

Legends of the Buddhist Saints

Apadānapāli

TRANSLATED BY
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Ākāsukkhapiya

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Padumukkhepa Chapter, the Twenty-Seventh

[261. Ākāsuṅkhipiya¹]

Taking two water-born flowers,²
I approached the Bull Among Men,
Siddhattha, gold-colored [Buddha],
traveling around the bazaar. (1) [2540]

I placed one flower down at the
two feet of the Best of Buddhas.
And taking the other³ flower
I threw [it] up into the sky. (2) [2541]

In the ninety-four aeons since
I offered that flower [to him],
I've come to know no bad rebirth:
that's the fruit of giving flowers. (3) [2542]

In the thirty-second aeon
ago lived one lord of the earth
known as Antalikkhacchara,⁴
a wheel-turning king with great strength. (4) [2543]

The four analytical modes,
and these eight deliverances;
six special knowledges mastered:
[I have] done what the Buddha taught! (5) [2544]

Thus indeed Venerable Ākāsuṅkhipiya Thera spoke these verses.

The legend of Ākāsuṅkhipiya Thera is finished.

¹“Sky-Scatterer” or “Thrown Up Into the Sky”. The name of each Chapter usually corresponds to the proper name of the subject of the first *apadāna* in it. The same is only partly true here. While the chapter name, *paduma-ukkhēpa* (“Pink Lotus Thrown Upward”), alludes both linguistically and descriptively to the name of the Thera, it is not, in fact, his proper name.

²*jalaṇṇagge dve gayhā*. This follows the *cty*, which explains: *jale uḍaḱe jāte agge uppālādayo dve pupphe gaheṭvā* (“taking two flowers such as lotus, the best ones, born in the water”)

³lit., “and one”

⁴“Atmosphere-Wanderer”