# Tha Ap 472 — 467. {470.} Nimittavyākaraṇiya

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

467. {470.} Nimittavyākaraṇiya

Walt 4922 Plunged into the Himalayas,

I’m reciting mantras back the,

and fifty-four thousand students

attended on me in that place. Verse 1

Walt 4923 They all learned by heart, true knowers,

were masters of Vedic science;

having come of their own accord,

they dwelt in the Himalayas. Verse 2

Walt 4924 The Son of a God, Greatly Famed,

falling from Tusitā heaven,

was reborn in a mother’s womb,

attentive and remembering. Verse 3

Walt 4925 When the Buddha was being born,
the ten-thousand world-system quaked,
and those who were blind obtained eyes,
when the Leader was being born. Verse 4

Walt 4926 This entire great bountiful earth
quaked in every manner.
Having heard the sound of shouting,
the populace was frightened then. Verse 5

Walt 4927 All the people came together,
and they came into my presence.
“The great bountiful earth has quaked,
what will this be the result of?” Verse 6

Walt 4928 I answered them, “Don’t be frightened;
there is nothing for you to fear.
Let all of you be confident;
this omen portends happiness. Verse 7

Walt 4929 This great bountiful earth quakes through
contact with one of eight causes.
Likewise this sign is also seen:
there’s a huge effulgence of light. Verse 8

Walt 4930 Without a doubt a Best Buddha,
an Eyeful One, will soon be born!”
Having thus informed the people,
I spoke about the five precepts. Verse 9

Walt 4931 Hearing of the five precepts, and
a Buddha’s birth, hard to obtain,
happy and full of excitement,
their hair stood on end in delight. Verse 10

Walt 4932 In the ninety-two aeons since
I explained the signs at that time,
I've come to know no bad rebirth:
that is the fruit of explaining. Verse 11

Walt 4933 My defilements are now burnt up;
all new existence is destroyed.
Like elephants with broken chains,
I am living without constraint. Verse 12

Walt 4934 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 13

Walt 4935 The four analytical modes,
and these eight deliverances,
six special knowledges mastered,
I have done what the Buddha taught! Verse 14

Thus indeed Venerable Nimittavyākaraṇiya Thera spoke these verses.

The legend of Nimittavyākaraṇiya Thera is finished.

The Summary:

Sālakusumiya Thera,
Pūjā and Nibbāpaka too,
Setuda and Tālavaṇṭī,
Avaṇṭa, Labuja-ppada,
Pilakkha and Paṭibhāṇī,
brahmin Veyyakaraṇaka:
exactly two hundred verses
are counted here by those who know.

The Sālakusumiya Chapter, the Forty-Seventh

Translated by Jonathan S. Walters.

Whitman College, 2017

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