Tha Ap 329 — 327. Niggaṇḍipupphiya

English translation by Jonathan S. Walters.

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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

327. Niggaṇḍipupphiya

Walt 2863 When according to his lifespan,

a god falls from the world,

three sayings get emitted then,

in the rejoicing of the gods. Verse 1

Walt 2864 “From here, sir, go to a good state,

in the company of people.

Becoming human do obtain

great faith in the Excellent Truth. Verse 2

Walt 2865 Having established that, your faith,

in the well-known Excellent Truth,

well-fixed, born of those happy roots,

be steadfast as long as you live. Verse 3

Walt 2866 Doing good deeds with your body,
and doing much good with your speech;
doing good with your mind as well,
be free of hate and attachment. Verse 4

Walt 2867 Thus exalting the life you live,
doing merit with much giving,
make other men also enter
the chaste life and Excellent Truth." Verse 5

Walt 2868 When gods know that a god's falling,
filled with this sort of compassion,
they rejoice about his rebirth:
"O god come back repeatedly." Verse 6

Walt 2869 I was moved when at that time the
assembly of gods had gathered,
"Well now then to what womb should I
go when I have fallen from here?" Verse 7

Walt 2870-2871 Padumuttara's follower,
known by the name of Sumana,
a monk with senses well-controlled,
realizing that I was moved
and desiring to lift me up,
did come into my presence then
and stirred me up instructing me
in the meaning and the Teaching. Verse 8-9

Walt 2872 The Twelfth Recitation Portion
Having listened to his words I
made my heart pleased in the Buddha.
Having saluted that hero

I then passed away on the spot. Verse 10

Walt 2873 I was reborn right then and there,
incited by those happy roots.
Even dwelling in mother’s womb,
I was my mother’s instructor. Verse 11

Walt 2874 Having fallen from that body
I was reborn in Thirty-Three.
Within that heaven, then, for me,
mental disturbance was not seen. Verse 12

Walt 2875 Fallen from Tāvatiṁsa too,
I came in to a mother’s womb.
Coming out from that womb I knew
the diff’rence between black and white. Verse 13

Walt 2876 Being only seven years old,
I entered the park-hermitage
of Gotama, the Blessed One,
the Śākyan Son, the Neutral One. Verse 14

Walt 2877 When the dispensation had spread
and the Teaching was popular,
I saw the Teacher’s own monks there,
doers of his dispensation. Verse 15

Walt 2878 The city there, named Śrāvasti
had a king known as Kosala.
By elephant-chariot he
came to the supreme Bodhi tree. Verse 16

Walt 2879 Having seen his elephant there,
recalling my own past karma,
pressing both my hands together,

I also went to the event. Verse 17

Walt 2880-2881 Being only seven years old,
I went forth into homelessness.
He who looked after the Buddha
was the follower Ānanda,
perfectly behaved, resolute,
mindful and very learned too.
He took charge of the Brilliant One,
bringing pleasure to the king's heart. Verse 18-19

Walt 2882 After having heard his Teaching,
I recalled my own past karma.
Standing in that very spot I
then attained my arahantship. Verse 20

Walt 2883 Putting a robe on one shoulder.
hands pressed together on my head,
saluting him, the Sambuddha,
I uttered this speech then and there: Verse 21

Walt 2884 "Gathering niggaṇḍi blossoms
I placed them on the lion-throne
of Padumuttara Buddha,
the Lord of Bipeds, the Teacher. Verse 22

Walt 2285 Through that deed, O Biped Lord,
O World's Best, O Bull among Men,
I've achieved the un-shaking state
without victory or defeat. Verse 23

Walt 2886 In aeon twenty-five-thousand,
royal lords of men numbered in
crore-hundred-trillions and hundred-

trillion-hundred-trillions, eight each. Verse 24

Walt 2887 The four analytical modes,

and these eight deliverances,

six special knowledges mastered,

I have done what the Buddha taught! Verse 25

Thus indeed Venerable Niggunḍipupphiya Thera spoke these verses.

The legend of Niggunḍipupphiya Thera is finished.

Translated by Jonathan S. Walters.

Whitman College, 2017

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