

Legends of the Buddhist Saints

Apadānapāli

TRANSLATED BY
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Salāmaṇḍapiya

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[395. {398.}¹ Salalāmaṇḍapiya²]

When Kakusandha passed away,³
the Brahmin, the Perfected One,⁴
gathering *salalā*⁵ flowers,⁶
I constructed a pavilion.⁷ (1) [3821]

Having gone to Tāvatiṃsa,
I received a supreme mansion.
I surpassed [all] the other gods:
that is the fruit of good karma. (2) [3822]

Whether it's the day or the night,
walking back and forth or⁸ standing,
I'm covered with *salalā* blooms:
that is the fruit of good karma. (3) [3823]

Within just this [present] aeon⁹
since I [thus] worshipped¹⁰ the Buddha,
I've come to know no bad rebirth:
that's the fruit of Buddha-*pūjā*. (4) [3824]

My defilements are [now] burnt up;
all [new] existence is destroyed.
All defilements are exhausted;
now there will be no more rebirth. (5) [3825]

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"*Salalā*-Pavilion-er". BJTS spells the name (and the term, a type of flower) *salala*. This same *apadāna* is presented below, almost verbatim (there the more typical form of the first verse of the concluding refrain "Like elephants..." replaces the less typical "All defilements are...." found here), as #554. There it is ascribed to Kimbila Thera, a historical monk.

³lit., "reached nirvana"

⁴*vusīmati*, loc. of *vusīmant* = *vusitavant*, "one who has reached perfection" "the Master"

⁵PTS *salalā*, BJTS *salalā*, BJTS Sinh.gloss = *hora* = "large timber tree yielding resin and oil, *Dipterocarpus zeylanicus* (*Dipterocarp*.)" (Bot. dict.)

⁶reading *mālaṃ* with BJTS for PTS *mālaṇ*, "pavilion" "ritual marker"

⁷lit., "I caused a pavilion (*maṇḍapa*) to be constructed," caus. of *karoti*

⁸lit., "and," *ccha*

⁹Kakusandha Buddha lived at an earlier time in the present aeon, one of five Buddhas said to have done so. The author demonstrates awareness of the little wrinkle this creates in applying this typical summary verse, which had been modified accordingly

¹⁰lit., "did *pūjā*"

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! (6) [3826]

The four analytical modes,
and these eight deliverances,
six special knowledges mastered,
[I have] done what the Buddha taught! (7) [3827]

Thus indeed Venerable Saḷamaṇḍapiya Thera spoke these verses.

The legend of Saḷamaṇḍapiya Thera is finished.