

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)

6. The Chapter on Bījani (6. Bījanivaggo)

[Tha Ap 53-62, PTS 1.104-1.111]



PaliVerse

5. The Collection of Minor Texts

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

6. The Chapter on Bijani

1. The Life History of the Elder Vidhūpanadāyaka

1. "Of the Buddha Padumuttara, the foremost of the world, such a one;
A fan was given by me, to the lord of bipeds, such a one.
2. "Having gladdened my own mind, having raised my joined palms;
Having paid respect to the Enlightened by himself, I departed facing north.
3. Having taken up the fan, the Teacher, the chief leader of the world,
Standing in the community of monks, being peaceful, spoke these verses.
4. "'By this seed as source, and by the aspirations of the mind;
For a hundred thousand cosmic cycles, he does not go to the nether world.'
5. Putting forth strenuous energy, resolute, concentrated in the qualities of mind;
Seven years old by birth, I attained arahantship.
6. "Sixty thousand cosmic cycles ago, named Seed of Mind;
Sixteen were kings, wheel-turning monarchs of great power.
7. "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 Vidhūpanadāyaka spoke these verses.

The Life History of the Elder Fan-Donor is the first.

2. The Life History of the Elder Sataraṃsi

8. "Having ascended the lofty rock, the highest of men sat down;
Not far from the mountain, a brahmin gone beyond the sacred texts.
9. "The great hero who had sat down, the god of gods, the lord of men;
Having raised my joined palms, I praised the leader of the world.
10. "'This Buddha, the great hero, proclaimer of the excellent Teaching;
Shines like a mass of fire, honoured by the community of monks.
11. 'Unshakeable like the great ocean, hard to cross like the sea;
Terrified like the king of beasts, the one with vision expounds the Teaching.'
12. "Having understood my thought, the leader Padumuttara,
The Teacher, standing in the community of monks, spoke these verses.

- 13.** "By whom this salutation with joined palms was given, and the Supreme Buddha was extolled;
For thirty thousand cosmic cycles, he will exercise divine kingship.
- 14.** "In a hundred thousand cosmic cycles, the one named Aṅgīrasa;
The remover of the veil, the Perfectly Enlightened One, will arise at that very moment.
- 15.** "His heir in the teachings, legitimate, created by the Teaching;
Sataraṃsī by name, he will become a Worthy One.'
- 16.** "Seven years old by birth, I went forth into homelessness;
By the name Hundred-Ray, radiance radiates from me.
- 17.** "In a pavilion or at the root of a tree, a meditator, delighting in meditative absorption, I;
I bear my final body in the teaching of the Perfectly Enlightened One.
- 18.** "Sixty thousand cosmic cycles ago, four named Rāma;
Accomplished with the seven treasures, wheel-turning monarchs of great power.
- 19.** "The four analytical knowledges, etc. the Buddha's teaching has been fulfilled."
Thus the Venerable Elder Sataraṃsi spoke these verses.

The Life History of the Elder Hundred-Rays is the second.

3. The Life History of the Elder Sayanadāyaka

- 20.** "Of the Buddha Padumuttara, the compassionate one towards all the world;
I gave a bed to him, with a clear mind.
- 21.** "By that gift of a bed, like an accomplished seed in a good field;
Wealth arises for him, this is the fruit of the bed.
- 22.** "I make my sleeping place in space, I support this earth;
Supremacy over living beings is mine, this is the fruit of the bed.
- 23.** "In five thousand cosmic cycles, eight were of great power;
In thirty-four hundred cosmic cycles, four were of great power.
- 24.** "The four analytical knowledges, etc. the Buddha's teaching has been fulfilled."
Thus the Venerable Elder Sayanadāyaka spoke these verses.

The Life History of the Elder Bed-Donor is the third.

4. The Life History of the Elder Gandhodakiya

- 25.** "For the Buddha Padumuttara, there was a great Bodhi-tree festival;
Having taken a variegated pot, I gave scented water.
- 26.** "And at the time of bathing the Bodhi tree, a great cloud shed rain;

And there was a great sound, of a thunderbolt crashing.

- 27.** "By that very force of the thunderbolt, there I deceased;
Standing in the heavenly world, being peaceful, I spoke these verses.
- 28.** "'Oh, the Buddha! Oh, the Teaching! Oh, the accomplishment of our Teacher!
My corpse has fallen, I rejoice in the heavenly world.
- 29.** "My dwelling was lofty, risen up with a hundred stories;
A hundred thousand maidens surround me always.
- 30.** "'Illnesses do not exist in me, sorrow does not exist in me;
I do not see fever, this is the fruit of meritorious action.
- 31.** "In twenty-eight hundred cosmic cycles, I was a king who lived;
Endowed with the seven treasures, a wheel-turning monarch of great power."
- 32.** "The four analytical knowledges, etc. the Buddha's teaching has been fulfilled."
Thus the Venerable Elder Gandhodakiya spoke these verses.

The Life History of the Elder Scented-Water is the fourth.

5. The Life History of the Elder Opavayha

- 33.** "To the Buddha Padumuttara, I gave a thoroughbred horse;
Having dedicated it to the Enlightened by himself, I went to my own house.
- 34.** "Devala by name, the chief disciple of the Teacher;
Heir to the excellent Teaching, came to my presence.
- 35.** "The Blessed One, bearing his bowl, a thoroughbred, it is not allowable;
Having understood your thought, the one with vision consented.
- 36.** "Having valued a Sindh horse, swift as the wind, a rapid vehicle;
I gave an allowable gift to the Buddha Padumuttara.
- 37.** "Whatever realm of rebirth I am reborn in, whether divinity or human;
A bearable mind, swift as the wind, arises for me.
- 38.** "A gain for them, well gained indeed, those who obtain full ordination;
Again I would attend upon, if a Buddha were in the world.
- 39.** "Twenty-eight times I was a king of great power;
Ruler of the four quarters, victorious, lord of the rose-apple grove.
- 40.** "This is my last, the final existence goes on;
I have attained the unshakeable state, having abandoned victory and defeat.
- 41.** "Thirty-four thousand cosmic cycles ago, a warrior of great power;
Possessed of the seven treasures, a wheel-turning monarch of great might.
- 42.** "The four analytical knowledges, etc. the Buddha's teaching has been fulfilled."

Thus the Venerable Elder Opavayha spoke these verses.

The Life History of the Elder Fit-for-Riding is the fifth.

6. The Life History of the Elder Sapparivārāsana

- 43.** "To the Buddha Padumuttara, I gave almsfood;
Having gone to a soiled place, fenced with jasmine.
- 44.** "Seated on that seat, the Buddha, the chief leader of the world,
Proclaimed the almsfood, upright and concentrated.
- 45.** "Just as in a good field, even a little seed planted;
When the rain sends down proper showers, the fruit pleases the farmer.
- 46.** "Just so this almsfood, planted by you in a good field;
When arising in existence, the fruit will please you.
- 47.** Having said this, the Perfectly Enlightened One, named after the best of lotuses,
Having taken almsfood, departed facing north.
- 48.** "Restrained in the principal monastic code, and in the five faculties;
Devoted to solitude, I dwell without mental corruptions.
- 49.** "The four analytical knowledges, etc. the Buddha's teaching has been fulfilled."

Thus the Venerable Elder Sapparivārāsana spoke these verses.

The Life History of the Elder Seat-with-Accessories is the sixth.

7. The Life History of the Elder Pañcadīpaka

- 50.** "For the Buddha Padumuttara, compassionate towards all beings;
Having believed in the Good Teaching, I had right view.
- 51.** "I gave the gift of lamps, having surrounded the Bodhi tree;
Believing, I made lamps at that very moment.
- 52.** "Whatever realm of rebirth I am reborn in, whether divinity or human;
They hold a torch in space, this is the fruit of giving a lamp.
- 53.** "Through walls, through rocks, having passed over mountains;
All around for a hundred yojanas, I experience vision.
- 54.** "By that remainder of action, I have attained the elimination of mental corruptions;
I bear my final body, in the Dispensation of the lord of bipeds.
- 55.** "In thirty-four hundred cosmic cycles, named Hundred Eyes;
They were kings of great power, wheel-turning monarchs of great strength.

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

Thus the Venerable Elder Pañcadīpaka spoke these verses.

The Life History of the Elder Five-Lamps is the seventh.

8. The Life History of the Elder Dhajadāyaka

57. "At the excellent Bodhi tree of the Buddha Padumuttara;
Joyful, with a joyful mind, I raised up a flag.

58. "Having taken the fallen leaves, I threw them outside;
Pure within, pure without, inclined to the taintless one.

59. "As if face to face with the Perfectly Enlightened One, I venerated the highest
enlightenment;
Padumuttara, knower of the world, the receiver of oblations.

60. The Teacher, standing in the community of monks, spoke these verses:
"By this gift of a banner, and by attendance, both;

61. "'For a hundred thousand cosmic cycles, he does not go to an unfortunate
realm;
Among the gods, he will experience no small divine splendour.

62. "'Many hundreds of times, he will be a king in the realm;
Uggata by name, he will be a wheel-turning monarch.

63. "'Having experienced success, urged on by wholesome root;
He will delight in the Dispensation of the Blessed One Gotama.'

64. "With self resolute in striving, at peace, without clinging;
I bear my final body in the teaching of the Perfectly Enlightened One.

65. "Fifty-one thousand cosmic cycles ago, one having the name Uggata;
Fifty hundred thousand cosmic cycles ago, a warrior having the name Megha.

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

Thus the Venerable Elder Dhajadāyaka spoke these verses.

The Life History of the Elder Flag-Donor is the eighth.

9. The Life History of the Elder Paduma

67. "Making known the four truths, the proclaimer of the excellent Teaching;
He rains down the Deathless rain, extinguishing the great multitude.

68. "Having taken a lotus with its stalk, I stood at half a kosa;
Delighted, I raised it in the sky for the sage Padumuttara.

69. "And when the lotus came, there was a wonder at that very moment;
Having understood my thought, the best of speakers held it forth.

- 70.** "Having held up with the best of hands, the water-born flower, the highest;
The Teacher, standing in the community of monks, spoke these verses.
- 71.** "'By whom this lotus was thrown, at the Omniscient One, the Great Leader;
Him I will explain, listen to me as I speak.
- 72.** "'For thirty cosmic cycles as lord of the gods, he will exercise divine kingship;
Seven hundred times kingship on earth, he will inhabit the earth.
- 73.** "'There, having counted the bowl, he will be a wheel-turning monarch;
A shower of flowers from the sky will rain down then.
- 74.** "In a hundred thousand cosmic cycles, of the Okkāka clan origin;
Gotama by name, the Teacher in the world will be.
- 75.** "'His heir in the teachings, legitimate, created by the Teaching;
Having fully understood all mental corruptions, he will attain nibbāna, without
mental corruptions.'
- 76.** "Having come out from the womb, fully aware, mindful;
Five years old by birth, I attained arahantship.
- 77.** "The four analytical knowledges, etc. the Buddha's teaching has been fulfilled."

Thus the Venerable Elder Paduma spoke these verses.

The Life History of the Elder Lotus is the ninth.

10. The Life History of the Elder Asanabodhi

- 78.** "Seven years old by birth, I saw the leader of the world;
With a confident mind, glad at heart, I approached the highest among men.
- 79.** "For the Blessed One Tissa, the foremost of the world, such a one,
Joyful, with a joyful mind, I planted the highest Bodhi tree.
- 80.** "By the name Asana, a tree growing on the earth;
For five years I tended the Asana tree, the highest enlightenment tree.
- 81.** "Having seen the flowering tree, wonderful, hair-raising;
Praising my own action, I approached the foremost Buddha.
- 82.** "Tissa, then the Perfectly Enlightened One, the self-become one, the foremost
person;
Having sat down in the community of monks, he spoke these verses.
- 83.** "'By whom this Bodhi tree was planted, and the Buddha-worship honoured;
Him I will explain, listen to me as I speak.
- 84.** "'For thirty cosmic cycles among the gods, he will exercise divine kingship;
Sixty-four times he will be a wheel-turning monarch.

- 85.** "'Having fallen away from Tusita, urged on by wholesome root;
Having experienced the two successes, he will delight in human existence.
- 86.** "He, with self resolute in striving, at peace, without clinging;
Having fully understood all mental corruptions, he will attain nibbāna, without
mental corruptions.'
- 87.** "Engaged in seclusion, at peace, without clinging;
Like an elephant having cut the bond, I dwell without mental corruptions.
- 88.** "Ninety-two cosmic cycles ago from now, I planted a Bodhi tree then;
I do not know of an unfortunate realm, this is the fruit of planting the Bodhi
tree.
- 89.** "Seventy-four cosmic cycles ago, renowned as Daṇḍasena;
Endowed with the seven treasures, I was a wheel-turning monarch then.
- 90.** "Seventy-three cosmic cycles from now, seven were kings;
Named Samantanemi, kings, universal monarchs.
- 91.** "Twenty-five cosmic cycles ago, a warrior named Puṇṇaka;
Endowed with the seven treasures, a wheel-turning monarch of great power.
- 92.** "The four analytical knowledges, etc. the Buddha's teaching has been fulfilled."

Thus the Venerable Elder Asanabodhi spoke these verses.

The Life History of the Elder Asana-Bodhi is the tenth.

The Chapter on Bījani is the sixth.

Its summary:

Bījanī and Sataraṃsī, Sayana, Udakī, Vāhī;
Parivāra and Padīpa, Dhaja, Padumapūjaka;
And Bodhi is spoken as the tenth, ninety-two verses likewise.



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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