AN 3.48 — Pabbata Rāja Sutta (The Great Himalayas)

English translation by Bhikkhu Candana.

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Text

48. Pabbata Rāja Sutta (The Great Himalayas) Bhikkhus, the large Sāla trees grow around the Great Himalayas in three ways. What three?

Their branches, leaves, and foliage grow depending on and affected by the Himalayas. Their bark and shoots grow depending on and affected by the Himalayas. And they grow with both their softwood and inner heartwood, while closely depending upon and affected by the Himalayas.

Thus, the large Sāla trees grow around the Great Himalayan Mountains in these three ways.

Similarly, Bhikkhus, the head of a family of householders, who possesses faith in his heart, has his family members that surround and depend upon him, also growing in three ways. What three?

They grow in their faith. They grow in their virtuous behavior. And they grow in their wisdom, by becoming more discerning.

Thus, Bhikkhus, the head of a family of householders, who possesses faith in his heart, has his family members that surround and depend upon him, also growing in these three ways.

‘In the deep forest, trees grow and become mighty While relying and depending upon a great rocky mountain. In the same manner, by relying on the head of a household who lives with faith and virtue, His wife, children, relations, friends, associates and those living under him, All grow and become mighty like him too, while witnessing His virtues, benevolence, generosity, and good conduct; All echoing and serving as their example.

By living and behaving according to The Dhamma, All those who delight in the enjoyment of sense pleasures Soon find themselves in a good destination once this life is over, Where they will rejoice in the heavenly realms, Partaking of more sensual pleasures.’