SN 3.8 — With Queen Mallikā

English translation by Bhikkhu Sujato.
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Text

Linked Discourses 3.8

1. Shackles

With Queen Mallikā

At Sāvatthī.

Now at that time King Pasenadi of Kosala was upstairs in the royal longhouse together with Queen Mallikā.

Then the king said to the queen, “Mallikā, is there anyone more dear to you than yourself?”

“No, Great King, there isn’t. But is there anyone more dear to you than yourself?”

“For me also, Mallikā, there’s no one.”

Then King Pasenadi of Kosala came downstairs from the stilt longhouse, went to the Buddha, bowed, sat down to one side, and told him what had happened.

Then, understanding this matter, on that occasion the Buddha spoke this verse:

“Having explored every quarter with the mind,

one finds no one dearer than oneself.

Likewise for others, each holds themselves dear;

so one who desires self-knowledge would harm no other.”