

Legends of the Buddhist Saints

Apadānapāli

TRANSLATED BY
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Ketapupphiya

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Printed September 2026

[511. {514.}¹ Ketakapupphiya²]

The Ultimate Person dwelt on
the banks of Vinatā³ River.
I saw the Buddha, Stainless One,
the Calm One,⁴ Very Composed One.⁵ (1) [5473]

Happy, with pleasure in [my] heart,
I [then] worshipped⁶ the Best Buddha
with a flower of the screw-pine,⁷
with a honey[-scented] fragrance. (2) [5474]

In the ninety-one aeons since
I gave [him] that flower back then,
I've come to know no bad rebirth:
that's the fruit of Buddha-*pūjā*. (3) [5475]

My defilements are [now] burnt up;
all [new] existence is destroyed.
Like elephants with broken chains,
I am living without constraint. (4) [5476]

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) [5477]

The four analytical modes,
and these eight deliverances,
six special knowledges mastered,
[I have] done what the Buddha taught! (6) [5478]

Thus indeed Venerable Ketakapupphiya Thera spoke these verses.

The legend of Ketakapupphiya 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"Screw-pine Flower-er"

³the BJTS spelling; PTS reads *Vitthāya*, alts. *Vittāya*, *CChittāya*. Cf. #380 {383}, v. 1 = [3292], above, where BJTS and PTS agree on the spelling accepted from BJTS here; but cf. also #485 {488} above, v. 1 = [5177], where I also accept the BJTS reading amidst considerable variation

⁴*ekaggaṇ*

⁵*susamāhitaṇ*

⁶lit., "did *pūjā*"

⁷*ketakassa*, Pandanus odoratissima, Sinhala *vāṭakē* or *vāṭakeyiyā*.