

Legends of the Buddhist Saints

Apadānapāli

TRANSLATED BY
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Naḷamāliya

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Printed September 2026

Naḷamāli Chapter, the Forty-Eighth

[468. {471.}¹ Naḷamāliya²]

I saw the Leader of the World,
the Golden-Colored Sambuddha,
Sacrificial Recipient,
flying³ along the forest top. (1) [4936]

Having taken a reed-flower,⁴
I am setting out all the time.
There I saw [him], the Sambuddha,
the Flood-Crosser, Undeified One. (2) [4937]

Happy, with pleasure in [my] heart,
I offered⁵ that reed-flower to
the Great Hero, Worthy of Gifts,⁶
the Pitier of the Whole World.⁷ (3) [4938]

In the thirty-one aeons since
I presented [him] that flower,
I've come to know no bad rebirth:
that's the fruit of Buddha-*pūjā*. (4) [4939]

My defilements are [now] burnt up;
all [new] existence is destroyed.
Like elephants with broken chains,
I am living without constraint. (5) [4940]

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) [4941]

The four analytical modes,
and these eight deliverances,

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"Reed-Flower-er"

³lit., "going"

⁴BJTS Sinh. gloss on "reed" (*naḷa*) is *baṭa* = "reed, a small species of bamboo, *ochlanda stridula*" (Bot. Dict.)

⁵lit., "did *pūjā*"

⁶*dakkhineyyaṇ*

⁷*sabbalokānukampakaṇ*

six special knowledges mastered,
[I have] done what the Buddha taught! (7) [4942]

Thus indeed Venerable Naḷamāliya Thera spoke these verses.

The legend of Naḷamāliya Thera is finished.