Ja 210 — The Story about (the Woodpecker) Kandagalaka

English translation by Ānandajoti Bhikkhu.

Source: https://ancient-buddhist-texts.net/English-Texts/Jataka-Verses/210.htm

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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. Ambho ko nāma yaṁ rukkho, sinnapatto sakaṇṭako,

Yattha ekappahārena, uttamaṅgaṁ vibhijjitan-ti?

Verse 1 — English

Dear, what is that tree’s name, with sweaty leaves and thorns, where, with just one blow, my cranium has been split?

Verse 2 — Pali source

2. Acāri vatāyaṁ vitudaṁ vanāni

Kaṭṭhaṅgarukkhesu asārakesu,

Athāsadā khadiraṁ jātasāraṁ,

Yatthabbhidā garuḷo uttamaṅgan-ti.

Source note 2.1 (Pali source)

The opening is unmetrical here. PTS reads: Acārautāyaṁ, which is again unmetrical. Vatāyaṁ acāri would fit the metre.

Verse 2 — English

Roaming around this, striking in the woods on the pithless branches of useless trees, then hitting a pithy acacia tree, where the pecker shattered his cranium.

Source note 2.1 (English)

A Garuḷa is a mythical half-human, half-bird like creature. Here it is used, presumably m.c., to indicate the woodpecker of the story.