

# Añkolaka

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**[195. Aṅkolaka<sup>1</sup>]**

Seeing an *aṅkola* in bloom  
with excellent flowers and buds,<sup>2</sup>  
having plucked a flower [from] it,  
I went to the Buddha's presence. (1) [2236]

In that period Siddhattha  
was the Hidden One,<sup>3</sup> the Great Sage.  
Honoring him for a moment,  
I tossed that bloom into the cave. (2) [2237]

In the ninety-four aeons since  
I offered that flower [to him],  
I've come to know no bad rebirth:  
that's the fruit of Buddha-*pūjā*. (3) [2238]

In the thirty-sixth aeon hence  
I was one Devagajjita,<sup>4</sup>  
a wheel-turning king with great strength,  
possessor of the seven gems. (4) [2239]

The four analytical modes,  
and these eight deliverances,  
six special knowledges mastered,  
[I have] done what the Buddha taught! (5) [2240]

Thus indeed Venerable Aṅkolaka Thera spoke these verses.

The legend of Aṅkolaka Thera is finished.

<sup>1</sup>“Alangium Donor.” The *aṅkola* (Sinh. *rukaṅgana*; *Alangium hexapetalum*, a.k.a. sage-leaved alangium) is a flowering tree

<sup>2</sup>reading *mālāvaram sakosakaṃ* with BJTS for PTS *māhāsārasamotataṃ*

<sup>3</sup>*patilīna*; as is clear in the fourth foot, he is “hidden” within a cave

<sup>4</sup>“Roaring (or Thunder, or Furious Elephant) of the Gods”