AN 3.83 — Kassaka Sutta (A Farmer)

English translation by Bhikkhu Candana.

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Text

82. Kassaka Sutta (A Farmer) Bhikkhus, these are the three fundamental tasks that must be undertaken by a farmer. What three?

Here, Bhikkhus, a farmer must first prepare the field by ploughing and harrowing it well. Next, he has to carefully embed the seeds at the right time. Afterward, at the right time, he has to lead the water into the cultivated field by irrigating it, and then drain the field by letting the water flow out, at the appropriate time.

Bhikkhus, these are the three fundamental tasks that must be undertaken by a farmer.

Now, in the just same manner, Bhikkhus, there are these three fundamental tasks that must be undertaken by a Bhikkhu. What three?

The training in the Higher Virtues; the training in the Higher Mind; and the training in the Higher Wisdom.

Bhikkhus, these are the three fundamental tasks that must be undertaken by a Bhikkhu.

Therefore, Bhikkhus, you should all train thus:

“Our desire and determination will be relentless as we keenly train ourselves in the Higher Virtues, as we keenly train in order to develop and fully experience the Higher Mind, and as we keenly train ourselves to gain the Higher Wisdom.”

Bhikkhus, it is in this manner that you must all train.