

Legends of the Buddhist Saints

Apadānapāli

TRANSLATED BY
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Daṇḍadāyaka

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[352. {355.}¹ Daṇḍadāyaka²]

Plunged into the forest, the woods,
I cut down [some] bamboo back then.
Having taken a walking stick,³
I gave it to the Assembly.⁴ (1) [3157]

Due to the pleasure in [my] heart,
honored with, “happiness to you!,”
having given that walking stick,
I departed, facing the north. (2) [3158]

In the ninety-four aeons since
I gave [the monks] that stick back then,
I’ve come to know no bad rebirth:
that’s the fruit of giving a stick. (3) [3159]

The four analytical modes,
and these eight deliverances,
six special knowledges mastered,
[I have] done what the Buddha taught! (4) [3160]

Thus indeed Venerable Daṇḍadāyaka Thera spoke these verses.
The legend of Daṇḍadāyaka Thera is finished.

¹*Apadāna* numbers provided in {fancy brackets} correspond to the BJTS edition, which contains more individual poems than does the PTS edition dictating the main numbering of this translation.

²“Stick Donor.” This same *apadāna* (save for the addition of the first two verses of the standard three-verse concluding refrain, elided here) is repeated below, with the same title, as #523 {526}

³*ālambana* or *ālamba*, lit., “hang onto,” is anything to hang onto or which provides support. I understand it as a cane for walking, a typical accoutrement of peripatetic Buddhist monks.

⁴*saṅghassa*, i.e., the Assembly of monks