completed, I gave a coating of plaster;
With a confident mind, glad at heart, in the unsurpassed field of merit.

41. "In eighteen hundred cosmic cycles, the action which I did then;
I do not know of an unfortunate realm, this is the fruit of anointing.

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

Thus the Venerable Elder Anulepadāyaka spoke these verses.

The life history of the elder Anulepadāyaka is the eighth.

9. The Life History of the Elder Buddhasañña

43. "Like the rising sun with a hundred rays, like the luminous moon with golden rays;
Having gone into the forest, peaceful, the elder of the world, the lord of men.

44. "I saw in a dream Siddhattha, the leader of the world;
Having gladdened my mind there, I was reborn in a fortunate realm.

45. "Ninety-four cosmic cycles ago from now, when I obtained that perception then;
I do not know of an unfortunate realm, this is the fruit of perception of the Buddha.

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

Thus the Venerable Elder Buddhasañña spoke these verses.

The life history of the elder Buddhasañña is the ninth.

10. The Life History of the Elder Pabbhāradāyaka

47. "The slope was cleaned by me for the Blessed One Piyadassī;
And I attended with a water pot, for the use of such a one.

48. "The Buddha explained that to me, Piyadassī, the great sage;
With a thousand storeys, a hundred pinnacles, adorned with flags, made of green gold.

- 49.** "That sacrificial post will arise, and jewels not few;
Having given a gift at the mountain slope, I rejoiced in heaven for a cosmic
cycle.
- 50.** "Thirty-two cosmic cycles from now, a warrior named Susuddha;
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 Pabbhāradāyaka spoke these verses.

The life history of the elder Pabbhāradāyaka is the tenth.

The Lotus Filament Chapter, the thirty-first.

Its summary:

Kesara and Gandhama, Dhammasaññī with Phala;
Pasādārāmadāyī and Lepaka, Buddhasaññaka;
And Pabbhārada - fifty-one verses have been proclaimed.



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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