

Legends of the Buddhist Saints

Apadānapāli

TRANSLATED BY
JONATHAN S. WALTERS,
WHITMAN COLLEGE, 2017

Nimittasañña

Jonathan S. Walters

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[325. Nimittasañña¹]

On CChandabhāgā River's bank,
I dwelt in a hermitage [then].
I saw a golden-colored deer,
[which] was wandering through the woods. (1) [2852]

Having pleased [my] heart in [that] deer,
I recalled the World's Best [Buddha].
With that [same] pleasure in [my] heart,
I recalled the other Buddhas: (2) [2853]

“Those Buddhas who have passed away,
Thus-Gone-Ones, [while they] were living,
in this very same way shined forth,
like [golden] deer-kings for the heart.” (3) [2854]

In the ninety-four aeons since
I obtained that perception then,
I've come to know no bad rebirth:
the fruit of perceiving Buddhas. (4) [2855]

In the twenty-seventh aeon
hence there was one lord of the earth,
[who] was named Araññasatta,²
a wheel-turning king with great strength. (5) [2856]

The four analytical modes,
and these eight deliverances,
six special knowledges mastered,
[I have] done what the Buddha taught! (6) [2857]

Thus indeed Venerable Nimittasañña¹ Thera spoke these verses.

The legend of Nimittasañña¹ Thera is finished.

¹“Perceiver of the Signs”

²“Forest-Creature”