

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)

11. Past Life Histories-2 - of the Elder Monks (11. Apadānapāḷi-2 -
Therāpadānapāḷi)

51. The Chapter on Kaṇikāra (51. Kaṇikāravaggo)

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PaliVerse

5. The Collection of Minor Texts

11. Past Life Histories-2 - of the Elder Monks

51. The Chapter on Kaṇikāra

1. The Life History of the Elder Tikaṇikārapupphiya

- 1.** "The Perfectly Enlightened One named Sumedha, possessing the thirty-two excellent characteristics;
The Perfectly Enlightened One, desiring seclusion, approached the Himalayas.
- 2.** "Having plunged into the Himalaya, the foremost compassionate sage;
Having bent into cross-legged posture, the highest of men sat down.
- 3.** "A knower of charms then I was, one who moves through the sky;
Having grasped a well-made trident, I then go into the sky.
- 4.** "Like a fire on a mountain peak, like the moon on the full moon day;
The Buddha shines in the forest, like a king of sal trees in full bloom.
- 5.** "Having gone forth from the forest edge, running towards the Buddha's rays;
Resembling the colour of a reed fire, having seen, I gladdened my mind.
- 6.** "Selecting, I saw a flower, kaṇikāra with divine fragrance;
Having taken three flowers, I honoured the foremost Buddha.
- 7.** "By the Buddha's power, three flowers of mine then;
Stalks upward, petals downward, make shade for the Teacher.
- 8.** "By that well-done action, and by volition and aspirations;
Having abandoned the human body, I went to Tāvātimsa.
- 9.** "There my divine mansion was well made, known as 'Kaṇikārī';
Sixty yojanas in height, thirty yojanas in width.
- 10.** "With a thousand storeys, a hundred pinnacles, adorned with flags, made of green gold;
With a hundred thousand turrets, divine mansions appeared to me.
- 11.** "Made of gold, made of jewels, and also made of ruby;
And divans made of crystal, whatever one wishes, whichever one desires.
- 12.** "And a very precious bed, furnished with a cotton-mattress covering;
With upward-facing hair exclusively, combined with a pillow.
- 13.** "Having gone forth from the dwelling, wandering on a journey in heaven;
Whenever I wish for passage, honoured by a host of gods.

- 14.** "Below the flower I stand, above is my roof;
A hundred yojanas all around, covered with kaṇikāra flowers.
- 15.** "Sixty thousand musical instruments attended on me morning and evening;
They surround me constantly, unwearied night and day.
- 16.** "There with dancing, singing, cymbals, and music;
I delight in playful enjoyment, I rejoice, desiring sensual pleasures.
- 17.** "Having eaten and drunk there, I rejoice among the Thirty-three then;
Together with groups of women, I rejoice in the highest divine mansion.
- 18.** "Five hundred times I exercised divine kingship;
Three hundred times I was a universal monarch;

Principality over a district, extensive, incalculable by counting.

- 19.** "Wandering in the round of rebirths from existence to existence, I obtain great wealth;
There is no deficiency in my wealth, this is the fruit of honouring the Buddha.
- 20.** "I wander in two existences, in divinity and also in humanity;
I know no other destination, this is the fruit of honouring the Buddha.
- 21.** "I am born in two families, in the warrior caste and also in the brahmin caste;
I am not born in a low family, this is the fruit of honouring the Buddha.
- 22.** "Elephant vehicles, horse vehicles, palanquins and litters;
I obtain all this indeed, this is the fruit of honouring the Buddha.
- 23.** "A group of female slaves, a group of male slaves, women fully adorned;
I obtain all this indeed, this is the fruit of honouring the Buddha.
- 24.** "Silks and woollen blankets, linens and cottons too;
I obtain all this indeed, this is the fruit of honouring the Buddha.
- 25.** "New cloth, new fruit, food of new finest flavour;
I obtain all this indeed, this is the fruit of honouring the Buddha.
- 26.** "Eat this, enjoy this, lie on this bed;
I obtain all this indeed, this is the fruit of honouring the Buddha.
- 27.** "Everywhere I am venerated, my glory has arisen;
I always have a great following, always an assembly that cannot be divided;
I am the highest among relatives, this is the fruit of honouring the Buddha.
- 28.** "I do not know cold or heat, no fever is found;
And also mental suffering is not found in my heart.
- 29.** Having become golden-coloured, I wander in the round of rebirths from existence to existence;

I do not know of disfiguration, this is the fruit of honouring the Buddha.

- 30.** "Having fallen away from the world of the gods, urged on by wholesome root;
Formerly I was born in Sāvattṭhī, in a very wealthy great household.
- 31.** "Having abandoned the five types of sensual pleasure, I went forth into
homelessness;
Seven years old by birth, I attained arahantship.
- 32.** "The Buddha, the one with vision, gave me full ordination, having understood
my virtues;
Young, I am worthy of veneration, this is the fruit of honouring the Buddha.
- 33.** "The divine eye is pure in me, I am skilled in concentration;
Having reached the perfection of direct knowledge, this is the fruit of
honouring the Buddha.
- 34.** "Having attained analytical knowledge, skilled in the bases for spiritual power;
Having attained perfection in the teachings, this is the fruit of honouring the
Buddha.
- 35.** "In thirty thousand cosmic cycles, when I honoured the Buddha;
I do not know of an unfortunate realm, this is the fruit of honouring the
Buddha.
- 36.** "Mental defilements have been burnt by me, all existences have been
uprooted;
Like an elephant having cut the bond, I dwell without mental corruptions.
- 37.** "Indeed welcome it was for me, my coming to the Buddha's presence;
The three true knowledges have been attained, the Buddha's teaching has
been fulfilled.
- 38.** "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 Tikaṇikārapupphiya spoke these

verses.

The Life History of the Elder Three Kaṇikāra Flower Offerer is the first.

2. The Life History of the Elder Ekapattadāyaka

- 39.** "In the city of Hamsavatī, I was a potter;
I saw the stainless Buddha, a crosser of the mental floods, without mental
corruptions.
- 40.** "A well-made clay bowl, I gave to the foremost Buddha;
Having given a bowl to the Blessed One, to such a one who was upright.

- 41.** "Being reborn in existence, I obtain golden plates;
And silver ones and golden ones, and straw-mats made of jewels.
- 42.** "I consume bowls of food, this is the fruit of meritorious action;
And of fame and of wealth, I have become the foremost.
- 43.** "Just as in a good field, even a little seed planted;
When the rain sends down proper showers, the fruit pleases the farmer.
- 44.** "Likewise this gift of a bowl, planted in the Buddha-field;
When the rain sends down showers of joy, the fruit will please me.
- 45.** "As far as fields exist, both communities and groups;
There is none equal to the Buddha-field, the giver of happiness to all living beings.
- 46.** "Homage to you, thoroughbred among men, homage to you, highest of men;
Having given a single bowl, I have attained the unshakeable state.
- 47.** "Ninety-one cosmic cycles ago from now, when I gave a bowl then;
I do not know of an unfortunate realm, this is the fruit of the gift of a bowl.
- 48.** "Mental defilements have been burnt by me, etc. I dwell without mental corruptions.
- 49.** "Indeed welcome it was for me, etc. the Buddha's teaching has been fulfilled.
- 50.** "The four analytical knowledges, etc. the Buddha's teaching has been fulfilled."

Thus the Venerable Elder Ekapattadāyaka spoke these verses.

Thus he spoke.

The Life History of the Elder One Bowl Donor is the second.

3. The Life History of the Elder Kāsumāraphaliya

- 51.** "Shining like a kaṇikāra tree, seated in the mountain caves;
I saw the stainless Buddha, the elder of the world, the lord of men.
- 52.** "With a confident mind, glad at heart, having made a salutation with joined palms at my head;
Having taken a kāsumārika fruit, I gave it to the foremost Buddha.
- 53.** "Thirty-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.
- 54.** "Mental defilements have been burnt by me, etc. I dwell without mental corruptions.
- 55.** "Indeed welcome it was for me, etc. the Buddha's teaching has been fulfilled.

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

Thus the Venerable Elder Kāsumāraphaliya spoke these verses.

Thus he spoke.

The Life History of the Elder Kāsumāra Fruit Offerer is the third.

4. The Life History of the Elder Avaṭaphaliya

57. "The Blessed One, thousand-rayed, self-become, unconquered;
Having risen from seclusion, went forth for alms.

58. "With fruit in hand, having seen, I approached the lord of men;
With a confident mind, glad at heart, I gave a mango fruit.

59. "Ninety-four 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.

60. "Mental defilements have been burnt by me, etc. I dwell without mental
corruptions.

61. "Indeed welcome it was for me, etc. the Buddha's teaching has been fulfilled.

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

Thus the Venerable Elder Avaṭaphaliya spoke these verses.

Thus he spoke.

The Life History of the Elder Avaṭa Fruit Offerer is the fourth.

5. The Life History of the Elder Pādaphaliya

63. "The golden-coloured Enlightened by himself, the receiver of oblations;
Proceeding along the road, I gave a foot-fruit to him.

64. "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.

65. "Mental defilements have been burnt by me, etc. I dwell without mental
corruptions.

66. "Indeed welcome it was for me, etc. the Buddha's teaching has been fulfilled.

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

Thus the Venerable Elder Pādaphaliya spoke these verses.

Thus he spoke.

The Life History of the Elder Pādaphaliya is the fifth.

6. The Life History of the Elder Mātuluṅgaphaladāyaka

- 68.** "Like a blazing kaṇikāra tree, like the full moon;
Like a blazing lamp post, I saw the leader of the world.
- 69.** "Having taken a citron fruit, I gave it to the Teacher;
To the hero worthy of offerings, devoted, with my own hands.
- 70.** "Thirty-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.
- 71.** "Mental defilements have been burnt by me, etc. I dwell without mental
corruptions.
- 72.** "Indeed welcome it was for me, etc. the Buddha's teaching has been fulfilled.
- 73.** "The four analytical knowledges, etc. the Buddha's teaching has been fulfilled."

Thus the Venerable Elder Mātuluṅgaphaladāyaka spoke these

verses.

The Life History of the Elder Mātuluṅgaphaladāyaka is the sixth.

7. The Life History of the Elder Ajeliphaladāyaka

- 74.** "The Perfectly Enlightened One named Ajjuna, dwelt in the Himalayas then;
And accomplished in conduct, a sage skilled in concentration.
- 75.** "Having taken a pot-sized goat-fruit, ripe and ready;
Having taken an umbrella-leaf, I gave it to the Teacher.
- 76.** "Ninety-four 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.
- 77.** "Mental defilements have been burnt by me, etc. I dwell without mental
corruptions.
- 78.** "Indeed welcome it was for me, etc. the Buddha's teaching has been fulfilled.
- 79.** "The four analytical knowledges, etc. the Buddha's teaching has been fulfilled."

Thus the Venerable Elder Ajeliphaladāyaka spoke these

verses.

The Life History of the Elder Ajeliphaladāyaka is the seventh.

8. The Life History of the Elder Amodaphaliya

- 80.** "The golden-coloured Enlightened by himself, the receiver of oblations;
Proceeding along the road, rejoicing I gave fruit.
- 81.** "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.

- 82.** "Mental defilements have been burnt by me, etc. I dwell without mental corruptions.
- 83.** "Indeed welcome it was for me, etc. the Buddha's teaching has been fulfilled.
- 84.** "The four analytical knowledges, etc. the Buddha's teaching has been fulfilled."

Thus the Venerable Elder Amodaphaliya spoke these verses.

Thus he spoke.

The Life History of the Elder Amodaphaliya is the eighth.

9. The Life History of the Elder Tālaphaladāyaka

- 85.** "The Blessed One named Sataraṃsī, self-become, unconquered;
Having risen from seclusion, went forth for alms.
- 86.** "With fruit in hand, having seen, I approached the lord of men;
With a confident mind, glad at heart, I gave a palmyra fruit.
- 87.** "Ninety-four 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.
- 88.** "Mental defilements have been burnt by me, etc. I dwell without mental corruptions.
- 89.** "Indeed welcome it was for me, etc. the Buddha's teaching has been fulfilled.
- 90.** "The four analytical knowledges, etc. the Buddha's teaching has been fulfilled."

Thus the Venerable Elder Tālaphaladāyaka spoke these verses.

Thus he spoke.

The Life History of the Elder Tālaphaladāyaka is the ninth.

10. The Life History of the Elder Nāḷikeraphaladāyaka

- 91.** "In the city of Bandhumatī, I was a monastery attendant then;
I saw the stainless Buddha, going through the sky-path.
- 92.** "Having taken a coconut fruit, I gave it to the foremost Buddha;
Standing in space, being peaceful, the one of great fame received it.
- 93.** "Generating joy for me, bringing happiness in the present life;
Having given fruit to the Buddha, with a clear mind.
- 94.** "I attained joy then, and extensive highest happiness;
A jewel arises indeed, for one reborn here and there.
- 95.** "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.

- 96.** "The divine eye is pure in me, I am skilled in concentration;
Having reached the perfection of direct knowledge, this is the fruit of giving
fruit.
- 97.** "Mental defilements have been burnt by me, etc. I dwell without mental
corruptions.
- 98.** "Indeed welcome it was for me, etc. the Buddha's teaching has been fulfilled.
- 99.** "The four analytical knowledges, etc. the Buddha's teaching has been fulfilled."

Thus the Venerable Elder Nāḷikeraphaladāyaka spoke these

verses.

The Life History of the Elder Nāḷikeraphaladāyaka is the tenth.

The Kaṇikāra Chapter is the fifty-first.

Its summary:

Kaṇikāra, Ekapatta, and Kāsumārī, likewise Āvaṭṭa;
Pāda and Mātuluṅga, and Ajelī, Moda as well.

Tāla, likewise Nāḷikera, the verses counted here;
There are one hundred verses, neither less nor more.



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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