

# Pañcahatthiya

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### [184. Pañcahatthiya<sup>1</sup>]

The Blessed One known as Tissa  
was the World's Best, the Bull of Men;  
Honored by the monks' Assembly,<sup>2</sup>  
he went out onto<sup>3</sup> the highway. (1) [2169]

Wishing to give an offering  
to achieve my vow, I picked up<sup>4</sup>  
five handfuls of lotus blossoms  
and four [more handfuls]<sup>5</sup> placed by me. (2) [2170]

Delighted<sup>6</sup> by the Buddha's rays,  
I gave [them]<sup>7</sup> to the Best Biped,  
the Golden-Colored Sambuddha  
who was walking<sup>8</sup> through the bazaar. (3) [2171]

In the ninety-two aeons since  
I offered [those] flowers<sup>9</sup> [to him,]  
I've come to know no bad rebirth:  
that's the fruit of Buddha-*pūjā*. (4) [2172]

In the thirtieth aeon hence  
there were five Subhāsammātās,<sup>10</sup>  
wheel-turning monarchs with great strength,  
possessors of the seven gems. (5) [2173]

The four analytical modes,  
and these eight deliverances,  
six special knowledges mastered,  
[I have] done what the Buddha taught! (6) [2174]

Thus indeed Venerable Pañcahatthiya Thera spoke these verses.

The legend of Pañcahatthiya Thera is finished.

<sup>1</sup>“Five-handful-er”

<sup>2</sup>lit., “honored by [his] followers”

<sup>3</sup>lit., “entered into”

<sup>4</sup>lit., “are picked up,” reading *paggaṇhitaṃ* with BJTS for PTS “*haṇṇ mūgo ‘mhi*” (“I am a deer”)

<sup>5</sup>That is, nine handfuls total. BJTS suggests another readings of “five or four handfuls,” but the “ca” suggests that the reading 5+4 is more appropriate. The cty does not take this up.

<sup>6</sup>reading *abhituṭṭho* with BJTS for PTS *abhighuṭṭho* (“proclaimed, announced”)

<sup>7</sup>lit., “I did *pūjā* [with them]”

<sup>8</sup>lit., “going”

<sup>9</sup>lit., “that flower”

<sup>10</sup>that is, five men named Subhāsammātā, all of whom were rebirth precursors of Rev. Pañcahatthiya. The name means “Well-Approved” or “Well Agreed Upon”.