Udena

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[407. {410.}¹ Udena²]

In the Himalayan region, there's a mountain named Paduma.³ My well-built hermitage [is there,] with well-fashioned halls made of leaves. (1) [4219]

The rivers that are flowing there have good banks and are beautiful, with clear water, water that's cool; [those] rivers are always lovely. (2) [4220]

There are sheatfish,⁴ pāvusa⁵ fish, valaja,⁶ reed-fish⁷ [and] red-fish.⁸ They are shining⁹ in the river; the rivers always transport [them].¹⁰(3) [4221]

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They're veiled<sup>11</sup> in mango,<sup>12</sup> rose-apple,<sup>13</sup>
kareri<sup>14</sup> [and] coral-bean tree,<sup>15</sup>
golden shower,<sup>16</sup> trumpet-flower,<sup>17</sup>
beautifying my hermitage. (4) [4222]
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²"Coming Up" (?)

³"Pink Lotus"

⁴read pāțhīna, Silurus Boalis, "a kind of shad" (RD); wikipedia gives "sheatfish," related to catfish, includes all the siluridae. BJTS glosses *pețiyō*

⁵pāvusa, glossed as "large-mouth fish", cf. pāgusa, patusa, BJTS glosses lūllu

⁶reading *valajā* with BJTS, which treats it as a type of fish (Sinh. *valayō*), for PTS *jalajā*, lit., "water-born", a generic word for "fish".

⁷muñja, more common as a kind of reed, also the name of a fish (BJTS glosses moddu), always in dvandva compound with rohita, "red-fish"

⁸rohita, BJTS glosses reheru

⁹reading sobhentā with BJTS for PTS sobhanti ("they are beautifying")

¹⁰vahanti ("proceeding," "carrying [them in the current]," PTS alt. is savanti ("flowing")

¹¹sañchannā, lit., "covered;" the f. pl. presumably fixes these as modifiers of "the rivers," the unspecified "they" which is the subject of the first foot.

¹²amba

¹³jambu

¹⁴a small tree, Crataeva Roxburghii (Cappar.), Sinh. luṇuvaraṇa

¹⁵tilaka, BJTS glosses as madaṭa cf. botanical dictionary = madaṭiya, a tree which yields false yellow sandalwood, and seeds that are used as beads and a jeweler's weight of about 1.25 troy ounce, adenanthera pavonina, coral bean tree a.k.a. Saga, Sagaseed tree, Red-bead tree, kolkriki

¹⁶uddālaka = Cassia fistula, Sinh. *äsa*ļa

¹⁷pāṭali is Sinh. paļol, Bignonia suaveolens, sterospermum suaveolens (Bignon.), trumpet-flower tree, the Bodhi Tree of Vipassi Buddha.

 $^{^{1}}$ Apadāna numbers provided in {fancy brackets} correspond to the BJTS edition, which contains more individual poems than does the PTS edition dictating the main numbering of this translation.

Alangium,¹⁸ red *bimbijāl*,¹⁹ and *māyākārī*²⁰ [trees] in bloom are diffusing perfumes [there], beautifying my hermitage. (5) [4223]

Hiptage vines²¹ and *sattalika*,²² ironwood²³ [and] *sal*²⁴ in flower are wafting divine fragrances, beautifying my hermitage. (6) [4224]

Neem,²⁵ salalā,²⁶ yellow cheesewood²⁷ and aṭṭhaṅga²⁸ [trees] in full bloom, are wafting divine fragrances, beautifying my hermitage. (7) [4225]

My hermitage has lots of fruit: myrobalan²⁹ [and] gooseberry,³⁰ mango,³¹ rose-apple,³² bahera,³³

¹⁹ *bimbijāla,* the Bodhi tree of the previous Buddha, Dhammadassi Buddha, Sinh. *rat karavū*, momordica monadelpha

²⁰this is the BJTS spelling, PTS reads *māyācārā*. Cf. *māyākāra*, "magician, conjuror"?

²¹atimuttaka. RD: a plant, Gaertnera Racemosa = Hiptage, hiptage benghalensis, stout, highclimbing vine, now invasive species in Florida, scented pink-white flowers, medicinal uses. BJTS glosses Sinh. *yohombu* (Bot. Dict. = *yohombu väla* = *yon tumba*, an annual creeper, Trichodesma zeylanicum).

²²BJTS glosses as satpeti däsaman = "hundred-petaled" saman picca mal, a fragrant species of jasmine, Jasminum sambac. Note that at [3432] BJTS says vassika is (regular) däsaman.

²³nāgā

²⁴sāla, shorea robusta

²⁵PTS kosumbhā, BJTS kosambā, also spelt kosambhā, - Sinh. kohomba, neem or margosa tree, Azadirachta indica

²⁶PTS salaļā, BJTS salalā, BJTS Sinh.gloss = *hora* = "large timber tree yielding rezin and oil, Dipterocarpus zeylanicus (*Dipterocarp.*)" (Bot. dict.)

²⁷nīpa = Sinhala kolom, nauclea orientalis; also called Leichhardt tree

²⁸ "eight-limbed," BJTS takes this as the name of another type of tree, rather than an adjective
 ²⁹ harītakā, Sinh. araļu, myrobalan, black- or chebulic myrobalan; Terminalia chebula.

³⁰āmalāka, Sinh. *nelli*, emblic myrobalan, Indian gooseberry, a.k.a. Malacca tree, or amla; Phyllanthus emblica

³¹*ambā*, Magnifera indica

³²jambū, Sinh. damba, jambu, Syzygium samarangense

³³*vibhīțakā*, Sinh. *buļu*, Terminalia bellirica (sic bellerica), beleric myrobalan or bastard myrobalan. Together with myroblan proper (*araļu*) and Indian gooseberry (*nelli*), bahera is one of the three myroblans upon which many Ayurvedic and Sinhala medicines are based; the dried nuts are typically pounded into powder which is then used in oils and other decoctions. Here, on the contrary, the reference is likely to the fresh fruit of these trees, which is also used in medicines and eaten (especially gooseberry).

¹⁸reading aṅkolaka with BJTS (and PTS alt.) for PTS Ākolakā. The plant in question is alangium hexapetalum, a.k.a. sage-leaved alangium, Sinh. *rukaṅguna*

jujube,³⁴ markingnut,³⁵ bel.³⁶ (8) [4226]

There kadam³⁷ and banana [trees] are flowering in my hermitage. Wafting divine fragrances, they're beautifying my hermitage. (9) [4227]

Asokapiņdī,³⁸ cavarī,³⁹ and yellow cheesewood⁴⁰ [trees] in bloom, are wafting divine fragrances, beautifying my hermitage. (10) [4228]

Laurel⁴¹ [and] mountain laurel⁴² [trees] [and] *timira* [trees] in bloom there, are wafting divine fragrances, beautifying my hermitage. (11) [4229]

Nigguṇḍi,⁴³ sirinigguṇḍi⁴⁴ and champak trees⁴⁵ which are in bloom, are wafting divine fragrances, beautifying my hermitage. (12) [4230]

Near [the hermitage] there's a pond, [full of] the songs of ruddy geese,⁴⁶ covered with *mandālaka* blooms⁴⁷

³⁴kola, Sinh. *debara phala*, Ziziphus Mauritania, Zyzyphus Jujuba, Indian jujube or Chinese apple.

³⁵bhallātakā, bhallī, badulla = semecarpus anacardium, Sinh. badulu

³⁶bellā, billaŋ = Aegle marmelos, Sinh. beli geḍiya, bael, bel, Bengal quince; bilva or vilva tree; also billā, beluvā

³⁷kadamba (Sinh. koļom) is Nauclea cordifolia = Neolamarckia cadamba, with orange-colored, fragrant blossoms

³⁸"round-mass Asoka" (?)

³⁹this reading follows BJTS for PTS *ca vārī* (alt. °*bari*) but cf. *setavārī* at v. [4011], above.

⁴⁰nīpa = Sinhala kolom, nauclea orientalis; also called Leichhardt tree

⁴¹punnāga = Sinhala domba, Alexandrian laurel, Calophyllum inophyllum ⁴²giripunnāga

⁴³a kind of medicinal tree or shrub, Vitex nigunda. Sinh: nika

⁴⁴= "resplendent nigguņḍi," Sinh. gloss sirinika

⁴⁵camparukkh' ettha. The campa (Sinh. sapu) tree is Magnolia champaca, formerly classified as michelia champaca. English names for the tree include Champak, Joy Perfume Tree, Yellow Jade Orchid Tree and Fragrant Himalayan Champaca. It was the Bodhi tree of the seventeenth Buddha of the Buddhavaṃsa, Atthadassi. It has highly fragrant cream to yellowish-colored blossoms.

⁴⁶cakkavākā, BJTS Sinh. gloss sakvālihiņiyō = cakravākayā, an aquatic bird, brahminy goose, brahmany kite, haliastur indus

⁴⁷RD says this is a water-plant, a kind of lotus, referencing J iv.539; vi.47, 279, 564. Here (and at [4233], [4313]) BJTS glosses helmällen nohot diyakandarayen, "if not helmälla then diyakandara." Helmäli = edible white water-lily, Nymphaea Lotus. I don't find diyakandaraya in the dictionaries. BJTS gloss at [324] is "a water-born plant named Mandālā". At [171] BJTS Sinh. gloss is tadāgayangen, "from the moss," following its reading of [170] "well fixed [in the mosses]". Bot. Dict. tadāga

and with pink and blue lotuses.⁴⁸ (13) [4231]

It has clear water, cool water, good bathing-fords⁴⁹ which are lovely. It is clear, the same as crystal, beautifying my hermitage. (14) [4232]

Pink lotuses are blooming there, and white and blue lotuses [too]. It's covered in *mandālaka*,⁵⁰ beautifying my hermitage. (15) [4233]

Sheatfish⁵¹ [also] *pāvusa*⁵² fish, *valaja*,⁵³ reed-fish⁵⁴ [and] red-fish⁵⁵ are swimming around⁵⁶ in that [pond],⁵⁷ beautifying my hermitage. (16) [4234]

Crocodiles⁵⁸ and alligators,⁵⁹ tortoises and [other] fierce beasts,⁶⁰

= sevela. At [4313], [6332] BJTS gloss is likewise helmällen (= heļmäli)

⁴⁸reading padumuppalakehi ca with BJTS for PTS padumapphalakehi ca ("and with pink lotuses and fruit" or "and with pink lotus fruits".

⁴⁹supatitthā, following BJTS gloss here (elsewhere "good banks"). Should I do the same elsewhere?

⁵⁰RD says this is a water-plant, a kind of lotus, referencing J iv.539; vi.47, 279, 564. Here BJTS Sinh. gloss suggests *helmäliyen* = *helmäli*, also the (or a) gloss at [4231], [4313], [6332] = edible white water-lily, Nymphaea Lotus. But elsewhere BJTS gives different glosses: at [4007] BJTS glosses it as *madāra* tree [mountain-ebony, Bauhinia purpurea (*Legum.*)] and says the blossoms fell into the water from overhanging trees. BJTS gloss at [324] is "a water-born plant named *Mandālā*". At [171] BJTS Sinh. gloss is *tadāgayangen*, "from the moss," following its reading of [170] "well fixed [in the mosses]". Bot. Dict. *tadāga* = *sevela*.

⁵¹read pāṭhīna, Silurus Boalis, "a kind of shad" (RD); wikipedia gives "sheatfish," related to catfish, includes all the siluridae. BJTS glosses pețiyō

⁵²pāvusa, glossed as "large-mouth fish", cf. pāgusa, patusa, BJTS glosses lūllu

⁵³reading *valajā* with BJTS, which treats it as a type of fish (Sinh. *valayō*), for PTS *jalajā*, lit., "water-born", a generic word for "fish".

⁵⁴*muñja*, more common as a kind of reed, also the name of a fish (BJTS glosses *moddu*), always in *dvandva* compound with *rohita*, "red-fish"

⁵⁵rohita, BJTS glosses reheru

⁵⁶*vicarantā*, moving around, traveling about

⁵⁷tattha, lit., "there"

⁵⁸kumbhīlā

⁵⁹suṃsumārā, lit., "child-killing," is actually a different sort of crocodile, but to avoid the inevitable redundancy in English I have chosen to translate the term "alligator," a species not actually found in this region.

⁶⁰gahā, lit., "seizers." BJTS glosses this above (at [4011]) as a third type of crocodile (gäṭakimbulō), underlining (as does my translation here) the main point that fierce water-beasts are born there. *ogāhas*,⁶¹ [and] pythons⁶² [too are] beautifying my hermitage. (17) [4235]

Pigeons⁶³ and *ravi*-swans⁶⁴ as well, ruddy geese⁶⁵ and *nadīcaras*, lapwings,⁶⁶ [also] mynah birds⁶⁷ are beautifying my hermitage. (18) [4236]

Shrubs like *nayita*, *ambagandhi*, and screw-pine⁶⁸ are blossoming there, wafting [their] divine fragrances, beautifying my hermitage. (19) [4237]

Lions and tigers and leopards, bears⁶⁹ [and] wolves,⁷⁰ kara bānā bears⁷¹ are roaming about in the woods, beautifying my hermitage. (20) [4238]

Those bearing weights of matted hair,⁷² who wear deer-leather outer robes, are roaming about in the woods, beautifying my hermitage. (21) [4239]

Those [hermits] wearing deer-leather are clever, living peacefully, and they're all eating little food, beautifying my hermitage. (22) [4240]

Carrying their⁷³ shoulder yokes,⁷⁴

⁶³parevatā

⁶⁴ravihaŋsā

⁶⁶*dindibhā*, Sinh. gloss *kirallu*, *kira* $|\bar{a}| =$ red-wattled or yellow-wattled lapwing. PSI dictionary gives "bluejay"

⁶⁷reading [°]sālikā with BJTS for PTS [°]sāļi ca. Sāļlka (Skt. śārika) = Sinh. säļalihiņiyō, Indian mynah birds (Hindi maina, Skt. madana)

⁶⁸ketaka, Pandanus odoratissima, Sinhala väṭakē or väṭakeyiyā.

⁶⁹accha°, Sinh. gloss valassu

⁷⁰koka, etymological cousin of vāka, vṛka, above, see RD

⁷¹taracchā, Sinh. gloss kara bānā ('submissive" "bent over") valassu, Note BJTS omits the second mention of "wolves" so may be taking koka in compound with taracchā (i.e., kokataracchā), in specifying this particular type of bear (cf. Sorata, kara bāna valasā, s.v.)

⁷²jaṭābhārabharitā (PTS), jaṭābhārena bharitā (BJTS)

⁷³that is, ascetics, who carry around all their possessions, limited to the basic necessities they require. Cty: khāribhāran ti : udañcanakamaṇḍalu-ādikam tāpasaparikkharabhāram.

⁷⁴khāribhāriŋ (BJTS reads khāribhāram) gahetvāna. These are specified as ascetics who carry all

⁶¹oguhā, fr. ogāhati, ogāhana, plunging? = watersnakes?

⁶²ajagarā. RD says "a large snake…a Boa Constrictor"

⁶⁵cakkavākā, BJTS Sinh. gloss sakvālihiņiyō = cakravākayā, an aquatic bird, brahminy goose, btahmany kite, haliastur indus

plunging into the forest then, eating [only] roots and [wild] fruits, [they] live in the hermitage then.⁷⁵ (23) [4241]

They do not carry wood for fires nor water for washing [their] feet; through their collective majesty,⁷⁶ [that all] gets carried by itself. (24) [4242]

Those eighty-four thousand sages gathered together in that place; all practice meditation⁷⁷ and are seeking ultimate meaning. (25) [4243]

All are ascetics, celibates, reproving,⁷⁸ with vows for fixed minds⁷⁹ and able to fly through the sky;⁸⁰ [they] live in the hermitage then. (26) [4244]

For five days they would congregate, tranquil [and] living peacefully, [then] worshipping one another, they're departing the way they face.⁸¹ (27) [4245]

The Victor, Padumuttara, was the Master of Everything.⁸² Doing away with the darkness, the Victor arose at that time. (28) [4246]

There was a powerful spirit⁸³ [then,] living near my hermitage.

their requisites, which are few, on their persons.

⁷⁶sabbesam anubhāvena, lit., "through the majestic (or even magical) powers of all of them." The point here is that their power is so great that they do not need to perform mundane chores; those chores perform themselves, as it were.

⁷⁷jhāyino

⁷⁸ or [']exhorting," "questioning," "criticizing," "reprimanding," "accusing," reading *codentā* with BJTS for PTS *codito*, "reproved" (etc.)

⁷⁹appanā [BJTS reads appaņā] vate, Sinh. gloss arpaņāvratayehi yodunā vu. Appanā is fixing the mind on its object (the samādhis or the Path), that conception itself, ecstasy. In Sinhala this implies "giving up," "renunciation," of other objects of thought

⁸⁰*ambarā* +*avacarā*, lit., "[people who are] possessed of wandering in the sky"

⁸¹pakkamanti disāmukhā, lit., "they are going out with faces toward a direction," i.e., they went according to their inclinations

⁸²lit., "Master of All Things (dhamma)" (or "Master of All Teachings")

⁸³yakkho āsi mahiddhiko, lit., "a spirit with great iddhi"

⁷⁵in this verse BJTS reads *sadā* ("always" "all the time") for PTS *tadā*, "then," but agrees with the latter in subsequent repetitions of this foot.

He praised⁸⁴ the Sambuddha to me, the one named "Ultimate Lotus."⁸⁵ (29) [4247]

"It is a Buddha who arose, the Great Sage, Padumuttara; having gone quickly, Sir,⁸⁶ you now should visit [him], the Sambuddha."⁸⁷ (30) [4248]

After hearing the spirit's words, with a mind that was very clear, having shored up⁸⁸ the hermitage; I then set out from the forest. (31) [4249]

As though [my] clothes were now in flames,⁸⁹ quickly leaving the hermitage, staying over a single night,⁹⁰ I came up to [Buddha], the Guide. (32) [4250]

Padumuttara, World-Knower, Sacrificial Recipient, explaining the Four Noble Truths, was declaring the deathless path. (33) [4251]

Taking a pink lotus in bloom,⁹¹ I went up to the Sage So Great. Happy, with pleasure in [my] heart, I offered it to the Buddha. (34) [4252]

Having worshipped⁹² the Sambuddha whose name was "Ultimate Lotus," placing deer-hide on one shoulder, I praised the Leader of the World: (35) [2453]

"That knowledge by which the Buddha [now] dwells here without defilements,

⁸⁵i.e., Padumuttara

⁹⁰ekarattiŋ vasitvā, lit., "having dwelt [out somewhere on the road] for one night [only]"
⁹¹lit., "in full bloom"

⁹²lit., "done pūjā"

⁸⁴PTS *pasaŋsi*, BJTS *saṃsittha*, both past tense, 3rd singl. forms of verbs from the same root, with a similar range of meanings: praise, announce, commend

⁸⁶*mārisa*,BJTS glosses *nidukāneni* ("O one without suffering")

⁸⁷though the meaning of both is about the same, there is considerable variation between the readings of the final foot in BJTS (*payirupāsaya mārisa*), which I follow, and PTS (*payirupāsassu tam muni*), which I find garbled.

⁸⁸saṃsāmetvāna, "smooth out," "roll up [one's bed mat]" "leave"

⁸⁹cele (BJTS cele) va dayhamānamhi, BJTS gloss, "like at the time when [one's] clothes were burning." This seems to be idiomatic, and to express haste, cf. "pants on fire"

I shall eulogize that knowledge; [all of] you listen to my words. (36) [2454]

Blocking the stream of existence,⁹³ you ferry all creatures across. Having listened to your Teaching, they're crossing the stream of craving.⁹⁴ (37) [2455]

You're the Teacher for those who breathe, the Banner, the Flag and the Pole; you are the Goal, the Solid Ground, the Island,⁹⁵ the Best of Bipeds. (38) [2456]

The heads of groups⁹⁶ throughout the world are said to be leading teachers.⁹⁷ You are the Chief, Omniscient One; they [have all] come into your fold.⁹⁸ (39) [4257]

Through your knowledge, Omniscient One,⁹⁹ you ferry many folks across. Coming to take a look at you, they make an end to suffering. (40) [4258]

Whatever perfumes are produced, waft through this world, O Eyeful One. None is equal to your [sweet] scent, O Field of Merit, O Great Sage. (41) [4259]

O Eyeful One, you liberate from woeful states,¹⁰⁰ [and] wombs of beasts.¹⁰¹ O Great Sage, you are explaining the unconditioned path of peace." (42) [4260]

Padumuttara, World-Knower, Sacrificial Recipient, seated in the monks' Assembly, spoke these verses [about me then]: (43) [4261]

⁹⁷satthavāhā, more typically translated as "caravan leaders" or even "merchants," but here the "teacher" aspect seems especially significant, as these are heads or teachers of groups of followers.

⁹⁸tava antogadhā va te, or perhaps "they are all now under you" or "they're all encompassed by you"

¹⁰⁰nirayaŋ

¹⁰¹*tiracchayoniŋ*, i.e., rebirth as an animal

⁹³saŋsārasotaŋ chinditvā

⁹⁴or "the stream of clinging," tanhāsotaŋ

⁹⁵or "lamp," dīpo

⁹⁶ganino, leaders or teachers who have large followings

 $^{^{99}}$ reading sabbaññu with BJTS for PTS sapañño ("the one who has wisdom")

"He who [thus] worshipped¹⁰² my knowledge, [feeling well-] pleased by [his] own hands, I shall relate details of him: [all of] you listen to my words: (44) [4262]

For thirty thousand aeons he will delight in the world of gods. A thousand time's he'll be a king, a king who turns the wheel [of law]." (45) [4263]

The gain for me was well-received, having pleased [him], the Sambuddha. Knowing well all the defilements, I am [now] living, undefiled. (46) [4264]

My defilements are [now] burnt up; all [new] existence is destroyed. Like elephants with broken chains, I am living without constraint. (47) [4265]

Being in Best Buddha's presence was a very good thing for me. The three knowledges are attained; [I have] done what the Buddha taught! (48) [4266]

The four analytical modes, and these eight deliverances, six special knowledges mastered, [I have] done what the Buddha taught! (49) [4267]

Thus indeed Venerable Udena Thera spoke these verses.

The legend of Udena Thera is finished.

The Summary:

Metteyya, Punnaka Thera, Mettagu, and Dhovaka too,¹⁰³ Upasīva, also Nanda, and Hemaka seventh from there. Todeyya and Jatukanni, and Udena, greatly famed one. There are three hundred verses here. plus eighty-three beyond that [count].

The Metteyya Chapter, the Forty-First

¹⁰²lit., "did pūjā"