

Legends of the Buddhist Saints

Apadānapāli

TRANSLATED BY
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Pāṭalipupphiya

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[369. {372.}¹ Pāṭalipupphiya²]

The Blessed One named Vipassi,
the Self-Become One, Chief Person,
the Sun, the Victor, entered then,
surrounded by [all] his students. (1) [3225]

Three [fresh] *pāṭali*³ flowers were
placed [there] in my lap [at that time].
Wishing to bathe my head I went
to the river[side] bathing place.⁴ (2) [3226]

Going out from Bandhumatī,
I saw the Leader of the World,
bright like a blue water lily,⁵
blazing up like a fire-altar,
excellent as a tiger bull,
like a lion of good breeding,
traveling in front of the monks,
honored by the monks' Assembly. (3-4) [3227-3228]

Pleased in him, the Well-Gone [Buddha],
Cleansing the Stain of Defilement,⁶
taking [those] three flowers I
did *pūjā* to the Best Buddha. (5) [3229]

In the ninety-one aeons since
I did *pūjā* [with] that flower,
I've come to know no bad rebirth:
that's the fruit of Buddha-*pūjā*. (6) [3230]

The four analytical modes,
and these eight deliverances,
six special knowledges mastered,
[I have] done what the Buddha taught! (7) [3231]

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"Trumpet-Flower-er."

³*Pāṭali* is Sinh. *paḷol*, *Bignonia suaveolens*, *sterospermum suaveolens* (*Bignon.*), trumpet-flower tree, the Bodhi Tree of Vipassi Buddha. Cf. #71, #78, #96, #248, #255.

⁴*naditittha*, the "ford" (Sinh. *toṭupola*, *maṇkaḍa*) fashioned for easy descent into the water to bathe.

⁵*indīvara*, *Cassia fistula*

⁶*kilesamaladhovana*

Thus indeed Venerable Pāṭalipupphiya Thera spoke these verses.

The legend of Pāṭalipupphiya Thera is finished.