Tha Ap 430 — 425. {428.} Sucintita

English translation by Jonathan S. Walters.

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Text

Therāpadāna

The Legends of the Theras

425. {428.} Sucintita

Walt 4567 In the city, Haṁsavatī,

I was a cultivator then.

I earn my living by farming,

and through it I feed my children. Verse 1

Walt 4568 My field back then was bountiful,

and my grain was producing seed;

when the fruit-bearing time arrived,

I then thought about it like this: Verse 2

Walt 4569 “It’s not right, it is not fitting

for one who knows what’s virtuous,

that without giving to the monks,

I should consume the best of this. Verse 3

Walt 4570 This Buddha’s the Impartial One,
Bearing the Thirty-two Great Marks;
reared by him, the monks’ Assembly
is the unsurpassed merit-field. Verse 4

Walt 4571 I shall give a donation there,
the first of each of the new crop.”
Thinking about it like that, I
was happy, with a gladdened mind. Verse 5

Walt 4572 Then carrying grain from my field,
I went up to the Sambuddha.
Having approached the Sambuddha,
the World’s Best One, the Bull of Men,
and worshipping the Teacher’s feet,
I spoke these words to the Buddha: Verse 6

Walt 4573 “The new crop of grain has prospered;
you’re the Recipient of Gifts.
O Sage, showing me compassion,
please accept it, O Eyeful One.” Verse 7

Walt 4574 Padumuttara, World-Knower,
Sacrificial Recipient,
discerning what I was thinking,
spoke these words to me at that time: Verse 8

Walt 4575 “Four have entered into the path;
four are established in its fruit.
This monks’ Assembly is upright,
settled in wisdom and morals. Verse 9

Walt 4576 Merit done for the good rebirths
of people doing rituals,

beings looking to earn merit,
gifted for the monks, bears great fruit. Verse 10

Walt 4577 The new crop, so too more than that,
is to be given to these monks.
Proposing it, lead monks from the
Assembly to that house of yours.
What has been prepared in your house,
give that to the monks' Assembly." Verse 11

Walt 4578 Proposing it, leading monks, from the
Assembly to that house of mine,
what had been prepared in my house,
I gave to the monks' Assembly. Verse 12

Walt 4579 Due to that karma done very well,
with intention and firm resolve,
discarding my human body,
I went to Tāvatiṁsa then. Verse 13

Walt 4580 There my well-constructed mansion
was made of gold, brightly shining.
It rose up sixty leagues in height,
and it was thirty leagues in width. Verse 14

Walt 4581 The nineteenth recitation portion.
That palace of mine was crowded,
filled with varied groups of women.
Eating and also drinking there,
I live among the thirty gods. Verse 15

Walt 4582 And three times in succession I
exercised divine rule back then,
and five times in succession I

was a monarch who turns the wheel,

and I enjoyed much local rule,

innumerable by counting. Verse 16

Walt 4583 Transmigrating from birth to birth,

I receive unlimited wealth.

I have no lack of possessions:

that is the fruit of a new crop. Verse 17

Walt 4584 Elephant- and horse-vehicles,

palanquins, also chariots—

I am obtaining all of them:

that is the fruit of a new crop. Verse 18

Walt 4585 New clothing and likewise new fruit,

new food which has the best flavor—

I am obtaining all of them:

that is the fruit of a new crop. Verse 19

Walt 4586 Silk cloth and woolen blankets too,

khoma and also cotton cloth—

I am obtaining all of them:

that is the fruit of a new crop. Verse 20

Walt 4587 Groups of slave-women, groups of slaves,

and women who are all decked out—

I am obtaining all of them:

that is the fruit of a new crop. Verse 21

Walt 4588 I am not cold, I am not hot;

burning fever does not exist.

And also mental suffering

is non-existent in my mind. Verse 22

Walt 4589 People say, “Eat this,” “enjoy this,”

“lit down to sleep in this good bed.”
I am obtaining all of that:
that is the fruit of a new crop. Verse 23

Walt 4590 Now is the final time for me;
my last rebirth is proceeding.
Today the fruit which I donated
is always making me happy. Verse 24

Walt 4591 After donating my new crop,
for the monks of splendid virtue,
I experience eight results,
in accordance with my karma. Verse 25

Walt 4592-4593 I’m handsome and I’m famous too,
very wealthy and free from harm;
always in the majority,
my retinue has no factions.
They all are giving me respect,
whomever on earth I mix with.
And whatever gifts there may be,
I always get the first of each. Verse 26-27

Walt 4594 In the middle of the monks or
face-to-face with the Best Buddha,
passing over all the others,
the donors are giving to me. Verse 28

Walt 4595 Having given the first new crop,
for the monks of splendid virtue,
I am enjoying these results:
that is the fruit of a new crop. Verse 29

Walt 4596 In the hundred thousand aeons

since I gave that donation then,

I've come to know no bad rebirth:

that is the fruit of a new crop. Verse 30

Walt 4597 My defilements are now burnt up;

all new existence is destroyed.

Like elephants with broken chains,

I am living without constraint. Verse 31

Walt 4598 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 32

Walt 4599 The four analytical modes,

and these eight deliverances,

six special knowledges mastered,

I have done what the Buddha taught! Verse 33

Thus indeed Venerable Sucintita Thera spoke these verses.

The legend of Sucintita Thera is finished.

Translated by Jonathan S. Walters.

Whitman College, 2017

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