

named Samrakāṣa and Vikāṣa, and also a tortoise, their friend named Kamburivā. Once some fishermen¹ having come there said—We shall stay here to-day and (to-morrow) morning kill the fishes, turtles and others. On hearing that the tortoise said to the geese—Friends, have you heard the talk of the fishermen? What should I do now? The geese replied—Let it be ascertained again (what they will do) and then we shall do in the morning what is proper to be done. The tortoise observed—Not so. For I have seen a past occurrence here (or, I have seen the evil consequences of such a course here;—or, I see danger in this). And in respect of this it is said—

Anagataviddhātā (Provider-against-the-evil-not-come) and Pratyuppannāmātī (Ready-witted)—these two flourish happily while Yadbhavishya (Come-what-will-be) perishes.

The two asked—How was this? The tortoise then related—

PARA II.

Formerly in this very lake, when fishermen like these had come, three fishes took counsel together. A fish, Anagataviddhātā by name, was one of them. He said—As for myself I will go to another pond. Having said so he went to another pool. Another fish, Pratyuppannāmātī by name, observed—Since there is no certainty of future events happening (as expected or in a particular way) where can I go? So when the emergency arises I shall act as the occasion would require. For it is said—

He is (really) talented who counteracts (surmounts) a difficulty as it arises; just as the wife of a merchant concealed her lover before (his very) eyes.

Yadbhavishya asked how it was. Pratyuppannāmātī related—

PARA III.

There was in Vikramapura a merchant, Samudradatta by name. His wife, named Ratnaprabhā, always sported with one of her servants. For,

There is no one who is disagreeable to woman, nor one who is beloved by them; but they ever long for a new one, like cows seeking fresh grass in a forest.

Now on one occasion that Ratnaprabhā was seen impressing a kiss on the servant's mouth, by Samudradatta. Thereupon that prodigal woman going up to him quickly said—My lord, great must be the fondness for ease of this our servant, since I have