

Legends of the Buddhist Saints

Apadānapāli

TRANSLATED BY
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Khadiravaniya Revata

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[9. Khadiravaniya Revata]

The River named Bhāgīrathī¹
is fed by the Himalayas.

I, a Boatman on the near bank,
ferried [folks] over the rough ford. (1) [637]

“The Lord [named] Padumuttara
the Sambuddha, the Best Biped,
with one hundred thousand arahants
will [need to] cross the raging stream.” (2) [638]

Getting many boats tied as one
very carefully by workers
[and] having made a covering,
I honored [him], the Bull of Men. (3) [639]

When the Sambuddha had arrived
he [then] climbed onto that [large] boat.²
In the middle of the river
the Teacher spoke these verses [then]: (4) [640]

“He who ferried the Sambuddha
and undefiled Assembly across,
due to the pleasure in [his] heart
will delight in the world of gods. (5) [641]

A divine mansion will arise,
well made for you, fixed on a boat
which will always sail across the
sky, with a floral canopy. (6) [642]

In the fifty-eighth aeon [thence]
he will be a wheel-turning king,
victorious on [all] four sides
a Kṣatriyan named Tāraṇa.³ (7) [643]

In the fifty-seventh aeon
he’ll be the king⁴ named CChampaka.⁵

¹this is the BJTS spelling; PTS gives *Bhāgīrasī*

²following BJTS and cty in reading *āruhi*

³i.e., “he who crosses,” hearkening to his formative act of merit as well as his former profession.

⁴lit., “kṣatriyan”.

⁵the name of a tree. The *cchampaka* (Sinh. *sapu*) tree is *Magnolia champaca*, formerly classified as *michelia champaca*. English names for the tree include Champak, Joy

With mighty power, he will shine
just like the sun [when it] rises. (8) [644]

In one hundred thousand aeons,
arising in Okkāka's clan,
the one whose name is Gotama
will be the Teacher in the world. (9) [645]

Falling from the highest heaven⁶
he will go to a human state.
He'll be a kinsman of Brahma;⁷
he will be known as Revata. (10) [646]

Setting forth from the house [and world,]
incited by [his] wholesome roots,
he'll renounce in the teaching of
the Blessed One [named] Gotama. (11) [647]

And later on, once he's renounced,
bound to the rule, contemplative,
knowing well all the defilements,
he'll reach nirvana, undefiled." (12) [648]

My effort bearing the burden
brought me release from attachments.
[Now] I'm bearing my last body
in the Supreme Buddha's teaching.⁸ (13) [649]

Karma done a hundred thousand
[aeons hence] showed me [its] fruit here:
well-liberated, arrow-quick,
I have destroyed my defilements. [650]

Seeing my fondness for the woods,
the Sage, Who Reached the World's End,
the Great Sage, therefore did rank me
foremost among the forest monks. [651]

Perfume Tree, Yellow Jade Orchid Tree and Fragrant Himalayan Champaca. It was the Bodhi tree of the seventeenth Buddha of the *Buddhavaṃsa*, Atthadassi. It has highly fragrant cream to yellowish-colored blossoms.

⁶lit, "from the Thirty [three gods]".

⁷*brahmabandhu*, i.e., a brahmin

⁸*Sammāsambuddhasāsane*, lit., "in the dispensation of the Fully Awakened One".

The four analytical modes,
and these eight deliverances,
six special knowledges mastered,
[I have] done what the Buddha taught! (14) [652]

Thus indeed Venerable Khadiravaniya Revata Thera spoke these verses.

The legend of Khadiravaniya Revata Thera is finished.