

Nāgapupphiya

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[158. Nāgapupphiya¹]

There was a man named Suvaccha²
a brahmin master of mantras,
placed in front by his own students,
residing upon a mountain. (1) [2031]

The Victor, Padumuttara,
Sacrificial Recipient,
with a wish for my upliftment
did come into my presence [then]. (2) [2032]

He walked back and forth in the sky,
like he was smoking and burning,³
[and] after he had made me smile,⁴
he departed facing the east. (3) [2033]

And having seen that miracle,
marvel making hair stand on end,
taking an ironwood flower,
I scattered [it] in his pathway.⁵ (4) [2034]

In the hundred thousand aeons
since I scattered that flower [then],
due to the pleasure in [my] heart,
I've come to know no bad rebirth. (5) [2035]

In the thirty-first aeon [hence]
I was the king, Mahāratha,⁶
a wheel-turner with great power,
possessor of the seven gems. (6) [2036]

The four analytical modes,
and these eight deliverances,
six special knowledges mastered,
[I have] done what the Buddha taught! (7) [2037]

Thus indeed Venerable Nāgapupphiya Thera spoke these verses.

The legend of Nāgapupphiya Thera is finished.

¹“Ironwood-Flower-er”

²“Good Calf” or “Very Young One”

³reading *dhūpeti jalate* (BJTS) for *dhūpo 'tjalate* (“as though incense were flaming up,” PTS).

⁴reading *hāsaṃ mama viditvāna* (lit., “making a smile [or laughter] known to me”) with BJTS for PTS *ve hāsaṃ mama disvāna* (“surely having seen my smile [or laughter]” PTS).

⁵lit., “on the road he took”.

⁶“Big Chariot”