Vv 56 — Karaṇīya Sutta: Should-Be-Done Mansion

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Text

Moggallana Bhante:

Dear Devata, your mansion is way up in the sky and spreads over one hundred and twenty kilometers. Pillars of beryl and other gemstones, and seven hundred pinnacled buildings are in your estate. It is very beautiful. Inside the mansion, you drink and eat and enjoy the sweetness of heavenly food. Guitars play sweet music. You have the five kinds of sensual pleasures. Devatas dance for you, wearing gold jewelry.

What are the meritorious deeds that led to this happiness?

Tell me Devata, what kind of meritorious action did you do when you were in the human world to have gained this beauty that shines in all directions, and to have earned all these wonderful things?

That devata, delighted at being questioned by Arahant Moggallana, gladly explained what she had done that resulted in such great happiness.

Devata:

Wise people, understanding their own well-being, should do meritorious deeds. The Supreme Buddha has completed the journey of the right path. Offerings that are given to such Buddhas generate great fruit.

Fortunately for me, one day the Supreme Buddha visited my village after coming out of a forest. My mind gained confidence in the Buddha. That is how I came to this Tavatimsa

Heaven.

Because of this meritorious deed, I have been born as a very beautiful devata and enjoy all the wonderful things that delight my heart.

Great Bhante, that was the meritorious action I did to have such a beautiful body which shines in all directions.