Ud 7.5 — Apara Lakuntaka Bhaddiya Sutta: Another Discourse about Bhaddiya the Dwarf

English translation by K. Nizamis.

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

Completeness: UNKNOWN. Entire protected source unit, including notes and verses, preserved; canonical completeness has not been independently established.

Text

Thus it has been heard by me. On one occasion the Blessed One was dwelling at Sāvatthi in the Jeta Forest in the private park owned by Anāthapiṇḍika.

Also at that time, where the Blessed One was, there Venerable Bhaddiya the Dwarf approached, close behind many monks.

The Blessed One saw Venerable Bhaddiya the Dwarf, even from afar, coming close behind many monks: of bad complexion, of bad appearance, dwarfish, of such a form as to be despised by most of the monks.[1] Having seen him, he addressed the monks:

"Monks, do you see that monk, even from afar, coming close behind many monks: of bad complexion, of bad appearance, dwarfish, of such a form as to be despised by most of the monks?"

"Just so, Venerable Sir."

"Monks, that monk is of great power, of great eminence. There is no well-gained attainment that has not already been attained by that monk. For that benefit, for which sons of good lineage rightly go forth from home into homelessness, that ultimate conclusion of the holy life, even in this very life, by himself, having seen with his own eyes the higher knowledge, and having attained, he abides."

And then, having understood the meaning of that, in that moment he breathed forth this utterance:

With faultless part, adorned in white, the one-way chariot rolls on: See it coming, undisturbed, with flow cut off, unbound. [2]

Notes

1.

The commentary (of Dhammapāla, post 5th Century CE): "yebhuyyena bhikkhūnaṃ paribhūtarūpan'ti puthujjanabhikkhūhi ohīḷitarūpaṃ" (PTS Ud-A 369). "'For most of the monks, having a despised kind of form': having a kind of form scorned or viewed with disgust [ohīliṭa] by the monks who are just ordinary people [puthujjana-bhikkhū]." See also SN 21.6.

2.

See also SN 41.5, in which the Venerable Kāmabhū recites this stanza to the lay devotee Citta, and asks him how its meaning should be seen. Citta then proceeds to offer his interpretation of its meaning. (Notes on this present translation of the stanza are also provided with SN 41.5.)