Thig 9.1 — Verses of the Elder Vaḍḍha’s Mother

English translation by Bhikkhuni Soma.
Source: https://suttacentral.net/thig9.1/en/soma
Source revision: da23a8afdd1be12267ecf4a0ff94af5187093702
License: CC0-1.0 — https://creativecommons.org/publicdomain/zero/1.0/

Text

Verses of the Elder Bhikkhunīs

Chapter of the Nines

Verses of the Elder Vaḍḍha’s Mother

“Vaḍḍha, do not get caught
in the endless thicket of the world.
Oh little child, do not take part in suffering
again and again.
Vaḍḍha, the sages dwell easily,
carefree and free from doubt.
They have become cool and tamed,
and abide free from influences.
That path walked by the seers
who have attained vision,
leading to the end of suffering:
Vaḍḍha, devote yourself to that!”

“Mother, you speak
from a place of self-confidence.
I suspect, mom,
there is no thicket to be found in you.”

“Vaḍḍha, not even the slightest thicket,
based on any conditions,
whether inferior, superior, or in the middle,
can be found in me.

I have destroyed all influences
by meditating with heedfulness.
I obtained the three knowledges,
and completed the teaching of the Buddha.”
“Surely, my mother
spurred me with a noble goad,
with these compassionate verses,
of the highest benefit.
After I heard her words,
instructed by my mother,
I was met with a sense of urgency to practice the Dhamma
for the attainment of safety from bondage.
With a mind bent upon striving,
active by day and by night,
being exhorted by my mother,
I touched the highest peace.”
… The Elder Vaḍḍha’s Mother
The Chapter of the Nines is finished.