

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)

08. Verses of the Elder Monks (08. Theragāthāpāḷi)

7. The Book of the Sevens (7. Sattakanipāṭo)

[Thag 7.1-5, PTS 49-51]



PaliVerse

5. The Collection of Minor Texts

08. Verses of the Elder Monks

7. The Book of the Sevens

1. Verses of the Elder Sundarasamudda

- 459.** "Adorned, well-dressed, wearing garlands, decorated;
With feet lacquered, having mounted sandals, the courtesan.
- 460.** "Having descended from her sandals, with joined palms before me;
She spoke to me with smooth and soft words, having first smiled."
- 461.** "You are young, gone forth, remain in my instruction;
Enjoy human sensual pleasures, I give you wealth;
I promise you the truth, or I shall carry fire for you.
- 462.** "When we become old, both leaning on a stick;
Both of us shall go forth, a winning throw in both respects."
- 463.** "And having seen her begging, the harlot with palms joined;
Adorned, well-dressed, like a snare of Death laid out.
- 464.** "Then wise attention arose in me - etc. disenchantment was established.
- 465.** "Thereupon my mind was liberated, etc. the Buddha's teaching has been fulfilled."

... Sundarasamudda the elder...

2. Verses of the Elder Lakuṇḍakabhaddiya

- 466.** In the excellent Ambāṭaka park, in the jungle thicket, Bhaddiya;
Having uprooted craving with its root, there the auspicious one meditates.
- 467.** "Some delight in small drums, with lutes and tabors;
But I at the root of a tree, delighted in the Buddha's Dispensation.
- 468.** "If the Buddha were to grant me a boon, and that boon were to be obtained by me;
I would take for the whole world, constant mindfulness of the body.
- 469.** "Those who measured me by appearance, and those who followed by sound;
Overcome by the power of desire and lust, those people do not know me.
- 470.** "He does not know internally, and he does not see externally;
The fool obstructed all around, he indeed is carried away by sound.
- 471.** "He does not know internally, but he sees with insight externally;

Seeing the fruit externally, he too is carried away by sound.

- 472.** "He understands internally, and he sees with insight externally;
One who sees without obstruction, he is not carried away by sound."

... Lakunḍakabhaddiya the elder...

3. Verses of the Elder Bhadda

- 473.** "I was an only son, dear to mother, dear to father;
Obtained through many ascetic practices and through prayers.
- 474.** "And they, out of compassion for me, well-wishing, seeking my benefit;
Both father and mother, brought me near to the Buddha."
- 475.** "This son was obtained with difficulty, delicate, delicately nurtured;
We give him to you, O protector, as an attendant of the Conqueror."
- 476.** "And the Teacher, having accepted me, said this to Ānanda;
'Give the going forth to this one quickly, this one will be of good breed.'
- 477.** "Having given me the going forth, the Teacher, the Conqueror, entered the dwelling;
While the sun had not yet set, thereupon my mind was liberated.
- 478.** "Then the Teacher, having disregarded, emerged from seclusion;
'Come, Bhadda,' he said to me, that was my full ordination.
- 479.** "At seven years old by birth, full ordination was obtained by me;
The three true knowledges have been attained, oh, the good nature of the Dhamma!"

... Bhadda the elder...

4. Verses of the Elder Sopāka

- 480.** "Having seen in the shade of the mansion, the highest of men walking up and down;
Having approached him there, I paid homage to the highest of men.
- 481.** "Having arranged my robe on one shoulder, having joined my hands together;
I walked up and down following the stainless one, the highest of all beings.
- 482.** "Then he asked me questions, the wise one skilled in questions;
Fearless and unafraid, I answered the Teacher.
- 483.** "When the questions had been answered, the Truth-finder gave thanks;
Having looked at the Community of monks, he spoke this matter."
- 484.** "It is a gain for the Aṅgas and Magadhans, for whom this one uses;
Robes and almsfood, requisites and lodgings;
Rising up in respect and proper treatment, it is a gain for them," he said.

- 485.** "From this day forth, Sopāka, approach me for seeing;
Let this itself, Sopāka, be your full ordination."
- 486.** "Seven years old by birth, having received full ordination;
I bear my final body, oh, the good nature of the Dhamma!"

... The Elder Sopāka...

5. Verses of the Elder Sarabhaṅga

- 487.** "Having broken reeds with my hands, having made a hut, I dwelt;
On account of that, 'Sarabhaṅga' was my name by convention.
- 488.** "It is not allowable for me today, to break reeds with my hands;
Training rules have been laid down for us, by Gotama of great fame.
- 489.** "The whole, complete disease, Sarabhaṅga did not see before;
That disease was seen, by one obedient to the Super God.
- 490.** "By the very path that Vipassī went, by the very path that Sikhī and Vessabhū
went;
Kakusandha, Koṇāgamana, and Kassapa, by that same straight path Gotama
went.
- 491.** "Free from craving, without grasping, seven Buddhas grounded upon
elimination;
By whom this Teaching was taught, by those such ones who have become the
Teaching.
- 492.** "The four noble truths, out of compassion for living beings;
Suffering, origin, path, cessation, the elimination of suffering.
- 493.** "In which suffering ceases, endless in the round of rebirths;
Upon the dissolution of this body, and the extinction of life;
There is no other rebirth, I am well liberated everywhere."

... Sarabhaṅga the elder...

The Chapter of Sevens is concluded.

The summary therein:

Sundarasamudda the elder, the elder Lakuṇḍabhaddiya;
Bhadda the elder and Sopāka, Sarabhaṅga the great sage;
In the sevens five elders, thirty-five 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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