

Legends of the Buddhist Saints

Apadānapāli

TRANSLATED BY
JONATHAN S. WALTERS,
WHITMAN COLLEGE, 2017

Vīthisammajjaka

Jonathan S. Walters

Copyright © 2026 Jonathan S. Walters.

PUBLISHED BY JONATHAN S. WALTERS AND WHITMAN COLLEGE

<https://apadanatranslation.com>

Licensed under the Attribution, Non-Commercial, Share Alike (CC BY-NC-SA 4.0) license (<https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-sa/4.0/>).

Printed September 2026

[153. Vīthisammajjaka¹]

[I saw] the World-Chief setting out
like the rising hundred-rayed [sun],
like the [mid-day] yellow-rayed sun,
like the moon² on the fifteenth [day].³(1) [2007]

There were sixty-eight thousand [monks],
who'd all destroyed the defilements,
surrounding the Sambuddha [then],
the Biped-Lord, the Bull of Men. (2) [2008]

After I had swept that road for
the World-Leader, the Charioteer,
I [then] raised up a banner there,
with a mind that was very clear. (3) [2009]

In the ninety-one aeons since
I offered that banner [to him,]
I've come to know no bad rebirth:
that's the fruit of giving banners. (4) [2010]

In the fourth aeon [after that]
I was a king with great power,
who was famous as Sudhaja⁴
and was endowed with every sign. (5) [2011]

The four analytical modes,
and these eight deliverances,
six special knowledges mastered,
[I have] done what the Buddha taught! (6) [2012]

Thus indeed Venerable Vīthisammajjaka Thera spoke these verses.

The legend of Vīthisammajjaka Thera is finished.

¹“Road-Sweeper”

²reading *cchandaṃ* (BJTS) for *tad-āhu* (“that was,” PTS)

³the fifteenth day of the lunar month, when it is full.

⁴“Good Banner.” This reading of the name follows BJTS. PTS reads “by the name Vissuta”.