

Vaṭaṅsakiya

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[227. Vaṭaṅsakiya¹]

I saw the Leader of the World
 being led into a garden.²
 Picking up a wreath for the head
 made of gold, superbly fashioned,
 [and] quickly rising up from there,
 mounted on an elephant's back,
 I gave [it] to the Buddha [then],
 to Sikhi, Kinsman of the World. (1-2) [2406-2407]

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*. (3) [2408]

In the twenty-seventh aeon
 hence [lived] one lord of the people
 [who was] named Mahāpatāpa³
 a wheel-turning king with great strength. (4) [2409]

The four analytical modes,
 and these eight deliverances,
 six special knowledges mastered,
 [I have] done what the Buddha taught! (5) [2410]

Thus indeed Venerable Vaṭaṅsakiya Thera spoke these verses.

The legend of Vaṭaṅsakiya Thera is finished.

¹“Chaplet (or Wreath for the Head) [Donor].” BJTS gives *sovaṅṇavaṭaṅsakiya*, “Golden Chaplet [Donor],” a reading confirmed in the Summary which names this *apadāna* “*Soṅṅa*”. Cf. #149, above; the BJTS reading allows for the two monks to be distinguished from each other. In this regard cf. also #228, below.

²lit., “to a garden-ground”

³“Great Austerities (or heat)”