

Legends of the Buddhist Saints

Apadānapāli

TRANSLATED BY
JONATHAN S. WALTERS,
WHITMAN COLLEGE, 2017

Sumanatālavaṇṭiya

Jonathan S. Walters

Copyright © 2026 Jonathan S. Walters.

PUBLISHED BY JONATHAN S. WALTERS AND WHITMAN COLLEGE

<https://apadanatranslation.com>

Licensed under the Attribution, Non-Commercial, Share Alike (CC BY-NC-SA 4.0) license (<https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-sa/4.0/>).

Printed September 2026

[462. {465.}¹ Sumanatālavaṇṭiya²]

I gave a fan of palmyra,³
covered with jasmine flowers, to
Siddhattha, the Blessed One, [and]
bore it [for] the Greatly Famed One. (1) [4884]

In the ninety-four aeons since
I gave that palmyra fan then,
I've come to know no bad rebirth:
that's the fruit of palmyra fans. (2) [4885]

My defilements are [now] burnt up;
all [new] existence is destroyed.
Like elephants with broken chains,
I am living without constraint. (4) [4886]

My being in Buddha's presence
was a very good thing for me.
The three knowledges are attained;
[I have] done what the Buddha taught! (3) [4887]

The four analytical modes,
and these eight deliverances,
six special knowledges mastered,
[I have] done what the Buddha taught! (5) [4888]

Thus indeed Venerable Sumanatālavaṇṭiya Thera spoke these verses.

The legend of Sumanatālavaṇṭiya 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"Jasmine-Palmyra-Fan-er." This same *apadāna* (with the slight difference that the third and fourth verses are inverted there) appears above, under the same name, as #375 [378]

³the palmyra (*tāla*, Sinh. *tal*) tree or fan palm is *Borassus flabelliformis*