

Legends of the Buddhist Saints

Apadānapāli

TRANSLATED BY
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Tiraṅsiya

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[318. Tiraṇṣiya¹]

On a mountainside, Siddhattha,
like a lion which is well-born,
had lit up all the directions,
like a fire-mass² on the mountain. (1) [2806]

Having seen Buddha's effulgence,
like the effulgence of the sun,
and like the moon's effulgence [too],
great happiness arose for me. (2) [2807]

Seeing the three effulgences,
seeing the Ultimate Hearer,³
placing deer-hide on one shoulder,
I praised the Leader of the World. (3) [2808]

The three makers of effulgence
dispelling darkness in the world,⁴
are the moon, and also the sun,
and Buddha, Leader of the World. (4) [2809]

Illustrating these similes,
I spoke praises of the Great Sage.⁵
Having extolled Buddha's virtues,
I joyed an aeon in heaven. (5) [2810]

In the ninety-four aeons since
I extolled the Buddha [back then],
I've come to know no bad rebirth:
that is the fruit of extolling. (6) [2811]

In the sixty-first aeon hence
there was one [man], Ñāṇadhara,⁶
a wheel-turning king with great strength,
possessor of the seven gems. (7) [2812]

¹"Three Rays"

²or "column of fire"

³*sāvakuttamaṇ*, which I follow BJTS gloss in treating as a Buddha-epithet.

⁴lit., "dispelling the darkness of the world in the world," repeating *loka* perhaps for emphasis.

⁵lit., "the Great Sage was praised by me," which creates syntactical confusion in English given the grammar of the first foot, whose subject is apparently the narrator.

⁶"Knowledge-Bearer"

The four analytical modes,
and these eight deliverances,
six special knowledges mastered,
[I have] done what the Buddha taught! (8) [2813]

Thus indeed Venerable Tiraṇṣiya Thera spoke these verses.

The legend of Tiraṇṣiya Thera is finished.