

Bilālidāyaka

Copyright © 2018 Jonathan S. Walters.

PUBLISHED BY JONATHAN S. WALTERS AND WHITMAN COLLEGE

<http://www.apadanatranslation.org>

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 December 2018*

### [109. Biḷālidāyaka<sup>1</sup>]

In the Himalayan region,  
I dwelt on a mat made of leaves.  
Not feeling any greed for food,  
I was always happy back then. (1) [1663]

Digging up roots like *kaḷamba*,<sup>2</sup>  
*biḷāli* and *takkaḷi*<sup>3</sup> [too]  
[I ate them] prepared by adding  
jujube,<sup>4</sup> marking-nut,<sup>5</sup> and bel.<sup>6</sup> (2) [1664]

Padumuttara, World-Knower  
Sacrificial Recipient,  
discerning what I was thinking,  
came into my presence [just then]. (3) [1665]

Taking some *biḷāli* [roots] for  
the Great Elephant who had come,  
the God of Gods, the Bull of Men,  
I placed [them] in [his] alms-bowl [then]. (4) [1666]

The Great Hero then consumed [them]  
which made me extremely happy.  
After eating, the Omniscient One  
spoke this verse [to me at that time]: (5) [1667]

“You’ve brought pleasure to [your] own heart  
by giving me these roots<sup>7</sup> [to eat].  
For one hundred thousand aeons  
you’ll come to know no bad rebirth.” (6) [1668]

This is my last going around;  
all [new] existence is destroyed.  
I am bearing my last body  
in the Buddha’s<sup>8</sup> dispensation. (7) [1670]<sup>9</sup>

In the fifty-fourth aeon thence

<sup>1</sup>“Wild-potato-Giver,” reading the name thus with BJTS for PTS *Bilā*<sup>o</sup>

<sup>2</sup>a wild potherb, Sinh. *wilpalā*

<sup>3</sup>neither of these is in *Pali-Sinhala-Ingirisi Śabdakoṣaya*; BJTS Sinhala gloss explains them as types of wild potato (Sinh. *ala*), which is clear from the context too.

<sup>4</sup>*kolaṅ*, Sinh. *ḍebara*

<sup>5</sup>Sinh. *badulla*, *semicarpus anacardium*

<sup>6</sup>*billāṅ* = *Aegle marmelos*, Sinh. *beli geḍiya*, bael, bel, Bengal quince; *bilva* or *vilva* tree; also *billā*, *beluvā*

<sup>7</sup>lit., “this *biḷāli*”.

<sup>8</sup>lit., “Supreme Buddha’s”

<sup>9</sup>PTS and BJTS invert the order of this and the next verse

the one known as Sumekhali  
was a wheel-turner with great strength,  
possessor of the seven gems. (8) [1669]

The four analytical modes,  
and these eight deliverances,  
six special knowledges mastered,  
[I have] done what the Buddha taught! (9) [1671]

Thus indeed Venerable Biḷālidāyaka Thera spoke these verses.

The legend of Biḷālidāyaka Thera is finished.