

# **Legends of the Buddhist Saints**

*Apadānapāli*

TRANSLATED BY  
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# Satarṇsika

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## [52. Satarāṅsika<sup>1</sup>]

Ascending a rock outcropping,  
the Ultimate Man sat down [there].  
[I], a brahmin mantra-master  
in the region of that mountain, (1) [1265]

having pressed my hands together  
kindly praised [him], the World-Leader,  
the God of Gods, the Bull of Men,  
the Great Hero who had arrived: (2) [1266]

“This is the Buddha, Great Hero,  
the Preacher of the Best Teaching,  
like a blazing column of fire,  
Honored by the monks’ Assembly. (3) [1267]

Imperturbable as the sea,  
hard to cross as is the ocean,  
fearless as the king of the beasts,  
the Eyeful One preaches *Dhamma*.” (4) [1268]

Discerning what I was thinking,  
the [Buddha] named for the lotus,  
standing in the monks’ Assembly,  
the Teacher spoke these verses [then]: (5) [1269]

“This one who’s pressed hands together<sup>2</sup>  
and has praised [me], the Best Buddha,  
for thirty thousand aeons [hence]  
he will exercise divine rule. (6) [1270]

In one hundred thousand aeons  
the one named for Angirasa,  
the Sambuddha, with Blinders Off,<sup>3</sup>  
will come into existence then. (7) [1271]

Worthy heir to that one’s *Dhamma*,  
*Dhamma*’s legitimate offspring,  
the one known as Satarāṅsi  
will become an arahant [then].” (8) [1272]

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<sup>1</sup>“Hundred-Ray One”

<sup>2</sup>i.e., who has pressed his hands together in reverence

<sup>3</sup>*vivattacchaddo* = he whose defilements (*klesas*) have been removed

Being [only] seven years old,  
I went forth into homelessness.  
I am known as Sataṇṣi;  
my light purifies [the whole world].<sup>4</sup> (9) [1273]

On a stage or beneath a tree  
meditator, trance-lover,  
I am bearing my last body  
in the Supreme Buddha's teaching. (10) [1274]

Sixty thousand aeons ago  
there were four men known as Roma.  
They were wheel-turners with great strength  
possessors of the seven gems. (11) [1275]

The four analytical modes,  
and these eight deliverances,  
six special knowledges mastered,  
[I have] done what the Buddha taught! (12) [1276]

Thus indeed Venerable Sataṇṣiya Thera spoke these verses.

The legend of Sataṇṣika<sup>5</sup> Thera is finished.

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<sup>4</sup>*niddhāvate*, could also read, “my light casts out [the sun's],” Sinh: *pāhāya nika diveyi*

<sup>5</sup>BJTS and PTS agree in making the two colophonic renditions of the name disagree