Ja 271 — The Story about Spoiling the Well

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. Āraññikassa isino cirarattatapassino,

Kicchākataṁ udapānaṁ kathaṁ samma avāhayī ti?

Verse 1 — English

For the seer in the wilds who lives austere for many nights, dear friend, why did you spoil this well which was made with difficulty?

Verse 2 — Pali source

2. Esa dhammo siṅgālānaṁ, yaṁ pitvā ohadāmase,

Pitupitāmahaṁ dhammo, na taṁ ujjhātum-arahasī ti.

Source note 2.1 (Pali source)

The more usual form seems to be ūhadamāse, which normally means defecate, but here has to mean urinate.

Verse 2 — English

This is the nature of jackals, having drunk I must urinate, it is our fathers' and grandfathers' nature, you should not blame us.

Verse 3 — Pali source

3. Yesaṁ vo ediso dhammo, adhammo pana kīdiso?

Mā vo dhammaṁ adhammaṁ vā, addasāma kudācanan-ti!

Verse 3 — English

Those for whom such is natural, what would be unnatural? Don't let me see your natural or unnatural any time!