

Legends of the Buddhist Saints

Apadānapāli

TRANSLATED BY
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Kummāsadāyaka

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[472. {475.}¹ Kummāsādāyaka²]

When Vipassi, the Sage So Great,
was going about as [he] wished,
seeing [that his] bowl was empty,
I filled [it] with barley porridge.³ (1) [4986]

In the ninety-one aeons since
I gave that alms food at that time,
I've come to know no bad rebirth:
that's the fruit of barley porridge. (2) [4987]

My defilements are [now] burnt up;
all [new] existence is destroyed.
Like elephants with broken chains,
I am living without constraint. (3) [4988]

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) [4989]

The four analytical modes,
and these eight deliverances,
six special knowledges mastered,
[I have] done what the Buddha taught! (5) [4990]

Thus indeed Venerable Kummāsādāyaka Thera spoke these verses.

The legend of Kummāsādāyaka 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"Barley-Porridge Donor." This same *apadāna* is repeated below as #559, verbatim. There it is ascribed to the historical monk Sīvaka.

³*kummāsa*, Skt. *kulmāṣa*, a preparation of barley, either as a soft porridge or jgruel (PSI *yavayen kaḷ aharayak*, "a food made with barley;" BJTS Sinh. gloss *komupiṇḍu*, "soft-boiled alms"), or as an unleavened cake or junket (PSI: Sinh. *roṭiya*). Given the description of "filling" the empty bowl, the former seems more likely and I have translated accordingly. It is at any rate some food made out of barley.