

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)

4. The Chapter on Kuṇḍadhāna (4. Kuṇḍadhānavaggo)

[Tha Ap 33-42, PTS 1.82-1.91]



PaliVerse

5. The Collection of Minor Texts

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

4. The Chapter on Kuṇḍadhāna

1. The Life History of the Elder Kuṇḍadhāna

- 1.** "For seven days in seclusion, the Self-Become One, the foremost person;
With a confident mind, glad at heart, I attended on the foremost Buddha.
- 2.** "Having understood the proper time when he had emerged, the Great Sage Padumuttara;
Having taken a large bunch of plantains, I approached him.
- 3.** "Having accepted, the Blessed One, the omniscient leader of the world;
Gladdening my mind, the great sage consumed it.
- 4.** Having eaten, the Perfectly Enlightened One, the unsurpassed caravan leader;
Having sat down on his own seat, he spoke these verses.
- 5.** "And whatever demons are peaceful ones on this mountain;
Whatever beings are in the forest, let them hear my word."
- 6.** "He who attended upon the Buddha, like a maned lion, the king of beasts;
Him I will explain, listen to me as I speak.
- 7.** "'Eleven times he will be a king of gods;
And thirty-four times he will be a wheel-turning monarch.
- 8.** "In a hundred thousand cosmic cycles, of the Okkāka clan origin;
Gotama by name, by clan, the Teacher in the world will be.
- 9.** "'Having reviled ascetics, virtuous ones without mental corruptions;
Through the result of evil deeds, he will obtain an appellation.
- 10.** "'His heir in the teachings, legitimate, created by the Teaching;
By the name Kuṇḍadhāna, he will be a disciple.'
- 11.** "Devoted to solitude, a meditator, delighting in meditative absorption, I;
Having pleased the Teacher, I dwell without mental corruptions.
- 12.** "Surrounded by disciples, honoured by the community of monks;
Having sat down in the community of monks, the Conqueror had the voting ticket taken.
- 13.** "Having arranged his robe on one shoulder, having paid homage to the leader of the world;
Before the best of speakers, I first took hold.

14. "By that action, the Blessed One, who shakes the ten thousand world systems;
Having sat down in the community of monks, established me in the highest state.
15. "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.
16. "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 Kuṇḍadhāna spoke these verses.

The life history of the Elder Kuṇḍadhāna is the first.

2. The Life History of the Elder Sāgata

17. "Sobhita by name, I was a brahmin then;
Honoured by my pupils, I went to the monastery.
18. "The Blessed One at that time, honoured by the Community of monks;
Having gone out from the monastery door, the highest of men stood still.
19. "I saw that Enlightened by himself, tamed, honouring the tamed;
Having gladdened my own mind, I praised the leader of the world.
20. "Whatever trees there are, all of them grow upon the earth;
So too wise beings grow in the Conqueror's Dispensation.
21. "You are a wise caravan leader, a great sage for many people;
Having lifted them from the wrong path, you point out the path.
22. "Tamed, surrounded by the tamed, a meditator with those delighting in
meditative absorption;
Ardent, with the resolute, with the peaceful, such ones.
23. "Adorned by assemblies, he shines with merit and knowledge;
Radiance radiates from you, just as at the rising of the sun.
24. "Having seen one with a confident mind, the great sage Padumuttara;
The Teacher, standing in the community of monks, spoke these verses.
25. "'Whoever that brahmin, having generated laughter, praised me;
For a hundred thousand cosmic cycles, he will delight in the heavenly world.
26. "'Having fallen away from Tusita, urged on by wholesome root;
He will go forth in the Dispensation of the Blessed One Gotama.
27. "'By that well-done action, he will attain arahantship;
Sāgata by name, he will be a disciple of the Teacher.'
28. "Having gone forth, with the body I avoided evil action;

Having abandoned verbal misconduct, I purified my livelihood.

- 29.** "Thus dwelling, skilled in the heat elements;
Having fully understood all mental corruptions, I dwell without mental
corruptions.
- 30.** "The four analytical knowledges, etc. the Buddha's teaching has been fulfilled."

Thus the Venerable Elder Sāgata spoke these verses.

The life history of the Elder Sāgata is the second.

3. The Life History of the Elder Mahākaccāna

- 31.** "For Padumuttara, the Protector, there was a shrine named Lotus;
Having had a stone seat made, I coated it with gold.
- 32.** "Having held up a jewel-made umbrella and a horse-tail fan,
I placed it upon the Buddha, the kinsman of the world, such a one.
- 33.** "As far as the terrestrial deities, all gathered together then;
He will explain the result of the jewel-made umbrellas.
- 34.** "And we shall hear all that, from the Teacher as he speaks;
We shall generate even more joy in the teaching of the Perfectly Enlightened
One.
- 35.** "Having sat down on a golden seat, the self-become one, the foremost person;
Surrounded by the community of monks, spoke these verses.
- 36.** "By whom this seat was given, golden, made of jewels;
Him I will explain, listen to me as I speak.
- 37.** "'For thirty cosmic cycles as lord of the gods, he will exercise divine kingship;
All around for a hundred yojanas, he will overcome with radiance.
- 38.** "'Having come to the human world, he will be a wheel-turning monarch;
By the name Pabhassara, he will be of risen radiance.
- 39.** "'By day or by night, like the risen sun;
All around for eight ratanas, the warrior will shine forth.
- 40.** "In a hundred thousand cosmic cycles, of the Okkāka clan origin;
Gotama by name, by clan, the Teacher in the world will be.
- 41.** "'Having fallen away from Tusita, urged on by wholesome root;
Kaccāna by name, he will be a kinsman of Brahma.
- 42.** "'He, having gone forth afterwards, will be a Worthy One without mental
corruptions;
Gotama, the light of the world, will establish him in the highest state.

- 43.** "He will speak in detail the question asked in brief;
And speaking that question, he will fulfil the disposition.'
- 44.** "Born in a wealthy family, a brahmin gone beyond the sacred texts;
Having left behind wealth and grain, I went forth into homelessness.
- 45.** "Even when asked in brief, I speak in detail;
I fulfil their disposition, I please the highest of bipeds.
- 46.** "The great hero, the self-become one, the foremost person, was pleased with me;
Having sat down in the community of monks, established me in the foremost position.
- 47.** "The four analytical knowledges, etc. the Buddha's teaching has been fulfilled."
Thus the Venerable Elder Mahākaccāna spoke these verses.

The life history of the Elder Mahākaccāna is the third.

4. The Life History of the Elder Kāḷudāyi

- 48.** "Of the Buddha Padumuttara, the foremost of the world, such a one;
Proceeding on the journey, wandering on a journey then.
- 49.** "Having taken a fully blossomed lotus, a water lily and jasmine,
Having taken supreme food, I gave it to the Teacher.
- 50.** "The great hero consumed the supreme food, excellent nourishment;
And having taken that flower, he displayed it to the people.
- 51.** "Desirable, lovely, dear in the world, the water-born flower, the highest;
Very difficult to do was done by him, who gave this flower to me.
- 52.** "Whoever planted a flower and gave me the finest food;
Him I will explain, listen to me as I speak.
- 53.** "Eighteen times he will exercise divine kingship;
Water lily and lotus, and jasmine beyond that.
- 54.** "By the result of his merit, combined with divine fragrance;
Having made a covering in space, it will hold at that very moment.
- 55.** "And twenty-five times he will be a wheel-turning monarch;
Five hundred times kingship on earth, he will inhabit the earth.
- 56.** "In a hundred thousand cosmic cycles, of the Okkāka clan origin;
Gotama by name, by clan, the Teacher in the world will be.
- 57.** "Satisfied by his own deeds, urged on by wholesome root;
Bringing joy to the Sakyans, he will be a kinsman.

- 58.** "He, having gone forth afterwards, urged on by wholesome root;
Having fully understood all mental corruptions, he will attain nibbāna, without
mental corruptions.
- 59.** "Having attained analytical knowledge, having performed one's obligations,
without mental corruptions;
Gotama, the kinsman of the world, will establish him in the foremost position.
- 60.** "He, with self resolute in striving, at peace, without clinging;
Udāyī by name, will be a disciple of the Teacher."
- 61.** "Lust and hate and delusion, conceit and contempt are destroyed;
Having fully understood all mental corruptions, I dwell without mental
corruptions.
- 62.** "And I, ardent and prudent, pleased the Enlightened by himself;
And the Enlightened by himself, inspired to confidence, established me in the
foremost position.
- 63.** "The four analytical knowledges, etc. the Buddha's teaching has been fulfilled."
Thus the Venerable Elder Kāḷudāyī spoke these verses.

The life history of the Elder Kāḷudāyī is the fourth.

5. The Life History of the Elder Mogharāja

- 64.** "The Blessed One Atthadassī, self-become, unconquered;
Surrounded by the community of monks, proceeded along the road.
- 65.** "Surrounded by pupils, I went forth from the house;
Having gone forth, there I saw the leader of the world.
- 66.** "Having paid respect to the Perfectly Enlightened One, having made a
salutation with joined palms at my head;
Having gladdened my own mind, I praised the leader of the world.
- 67.** "As far as there are material beings, or formless ones without perception;
All these are within your knowledge, plunged inside.
- 68.** "Whoever would encircle the water with a fine-meshed net;
Whatever living beings are in the water, they would be within the net.
- 69.** "Those who have volition, whether material or immaterial;
All these are within your knowledge, plunged inside.
- 70.** "You lift up this world, crowded with darkness;
Having heard your teaching, they cross the stream of uncertainty.
- 71.** "In the world hindered by ignorance, spread over by darkness;
When your knowledge is shining, the darkness is destroyed.

- 72.** "You are the vision for all, the dispeller of great darkness;
Having heard your teaching, many people are extinguished.
- 73.** "Having filled a container with pure bee honey,
Having held it up with both hands, I presented it to the great sage.
- 74.** "The great hero, the great sage, accepted with his own hand;
Having eaten that, the Omniscient One rose up into the sky.
- 75.** "The Teacher, standing in the sky, the lord of men, intent upon the good;
Gladdening my mind, spoke these verses.
- 76.** "By whom this knowledge was praised, and the Supreme Buddha was extolled;
By that confidence of mind, he does not go to an unfortunate realm.
- 77.** "'Fourteen times, he will exercise divine kingship;
Eight hundred times kingship on earth, he will inhabit the earth.
- 78.** "'And five hundred times he will be a wheel-turning monarch;
He will exercise incalculable principality over a district upon the earth.
- 79.** "A reciter, a bearer of sacred texts, one who has gone beyond the three Vedas;
He will go forth in the Dispensation of the Blessed One Gotama.
- 80.** "'He will investigate the profound, subtle meaning with knowledge;
Mogharāja by name, will be a disciple of the Teacher.
- 81.** 'One accomplished in the three true knowledges, having performed one's obligations, without mental corruptions;
Gotama, the foremost caravan leader, will establish him in the foremost position.'
- 82.** "Having abandoned the human bond, having cut off the bond of existence;
Having fully understood all mental corruptions, I dwell without mental corruptions.
- 83.** "The four analytical knowledges, etc. the Buddha's teaching has been fulfilled."
Thus the Venerable Elder Mogharāja spoke these verses.

The life history of the Elder Mogharāja is the fifth.

6. The Life History of the Elder Adhimutta

- 84.** "When the Lord of the World was quenched, the Highest of Men intent upon the good;
I attended on the Community of monks, with a clear mind.
- 85.** "Having invited the Community of monks, upright and concentrated;
Having made a pavilion of sugar-cane, I fed the highest Community.
- 86.** "Whatever realm of rebirth I am reborn in, whether divinity or human;

I overcome all beings, this is the fruit of meritorious action.

- 87.** "In eighteen hundred cosmic cycles, the gift that I gave then;
I do not know of an unfortunate realm, this is the fruit of the gift of sugar-cane.
- 88.** "The four analytical knowledges, etc. the Buddha's teaching has been fulfilled."
Thus the Venerable Elder Adhimutta spoke these verses.

The life history of the Elder Adhimutta is the sixth.

7. The Life History of the Elder Lasuṇadāyaka

- 89.** "Not far from the Himalayas, I was an ascetic then;
I subsisted on garlic, garlic was my food.
- 90.** "Having filled baskets, I went to the monastery of the Community;
Joyful, with a joyful mind, I gave garlic to the Community.
- 91.** "Being devoted to the Dispensation of Vipassī, the highest of men,
Having given garlic to the Community, I rejoiced in heaven for a cosmic cycle.
- 92.** "Ninety-one cosmic cycles ago from now, when I gave garlic then;
I do not know of an unfortunate realm, this is the fruit of garlic.
- 93.** "The four analytical knowledges, etc. the Buddha's teaching has been fulfilled."
Thus the Venerable Elder Lasuṇadāyaka spoke these verses.

The life history of the Elder Lasuṇadāyaka is the seventh.

8. The Life History of the Elder Āyāgadāyaka

- 94.** "When the Lord of the World was quenched, Sikhī, the best of speakers;
Joyful, with a joyful mind, I venerated the supreme stupa.
- 95.** "Having had the carpenters discuss, having given the payment then;
Joyful, with a joyful mind, I had the long hall built.
- 96.** "For eight cosmic cycles among the gods, uninterruptedly I dwelt;
In the remaining cosmic cycles, mixed up I wandered in the round of rebirths.
- 97.** "Poison does not penetrate my body, and knives do not harm me;
I do not die by water, this is the fruit of the long hall.
- 98.** "Whenever I wish for rain, a great cloud sheds rain;
Even the gods come under my control, this is the fruit of meritorious action.
- 99.** "Endowed with the seven treasures, three times I was;
No one despises me, this is the fruit of meritorious action.
- 100.** "Thirty-one cosmic cycles ago from now, I had a long hall built;
I do not know of an unfortunate realm, this is the fruit of the long hall.

- 101.** "The four analytical knowledges, etc. the Buddha's teaching has been fulfilled."
Thus the Venerable Elder Āyāgadāyaka spoke these verses.

The life history of the Elder Āyāgadāyaka is the eighth.

9. The Life History of the Elder Dhammacakkika

- 102.** "Of the Blessed One Siddhattha, in front of the lion's seat;
The wheel of the Teaching was placed by me, well made, praised by the wise.
- 103.** "I shine like one of beautiful colour, with vehicles, forces and mounts;
Many people, following me, surround me constantly.
- 104.** "With sixty thousand musical instruments, I always enjoy myself;
I shine with my retinue, this is the fruit of meritorious action.
- 105.** "Ninety-four cosmic cycles ago from now, when I set in motion the wheel;
I do not know of an unfortunate realm, this is the fruit of the wheel of the Teaching.
- 106.** "Eleven cosmic cycles from now, there were lords of men;
Named Thousand Kings, wheel-turning monarchs of great power.
- 107.** "The four analytical knowledges, etc. the Buddha's teaching has been fulfilled."
Thus the Venerable Elder Dhammacakkika spoke these verses.

The life history of the Elder Dhammacakkika is the ninth.

10. The Life History of the Elder Kapparakkhiya

- 108.** "Of the Blessed One Siddhattha, in front of the foremost stupa;
Having hung variegated cloth, I set up a wishing tree.
- 109.** "Whatever realm of rebirth I am reborn in, whether divinity or human;
Adorning my door, a wish-fulfilling tree stands.
- 110.** "Both I and my assembly, and whoever are my dependents;
Having taken cloth from that, we would always dress ourselves.
- 111.** "Ninety-four cosmic cycles ago from now, when I set up the tree;
I do not know of an unfortunate realm, this is the fruit of the wishing tree.
- 112.** "And seven cosmic cycles from now, eight warriors named Sucela;
Accomplished with the seven treasures, wheel-turning monarchs of great power.
- 113.** "The four analytical knowledges, etc. the Buddha's teaching has been fulfilled."
Thus the Venerable Elder Kapparakkhi spoke these verses.

The life history of the Elder Kapparakkhiya is the tenth.

The Kuṇḍadhāna Chapter is the fourth.

Its summary:

Kuṇḍa, Sāgata, Kaccāna, Udāyī, Mogharāja;
Adhimutta, Lasuṇada, Āyāgī, Dhammacakkika;
And Kapparuḅkhi as the tenth, one thousand two hundred verses.



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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