pli-tv-bu-vb-sk1 — Not wearing the sarong evenly all around

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Text

Theravāda Collection on Monastic Law

The Great Analysis

The chapter on training

The subchapter on evenly all around

Not wearing the sarong evenly all around

Venerables, these rules of training come up for recitation.

Origin story

At one time when the Buddha was staying at Sāvatthī in Anāthapiṇḍika's Monastery, the monks from the group of six were wearing their sarongs hanging down in front and behind. People complained and criticized them, "How can the Sakyan monastics wear their sarongs hanging down in front and behind? They're just like householders who indulge in worldly pleasures!"

The monks heard the complaints of those people, and the monks of few desires complained and criticized those monks, "How can the monks from the group of six wear their sarongs hanging down in front and behind?"

After rebuking those monks in many ways, they told the Buddha. Soon afterwards the Buddha had the Sangha gathered and questioned the monks from the group of six: "Is it true, monks, that you do this?"

"It's true, sir."

The Buddha rebuked them … "Foolish men, how can you do this? This will affect people's confidence …" … "And, monks, this training rule should be recited like this:

Final ruling

"'I will wear my sarong evenly all around,' this is how you should train.'"

One should wear one's sarong evenly all around, covering the navel and the knees. If a monk, out of disrespect, wears his sarong hanging down in front or behind, he commits an offense of wrong conduct.

Non-offenses

There is no offense: if it is unintentional; if he is not mindful; if he does not know; if he is sick; if there is an emergency; if he is insane; if he is the first offender.

The first training rule is finished.