Tha Ap 62 — 60. Asanabodhiya

English translation by Jonathan S. Walters.

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Text

Therāpadāna

The Legends of the Theras

60. Asanabodhiya

Walt 1334 When I was but seven years old

I saw the Buddha, World-Chief.

Happy, and with a happy heart

I went up to the Best of Men. Verse 1

Walt 1335 Happy, and with a happy heart,

I planted the best Bodhi tree

for him, Tissa, the Blessed One,

the World’s Best One, the Neutral One. Verse 2

Walt 1336 Foot-drinker growing in the earth,

it was known as an “Asana”.

For five years I tended that tree,

the superb Asana Bodhi. Verse 3

Walt 1337 Having seen that flowering tree,
marvel making hair stand on end,
relating my own karma then
I went up to the Best Buddha. Verse 4

Walt 1338 Tissa, who was then Sambuddha,
Self-Become One, the Top Person,
seated in the monks' Assembly
spoke these verses about me then: Verse 5

Walt 1339 "I shall relate details of him
who has planted this Bodhi Tree
and honored me with Buddha-pūjā;
all of you listen to my words: Verse 6

Walt 1340 For thirty aeons among gods
he will exercise divine rule,
and four and sixty times he'll be
a king who turns the wheel of law. Verse 7

Walt 1341 Falling from Tusitā heaven,
incited by his wholesome roots,
experiencing the two-fold bliss,
he'll delight in the human state. Verse 8

Walt 1342 Being one bent on exertion,
calmed, devoid of grounds for rebirth,
knowing well all the defilements
he'll reach nirvana, undefiled." Verse 9

Walt 1343 Binding myself to solitude,
calm of mind, with desires blown out,
like a tusker with broken chains,
I'm living without defilements. Verse 10

Walt 1344 In the ninety-two aeons since
I planted that Bodhi back then,
I’ve come to know no bad rebirth:
that’s the fruit of planting Bodhis. Verse 11

Walt 1345 Seventy-four aeons ago
I was a wheel-turning monarch.
I was known as Daṇḍasena,
possessor of the seven gems. Verse 12

Walt 1346 Seventy-three aeons ago
there were seven lords on the earth.
They were all wheel-turning monarchs
who were named Samantanemi. Verse 13

Walt 1347 Five and twenty aeons ago
the Kṣatriyan named Puṇṇaka
was a wheel-turner with great strength,
possessor of the seven gems. Verse 14

Walt 1348 The four analytical modes,
and these eight deliverances,
six special knowledges mastered,
I have done what the Buddha taught! Verse 15

Thus indeed Venerable Asanabodhiya Thera spoke these verses.

The legend of Asanabodhiya Thera is finished.

The Summary:

Vījanī and Sataraṁsī
Sayan, Odaki, Vāhiya,
Parivāra and Padīpa,
Dhaja, Paduma-Pūjaka

and Bodhi's said to be the tenth;

thus two and ninety verses.

The Vījanī Chapter, the Sixth.

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