

Legends of the Buddhist Saints

Apadānapāli

TRANSLATED BY
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Ummāpupphiya

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Printed September 2026

Ummāpupphiya Chapter, the Thirty-Third

[321. Ummāpupphiya¹]

I saw the Ultimate Person,
Siddhattha, the Unconquered One,
Attentive One, He Who Attained,
sitting down² in meditation. (1) [2825]

Having gathered [blue] flax³ flowers,
I offered [them] to the Buddha.
All the flowers faced the same way,
stems turned upward, heads turned downward. (2) [2826]

Like pretty pictures they remained,
floral canopy in the sky.
Because of that mental pleasure,
I was reborn in Tusitā. (3) [2827]

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*. (4) [2828]

In the fifty-fifth aeon hence
there was one [man], lord of the earth,
known as Samantacchchadana,⁴
a wheel-turning king with great strength. (5) [2829]

The four analytical modes,
and these eight deliverances,
six special knowledges mastered,
[I have] done what the Buddha taught! (6) [2830]

Thus indeed Venerable Ummāpupphiya Thera spoke these verses.

The legend of Ummāpupphiya Thera is finished.

¹“[Blue] Flax-Flower-er.” cf. #145.

²*samādhinā upaviṭṭham* fr *upavisati* (reading BJTS for PTS *upāviṭṭham*)

³*ummāpuppha* (Skt. *umāpuṣpa*), *Linum usitatissimum*, Linseed. The small flowers of this fiber-bearing plant are distinctively and deeply blue in color, and the seeds, as the English name implies, bear a useful oil.

⁴“Covered on all Sides”