

Legends of the Buddhist Saints

Apadānapāli

TRANSLATED BY
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Gandhodakiya

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[124. Gandhodakiya¹]

Sitting in [my] superb palace,
I saw the Victor, Vipassi,
splendid like an arjuna tree,²
the Omniscient One, Undefined. (1) [1800]

As the World-Leader went across³
the area near the palace,
his aura spread out [everywhere]
as though [that light came from] the sun.⁴ (2) [1801]

Taking up [some] perfumed water
I sprinkled the Best Buddha [then],
[and] with that pleasure in [my] heart,
I passed away [right] on the spot. (3) [1802]

In the ninety-one aeons since
I sprinkled that perfumed water,
I've come to know no bad rebirth:
that's the fruit of Buddha-*pūjā*. (4) [1803]

In the thirty-first aeon hence
the Kṣatriyan named Sugandha,⁵
was a wheel-turner with great strength,
possessor of the seven gems. (5) [1804]

The four analytical modes,
and these eight deliverances,
six special knowledges mastered,
[I have] done what the Buddha taught! (6) [1805]

Thus indeed Venerable Gandhodakiya Thera spoke these verses.

The legend of Gandhodakiya Thera is finished.

¹"Perfumed Water-er"

²*kakudha* (a.k.a. *ajjuna*, Sinhala *kumbuk gasa*, *kubuk*, *Terminalia arjuna*) is an impressively large, shade-giving tree that thrives on the edges of tanks and lakes.

³lit., "went"

⁴reading *tassa yathā sataraṃsito* with BJTS for PTS *sataraṃsimhi nibbuta* ("[as though] when the sun went out").

⁵"Good Scent"