

Legends of the Buddhist Saints

Apadānapāli

TRANSLATED BY
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Kumudadāyaka

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[160. Kumudadāyaka¹]

Close to the Himalayan range,
there was a large, natural lake
covered with pink and blue lotuses,
with white lotuses strewn about.² (1) [2043]

At that time I was a bird there,
known by the name of Kakudha,³
learned in merit/not merit,⁴
moral and intelligent [too]. (2) [2044]

Padumuttara, World-Knower,
Sacrificial Recipient,
the Great Sage wandered into the
vicinity of that [great] lake. (3) [2045]

Taking a water-born lotus,
I gave it to the Great Sage [then].
Discerning what I was thinking,
the Sage so Great accepted [it]. (4) [2046]

After having given that gift,
incited by [my] wholesome roots,
for one hundred thousand aeons
I've come to know no bad rebirth. (5) [2047]

In the sixteen-hundredth aeon
there were people, [numbering] eight,
[all of whom] were named Varuṇa,
wheel-turning kings with great power. (6) [2048]

The four analytical modes,
and these eight deliverances,

¹“White-Lotus-Donor”

²the three types of lotus here are, respectively, the pinkish or red *paduma* (Sinhala *piyum*), the blueish or purple *uppala* (Sinhala *upul*, *neḷum*, *nil mānel*) and the *puṇḍarika*, or white lotus, identical to the *kumuda* in his name, which is the type of flower he gives to Padumuttara Buddha in v. [2046]..

³“arjuna Tree”. *Kakudha* (a.k.a. *ajjuṇa*, Sinhala *kumbuk gasa*, *terminalia arjuna*) is an impressively large, shade-giving tree that grows near tanks and lakes. Crataeva Hygrophyla

⁴that is, learned (clever, wise) at distinguishing what is meritorious from what is not (according to the cty: what is *kusala* or wholesome from what is *akusala*, not wholesome).

six special knowledges mastered,
[I have] done what the Buddha taught! (7) [2049]

Thus indeed Venerable Kumudadāyaka Thera spoke these verses.

The legend of Kumudadāyaka Thera is finished.

The Summary:

Bandhujīva, Tambapupphī,
Vīthī, Kakkārapupphiya,
Mandārava, and Kadambī,
Sulika, Nāgapupphiya,
Punnāga, [and] Komudī:
there are six and fifty verses
declared [in this chapter, complete].

The Bandhujīvaka Chapter, the Sixteenth.