

# Gayā-Kassapa

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[{553.}<sup>1</sup> Gayā-Kassapa<sup>2</sup>]

I was dressed in<sup>3</sup> deer-leather [then],  
wearing a [heavy] shoulder-yoke.  
Carrying a *khāri* load, I  
brought jujubes<sup>4</sup> to the ashram. [6365]

The Blessed One in that era  
was alone with nobody else.<sup>5</sup>  
He then approached my hermitage,  
shining brightly all of the time. [6366]

Bringing pleasure to [my] own heart,  
worshipping<sup>6</sup> the Compliant One,<sup>7</sup>  
taking [them] with both of my hands  
I gave the Buddha jujubes. [6367]

In the thirty-one aeons since  
I gave that fruit [to him] back then,  
I've come to know no bad rebirth:  
the fruit of giving jujubes. [6368]

My defilements are [now] burnt up;  
all [new] existence is destroyed.  
Like elephants with broken chains,  
I am living without constraint. [6369]

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! [6370]

The four analytical modes,  
and these eight deliverances,  
six special knowledges mastered,  
[I have] done what the Buddha taught! [6371]

<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>"Kassapa from Gayā," a historical monk, brother of Uruvela-Kassapa and Nadikassapa (see v. 36-38 of Uruvela-Kassapa's *apadāna*, [5946]-[5948], above); cf. DPPN I: 753. This same *apadāna*, with minor changes to the second foot of the first verse (where he is made to wear a shoulder-yoke [above he is made to wear robes of bark]) and the first foot of the second verse (which names the Buddha as Sikhi, here unnamed), appears above as #439 {442}. There it is ascribed to a monk named Kaladāyaka, "Jujube Donor".

<sup>3</sup>lit., "with"

<sup>4</sup>*kolaṅ*, Sinh. *ḍebara phala*, *Ziziphus Mauritania*, *Ziziphus Jujuba*, Indian jujube or Chinese apple.

<sup>5</sup>lit., "without a second"

<sup>6</sup>lit., "and worshipping"

<sup>7</sup>*subbataṅ*

Thus indeed Venerable Gayā-Kassapa Thera spoke these verses.

The legend of Gayā-Kassapa Thera, the third.