Thig 13.2 — Thig 13:2 Rohiṇī

English translation by Ṭhānissaro Bhikkhu.

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Source revision: sha256:06db98f11dbe5b66e3b290b0f8bcaa44ec5f2fe3d1e1b74062fcf0baea044036

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Changes: Presentation only: original HTML markup reflowed into plain text; wording, numbering and source repetitions retained. No repetitions expanded.

Completeness: ABBREVIATED. Every source-unit character is preserved, including introductions, notes and verse structure. Thanissaro's collection-level note explicitly states that repetitions were cut: https://www.dhammatalks.org/suttas/about.html. This is evidence about the translation method, not an assertion that every individual unit contains an omission; no repetitions reconstructed.

Text

Thig 13:2 Rohiṇī

Rohiṇī’s father:

You go to sleep saying,

“Contemplatives.”

You wake up,

“Contemplatives.”

You praise only

contemplatives.

No doubt you will be
a contemplative.

Abundant food & drink
you give to contemplatives.
Now, Rohiṇī, I ask you:
Why do you hold
contemplatives dear?

They don't like to work,
they're lazy,
living off what's given by others,
full of hankerings,
wanting delicious things:
Why do you hold
contemplatives dear?

Rohiṇī:
For a long time, father,
you've quizzed me
about contemplatives.
I'll praise to you
their
discernment,
virtue,
endeavor.

They do like to work,
they're not lazy.
They do the best work:
They abandon
passion & anger.

That’s why I hold
contemplatives dear.

They rid themselves
of the three evil roots,1
doing pure actions.
All their evil’s
abandoned.
That’s why I hold
contemplatives dear.

Clean their bodily action,
so is their verbal action.
Clean their mental action:
That’s why I hold
contemplatives dear.

Spotless, like mother of pearl,
pure within & without,
perfect in clear qualities:
That’s why I hold
contemplatives dear.

Learned, maintaining the Dhamma,
noble, living the Dhamma,
they teach the goal
& the Dhamma:
That’s why I hold
contemplatives dear.

Learned, maintaining the Dhamma,
noble, living the Dhamma,
with unified minds

& mindful:
That’s why I hold
contemplatives dear.

Traveling far, mindful,
giving counsel unruffled,
they discern the end
of suffering:
That’s why I hold
contemplatives dear.

When they leave any village
they don’t turn to look back
at anything.
How free from concern
they go!
That’s why I hold
contemplatives dear.

They don’t store in a granary,
pot,
or basket.
They hunt [only]
for what’s already cooked:
That’s why I hold
contemplatives dear.

They take neither silver,
nor gold,
nor money.
They live off whatever is present:
That’s why I hold

contemplatives dear.

Having gone forth
from different families
& from different countries,
still they hold
one another dear:
That's why I hold
contemplatives dear.

Rohiṇī's father:
Rohiṇī, truly for our benefit
were you born in our family.
You have conviction
in the Buddha & Dhamma,
and strong respect
for the Saṅgha.

You truly discern
this field of merit
unexcelled.
These contemplatives will receive
our offering, too,
for here we'll set up
our abundant sacrifice.

Rohiṇī:
If you're afraid of pain,
if you dislike pain,
go to the Buddha for refuge,
go to the Dhamma & Saṅgha.
Take on the precepts:

That will lead

to your benefit.

Rohiṇī's father:

I go to the Buddha for refuge;

I go to the Dhamma & Saṅgha.

I take on the precepts:

That will lead

to my benefit.

* * *

Before, I was a kinsman to Brahmā;

now, truly a brahman.

I'm a three-knowledge man & safe,

consummate in knowledge,

washed clean.

Note

1. The three unskillful roots are greed, aversion, and delusion. See DN 2, MN 9, and AN 3:66.

Publisher references (not part of the sutta)

See also: SN 7:17; Sn 1:4