Tha Ap 418 — 413. {416.} Ekadīpiya

English translation by Jonathan S. Walters.

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Text

Therāpadāna

The Legends of the Theras

413. {416.} Ekadīpiya

Walt 4391 When the Well-Gone-One passed away,

Siddhattha, Leader of the World,

all the gods and human beings

are worshipping the Best Biped. Verse 1

Walt 4392 And when a shrine had been set up

for Siddhattha, the World-Leader,

they’re worshipping the Teacher’s shrine

as vigorously as each could. Verse 2

Walt 4393 In the shrine’s vicinity, I

lit a lamp for the Buddha.

I kept my lamp lit the whole night,

until the sun rose the next day. Verse 3

Walt 4394 Due to that karma done very well,
with intention and firm resolve,
discarding my human body,
I went to Tāvatiṁsa then. Verse 4

Walt 4395 There my well-constructed mansion
was known by the name “Single Lamp.”
One hundred thousand lamps always
are lit for me in the mansion. Verse 5

Walt 4396 Like the sun when it is rising,
my body is always shining.
There is light for me all the time
through all the light of my body. Verse 6

Walt 4397 Right through walls, also right through rocks,
and passing over mountain-tops,
I am seeing, with my own eyes,
even one hundred leagues distant. Verse 7

Walt 4398 And seventy-seven times I
delighted in the world of gods.
And thirty-one different times,
I exercised divine rule there. Verse 8

Walt 4399 And then twenty-eight times I was
a king who turns the wheel of law.
There was also much local rule,
innumerable by counting. Verse 9

Walt 4400 Falling from the world of the gods,
I was born in a mother’s womb.
Even inside my mother’s womb,
one of my eyes remains open. Verse 10

Walt 4401 I went forth into homelessness
when I was only four years old.
When eight months still had not elapsed,
I attained my arahantship. Verse 11

Walt 4402 I purified my “divine eye;”
all new existence is destroyed.
Every defilement is cut off:
that’s the fruit of a single lamp. Verse 12

Walt 4403 Right through walls, also right through rocks;
I am seeing, passing over
even entire mountain-tops:
that’s the fruit of a single lamp. Verse 13

Walt 4404 Uneven spots are even for
me; darkness is not ever known;
I don’t see anything darkly:
that’s the fruit of a single lamp. Verse 14

Walt 4405 In the ninety-four aeons since
I gave Buddha a lamp back then,
I’ve come to know no bad rebirth:
that’s the fruit of a single lamp. Verse 15

Walt 4406 My defilements are now burnt up;
all new existence is destroyed.
Like elephants with broken chains,
I am living without constraint. Verse 16

Walt 4407 Being in Best Buddha’s presence
was a very good thing for me.
The three knowledges are attained;
I have done what the Buddha taught! Verse 17

Walt 4408 The four analytical modes,

and these eight deliverances,

six special knowledges mastered,

I have done what the Buddha taught! Verse 18

Thus indeed Venerable Ekadīpiya Thera spoke these verses.

The legend of Ekadīpiya Thera is finished.

Translated by Jonathan S. Walters.

Whitman College, 2017

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