# Tha Ap 21 — 19. Sopāka

English translation by Jonathan S. Walters.

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Changes: Presentation only: original HTML markup reflowed into plain text; wording, numbering and source repetitions retained. No repetitions expanded.

Completeness: COMPLETE. All text of this pinned standalone English article, including header, verse/reference numbering, closing lines and footer, is preserved. Tha Ap 562–563 have no Walters articles in this edition; no whole-canon claim.

## Text

Therāpadāna

The Legends of the Theras

19. Sopāka

Walt 784 The Blessed One named Siddhattha

came into my presence one time

when I was cleaning a retreat

on a most fine, superb mountain. Verse 1

Walt 785 Seeing the Buddha who’d arrived

I spread out a woven grass mat

for the World’s Best, the Neutral One,

and gave to him that floral seat. Verse 2

Walt 786 Sitting on that seat of flowers

Siddhattha the World-Leader

discerning my situation

then spoke about impermanence. Verse 3

Walt 787 “In flux indeed is all that is;
things that arise and then decline
are being born and then dying;
happy is the relief from them.” Verse 4

Walt 788 Saying this the Omniscient One,
the World’s Best One, the Bull of Men,
the Hero flew into the sky
just like a swan-king in the air. Verse 5

Walt 789 Abandoning my own dogma
I then perceived impermanence.
Meditating for just one day,
right then and there I passed away. Verse 6

Walt 790 Incited by my wholesome roots
I then enjoyed the two-fold bliss.
When my last rebirth was attained
I was born among dog-cookers. Verse 7

Walt 791 After I set out from the house
I went forth into homelessness.
Dread-locked ascetic seven years,
I attained my arahantship. Verse 8

Walt 792 Energetic, self-abandoned,
careful about the moral rules,
having pleased the Great Elephant
I got higher ordination. Verse 9

Walt 793 In the ninety-four aeons since
I did that good karma back then
I’ve come to know no bad rebirth;
that’s the fruit of a flower-gift.  (10

Walt 794 In the ninety-fourth aeon since

I obtained that perception then,

meditating upon that sense

my defilements were all destroyed. Verse 11

Walt 795 The four analytical modes,

and these eight deliverances,

six special knowledges mastered,

I have done what the Buddha taught! Verse 12

Thus indeed Venerable Sopāka Thera spoke these verses.

The legend of Venerable Sopāka Thera is finished.

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