

# Kandalīpupphiya

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**[319. Kandalīpupphiya<sup>1</sup>]**

I was a farmer at that time  
on the banks of River Indus.  
Bound in service to another,  
I looked not for that other's rice.<sup>2</sup> (1) [2814]

Wandering along the Indus,  
I saw Siddhattha, the Victor,  
sitting down in meditation<sup>3</sup>  
like a lotus flower in bloom. (2) [2815]

I having cut off [all] the stems  
of seven plantain flowers [then],  
did spread them out upon the head  
of Buddha, Kinsman of the Sun. (3) [2816]

Attentive to the protocol,  
[back then] after I had approached  
the Golden-Colored Sambuddha,  
Wise One, With Senses Well-Controlled,  
– Hard to Approach like a tusker,  
a *mātaṅga* in three-fold rut —  
having pressed my hands together  
I worshipped [Buddha], the Teacher. (4-5) [2817-2818]

In the ninety-four aeons since  
I did *pūjā* [with] that flower,  
I've come to know no bad rebirth:  
that's the fruit of Buddha-*pūjā*. (6) [2819]

The four analytical modes,  
and these eight deliverances,  
six special knowledges mastered,  
[I have] done what the Buddha taught! (7) [2820]

Thus indeed Venerable Kandalīpupphiya Thera spoke these verses.

The legend of Kandalīpupphiya Thera is finished.

<sup>1</sup>“Kandalī-Flower-er.” BJTS takes *kandalī* as *kadalī*, plantain, which has other witness in the tradition (cf. Cone, sv) and which is specified in v. 3. Hence, “Plantain-Flower-er”.

<sup>2</sup>i.e., I was self-sufficient, I earned my own keep. This follows the reading of BJTS Sinhala gloss.

<sup>3</sup>lit., “seated with *samādhi*”