

# Pupphadhāraka

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## [292. Pupphadhāraka<sup>1</sup>]

I was a bark-clothed [ascetic],  
wearing deer-leather outer robes.  
[I] had five special knowledges;<sup>2</sup>  
a person who could stroke the moon. (1) [2676]

Seeing Vipassi, the World’s Torch,<sup>3</sup>  
come to [the same place] as me,  
I bore the floral canopy  
[over the head] of the Teacher. (2) [2677]

In the ninety-one aeons since  
I bore that floral [canopy],  
I’ve come to know no bad rebirth:  
that’s the fruit of bearing [flowers]. (3) [2678]

In the eighty-seventh aeon  
hence, there was one lord of the earth  
by name Samantadharaṇa,<sup>4</sup>  
a wheel-turning king with great strength. (4) [2679]

The four analytical modes,  
and these eight deliverances,  
six special knowledges mastered,  
[I have] done what the Buddha taught! (5) [2680]

Thus indeed Venerable Pupphadhāraka Thera spoke these verses.

The legend of Pupphadhāraka Thera is finished.

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<sup>1</sup>“Flower-Bearer”.

<sup>2</sup>lit., “five special knowledges had been produced.” One was still lacking, presumably the sixth and distinctively Buddhist knowledge described as certainty of one’s own nirvana; the other five can be attained by non-Buddhist (in this case, brahmin) adepts.

<sup>3</sup>*lokapajjotaṅ*

<sup>4</sup>“Holding up all Sides”