

Legends of the Buddhist Saints

Apadānapāli

TRANSLATED BY
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Bilālidāyaka

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[265. Biḷālidāyaka¹]

In the Himalayan region,
there's a mountain named Romasa.²
At the foot of that mountain lived
a monk with senses [well-]controlled. (1) [2557]

Having gathered tuberous roots,
I donated [them] to [that] monk.
The Great Hero rejoiced [in that],
the Self-Become, Unconquered One: (2) [2558]

“Tuberous roots you've given me
with a mind that is very clear.
Transmigrating in existence
the fruit will be reborn for you.” (3) [2559]

In the ninety-four aeons since
I gave [him] those tuberous roots,
I've come to know no bad rebirth:
that's the fruit of tuberous roots. (4) [2560]

The four analytical modes,
and these eight deliverances,
six special knowledges mastered,
[I have] done what the Buddha taught! (5) [2561]

Thus indeed Venerable Biḷālidāyaka Thera spoke these verses.

The legend of Biḷālidāyaka Thera is finished.

¹“Tuberous-Root-Donor”. Cty glosses *biḷāli* as *ālavaṃ*, “potato”

²I am unclear about the meaning of this name. Cf. *roma*, body hair, *romaka*, feathered?, or *romantheti*, chews the cud. The mountain is named elsewhere (#517) and the name is used also of a previous Pacchchekabuddha (#279, #347, #433 {436}, below), and a rebirth-precursor of other arahants, too (#226, above; #299, below; in DPPN the name is *only* witnessed in *Apadāna* (plus one instance in *ThagA* i.399)