

Legends of the Buddhist Saints

Apadānapāli

TRANSLATED BY
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Jātipupphiya

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Printed September 2026

[455. {458.}¹ Jātipupphiya²]

When the Blessed One passed away,³
Padumuttara, Greatly Famed,
putting flowers into a box,⁴
I offered them to the relics.⁵ (1) [4845]

Bringing pleasure to [my] heart there,
I went to Nimmāna [heaven].⁶
Residing in⁷ the world of gods,
I remembered [my] good⁸ karma. (2) [4846]

From the sky a rain of flowers
is raining on me all the time.
Transmigrating⁹ among humans,
I was a king who had great fame. (3) [4847]

In that place a rain of flowers
is raining on me every day,
due to that flower-offering¹⁰
to the One Who Sees Everything. (4) [4848]

This is the final time for me;
[my] last rebirth is proceeding.¹¹
Even today, a flower-rain
is raining on me every day. (5) [4849]

In the hundred thousand aeons
since I presented that flower,
I've come to know no bad rebirth:
that's the fruit of relic-worship.¹² (6) [4850]

¹Apadāna 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"Some Kind (jāti°) of Flower-er"

³lit., "reached nirvana"

⁴cchaṅḡoṭake. BJTS gloss, straying from the text, gives "a flower bouquet (mal-kaḍak) of jasmine flowers (dasamanmalin) for the top (mudun, of the stupa)"

⁵or "the body:" sarīram

⁶Nirmāṇarati, a heaven wherein, as its name implies, one delights in form.

⁷lit., "gone to"

⁸lit., "meritorious"

⁹saṅsarāmi...cche, lit., "if I am transmigrating"

¹⁰lit., "flower-pūjā"

¹¹ccharimo vattate bhavo

¹²lit., "doing pūjā to the body"

My defilements are [now] burnt up;
all [new] existence is destroyed.
Like elephants with broken chains,
I am living without constraint. (7) [4851]

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! (8) [4852]

The four analytical modes,
and these eight deliverances,
six special knowledges mastered,
[I have] done what the Buddha taught! (9) [4853]

Thus indeed Venerable Jātipupphiya Thera spoke these verses.
The legend of Jātipupphiya Thera is finished.