Thus I heard: On one occasion the Blessed One was living at Savatthi in the Eastern Park, the Palace of Migara's Mother. Then when it was evening, the venerable Ananda rose from retreat, and he went to the Blessed One, and after paying homage to him, he sat down at one side.

When he had done so, he said to the Blessed One 'Venerable sir, once the Blessed One was living in the Sakyan country. There is a town of the Sakyans called Nagaraka; there I heard and learnt this from the Blessed One's own lips: "Now I abide much in the voiding, Ananda." Venerable sir, was this well heard by me, well apprehended, well attended to and well remembered?"

'Certainly, Ananda, that was well heard by you, well apprehended, well attended to and well remembered. As formerly, so now too, I abide much in the void abiding. 'Ananda, just as the Palace of Migara's Mother is void of elephants, cattle, horses and mares, void of gold and silver, void of the forgathering of women and men, and there is (present) only this non-voidness, that is to say, the single state (of non-voidness) dependent on (the presence of) the community of bhikkhus; so too, without giving attention to perception of village, without giving attention to perception of man, a bhikkhu gives attention to the single state (of non-voidness) dependent on (the presence of) perception of forest. His mind enters into that perception of forest and acquires confidence, steadiness and decision. He understands thus: "Disturbances that would be present dependent on perception of village are not present here, disturbances that would be present on perception of man are not

176. evam me sutam — ekam samayam bhagavā sāvatthiyam viharati pubbārāme migāramātupāsāde. atha kho āyasmā ānando sāyanhasamayam paţisallānā vuṭṭhito yena bhagavā tenupasankami; upasankamitvā bhagavantam abhivādetvā ekamantam nisīdi.

ekamantam nisinno kho āvasmā ānando bhagavantam etadavoca — "ekamidam, bhante, samayam bhagavā sakkesu viharati nagarakam nāma sakvānam nigamo. tattha me, bhante, bhagavato sammukhā sutam, sammukhā patiggahitam - 'suññatāvihārenāham, ānanda, etarahi bahulam viharāmī'ti. kacci metam, bhante, sussutam suggahitam sumanasikatam sūpadhāritan"ti?

"taggha te etam, ānanda, sussutam sumanasikatam suggahitam sūpadhāripubbepāham, ānanda, etarahipi suññatāvihārena bahulam ayam migāramāsevvathāpi. ānanda. tupāsādo suñño hatthigavassavaļavena, suñño jātarūparajatena, suñño itthipurisasannipātena atthi cevidam asuññatam vadidam bhikkhusaṅgham paticca ekattam; evameva kho, ānanda, bhikkhu amanasikaritvā gāmasaññam, amanasikarmanussasaññam, araññasaññam paticca manasi karoti ekattam. araññasaññāya cittam pakkhandati pasīdati santitthati adhimuccati. pajānāti — 'ye assu darathā gāmasaññam pațicca tedha na santi, ye assu darathā manussasaññam paticca tedha na santi, cevāyam darathamattā yadidam araññasaññam paticca ekattan'ti. 'suññamidam saññāgatam gāmasaññāyā'ti pajānāti, 'suññamidam saññāgatam manussasaññāyā'ti pajānāti, ʻatthi cevidam asuññatam yadidam \_ araññasaññam paticca ekattan'ti. iti yañhi kho tattha

na hoti tena taṃ suññaṃ samanupassati, yaṃ pana tattha avasiṭṭhaṃ hoti taṃ 'santamidaṃ atthī'"ti pajānāti. evampissa esā, ānanda, yathābhuccā avipallatthā parisuddhā suññatāvakkanti bhavati.

177. "puna caparam, ānanda. bhikkhu amanasikarityā manussasaññam. amanasikarityā araññasaññam. pathavīsaññam paţicca manasi karoti tassa pathavīsaññāya cittam ekattam. pakkhandati pasīdati santitthati adhimucseyyathāpi, ānanda, āsabhacammam sankusatena suvihatam vigatavalikam; evameva kho, ānanda, bhikkhu yam imissā pathaviyā ukkūlavikkūlam nadīviduggam khānukantakatthānam pabbatavisamam tam sabbam amanasikaritvā pathavīsaññam paţicca manasi karoti tassa pathavīsaññāya cittam pakkhandati pasīdati santitthati adhimuccati. so evam pajānāti — 'ye assu darathā manussasaññam paticca tedha na santi, ye assu daratha araññasaññam paticca tedha na santi, atthi cevayam darathamatta yadidam – pathavīsaññam paticca ekatso 'suññamidam saññāgatam tan'ti. manussasaññāyā'ti pajānāti, 'suññamidam saññāgatam araññasaññāyā'ti pajānāti, 'atthi cevidam asuññatam yadidam —

present here, and only this measure of disturbance is present, that is to say, the single state (of non-voidness) dependent on (the presence of) perception of forest." He understands: "This field of perception is void of perception of village." He understands: "This field of perception is void of perception of man.", (and he understands): "There is (present) only this non-voidness, that is to say, the single state (of non-voidness) dependent on (the presence of) perception of forest." So he sees it as void of what is not there, but of what remains there he understands: "There is that still present there." Now this has been for him an alighting upon voidness that accords with what actually is, without perversion of meaning and is pure.

'Again, Ananda, without giving attention to perception of man, without giving attention to perception of forest, a bhikkhu gives attention to the single state (of non-voidness) dependent on (the presence of) perception of earth. His mind enters into that perception of earth and acquires confidence, steadiness and decision. Just as though a bull's hide were freed from folds by stretching it with a hundred pegs, so too, without giving attention to all the ridges and hollows, the river ravines, the tracts of stumps and thorns, the rocky inequalities, on this earth, a bhikkhu gives attention to the single state (of non-voidness) dependent on (the presence of) perception of earth. His mind enters into the perception of earth and acquires confidence, steadiness and decision, understands thus: "Disturbances that would have been present dependent on perception of man are not present here, disturbances that would be present dependent on perception of forest are not present here, and only this measure of disturbance is present, that is to say, the single state (of non-voidness) dependent on (the presence of) perception of earth." He understands: "This field of perception is void of perception of man." He understands: "This field of perception is void of perception of forest.", (and he understands): "There is (present) only this non-voidness, that is to say, the sinale state (of non-voidness) dependent on (the presence of) perception of earth." So he sees it as void of what is not there, but of what remains there he understands: "There is that still present there." Now this too has been for him an alighting upon voidness, that accords with what actually is, without perversion of meaning, and is pure.

'Again, Ananda, without giving attention to perception of forest, without giving attention to perception of earth, a bhikkhu gives attention to the single state (on non-voidness) dependent on (the presence of) perception of the base consisting of infinite space. His mind enters into that perception of the base consisting of infinite space and acquires confidence, steadiness and decision. He understands thus: "Disturbances that would be present dependent on perception of forest are not present here, disturbances that would be present on perception of earth are not present here, and only this measure of disturbance is present, that is to say, the single state (of non-voidness) dependent on (the presence of) perception of the base consisting of infinite space." He understands: "This field of perception is void of perception of forest." He understands: "This field of perception is void of perception of pathavīsaññaṃ paṭicca ekattan'ti. iti yañhi kho tattha na hoti tena taṃ suññaṃ samanupassati, yaṃ pana tattha avasiṭṭhaṃ hoti taṃ 'santamidaṃ atthī'ti pajānāti. evampissa esā, ānanda, yathābhuccā avipallatthā parisuddhā suññatāvakkanti bhavati.

178. "puna caparam, ānanda. bhikkhu amanasikaritvā araññasaññam, amanasikaritvā pathavīsaññam, ākāsānañcāyatanasaññam paticca manasi karoti ekattam. tassa ākāsānañcāyatanasaññāya cittam pakkhandati pasīdati santitthati adhimuccati. so evam pajānāti — 'ye assu darathā araññasaññam pațicca tedha na santi, ye assu darathā pathavīsaññam paticca tedha na santi, cevāvam darathamattā vadidam ākāsānañcāyatanasaññaṃ ekattan'ti. so 'suññamidam saññāgatam araññasaññāyā'ti pajānāti, 'suññamidam saññāgatam pathavīsaññāyā'ti pajānāti, 'atthi cevidam asuññatam yadidam ākāsānañcāyatanasaññam paticca ekattan'ti. iti yañhi kho tattha na hoti tena tam suññam samanupassati, yam pana tattha avasittham hoti tam 'santamidam atthī'ti pajānāti. evampissa esā, ānanda, vathābhuccā avipallatthā parisuddhā suññatāvakkanti bhavati.

179. "puna caparam, ānanda, bhikkhu amanasikaritvā pathavīsaññam, amanasikaritvā ākāsānañcāyatanasaññam, viññānañcāyatanasaññam paticca manasi karoti ekattam. tassa viññānañcāyatanasaññāya cittam pakkhandati pasīdati santitthati adhimuccati. so evam pajānāti — 'ye assu darathā pathavīsaññam paticca tedha na santi, ye assu darathā ākāsānañcāyatanasaññam paticca tedha na santi, atthi cevāyam darathamattā yadidam - viññāṇañcāyatanasaññam paticca so 'suññamidam saññāgatam ekattan'ti. pathavīsaññāyā'ti pajānāti, 'suññamidam ākāsānañcāyatanasaññāyā'ti saññāgatam pajānāti, 'atthi cevidam asuññatam yadidam - viññāṇañcāyatanasaññam paticca iti yañhi kho tattha na hoti ekattan'ti. tena tam suññam samanupassati, yam pana tattha avasiţţham hoti tam 'santamidam atthī'ti pajānāti. evampissa esā, ānanda, vathābhuccā avipallatthā parisuddhā suññatāvakkanti hhavati

earth.", (and he understands:) "There is (present) only this non-voidness, that is to say, the single state (of non-voidness) dependent on (the presence of) perception of the base consisting of infinite space." So he sees it as void of what is not there, but of what remains there he understands: "There is that still present there." Now this too has been for him an alighting upon voidness that accords with what actually is, without perversion of meaning and is pure.

'Again, Ananda, without giving attention to perception of earth, without giving attention to perception of the base consisting of infinite space, a bhikkhu gives attention to the single state (of non-voidness) dependent on (the presence of) perception of the base consisting of infinite consciousness. His mind enters into the perception of the base consisting of infinite consciousness and acquires confidence, steadiness and decision. He understands thus: "Disturbances that would be present dependent on perception of earth are not present here, disturbances that would be present dependent on perception of the base consisting of infinite space are not present here, and only this measure of disturbance is present, that is to say, the single state (of non-voidness) dependent on (the presence of) perception of the base consisting of infinite consciousness." He understands: "This field of perception is void of perception of earth." He understands: "This field of perception is void of perception of the base consisting of infinite space", (and he understands): "There is (present) only this non-voidness, that is to say, the single state (of non-voidness) dependent on (the presence of) perception of the base

consisting of infinite consciousness." So he sees it as void of what is not there, but of what remains there he understands: "There is that still present there." Now this too has been for him an alighting upon voidness that accords with what actually is, without perversion of meaning, and is pure.

'Again, Ananda, without giving attention to perception of the base consisting of infinite space, without giving attention to perception of the base consisting of infinite consciousness, a bhikkhu gives attention to the single state (of non-voidness) dependent on (the presence of) perception of the base consisting of nothingness. His mind enters into the perception of the base consisting of nothingness and he acquires confidence, steadiness and decision. understands thus: "Disturbances that would be present dependent on perception of the base of infinite space are not present here, disturbances that would be present dependent on perception of the base of infinite consciousness are not present here, and only this measure of disturbance is present, that is to say, the single state (of non-voidness) dependent on (the presence of) perception of the base consisting of nothingness." He understands: "This field of perception is void of perception of the base consisting of infinite space.", and he understands: "This field of perception is void of perception of the base consisting of infinite consciousness.", (and he understands): "There is (present) only this non-voidness, that is to say, the single state (of non-voidness) dependent on (the presence of) perception of the base consisting of nothingness." So he sees it as void of what is not there, but of what

180. "puna caparam, ānanda, bhikkhu amanasikaritvā ākāsānañcāyatanasaññam, amanasikaritvā viññānañcāyatanasaññam, ākiñcaññāyatanasaññam paţicca manasi karoti ekattam. tassa ākiñcaññāyatanasaññāya cittam pakkhandati pasīdati santiţţhati adhimuccati. so evam pajānāti — 'ye assu darathā ākāsānañcāyatanasaññam paţicca tedha na santi, ye assu darathā viññāṇañcāyatanasaññam paţicca tedha na santi, atthi cevāyam darathamattā yadidam ākiñcaññāyatanasaññam paţicca ekattan'ti. so 'suññamidam saññāgatam ākāsānañcāyatanasaññāyā'ti pajānāti, 'suññamidam saññāgatam viññānañcāyatanasaññāyā'ti pajānāti, 'atthi cevidam asuññatam yadidam ākiñcaññāyatanasaññam paticca ekattan'ti. iti yañhi kho tattha na hoti tena tam suññam samanupassati, yam pana tattha avasittham hoti tam 'santamidam atthī'ti pajānāti. evampissa esā, ānanda, vathābhuccā avipallatthā parisuddhā suññatāvakkanti bhavati.

181. "puna caparam, ānanda bhikkhu amanasikaritvā viññāņañcāyatanasaññam, amanasikaritvā ākiñcaññāyatanasaññam, nevasaññānāsaññāyatanasaññam paticca manasi karoti ekattam. tassa nevasaññānāsaññāyatanasaññāya cittam pakkhandati pasīdati santiţţhati adhimuccati. so evam pajānāti — 'ye assu darathā viññāṇañcāyatanasaññam paţicca tedha na santi, ye assu darathā ākiñcaññāyatanasaññam paţicca tedha na santi, atthi cevāyam darathamattā yadidam nevasaññānāsaññāyatanasaññam paticca ekattan'ti. so 'suññamidam saññāgatam viññānañcāyatanasaññāyā'ti pajānāti, 'suññamidam saññāgatam ākiñcaññāyatanasaññāyā'ti pajānāti, 'atthi cevidam asuññatam yadidam nevasaññānāsaññāyatanasaññam paţicca

ekattan'ti. iti yañhi kho tattha na hoti tena

tam suññam samanupassati, yam pana

tattha avasiţţham hoti tam 'santamidam

atthī'ti pajānāti. evampissa esā, ānanda,

yathābhuccā avipallatthā parisuddhā

suññatāvakkanti bhavati.

182. "puna caparam, ānanda, bhikkhu amanasikaritvā ākiñcaññāyatanasaññam, amanasikaritvā nevasaññānāsaññāyatanasaññam, animittam cetosamādhim paţicca manasi karoti ekattam. tassa animitte cetosamādhimhi cittam pakkhandati pasīdati santiţhati adhimuccati. so evam pajānāti — 'ye assu darathā

remains there he understands: "There is that still present there." Now this too has been for him an alighting upon voidness that accords with what is, without perversion of meaning and is pure.

'Again, Ananda, without giving attention to perception the base consisting of infinite consciousness, without ing attention to perception of the base consisting of notif ness, a bhikkhu gives attention to the single state (of voidness) dependent on (the presence of) perception of base consisting of neither-perception-nor-non-perception His mind enters into the perception of the base consi of neither-perception-nor-non-perception and acquires fidence, steadiness and decision. He understands thus: turbances that would be present dependent on the pe tion of the base consisting of infinite consciousness ar present here, disturbances that would present depende the perception of the base consisting of nothingness ar present here, and only this measure of disturbance is pre that is to say, the single state (of non-voidness) depende (the presence of) perception of the base consisting of nei perception-nor-non-perception." He understands: "This of perception is void of perception of the base consisti infinite consciousness." He understands: "This field of ception is void of perception of the base consisting of t ingness.", (and he understands): "There is (present) only non-voidness, that is to say, the single state (of non-void dependent on (the presence of) perception of the base cor ing of neither-perception-nor-non-perception." So he se as void of what is not there, but of what remains there h derstands: "There is that still present there." Now this to been for him an alighting upon voidness, that accords what actually is, without perversion of meaning and is

'Again, Ananda, without giving attention to perception of base consisting of nothingness, without giving attention perception of the base consisting of neither-perception-non-perception, a bhikkhu gives attention to the single (of non-voidness) dependent on (the presence of) the sign concentration of mind. His mind enters into the signless centration of mind and acquires confidence, steadiness decision. He understands thus: "Disturbances that wou present dependent on the perception of the base consists."

of nothingness are not present here, disturbākintannākatanasannam paticca tedha na be present dependent on the perception of santise yonaissu daratha ing of neither-perception-nor-non-perceptioner as a mark a saññ a y atanas a na mar paticca here, and only this measure of disturbance itspelsanna santi, atthi cevayam to say, that (disturbance) which has life as **darathramat**tā yadidam — imameva kāyam pendent on the presence of this body with toatikokaesä lavatanikam jīvitapaccayā'ti. so understands: "This field of perception is void ship namidam saññagatam the base consisting of nothingness." He unakrinaann navatanasan nava'ti pajanati, field of perception is void of perception of than manidam saññagatam ing of neither-perception-nor-non-perceptione yasan ñanasaññayatanasaññaya'ti derstands): "There is (present) only this nopaianasi, flatthi cevidam asuññatam is to say, that (non-voidness) with life as its scadindampen imameva kāyam paţicca dent on this body with its six bases." So he seekāyatandkam jīvitapaccayā'ti. iti yañhi what is not there, but of what remains there khontatthad na hoti tena tam suññam "There is that still present there." Now this sanharhapassati, yam pana tattha him an alighting upon voidness, that accordinate that the hoti tam 'santamidam atthī'ti tually is, without perversion of meaning and ianati. evampissa esa, ananda, yathābhuccā avipallatthā parisuddhā suññatāvakkanti bhavati.

'Again, Ananda, without giving attention to 1882ept ipunal caparam, ānanda, bhikkhu base consisting of nothingness, without givamanasikaritvā ākiñcaññāyatanasaññam, perception of the base consisting of neither amanasikaritvā non-perception, a bhikkhu gives attention tonevasafasañarasaññayatanasaññam, (of non-voidness) dependent on (the presencant mittiants set os amadhim paticca manasi concentration of mind. His mind enters into kiarsotile kattam. tassa animitte centration of mind and acquires confidence cottoo tamas addimhi cittam pakkhandati decision. He understands thus: "This signle passidatir santitthati adhimuccati. so evam of mind is conditioned and mentally produpedamatinder ayampi kho animitto stands: "Whatever is conditioned and mentalty of adhi abhisankhato impermanent and liable to cessation." Whealdaisañcetalyito'. 'yam kho pana kiñci sees thus, his mind is liberated from the taiabhisandkhatam abhisancetayitam sire, from the taint of being, from the taitadaigiocam.nirodhadhamman'ti pajānāti. When liberated there comes the knowledge tassailevand janato evam passato He understands: "Birth is exhausted, the life armasay and cittam vimuccati, bhavasavāpi lived out, what was to be done is done, there **sittam** evintuccati, avijjāsavāpi cittam to come." He understands thus: "Disturbanian thacatiul imuttasmim vimuttamiti be present dependent on the taint of sensu**natagin**ahotat 'khīnā jāti, vusitam present here, disturbances that would be present here. on the taint of being are not present here, disappararentitathattaya'ti pajanati. so evam would be present dependent on the taint of ipajāmātire nove assu darathā kāmāsavam present here, and only this measure of distur**paticis arte al**na na santi, ye assu darathā that is to say, that (non-voidness) with life blary as a drawn paticca tedha na santi, ye assu dependent on (the presence of) this body wallattatha aviljasavam paticca tedha na santi, atthi cevāyam darathamattā yadidam — imameva kāyam paṭicca saļāyatanikam jīvitapaccayā'ti. so 'suññamidam saññāgatam kāmāsavenā'ti pajānāti, 'suññamidam saññāgatam bhavāsavenā'ti pajānāti, 'suññamidam saññāgatam avijjāsavenā'ti pajānāti, 'atthi cevidam asuññatam yadidam — imameva kāyam paṭicca saļāyatanikam jīvitapaccayā'ti. iti yañhi kho tattha na hoti tena tam suññam samanupassati, yam pana tattha avasiṭṭham hoti tam 'santamidam atthī'ti pajānāti. evampissa esā, ānanda, yathābhuccā avipallatthā parisuddhā paramānuttarā suññatāvakkanti bhavati.

He understands: "This field of perception is void of the of sensual desire." He understands: "This field of perception of the taint of being." He understands: "This field of perception is void of the taint of ignorance.", (and he us stands): "There is (present) only this non-voidness, that say, that (non-voidness) with life as its condition deper on (the presence of) this body with its six bases." So he it as void of what is not there, but of what remains the understands: "There is that still present there." Now this been for him an alighting upon voidness that accords what actually is, without perversion of meaning, is pure is unsurpassed by any other.

184. "yepi hi keci, ānanda, atītamaddhānam samaņā vā brāhmaņā vā parisuddham paramānuttaram suññatam upasampajja viharimsu, sabbe te imamyeva parisuddham paramānuttaram suññatam upasampajja viharimsu. yepi hi keci, ānanda, anāgatamaddhānam samaņā vā brāhmaņā vā parisuddham paramānuttaram suññatam upasampajja viharissanti, sabbe te imamyeva parisuddham paramānuttaram suññatam upasampajja viharissanti. yepi hi keci, ānanda, etarahi samanā vā brāhmanā vā parisuddham paramānuttaram suññatam upasampajja viharanti, sabbe te imamyeva parisuddham paramānuttaram suññatam upasampajja viharanti. tasmātiha, ānanda, 'parisuddham paramānuttaram suññatam upasampajja viharissāmā'ti — evañhi vo, ānanda, sikkhitabban"ti.

'Whatever monks or divines in the past have entered and abode in a voidness that was purified and unsurpaby any other, they have all of them entered upon and a in this voidness that is pure and unsurpassed by any o'Whatever monks and divines in the future will entered and abide in a voidness that will be purified and unsurpaby any other, they will all of them enter upon and of in this voidness that is pure and unsurpassed by any o'Whatever monks and divines in the present enter upon abide in a voidness that is purified and unsurpassed by other, they all of them will enter upon and abide in this eness that is pure and unsurpassed by any other. 'There Ananda, you should train thus: 'We will enter upon abide in the voidness that is pure and unsurpassed by other.''

idamavoca bhagavā. attamano āyasmā ānando bhagavato bhāsitaṃ abhinandīti. That is what the Blessed One said. The venerable Anando satisfied, and he delighted in the Blessed One's words.

## cūļasuññatasuttam niţţhitam paţhamam