

Legends of the Buddhist Saints

Apadānapāli

TRANSLATED BY
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Kuṭajapupphiya

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Kuṭajapupphiya Chapter, the Nineteenth

[181. Kuṭajapupphiya¹]

[I saw] the golden Sambuddha,
like the risen hundred-rayed [sun],
surveying [all] the directions,
while he traveled [up] in the sky. (1) [2152]

Noticing some winter cherry,
well spread out² and blossoming [there],
plucking [a flower] from that tree,
I [then] offered [it] to Phussa. (2) [2153]

In the ninety-two aeons since
I offered [that] flower [to him,]
I've come to know no bad rebirth:
that's the fruit of Buddha-*pūjā*. (3) [2154]

In the seventeenth aeon hence
there were three [men named] Pupphita,³
wheel-turning kings with great power,
possessors of the seven gems. (4) [2155]

The four analytical modes,
and these eight deliverances,
six special knowledges mastered,
[I have] done what the Buddha taught! (5) [2156]

Thus indeed Venerable Kuṭajapupphiya Thera spoke these verses.

The legend of Kuṭajapupphiya Thera is finished.

¹“Arctic-Snow-Flower-er”. Sinhala *keḷinda*, aka Arctic Snow, Winter Cherry, *nerium antidysenterica*, as its name implies used for dysentery. See below, #514 {517} for a different *apadāna* ascribed to a monk of the same name.

²the compound *vitthatasamoṭṭhaṭa* means “spread out and spread over;” I try to capture the reduplication with the qualifier “well”. The point is that it was a large, expansive vine

³“Flowering”.