

Legends of the Buddhist Saints

Apadānapāli

TRANSLATED BY
JONATHAN S. WALTERS,
WHITMAN COLLEGE, 2017

Saraṇāgamaniya

Jonathan S. Walters

Copyright © 2026 Jonathan S. Walters.

PUBLISHED BY JONATHAN S. WALTERS AND WHITMAN COLLEGE

<https://apadanatranslation.com>

Licensed under the Attribution, Non-Commercial, Share Alike (CC BY-NC-SA 4.0) license (<https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-sa/4.0/>).

Printed September 2026

[356. {359.}¹ Saraṇāgamaniya²]

We boarded a boat at that time,
monk and I,³ an *ajīvaka*.
When the boat was broken [to bits,
that Buddhist monk gave me refuge. (1) [3173]

In the thirty-one aeons since
he gave refuge to me [back then],
I've come to know no bad rebirth:
the fruit of going for refuge. (2) [3174]

The four analytical modes,
and these eight deliverances,
six special knowledges mastered,
[I have] done what the Buddha taught! (3) [3175]

Thus indeed Venerable Saraṇāgamaniya Thera spoke these verses.

The legend of Saraṇāgamaniya 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“Refuge-Goer,” cf. #23, #113, #298; the same text is repeated verbatim (except for the addition of the first two verses of the standard three-verse concluding refrain, omitted here), with the same title, as #520 {523}, below.

³BJTS reads *vahaṇ* (“the current”)