

# Ākāsukkhapiya

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## Padumukkhepa Chapter, the Twenty-Seventh

### [261. Ākāsukkhapiya<sup>1</sup>]

Taking two water-born flowers,<sup>2</sup>  
I approached the Bull Among Men,  
Siddhattha, gold-colored [Buddha],  
traveling around the bazaar. (1) [2540]

I placed one flower down at the  
two feet of the Best of Buddhas.  
And taking the other<sup>3</sup> flower  
I threw [it] up into the sky. (2) [2541]

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 giving flowers. (3) [2542]

In the thirty-second aeon  
ago lived one lord of the earth  
known as Antalikkhacara,<sup>4</sup>  
a wheel-turning king with great strength. (4) [2543]

The four analytical modes,  
and these eight deliverances;  
six special knowledges mastered:  
[I have] done what the Buddha taught! (5) [2544]

Thus indeed Venerable Ākāsukkhapiya Thera spoke these verses.

The legend of Ākāsukkhapiya Thera is finished.

<sup>1</sup>“Sky-Scatterer” or “Thrown Up Into the Sky”. The name of each Chapter usually corresponds to the proper name of the subject of the first *apadāna* in it. The same is only partly true here. While the chapter name, *paduma-ukkhepa* (“Pink Lotus Thrown Upward”), alludes both linguistically and descriptively to the name of the Thera, it is not, in fact, his proper name.

<sup>2</sup>*jalajagge duve gayhā*. This follows the cty, which explains: *jale udake jāte agge uppalādayo dve pupphe gahetvā* (“taking two flowers such as lotus, the best ones, born in the water”)

<sup>3</sup>lit., “and one”

<sup>4</sup>“Atmosphere-Wanderer”