Tha Ap 475 — 470. {473.} Ukkāsatika

English translation by Jonathan S. Walters.

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Text

Therāpadāna

The Legends of the Theras

470. {473.} Ukkāsatika

Walt 4965 The Blessed One named Kosika,

Meditator, Trance-Loving One,

Buddha, Seclusion-Lover, Sage,

lived on Cittakūṭa back then. Verse 1

Walt 4966 Plunged into the Himalayas,

attended by troops of women,

I saw him, Kosika Buddha,

like the moon on the fifteenth day. Verse 2

Walt 4967 With a hundred flaming-torches,

I waited on him at that time.

Remaining seven nights and days,

on the eighth day I departed. Verse 3

Walt 4968 With a pleased heart, having worshipped
the Self-Become, Unconquered One,
Kosika Buddha, when he rose,
I also gave one meal to him. Verse 4

Walt 4969 Through that karma for the World’s Best,
the Biped-Lord, the Bull of Men,
I was reborn in Tusitā:
that is the fruit of that one meal. Verse 5

Walt 4970 During the day and also at
night, there is always light for me;
on all sides for a hundred leagues,
I am permeated by light. Verse 6

Walt 4971 In the fifty-fifth aeon hence
I was a king who turns the wheel,
lord of the grove of rose-apples,
victorious on all four sides. Verse 7

Walt 4972 My city at that time was rich,
prosperous and well-constructed.
It measured thirty leagues in length,
and it was twenty leagues in width. Verse 8

Walt 4973 My city was named Sobhana;
it was built by Vissakamma.
It did not lack for the ten sounds,
well-accompanied by cymbals. Verse 9

Walt 4974 Nothing in that city was \[made
of\] sticks or of vines or of clay.
Everything was made out of gold,
and it was shining all the time. Verse 10

Walt 4975 Four rampart walls surrounded it;
they were constructed out of gems.
In the middle, a palmyra
pond was made by Vissakamma. Verse 11

Walt 4976 There were ten thousand ponds as well,
covered with pink and blue lotus,
covered with white lotuses too,
all exuding varied perfumes. Verse 12

Walt 4977 In the ninety-four aeons since
I carried those torches for him,
I've come to know no bad rebirth:
the fruit of carrying torches. Verse 13

Walt 4978 My defilements are now burnt up;
all new existence is destroyed.
Like elephants with broken chains,
I am living without constraint. Verse 14

Walt 4979 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 15

Walt 4980 The four analytical modes,
and these eight deliverances,
six special knowledges mastered,
I have done what the Buddha taught! Verse 16

Thus indeed Venerable Ukkāsatika Thera spoke these verses.

The legend of Ukkāsatika Thera is finished.

Translated by Jonathan S. Walters.

Whitman College, 2017

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