

Legends of the Buddhist Saints

Apadānapāli

TRANSLATED BY
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Ekañjaliya

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[275. Ekañjaliya¹]

I gave an open dwelling place
to the Recluse, the Greatest Sage,
dwelling in [the shade of] a fig²
on a [well-]prepared³ mat of leaves. (1) [2600]

Raising my hands pressed together,⁴
I spread out a mat of flowers
for Tissa, the Best of Bipeds,
Lord of the World, the Neutral One. (2) [2601]

In the ninety-two aeons since
I fashioned that mat of flowers,
I've come to know no bad rebirth:
that's the fruit of [giving] a mat. (3) [2602]

In the fourteenth aeon ago
I was a ruler of people,⁵
a wheel-turning king with great strength,
known as⁶ Eka-añjalika.⁷ (4) [2603]

The four analytical modes,
and these eight deliverances,
six special knowledges mastered,
[I have] done what the Buddha taught! (5) [2604]

Thus indeed Venerable Ekañjaliya Thera spoke these verses.

The legend of Ekañjaliya Thera is finished.

¹“One Salute”

²*udumbara*, Sinh. *dimbul*

³or “fixed,” “established”

⁴lit., “Raising up *añjali*”

⁵*manujâdhipo*, lit., “exerciser of power over those born of Manu.”

⁶lit., “named,” “by name”

⁷only slightly variant form with the same meaning as the this-life name, “One Salute”