Mil 3.6.7 — 7. Question on the Difference Between Being With Attachment and Without Attachment

English translation by John Kelly.
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Text

Milinda’s Questions

Mindfulness Chapter

7. Question on the Difference Between Being With Attachment and Without Attachment

The king asked: “Venerable Nāgasena, what is the difference between being with attachment and being without attachment?” “One is sticky, your majesty, and the other is not sticky.” “What is the meaning, venerable sir, of ‘sticky’ and ‘not sticky’?” “One is desirable, your majesty, and the other is not desirable.” “As I see it, venerable sir, both the one with attachment and the one without attachment wish for beautiful hard and soft food, and neither wishes for something bad.” “One who is not without attachment, your majesty, eats their food and experiences both the taste and the attachment to the taste. But the one who is without attachment eats their food and experiences just the taste and not the attachment to the taste.”

“You are clever, Venerable Nāgasena!”

Question on the Difference Between Being With Attachment and Without Attachment seventh