

Legends of the Buddhist Saints

Apadānapāli

TRANSLATED BY
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Dhajādayaka

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[58. Dhajadāyaka¹]

Happy, [and] with a happy heart
I hoisted up a flag [back then]
at the stupendous Bodhi Tree²
of Padumuttara Buddha. (1) [1314]

Having picked up the fallen leaves
I threw [them all] away outside.
As though facing the Sambuddha,
the Fully Free One, Undefined,
I worshipped the superb Bodhi,
clean inside [and] clean outside [too]. (2) [1315]³

Padumuttara, World-Knower,
Sacrificial Recipient,
standing in the monks' Assembly
the Teacher spoke these verses [then]: (3) [1316]

“Because of both this service and
this donation of a flag [here,]
for one hundred thousand aeons
he will go to no bad rebirth.
Among the gods he will enjoy
abundant divine happiness. (4) [1317-1318a-b]⁴

And various hundreds of times,
he'll be king of a country.
He will be a wheel-turning king;
his name will [then] be Uggata.⁵ (5) [1318c-f]

Having enjoyed [this] happiness,
incited by [his] wholesome roots,
he will delight in the Teaching
of Gotama the Blessed One.” (6) [1319]

I am one bent on exertion,

¹“Flag-Giver”

²reading *pādaputtame* with BJTS for PTS *pādamuttame*

³BJTS agrees with PTS in presenting this as a six-footed verse.

⁴BJTS agrees with PTS in presenting vv. (4-5) [1317-1318] as containing a total of six feet, but disagree on whether the first (PTS) or the second (BJTS) of these verses is the six-footed one

⁵“Risen Up”.

calmed,⁶ devoid of grounds for rebirth;⁷
I am bearing my last body
in the Supreme Buddha's teaching. (7) [1320]

Fifty-one thousand aeons [hence]
[I was] known as [King] Uggata.
Fifty thousand aeons [ago]
[I was] the king⁸ known as Megha. (8) [1321]

The four analytical modes,
and these eight deliverances,
six special knowledges mastered,
[I have] done what the Buddha taught! (9) [1322]

Thus indeed Venerable Dhajadāyaka Thera spoke these verses.

The legend of Dhajadāyaka is finished.

⁶*upasanto*

⁷*nirūpadhi*

⁸lit., "the kṣatriyan"