

Legends of the Buddhist Saints

Apadānapāli

TRANSLATED BY
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Pilindavaccha

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[15. Pilindavacchcha¹]

When the World-Leader Sumedha,
the Best Person, reached nirvana,
with a pleased heart [and] happy mind
I did *pūjā* to [his] stupa. (1) [728]

Gathering together there those
whose defilements had been destroyed,
special knowledges, superpowers,
I gave the monks' Assembly a meal. (2) [729]

At that time I [also] waited
on Sumedha the Blessed One.
He who was known as Sumedha
then provided his thanks [to me]. (3) [730]

Due to the pleasure in [my] heart
I'm born in a [divine] mansion.
Eight-six thousand divine nymphs²
delighted me [in that mansion]. (4) [731]

They submitted only to me,
with every pleasure constantly.
I surpassed [all] the other gods;
that is the fruit of good karma. (5) [732]

In the twenty-fifth aeon [thence]
I was the king³ named Varuṇa.
I was then a wheel-turning king
endowed with extra special food. (6) [733]

They did not have to plant the seed
nor did they need to yoke the plough;
[all] the folks [were able] to feed
on rice uncooked with firewood. (7) [734]

After reigning there [in that way]
I went back⁴ to the divine state.

¹BJTS gives Pilindivacchcha, which is also an alt reading in cty. As DPPN notes this may be a monk different from the famous Pilindavacchcha of whom a much longer *apadāna* appears as #388 {391}, below.

²i.e., *apsaras*

³lit., "kṣatriyan".

⁴lit., "again".

Then too in that same way for me
success in food came into being. (8) [735]

No living being, friend or foe
is doing any harm to me.
I am beloved of them all;
that is the fruit of good karma. (9) [736]

In the thirty thousand aeons
since I provided that gift then,
I've come to know no bad rebirth;
that's the fruit of scented ointment.⁵ (10) [737]

In this [present] lucky aeon
one time I was the lord of men.
I was a wheel-turning king [then]
of great majesty and power. (11) [738]

I established many people
in the five moral precepts [then]
[and] made them achieve good rebirths;
I was beloved of the gods. (12) [739]

The four analytical modes,
and these eight deliverances,
six special knowledges mastered,
[I have] done what the Buddha taught! (13) [740]

Thus indeed Venerable Pilindavacchcha Thera spoke these verses.

The legend of Pilindavacchcha Thera is finished.

⁵presumably his foundational *pūjā* entailed rubbing scented ointment upon the stupa of Sumedha Buddha.