

# Koçumbariya

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### [183. Koṭumbariya<sup>1</sup>]

Happy, [and] with a happy heart,  
I approached the Best among Men,  
shining like a dinner-plate tree,<sup>2</sup>  
sitting down amidst the mountains,  
like the ocean without measure,  
extending<sup>3</sup> as far as the earth,  
worshipped<sup>4</sup> by the gods' assembly,<sup>5</sup>  
of the best race of bulls of men. (1-2) [2163-2164]

I [once] offered to the Buddha  
Sikhi, the Kinsman of the World,  
a piece of cloth<sup>6</sup> [which I had] filled  
with seven flowers [I] had plucked. (3) [2165]

In the thirty-one aeons since  
I did *pūjā* [with] that flower,  
I've come to know no bad rebirth:  
that's the fruit of Buddha-*pūjā*. (4) [2166]

In the twentieth aeon hence  
I was a greatly powerful  
wheel-turning monarch with great strength,  
[known by the] name Mahāṇela.<sup>7</sup> (5) [2167]

The four analytical modes,  
and these eight deliverances,  
six special knowledges mastered,  
[I have] done what the Buddha taught! (6) [2168]

Thus indeed Venerable Koṭumbariya<sup>8</sup> Thera spoke these verses.

The legend of Koṭumbariya<sup>9</sup> Thera is finished.

<sup>1</sup>*koṭumbariya* is a kind of cloth; the name would mean "[That Kind of Cloth]-er". This spelling follows BJTS; PTS gives *Kotumbariya*.

<sup>2</sup>*kaṇṇikāra*, *kaṇikāra* = Sinhala *kinihiriya*, *Pterospermum acerifolium*, produces a brilliant mass of yellow flowers; Engl. a.k.a. karnikar, bayur tree, maple-leaf bayur, caniyar (now archaic?), dinner-plate tree; Bodhi tree of Siddhattha Buddha.

<sup>3</sup>reading *vitthataṃ* with BJTS for PTS *uddhataṃ* ("risen up")

<sup>4</sup>reading *pūjitaṃ* with BJTS for PTS *paretaṃ* ("dead," "oppressed")

<sup>5</sup>*devasanghena*

<sup>6</sup>lit., "a *koṭumbara*"

<sup>7</sup>BJTS reads *Mahāṇela*, meaning = ?

<sup>8</sup>PTS reads *Kotumbariya*

<sup>9</sup>PTS reads *Kotumbariya*