

Legends of the Buddhist Saints

Apadānapāli

TRANSLATED BY
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Girinelapūjaka

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[524. {527.}¹ Girinelapūjaka²]

I was formerly a hunter,
wandering in the woods back then.
I saw the Buddha, Stainless One,
[who was] Master of Everything. (1) [5579]

Happy, with pleasure in [my] heart,
I offered³ a *girinil*⁴ bloom
for the Compassionate One, the
Delighter,⁵ Friend of All Beings.⁶ (2) [5580]

In the thirty-one aeons since
I offered⁷ [him] that flower then,
I've come to know no bad rebirth:
that's the fruit of Buddha-*pūjā*. (3) [5581]

My defilements are [now] burnt up;
all [new] existence is destroyed.
Like elephants with broken chains,
I am living without constraint. (4) [5582]

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) [5583]

The four analytical modes,
and these eight deliverances,
six special knowledges mastered,
[I have] done what the Buddha taught! (6) [5584]

Thus indeed Venerable Girinelapūjaka Thera spoke these verses.

The legend of Girinelapūjaka 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"*Girinil Offerer*"

³lit., "did *pūjā*"

⁴here "a *nela* flower." *Girinela* = Sinh. *girinil mal*, *girinilla*, *ginihiriya* = *kaṭaropha* (durian fruit tree = *Durio Zibethinus* (*Bombaceae*)) = *ginnēriya*; Sri Sumangala: "a variety of vine used in medicine" xxx

⁵*rate*

⁶*sabbasattahite*

⁷lit., "did *pūjā*"