

Legends of the Buddhist Saints

Apadānapāli

TRANSLATED BY
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Kandalīpupphiya

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[319. Kandalīpupphiya¹]

I was a farmer at that time
on the banks of River Indus.
Bound in service to another,
I looked not for that other's rice.² (1) [2814]

Wandering along the Indus,
I saw Siddhattha, the Victor,
sitting down in meditation³
like a lotus flower in bloom. (2) [2815]

I having cut off [all] the stems
of seven plantain flowers [then],
did spread them out upon the head
of Buddha, Kinsman of the Sun. (3) [2816]

Attentive to the protocol,
[back then] after I had approached
the Golden-Colored Sambuddha,
Wise One, With Senses Well-Controlled,
– Hard to Approach like a tusker,
a *mātāṅga* in three-fold rut —
having pressed my hands together
I worshipped [Buddha], the Teacher. (4-5) [2817-2818]

In the ninety-four aeons since
I did *pūjā* [with] that flower,
I've come to know no bad rebirth:
that's the fruit of Buddha-*pūjā*. (6) [2819]

The four analytical modes,
and these eight deliverances,
six special knowledges mastered,
[I have] done what the Buddha taught! (7) [2820]

Thus indeed Venerable Kandalīpupphiya Thera spoke these verses.

The legend of Kandalīpupphiya Thera is finished.

¹"Kandalī-Flower-er." BJTS takes *kandalī* as *kadalī*, plantain, which has other witness in the tradition (cf. Cone, sv) and which is specified in v. 3. Hence, "Plantain-Flower-er".

²i.e., I was self-sufficient, I earned my own keep. This follows the reading of BJTS Sinhala gloss.

³lit., "seated with *samādhi*