

# Nāḷikeradāyaka

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**[507. {510.}<sup>1</sup> Nāḷikeradāyaka<sup>2</sup>]**

In the city, Bandhumatī,  
I worked in a hermitage then.<sup>3</sup>  
I saw the Spotless One, Buddha,  
[who] was traveling through the sky. (1) [5448]

Having taken a coconut,  
I gave [it] to the Best Buddha.  
Standing in the sky, the Calm One,  
the Great Famed One accepted [it]. (2) [5449]

With a mind that was very clear,  
having given Buddha that fruit,  
productive of delight for me,  
bringing happiness in this world,  
I then came to possess great joy  
and vast, ultimate happiness.  
A gem was truly produced for  
[me,] being reborn here and there.<sup>4</sup> (3-4) [5450-5451]

In the ninety-one aeons since  
I gave [the Buddha] fruit back then,  
I've come to know no bad rebirth:  
that is the fruit of giving fruit. (5) [5452]

The divine eye is purified;  
I'm skilled in meditative states.<sup>5</sup>  
Special knowledges perfected:  
that is the fruit of giving fruit. (6) [5453]

My defilements are [now] burnt up;  
all [new] existence is destroyed.  
Like elephants with broken chains,  
I am living without constraint. (7) [5454]

Being in Best Buddha's presence  
was a very good thing for me.

<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>"Coconut Donor". This same *apadāna* is presented above as #379 {382}, and as #464 {467}, above, with different titles reflecting the slight change of the first foot of the second verse from "coconut" to "breadfruit"

<sup>3</sup>*ārāmiko*, lit., "hermitage attendant" or "hermitage dweller"

<sup>4</sup>lit., "from where to there" (*yahiṇ tahiṇ*, PTS) or "from there to there" (*tahiṇ tahiṇ*, BJTS and PTS alt.)

<sup>5</sup>*samādhikusalo ahaṇ*

The three knowledges are attained;  
[I have] done what the Buddha taught! (8) [5455]

The four analytical modes,  
and these eight deliverances,  
six special knowledges mastered,  
[I have] done what the Buddha taught! (9) [5456]

Thus indeed Venerable Nāḷikeradāyaka Thera spoke these verses.

The legend of Nāḷikeradāyaka Thera is finished.

The Summary:

Kaṇikār', and Ekapatta,  
Kāsumārī, thus Āvaṭṭa,  
Pāra<sup>6</sup> and Mātuluṅga [too],  
Ajela, also Amora,<sup>7</sup>  
Tāla and thus Nāḷikera:  
the verses that are counted here  
[number just] one hundred verses,  
avoiding [any] less or more.<sup>8</sup>

The Kaṇikāra Chapter, the Fifty-First<sup>9</sup>

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<sup>6</sup>BJTS reads *Vāraṅca*, “*Vāra*”

<sup>7</sup>BJTS read *Amodam eva*, “also *Amoda*”

<sup>8</sup>*ūnādhika-vivajjitaṃ*. BJTS Sinhala gloss adds an asterisked note: “here there are seen 99 verses”

<sup>9</sup>BJTS places this line before, rather than after the summary.