

Legends of the Buddhist Saints

Apadānapāli

TRANSLATED BY
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Adḍhacelaka

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[93. Addhacchelaka¹]

I gave a half [a piece] of cloth
to Tissa, the Blessed One [then].
I was extremely miserable,
[and] plagued with an awful odor. (1) [1566]

Giving that half a cloth I thrilled
in heaven for a [whole] aeon.
During the aeons that remained
I completed that good karma.² (2) [1567]

In the ninety-two aeons since
I donated that cloth back then,
I've come to know no bad rebirth:
that is the fruit of giving cloth. (3) [1568]

In the forty-ninth aeon [hence]
there were thirty-two lords of men,
kings who turned the wheel [of the law]
known as Samanta-Odanā.³ (4) [1569]

The four analytical modes,
and these eight deliverances,
six special knowledges mastered,
[I have] done what the Buddha taught! (5) [1570]

Thus indeed Venerable Addhacchelaka Thera spoke these verses.

The legend of Addhacchelaka Thera is finished.

¹“Half-Cloth-er”

²lit., “That wholesomeness [kusala] was finished by me”. The meaning is that the good effects of the deed were not exhausted by the aeon in heaven; in the subsequent aeons too he experienced good results from it.

³“Boiled Rice on All Sides.” BJTS read Samantā-cch-Chadana, “Covered on All Sides,” which would better fit the nature of the original good deed, and is perhaps to be preferred here.