

# Ucchukandika

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**[432. {435.}<sup>1</sup> Ucchukaṇḍika<sup>2</sup>]**

In the city, Bandhumatī,  
I was a gate-keeper [back then].  
I saw the Buddha, Stainless One,  
[who was] Master of Everything. (1) [4673]

Happy, with pleasure in [my] heart,  
bringing a stalk of sugarcane,<sup>3</sup>  
I gave it to [him,] the Best Buddha,  
the Great Sage [known as] Vipassi. (2) [4674]

In the ninety-one aeons since  
I gave [the Buddha] sugar-cane,  
I've come to know no bad rebirth:  
the fruit of a sugar-cane stalk. (3) [4675]

My defilements are [now] burnt up;  
all [new] existence is destroyed.  
Like elephants with broken chains,  
I am living without constraint. (4) [4676]

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! (5) [4677]

The four analytical modes,  
and these eight deliverances,  
six special knowledges mastered,  
[I have] done what the Buddha taught! (6) [4678]

Thus indeed Venerable Ucchukaṇḍika<sup>4</sup> Thera spoke these verses.

The legend of Ucchukaṇḍika<sup>5</sup> Thera is finished.

<sup>1</sup> *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.

<sup>2</sup> "Stalk of Sugarcane-er" BJTS reads *Ucchukhaṇḍika* ("Broken Bit/Stick of Sugarcane")

<sup>3</sup> *ucchu* + *kaṇḍika*, fr. *kaṇḍa*, a reed or stalk or arrow shaft (or the entire arrow). BJTS reads *ucchu* + *khaṇḍaka*, with much the same meaning. Sugar-cane grows like bamboo, shooting up discrete stalks or canes (hence the name) which are then chewed raw, or boiled and processed into granulated sugar.

<sup>4</sup> BJTS reads *Ucchukhaṇḍika*°

<sup>5</sup> BJTS reads *Ucchukhaṇḍika*°