

Legends of the Buddhist Saints

Apadānapāli

TRANSLATED BY
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Sannidhāpaka

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[44. Sannidhāpaka¹]

Building a hut in the forest,
I dwelt upon a mountain [then],
I was happy to get, or not,
in glory as in dishonor.² (1) [1184]

Padumuttara, World-Knower,
Sacrificial Recipient,
with a hundred thousand masters³
came into my presence [back then]. (2) [1185]

Laying out a mat made of grass
for the one named for the lotus,
the Great Hero, who had arrived,
[and] I gave [it] to [him,] the Teacher. (3) [1186]

Happy, and with a happy heart,
with a mind that was very clear,
I provided [both] food⁴ and drink
to him, the Upright [Sambuddha]. (4) [1187]

In the hundred thousand aeons
since I gave [him] that gift back then,
I've come to know no bad rebirth:
that's the fruit of castor oil fruit.⁵ (5) [1188]

In the forty-first aeon hence
I was known as Arindama,⁶
a wheel-turning king with great strength,
possessor of the seven gems. (6) [1189]⁷

¹“Putter-Down;” BJTS, cty read *Sanniṭṭhāpaka*, “Readier” “Preparer”

²*yasena ayasena ccha*, lit., “with glory as with dishonor”

³lit “with a hundred thousand who had the power to subdue others (*vasī*),” namely arahants

⁴*āmaṇḍaṃ*, which PSI defines as “a kind of plant, *Palma Christi*,” Sinhala *eraṇḍu*. The latter (also *ēraṇḍu*, Pāli *eraṇḍa*) = *datti*, croton, i.e., (see Cone, s.v.) the castor oil plant (*Ricinus communis*, the seeds of which are used to make an oil). BJTS gloss on this verse gives *kaekiri*, which is something like a cucumber (genera *Cucumis*), which I suspect is wrong, but the main point is clear, that the hermit gave the Buddha something to eat, presumably whatever fruit he himself was used to eating.

⁵see previous note; some kind of food, BJTS gloss is *kākiri*

⁶“Enemy-Tamer”

⁷text misreads as [1789]

The four analytical modes,
and these eight deliverances,
six special knowledges mastered,
[I have] done what the Buddha taught! (7) [1190]

Thus indeed Venerable Sannidhāpaka⁸ Thera spoke these verses.

The legend of Sannidhāpaka⁹ Thera is finished.

⁸BJTS reads *Sanniṭṭhāpaka*

⁹BJTS reads *Sanniṭṭhāpaka*