AN 4.156 — AN 4:156 An Eon | Kappa Sutta

English translation by Ṭhānissaro Bhikkhu.

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Text

An Eon

Kappa Sutta (AN 4:156)

“Monks, there are these four uncountables of an eon. Which four?

“When an eon is devolving, it’s not easy to count as ‘so many years’ or ‘so many hundreds of years’ or ‘so many thousands of years’ or ‘so many hundreds of thousands of years.’

“When an eon stays having devolved, it’s not easy to count as ‘so many years’ or ‘so many hundreds of years’ or ‘so many thousands of years’ or ‘so many hundreds of thousands of years.’

“When an eon is evolving, it’s not easy to count as ‘so many years’ or ‘so many hundreds of years’ or ‘so many thousands of years’ or ‘so many hundreds of thousands of years.’

“When an eon stays having evolved, it’s not easy to count as ‘so many years’ or ‘so many hundreds of years’ or ‘so many thousands of years’ or ‘so many hundreds of thousands of years.’

“These, monks, are the four uncountables of an eon.”

Publisher references (not part of the sutta)

See also: SN 15:5–6