

Legends of the Buddhist Saints

Apadānapāli

TRANSLATED BY
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Bhisamulāladāyaka

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[360. {363.}¹ Bhisamuḷāladāyaka²]

The Sambuddha was named³ Phussa,
the [Great] Master of Everything.⁴
The Seclusion-Lover,⁵ Wise One,⁶
came into my presence [back then]. (1) [3187]

Bringing pleasure to [my] heart in
him, the Victor, Great Compassion,
taking lotus roots and stems, I
gave [them] to the Best of Buddhas. (2) [3188]

In the ninety-two aeons since
I gave that lotus-root back then,
I’ve come to know no bad rebirth:
that’s the fruit of lotus-root gifts. (3) [3189]

The four analytical modes,
and these eight deliverances,
six special knowledges mastered,
[I have] done what the Buddha taught! (4) [3190]

Thus indeed Venerable Bhisamuḷāladāyaka Thera spoke these verses.
The legend of Bhisamuḷāladāyaka 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“Lotus Root and Stem Donor.” *Bhisa* refers to the lotus “potato” (Sinh. *ala*) found under the mud; *muḷāla* refers to the lotus “stem” (Sinh. *daṇḍu*, dictionary gives *dāli*). The former is starchy and crunchy; the latter is like a green vegetable. Both are delicious staples of village diets to this day. Cf. #65.

³reading *nāmāsi* with BJTS (and PTS alt.) for PTS *nāmā ti*

⁴lit., “master of all things (*dhamma*)” (or “Master of All Teachings”)

⁵*viveka-kāma*

⁶*suppañña*