

Legends of the Buddhist Saints

Apadānapāli

TRANSLATED BY
JONATHAN S. WALTERS,
WHITMAN COLLEGE, 2017

Kadambapupphiya

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

[156. Kadambapupphiya¹]

In the Himalayan region,
there's a mountain named Kukkuṭa.²
At the foot of that [same] mountain,
seven [Lonely] Buddhas dwelt [then].³ (1) [2022]

Seeing a kadam [tree] in bloom,
like the risen king of [all] lamps,⁴
taking [blossoms] with both [my] hands
I placed them upon the Buddhas. (2) [2023]

In the ninety-four aeons since
I did that flower-*pūjā* [then],
I've come to know no bad rebirth:
that's the fruit of Buddha-*pūjā*. (3) [2024]

In the ninety-second aeon
seven [named] Phullanāyaka⁵
were wheel-turning kings with great strength,
possessors of the seven gems. (4) [2025]

The four analytical modes,
and these eight deliverances,
six special knowledges mastered,
[I have] done what the Buddha taught! (5) [2026]

Thus indeed Venerable Kadambapupphiya Thera spoke these verses.

The legend of Kadambapupphiya Thera is finished.

¹"Kadamba-Flower-er". Kadamba (Sinhala *koḷom*) is a flowering tree, *Nauclea cordifolia*.

²"Fowl".

³reading *vasanti te* (BJTS) for *vasantike* ("in the middle of the house," PTS)

⁴i.e., according to the cty, the moon.

⁵"Blossoming Leader".