Ja 233 — The Story about the Barb

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. Kāmaṁ yahiṁ icchasi tena gaccha,

Viddhosi mammamhi vikaṇṇakena,

Hatosi bhattena suvāditena,

Lolo ca macche anubandhamāno ti.

Verse 1 — English

Surely go wherever you so desire, you are shot in the vitals with a barb, you have been killed by your food and by sound, the greedy one is following the fish.

Verse 2 — Pali source

2. Evam-pi lokāmisaṁ opatanto,

Vihaññatī cittavasānuvattī,

So haññatī ñātisakhāna’ majjhe,

Macchānugo so-r-iva suṁsumāro ti.

Verse 2 — English

So also when falling on worldliness, following the mind’s desire, he suffers, he dies in the midst of kin and of friends, like the crocodile following the fish.