

Bandhujīvaka

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[182. Bandhujīvaka¹]

The Sambuddha named Siddhattha,
Self-Become, praised by good people,²
having entered concentration,³
sat down upon a mountain [then]. (1) [2157]

Searching in a natural lake
for a superb lotus flower,
I saw *bandhujīvaka* blooms
in the nearby vicinity. (2) [2158]

Picking [them] up with both [my] hands,
I [then] approached the Sage So Great.
Happy, with pleasure in [my] heart,
I offered [them] to Siddhattha. (3) [2159]

In the ninety-four aeons since
I offered [those] flower[s] [to him],
I've come to know no bad rebirth:
that's the fruit of flower-*pūjā*. (4) [2160]

In the fourteenth aeon ago,
there was one ruler of people
whose name was Samuddakappa,⁴
a wheel-turning king with great power. (5) [2161]

The four analytical modes,
and these eight deliverances,
six special knowledges mastered,
[I have] done what the Buddha taught! (6) [2162]

Thus indeed Venerable Bandhujīvaka Thera spoke these verses.
The legend of Bandhujīvaka Thera is finished.

¹the name of a flower, Sinhala *banduvada*, Latin *pentapetes phoenicea* aka midday flower, noon flower, scarlet pentapetes, scarlet mallow, copper cups, scarlet phoenecian, any of which could appropriately translate the protagonist's name

²I follow BJTS Sinhala gloss in taking *sabhi* as *satpuruṣayen*

³*samādhiṃ so samāpanno*

⁴“Ocean-Aeon”.