

Legends of the Buddhist Saints

Apadānapāli

TRANSLATED BY
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Kāsumāriphaladāyaka

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[500. {503.}¹ Kāsumāriphaladāyaka²]

I saw the Buddha, Stainless One,
the World's Best One, the Bull of Men,
sitting down on a mountainside,
shining like a dinner-plate tree.³ (1) [5408]

Happy, with pleasure in [my] heart,
hands pressed together on [my] head,
gathering *kāsumāri*⁴ fruit,
I gave [it] to the Best Buddha. (2) [5409]

In the thirty-one aeons since
I gave that fruit [to the Buddha],
I've come to know no bad rebirth:
that is the fruit of giving fruit. (3) [5410]

My defilements are [now] burnt up;
all [new] existence is destroyed.
Like elephants with broken chains,
I am living without constraint. (4) [5411]

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! (5) [5412]

The four analytical modes,
and these eight deliverances,
six special knowledges mastered,
[I have] done what the Buddha taught! (6) [5413]

Thus indeed Venerable Kāsumāriphaladāyaka Thera spoke these verses.

The legend of Kāsumāriphaladāyaka 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"Kāsumāri (Sinh. *āt dāmaṭa*) Fruit Donor" The same *apadāna*, with the same name, appears verbatim as #377 {380} above, with the slight difference that the first and second verses of the standard three-verse concluding refrain are inverted (second first, first second)

³*kaṇṇikāra*, *kaṇikāra* = Sinhala *kinihiriya*, *Pterospermum acerifolium*, produces a brilliant mass of yellow flowers; Engl. a.k.a. karnikar, bayur tree, maple-leaf bayur, caniyar (now archaic?), dinner-plate tree; Bodhi tree of Siddhattha Buddha.

⁴*kāsumāri* (Skt. *kāśmārī*) is a small timber tree, *Gmelina arborea* (*Verb.*), which is called *āt demaṭa* in Sinhala. It also bears yellow flowers.