pli-tv-bu-vb-pc17 — Evicting a monk

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Text

Theravāda Collection on Monastic Law

The Great Analysis

The chapter on offenses entailing confession

The subchapter on plants

Evicting a monk

Origin story

At one time the Buddha was staying at Sāvatthī in the Jeta Grove, Anāthapiṇḍika's Monastery. At that time the monks from the group of seventeen were repairing a large dwelling nearby, intending to stay there for the rainy season. The monks from the group of six saw this and said, "These monks from the group of seventeen are repairing a dwelling. Let's throw them out." But some of them said, "Let's wait until they've finished repairing it."

Soon afterwards the monks from the group of six said to those from the group of seventeen, "Leave, this dwelling is ours."

"Shouldn't you have told us beforehand? We would've repaired another one."

"Doesn't this dwelling belong to the Sangha?"

"Yes, it does."

"Well then, leave! This dwelling is ours."

"The dwelling is large. You can stay here and so can we."

But they said, "Leave, this dwelling is ours," and they grabbed them by the necks and threw them out in anger.

The monks from the group of seventeen cried. When other monks asked them why, they told them what had happened.

The monks of few desires complained and criticized them, "How could the monks from the group of six angrily throw other monks out of a dwelling belonging to the Sangha?"

After rebuking those monks in many ways, they told the Buddha. Soon afterwards he had the Sangha gathered and questioned the monks: "Is it true, monks, that you did this?"

"It's true, sir."

The Buddha rebuked them … “Foolish men, how could you do this? This will affect people’s confidence …” … “And, monks, this training rule should be recited like this:

Final ruling

‘If a monk, in anger, throws a monk out of a dwelling belonging to the Sangha, or has him thrown out, he commits an offense entailing confession.’”

Definitions

A: whoever … Monk: …The monk who has been given the full ordination by a unanimous Sangha through a legal procedure consisting of one motion and three announcements that is irreversible and fit to stand—this sort of monk is meant in this case. A monk: another monk. In anger: discontent, having hatred, hostile. A dwelling belonging to the Sangha: given to the Sangha, given up to the Sangha. Throws out: if he takes hold of him in a room and throws him out to the entryway, he commits an offense entailing confession. If he takes hold of him in the entryway and throws him outside, he commits an offense entailing confession. Even if he makes him go through many doors with a single effort, he commits one offense entailing confession. Has thrown out: if he asks another, he commits an offense entailing confession. If he only asks once, then even if the other makes him go through many doors, he commits one offense entailing confession.

Permutations

If it belongs to the Sangha, and he perceives it as such, and in anger he throws him out, or has him thrown out, he commits an offense entailing confession. If it belongs to the Sangha, but he is unsure of it, and in anger he throws him out, or has him thrown out, he commits an offense entailing confession. If it belongs to the Sangha, but he perceives it as belonging to an individual, and in anger he throws him out, or has him thrown out, he commits an offense entailing confession.

If he throws out one of his requisites, or he has it thrown out, he commits an offense of wrong conduct. If he throws him out, or has him thrown out, from the vicinity of a dwelling, from an assembly hall, from under a roof cover, from the foot of a tree, or from a space out in the open, he commits an offense of wrong conduct. If he throws out one of his requisites from any of these places, or he has it thrown out, he commits an offense of wrong conduct. If he throws out one who is not fully ordained, or has them thrown out, from a dwelling, from the vicinity of a dwelling, from an assembly hall, from under a roof cover, from the foot of a tree, or from a space out in the open, he commits an offense of wrong conduct. If he throws out one of their requisites from any of these places, or has it thrown out, he commits an offense of wrong conduct.

If it belongs to an individual, but he perceives it as belonging to the Sangha, he commits an offense of wrong conduct. If it belongs to an individual, but he is unsure of it, he commits an offense of wrong conduct. If it belongs to an individual, and he perceives it as such, but that individual is not himself, he commits an offense of wrong conduct. If it belongs to himself, there is no offense.

Non-offenses

There is no offense: if he throws out one who is shameless, or has him thrown out; if he throws out one of the requisites belonging to that person, or has them thrown out; if he throws out one who is insane, or has him thrown out; if he throws out one of the requisites belonging to that person, or has them thrown out; if he throws out one who is quarrelsome and argumentative, who creates legal issues in the Sangha, or has them thrown out; if he throws out one of the requisites belonging to that person, or has them thrown out; if he throws out a pupil or student who is not conducting himself properly, or has him thrown out; if he throws out one of the requisites belonging to such a person, or has them thrown out; if he is insane; if he is the first offender.

The training rule on evicting a monk, the seventh, is finished.