Mañcadāyaka

Copyright © 2022 Jonathan S. Walters.

Published by Jonathan S. Walters and Whitman College

http://www.apadanatranslation.com

Licensed under the Attribution, Non-Commercial, Share Alike (CC BY-NC-SA 4.0) license (https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-sa/4.0/).

Printed August 2022

[417. {420.}¹ Mañcadāyaka²]

When Siddhattha reached nirvana, Compassionate One, World-Leader, [and] spread throughout the [entire] world,³ gods and men were honoring [him,] (1) [4449]

I was a low-born person⁴ there, a maker of long-chairs and stools. I [earn my] living through that work, [and] through it I feed [my] children. (2) [4450]

Having made a well-made long-chair, [feeling well-]pleased by [my] own hands, approaching by myself, I [then] gave [it] to the monks' Assembly. (3) [4451]

Due to that karma done very well, with intention and [firm] resolve, discarding [my] human body, I went to Tāvatiṃsa [then]. (4) [4452]

Being gone to the world of gods, I joy in the group of thirty.⁵ Very expensive beds come to be, according to [my] wishes. (5) [4453]

Fifty times the lord of the gods, I exercised divine rule [there]. And eighty times I was a king, a king who turns the wheel [of law]. (6) [4454]

There was [also] much local rule, innumerable by counting. I'm [always] happy and famous: that's the fruit of giving a bed. (7) [4455]

If, falling from the world of gods, I come into the human state, very costly, excellent beds come to be for me by themselves. (8) [4456]

 $^{^{1}}$ 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.

²"Couch Donor" "Bed Donor"

³i.e., his corporeal relics had been spread out (in stupas)

 $^{^4}$ caṇḍālo, a person of low status, an outcaste

⁵or "among the thirty[-three] gods," "in Tāvatimsa heaven"

This is the final time for me; [my] last rebirth is proceeding.⁶ Even now, when it's time to lie down, a bed is waiting for me. (9) [4457]

In the ninety-four aeons since I gave [him] that gift at that time, I've come to know no bad rebirth: that's the fruit of giving a bed. (10) [4458]

My defilements are [now] burnt up; all [new] existence is destroyed. Like elephants with broken chains, I am living without constraint. (11) [4459]

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! (12) [4460]

The four analytical modes, and these eight deliverances, six special knowledges mastered, [I have] done what the Buddha taught! (13) [4461]

Thus indeed Venerable Mañcadāyaka Thera spoke these verses.

The legend of Mañcadāyaka Thera is finished.

The Summary:

Bhaddāli and Ekacchatta, Tiṇasūla and Maŋsada. Nāgapalllavika, Dīpi, Ucchaṅgī, Yāgudāyaka, Patthodanī, Mañcadada: the verses that are counted here number two hundred verses and one verse more than [those two hundred].

The Bhaddāli Chapter, the Forty-Second

⁶carimo vattate bhavo