

Legends of the Buddhist Saints

Apadānapāli

TRANSLATED BY
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Samādapaka

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[169. Samādapaka¹]

In the city, Bandhumatī,
there was a large multitude² [then].
I was most excellent of them,
and they were [all] my companions.³ (1) [2093]

Having called them all together
I [then] promoted good karma,⁴
“let’s build the unsurpassed merit-field,
the [monks’] Assembly, a building.”⁵ (2) [2094]

Those followers of my wishes⁶
agreed [by saying], “Excellent!”
and [when] they finished the building,
we gave⁷ it to Vipassi [then]. (3) [2095]

In the ninety-one aeons since
I gave [him] that building back then,
I’ve come to know no bad rebirth:
that’s the fruit of giving buildings. (4) [2096]

In the fifty-ninth aeon [hence]
there was one lord of the people,
a wheel-turning king with great strength,
known by the name of Āveyya.⁸ (5) [2097]

The four analytical modes,
and these eight deliverances,
six special knowledges mastered,
[I have] done what the Buddha taught! (6) [2098]

Thus indeed Venerable Samādapaka Thera spoke these verses.

The legend of Samādapaka Thera is finished.

¹“Instructor”

²see note to v. [1601]; this is the same term, *mahāpūgagaṇa*.

³this follows BJTS Sinhala gloss. BJTS reads *baddhaccharā*, “connected farers.” PTS reads *paddhaccharā*, One would prefer *sadāccharā*, or perhaps *saddhaccharā* (“fellow faithful”).

⁴lit., “I caused them to undertake meritorious action.”

⁵lit., “a large, one-peaked building (*māḷa*)”. Cf note to 1915.

⁶lit., “they who followed under the power of my wishes/intentions”

⁷*adamhase*, BJTS glosses *api vipassi budurajunhaṭṭe ya dunumha*

⁸“Seen”? BJTS reads Ādeyya, “That which should be taken,” which is not much more satisfactory.