Ja 170 — The Story about (the Proud) Chameleon

English translation by Ānandajoti Bhikkhu.

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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. Complete canonical Jataka verse set in the ABT Cst4-based edition, with paired source Pali and English; source verse notes retained; narrative story, synopsis, word commentary and trailing collection index excluded. COMPLETE is for this verse set, not the complete source page or all 547 Jatakas.

Text

Verse 1 — Pali source

1. Nāyaṁ pure unnamati toraṇagge kakaṇṭako,

Mahosadha vijānāhi, kena thaddho kakaṇṭako ti.

Verse 1 — English

Previously this chameleon on the archway was not proud, explain Mahosadha, why is that chameleon now haughty.

Verse 2 — Pali source

2. Aladdhapubbaṁ laddhāna, aḍḍhamāsaṁ kakaṇṭako,

Atimaññati rājānaṁ Vedehaṁ Mithilaggahan-ti.

Verse 2 — English

The chameleon got what he didn’t have before, a small coin, he despises the king of Videha of the house of Mithilā.