

Legends of the Buddhist Saints

Apadānapāli

TRANSLATED BY
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Nāgapupphiya

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[512. {515.}¹ Nāgapupphiya²]

I gave an ironwood³ flower
to the Gold-Colored Sambuddha,
Sacrificial Recipient,
who had entered onto the road. (1) [5479]

In the ninety-one aeons since
I gave [him] that flower back then,
I've come to know no bad rebirth:
that is the fruit of giving fruit. (2) [5480]

My defilements are [now] burnt up;
all [new] existence is destroyed.
Like elephants with broken chains,
I am living without constraint. (3) [5481]

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) [5482]

The four analytical modes,
and these eight deliverances,
six special knowledges mastered,
[I have] done what the Buddha taught! (5) [5483]

Thus indeed Venerable Nāgapupphiya Thera spoke these verses.

The legend of Nāgapupphiya 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"Ironwood Flower-er" For a different *apadāna* ascribed to a monk of the same name, see #158, above.

³*nāga* = Sinhala *nā*, ironwood, *Mesua Ferrea* Linn, Bodhi tree of Mangala, Sumana, Revata, Sobhita buddhas; national tree of Sri Lanka. It has brilliant, fragrant white flowers containing four petals each, as well as a red fruit eaten by birds.