Tha Ap 441 — 436. {439.} Ambapiṇḍiya

English translation by Jonathan S. Walters.

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Text

Therāpadāna

The Legends of the Theras

436. {439.} Ambapiṇḍiya

Walt 4701 I was then an elephant-king,

with tusks like plough-poles, fully grown.

Wandering in a large forest,

I saw the Leader of the World. Verse 1

Walt 4702 Taking a cluster of mangoes,

I gave them to him, the Teacher.

The Great Hero accepted them,

Siddhattha, Leader of the World. Verse 2

Walt 4703 While I meditated on him,

the Victor then consumed that fruit.

Bringing pleasure to my heart there,

I was reborn in Tusitā. Verse 3

Walt 4704-4705 After falling down from there, I
was a monarch who turns the wheel.
Then through that very method, I,
having enjoyed great good fortune,
being one bent on exertion,
calmed, devoid of grounds for rebirth,
knowing well all the defilements,
am living here now, undefiled. Verse 4-5

Walt 4706 In the ninety-four aeons since
I gave that fruit to him back then,
I've come to know no bad rebirth:
that is the fruit of giving fruit. Verse 6

Walt 4707 My defilements are now burnt up;
all new existence is destroyed.
Like elephants with broken chains,
I am living without constraint. Verse 7

Walt 4708 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 8

Walt 4709 The four analytical modes,
and these eight deliverances,
six special knowledges mastered,
I have done what the Buddha taught! Verse 9

Thus indeed Venerable Ambapiṇḍiya Thera spoke these verses.

The legend of Ambapiṇḍiya Thera is finished.

Translated by Jonathan S. Walters.

Whitman College, 2017

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