

Legends of the Buddhist Saints

Apadānapāli

TRANSLATED BY
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Kāsumāriphaladāyaka

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[377. {380.}¹ Kāsumāriphaladāyaka²]

I saw the Buddha, Stainless One,
the World's Best One, the Bull of Men,
sitting down on a mountainside,
shining like a dinner-plate tree.³ (1) [3272]

Happy, with pleasure in [my] heart,
hands pressed together on [my] head,
gathering *kāsumāri*⁴ fruit,
I gave [it] to the Best Buddha. (2) [3273]

In the thirty-one aeons since
I gave that fruit [to the Buddha],
I've come to know no bad rebirth:
that is the fruit of giving fruit. (3) [3274]

Being in Best Buddha's presence
was a very good thing for me.
The three knowledges are attained;
[I have] done what the Buddha taught! (4) [3275]

My defilements are [now] burnt up;
all [new] existence is destroyed.
Like elephants with broken chains,
I am living without constraint. (5) [3276]

The four analytical modes,
and these eight deliverances,
six special knowledges mastered,
[I have] done what the Buddha taught! (6) [3277]

Thus indeed Venerable Kāsumāriphaladāyaka Thera spoke these verses.

The legend of Kāsumāriphaladāyaka 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"*Kāsumāri*-Fruit Donor." This *apadāna* also appears as #500 {503} below, with the same name and only the slight change that the first and second verses of the three-verse concluding refrain are inverted.

³*kaṇṇikāra*, *kaṇikāra* = Sinhala *kinihiriya*, *Pterospermum acerifolium*, produces a brilliant mass of yellow flowers; Engl. a.k.a. karnikar, bayur tree, maple-leaf bayur, caniyar (now archaic?), dinner-plate tree; Bodhi tree of Siddhattha Buddha.

⁴*kāsumārī* (Skt. *kāśmārī*) is a small timber tree, *Gmelina arborea* (*Verb.*), which is called *āt demaṭa* in Sinhala. It also bears yellow flowers.

The Summary:

Bodhi and Pāṭalipupphi,
Uppali, Sattapaṇṇiya,
Gandhamuṭṭhi and CChitaka,
Tāla, Sumanadāmaka,
and Kāsumāriphala too:
one fewer than sixty verses.

The Bodhivandaka Chapter, the Thirty-Eighth