Ja 44 — The Story about the Mosquito

English translation by Ānandajoti Bhikkhu.

Source: https://ancient-buddhist-texts.net/English-Texts/Jataka-Verses/044.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. Seyyo amitto matiyā upeto

Na tveva mitto mativippahīno,

‘Makasaṁ vadhissan’-ti hi eḷamūgo

Putto pitū abbhidā uttamaṅgan-ti.

Verse 1 — English

Better is a foe endowed with wisdom than a friend who is lacking in wisdom, thinking: ‘I will kill a mosquito,’ the foolish son split his father’s head open.

Source note 1.1 (English)

Lit: supreme limb = head.