AN 1.42 — AN 1.42

English translation by Bhikkhu Candana.

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Text

42. “Bhikkhus, so long as a man carelessly steps on or incorrectly handles a rake used for breaking and sorting rice or barley, he will then surely inflict harm upon himself by cutting his skin and hurting himself, whereby blood would be oozing out.

“And what is the reason for this?

“It is because the sharp claws of the rake are all pointed in the wrong direction.

“Conversely, Bhikkhus, so long as the Bhikkhu is careful about which direction his heart is pointed, having correctly placed his attention, then, as a result, he will penetrate through ignorance and gain the higher understanding of Truth. Therefore, it is possible for such a Bhikkhu to attain the realization of Nibbāna.

“And what is the reason for this?

“It is because his heart is pointed in the right direction.”