Linked Discourses 15

1. pathamavagga 1. The First Chapter

. . . .

1. tinakatthasutta

1. Grass and Sticks

evam me sutam— So I have heard.

ekam samayam bhagavā sāvatthiyam viharati jetavane anāthapindikassa ārāme. At one time the Buddha was staying near Sāvatthī in Jeta's Grove, Anāthapindika's monastery.

tatra kho bhagavā bhikkhū āmantesi:

There the Buddha addressed the mendicants.

"bhikkhavo"ti.
"Mendicants!"

"bhadante"ti te bhikkhū bhagavato paccassosum.

"Venerable sir," they replied.

bhagavā etadavoca:

The Buddha said this:

"anamataggoyam, bhikkhave, saṃsāro.

"Mendicants, transmigration has no known beginning.

pubbā koṭi na paññāyati avijjānīvaraṇānaṃ sattānaṃ taṇhāsaṃyojanānaṃ sandhāvataṃ saṃsarataṃ.

No first point is found of sentient beings roaming and transmigrating, hindered by ignorance and fettered by craving.

seyyathāpi, bhikkhave, puriso yam imasmim jambudīpe tiṇakaṭṭhasākhāpalāsaṃ taṃ chetvā ekajjham saṃharitvā caturaṅgulaṃ caturaṅgulaṃ ghaṭikaṃ katvā nikkhipeyya:

Suppose a person was to strip all the grass, sticks, branches, and leaves in India, gather them together into one pile, and chop them each into four inch pieces. They'd lay them down, saying:

'ayam me mātā, tassā me mātu ayam mātā'ti, apariyādinnāva, bhikkhave, tassa purisassa mātumātaro assu, atha imasmim jambudīpe tiņakaṭṭhasākhāpalāsam parikkhayam pariyādānam gaccheyya.

'This is my mother, this is my grandmother.' The grass, sticks, branches, and leaves of India would run out before that person's mothers and grandmothers.

tam kissa hetu?

Why is that?

anamataggoyam, bhikkhave, samsāro.

Transmigration has no known beginning.

pubbā koţi na paññāyati avijjānīvaraṇānaṃ sattānaṃ taṇhāsaṃyojanānaṃ sandhāvatam samsaratam.

No first point is found of sentient beings roaming and transmigrating, hindered by ignorance and fettered by craving.

evam dīgharattam vo, bhikkhave, dukkham paccanubhūtam tibbam paccanubhūtam byasanam paccanubhūtam, katasī vaddhitā.

For such a long time you have undergone suffering, agony, and disaster, swelling the

yāvañcidam, bhikkhave, alameva sabbasankhāresu nibbinditum alam virajjitum alam vimuccitun"ti.

This is quite enough for you to become disillusioned, dispassionate, and freed regarding all conditions."

pathamam.

samyutta nikāya 15 Linked Discourses 15

1. pathamavagga

1. The First Chapter

2. pathavīsutta

2. The Earth

sāvatthiyam viharati.

At Sāvatthī.

"anamataggoyam, bhikkhave, samsāro.

"Mendicants, transmigration has no known beginning.

pubbā koṭi na paññāyati avijjānīvaraṇānaṃ sattānaṃ taṇhāsaṃyojanānaṃ sandhāvataṃ saṃsaratam.

No first point is found of sentient beings roaming and transmigrating, hindered by ignorance and fettered by craving.

seyyathāpi, bhikkhave, puriso imam mahāpathavim kolaṭṭhimattam kolaṭṭhimattam mattikāgulikam karitvā nikkhipeyya:

Suppose a person was to make the whole earth into clay balls the size of jujube seeds. They'd lay them down, saying:

'ayam me pitā, tassa me pitu ayam pitā'ti, apariyādinnāva bhikkhave, tassa purisassa pitupitaro assu, athāyam mahāpathavī parikkhayam pariyādānam gaccheyya.

'This is my father, this is my grandfather.' The whole earth would run out before that person's fathers and grandfathers.

tam kissa hetu?

Why is that?

anamataggoyam, bhikkhave, samsāro.

Transmigration has no known beginning.

pubbā koṭi na paññāyati avijjānīvaraṇānaṃ sattānaṃ taṇhāsaṃyojanānaṃ sandhāyatam samsaratam.

No first point is found of sentient beings roaming and transmigrating, hindered by ignorance and fettered by craving.

evam dīgharattam vo, bhikkhave, dukkham paccanubhūtam tibbam paccanubhūtam byasanam paccanubhūtam, kaṭasī vaḍḍhitā.

For such a long time you have undergone suffering, agony, and disaster, swelling the cemeteries.

yāvañcidam, bhikkhave, alameva sabbasankhāresu nibbinditum, alam virajjitum, alam vimuccitun"ti.

This is quite enough for you to become disillusioned, dispassionate, and freed regarding all conditions."

dutiyam.

saṃyutta nikāya 15

Linked Discourses 15

1. pathamavagga

1. The First Chapter

3. assusutta 3. Tears

sāvatthiyam viharati.

At Sāvatthī

"anamataggoyam, bhikkhave, samsāro.

"Mendicants, transmigration has no known beginning.

pubbā koṭi na paññāyati avijjānīvaraṇānaṃ sattānaṃ taṇhāsaṃyojanānaṃ sandhāyatam samsaratam.

No first point is found of sentient beings roaming and transmigrating, hindered by ignorance and fettered by craving.

tam kim maññatha, bhikkhave, katamam nu kho bahutaram, yam vā vo iminā dīghena addhunā sandhāvatam saṃsaratam amanāpasampayogā manāpavippayogā kandantānam rodantānam assu passannam paggharitam, yam vā catūsu mahāsamuddesu udakan"ti?

What do you think? Which is more: the flow of tears you've shed while roaming and transmigrating for such a very long time—weeping and wailing from being united with the unloved and separated from the loved—or the water in the four oceans?"

"yathā kho mayam, bhante, bhagavatā dhammam desitam ājānāma, etadeva, bhante, bahutaram yam no iminā dīghena addhunā sandhāvatam samsaratam amanāpasampayogā manāpavippayogā kandantānam rodantānam assu passannam paggharitam, na tveva catūsu mahāsamuddesu udakan"ti.

"As we understand the Buddha's teaching, the flow of tears we've shed while roaming and transmigrating is more than the water in the four oceans."

"sādhu sādhu, bhikkhave, sādhu kho me tumhe, bhikkhave, evam dhammam desitam ājānātha.

"Good, good, mendicants! It's good that you understand my teaching like this.

etadeva, bhikkhave, bahutaram yam vo iminā dīghena addhunā sandhāvatam samsaratam amanāpasampayogā manāpavippayogā kandantānam rodantānam assu passannam paggharitam, na tveva catūsu mahāsamuddesu udakam.

The flow of tears you've shed while roaming and transmigrating is indeed more than the water in the four oceans.

dīgharattam vo, bhikkhave, mātumaranam paccanubhūtam;

For a long time you've undergone the death of a mother ...

tesam vo mātumaraṇam paccanubhontānam amanāpasampayogā manāpavippayogā kandantānam rodantānam assu passannam paggharitam, na tveva catūsu mahāsamuddesu udakam.

dīgharattam vo, bhikkhave, pitumaraṇam paccanubhūtam ... pe ...

bhātumaraṇaṃ paccanubhūtaṃ ...

bhaginimaraṇam paccanubhūtam ...

puttamaraṇam paccanubhūtam ...

dhītumaraṇaṃ paccanubhūtaṃ ... daughter ...

ñātibyasanam paccanubhūtam ... loss of relatives ...

bhogabyasanam paccanubhūtam. loss of wealth ...

dīgharattam vo, bhikkhave, rogabyasanam paccanubhūtam, tesam vo rogabyasanam paccanubhontānam amanāpasampayogā manāpavippayogā kandantānam rodantānam assu passannam paggharitam, na tveva catūsu mahāsamuddesu udakam.

or loss through illness. From being united with the unloved and separated from the loved, the flow of tears you've shed while roaming and transmigrating is indeed more than the water in the four oceans.

tam kissa hetu?

Why is that?

anamataggoyam, bhikkhave, samsāro ... pe ...

Transmigration has no known beginning. ...

yāvañcidam, bhikkhave, alameva sabbasankhāresu nibbinditum, alam virajjitum, alam vimuccitun"ti.

This is quite enough for you to become disillusioned, dispassionate, and freed regarding all conditions."

tatiyam.

samyutta nikāya 15

Linked Discourses 15

1. pathamavagga

1. The First Chapter

4. khīrasutta

4. Mother's Milk

sāvatthiyam viharati.

At Sāvatthī.

"anamataggoyam, bhikkhave, saṃsāro.

"Mendicants, transmigration has no known beginning.

pubbā koṭi na paññāyati avijjānīvaraṇānaṃ sattānaṃ taṇhāsaṃyojanānaṃ sandhāvataṃ saṃsarataṃ.

No first point is found of sentient beings roaming and transmigrating, hindered by ignorance and fettered by craving.

tam kim maññatha, bhikkhave, katamam nu kho bahutaram, yam vā vo iminā dīghena addhunā sandhāvatam samsaratam mātuthaññam pītam, yam vā catūsu mahāsamuddesu udakan"ti?

What do you think? Which is more: the mother's milk you've drunk while roaming and transmigrating for such a very long time, or the water in the four oceans?"

"yathā kho mayam, bhante, bhagavatā dhammam desitam ājānāma, etadeva, bhante, bahutaram yam no iminā dīghena addhunā sandhāvatam samsaratam mātuthaññam pītam, na tveva catūsu mahāsamuddesu udakan"ti.

"As we understand the Buddha's teaching, the mother's milk we've drunk while roaming and transmigrating is more than the water in the four oceans."

"sādhu sādhu, bhikkhave, sādhu kho me tumhe, bhikkhave, evam dhammam desitam ājānātha.

"Good, good, mendicants! It's good that you understand my teaching like this.

etadeva, bhikkhave, bahutaram yam vo iminā dīghena addhunā sandhāvatam samsaratam mātuthaññam pītam, na tveva catūsu mahāsamuddesu udakam.

The mother's milk you've drunk while roaming and transmigrating for such a very long time is more than the water in the four oceans.

tam kissa hetu?

Why is that?

anamataggoyam, bhikkhave, samsāro ... pe ...

Transmigration has no known beginning. ...

alam vimuccitun"ti.

This is quite enough for you to become disillusioned, dispassionate, and freed regarding all conditions."

catuttham.

Linked Discourses 15

1. paṭhamavagga

1. The First Chapter

5. pabbatasutta

5. A Mountain

sāvatthiyam viharati ... pe ... ārāme ... pe At Sāvatthī.

atha kho aññataro bhikkhu yena bhagavā tenupasaṅkami; upasaṅkamitvā bhagavantam abhivādetvā ekamantam nisīdi. ekamantam nisinno kho so bhikkhu bhagavantam etadavoca:

Then a mendicant went up to the Buddha, bowed, sat down to one side, and asked him,

"kīvadīgho nu kho, bhante, kappo"ti?

"Sir, how long is an eon?"

"dīgho kho, bhikkhu, kappo.

"Mendicant, an eon is long.

so na sukaro sankhātum ettakāni vassāni iti vā, ettakāni vassasatāni iti vā, ettakāni vassasahassāni iti vā, ettakāni vassasatasahassāni iti vā"ti.

It's not easy to calculate how many years, how many hundreds or thousands or hundreds of thousands of years it lasts."

"sakkā pana, bhante, upamam kātun"ti?

"But sir, is it possible to give a simile?"

"sakkā, bhikkhū"ti bhagavā avoca.

"It's possible," said the Buddha.

"seyyathāpi, bhikkhu, mahāselo pabbato yojanam āyāmena yojanam vitthārena yojanam ubbedhena acchinno asusiro ekagghano.

"Suppose there was a huge stone mountain, a league long, a league wide, and a league high, with no cracks or holes, one solid mass.

tamenam puriso vassasatassa vassasatassa accayena kāsikena vatthena sakim sakim parimajjeyya.

And as each century passed someone would stroke it with a fine cloth from Kāsī.

khippataram kho so, bhikkhu, mahāselo pabbato iminā upakkamena parikkhayam pariyādānam gaccheyya, na tveva kappo.

By this means the huge stone mountain would be worn away before the eon comes to an end.

evam dīgho, bhikkhu, kappo.

That's how long an eon is.

evam dīghānam kho, bhikkhu, kappānam neko kappo saṃsito, nekam kappasatam saṃsitam, nekam kappasahassam saṃsitam, nekam kappasatasahassam saṃsitam.

And we've transmigrated through many such eons, many hundreds, many thousands, many hundreds of thousands.

tam kissa hetu?

Why is that?

anamataggoyam, bhikkhu, samsāro.

Transmigration has no known beginning. ...

pubbā koţi ... pe ...

yāvañcidam, bhikkhu, alameva sabbasaṅkhāresu nibbinditum, alam virajjitum, alam vimuccitun"ti.

This is quite enough for you to become disillusioned, dispassionate, and freed regarding all conditions."

pañcamam.

saṃyutta nikāya 15 Linked Discourses 15

1. pathamavagga

1. The First Chapter

6. sāsapasutta

6. A Mustard Seed

sāvatthiyam viharati.

At Sāvatthī.

atha kho aññataro bhikkhu yena bhagavā ... pe ... ekamantam nisinno kho so bhikkhu bhagavantam etadavoca:

Then a mendicant went up to the Buddha ... and asked him,

"kīvadīgho nu kho, bhante, kappo"ti?

"Sir, how long is an eon?"

"dīgho kho, bhikkhu, kappo.

"Mendicant, an eon is long.

so na sukaro sankhātum ettakāni vassāni iti vā ... pe ... ettakāni vassasatasahassāni iti vā"ti.

It's not easy to calculate how many years, how many hundreds or thousands or hundreds of thousands of years it lasts."

"sakkā pana, bhante, upamam kātun"ti?

"But sir, is it possible to give a simile?"

"sakkā, bhikkhū"ti bhagavā avoca.

"It's possible," said the Buddha.

"seyyathāpi, bhikkhu, āyasam nagaram yojanam āyāmena yojanam vitthārena yojanam ubbedhena, punnam sāsapānam gulikābaddham.

"Suppose there was an iron city, a league long, a league wide, and a league high, full of mustard seeds pressed into balls.

tato puriso vassasatassa vassasatassa accayena ekamekam sāsapam uddhareyya. And as each century passed someone would remove a single mustard seed.

khippataram kho so, bhikkhu, mahāsāsaparāsi iminā upakkamena parikkhayam pariyādānam gaccheyya, na tveva kappo.

By this means the huge heap of mustard seeds would be used up before the eon comes to an end.

evam dīgho kho, bhikkhu, kappo.

That's how long an eon is.

evam dīghānam kho, bhikkhu, kappānam neko kappo saṃsito, nekam kappasatam saṃsitam, nekam kappasahassam saṃsitam, nekam kappasatasahassam saṃsitam.

And we've transmigrated through many such eons, many hundreds, many thousands, many hundreds of thousands.

tam kissa hetu?

Why is that?

anamataggoyam, bhikkhu, samsāro ... pe ...

Transmigration has no known beginning. ...

alam vimuccitun"ti.

This is quite enough for you to become disillusioned, dispassionate, and freed regarding all conditions."

chattham.

Linked Discourses 15

1. paṭhamavagga

1. The First Chapter

7. sāvakasutta

7. Disciples

sāvatthiyam viharati.

At Sāvatthī.

atha kho sambahulā bhikkhū yena bhagavā ... pe ... ekamantam nisinnā kho te bhikkhū bhagavantam etadavocum:

Then several mendicants went up to the Buddha ... and asked him,

"kīvabahukā nu kho, bhante, kappā abbhatītā atikkantā"ti?

"Sir, how many eons have passed?"

"bahukā kho, bhikkhave, kappā abbhatītā atikkantā.

"Mendicants, many eons have passed.

te na sukarā sankhātum:

It's not easy to calculate

'ettakā kappā iti vā, ettakāni kappasatāni iti vā, ettakāni kappasahassāni iti vā, ettakāni kappasatasahassāni iti vā'''ti.

how many eons have passed, how many hundreds or thousands or hundreds of thousands of eons."

"sakkā pana, bhante, upamam kātun"ti?

"But sir, is it possible to give a simile?"

"sakkā, bhikkhave"ti bhagavā avoca.

"It's possible," said the Buddha.

"idhassu, bhikkhave, cattāro sāvakā vassasatāyukā vassasatajīvino.

"Suppose there were four disciples with a lifespan of a hundred years.

te divase divase kappasatasahassam kappasatasahassam anussareyyum.

And each day they would each recollect a hundred thousand eons.

ananussaritāva, bhikkhave, tehi kappā assu, atha kho te cattāro sāvakā vassasatāyukā vassasatajīvino vassasatassa accayena kālam kareyyum.

Those four disciples would pass away after a hundred years and there would still be eons that they haven't recollected.

evam bahukā kho, bhikkhave, kappā abbhatītā atikkantā.

That's how many eons have passed.

te na sukarā sankhātum:

It's not easy to calculate

'ettakā kappā iti vā, ettakāni kappasatāni iti vā, ettakāni kappasahassāni iti vā, ettakāni kappasatasahassāni iti vā'ti.

how many eons have passed, how many hundreds or thousands or hundreds of thousands of eons.

tam kissa hetu?

Why is that?

anamataggoyam, bhikkhave, samsāro ... pe ...

Transmigration has no known beginning. ...

alam vimuccitun"ti.

This is quite enough for you to become disillusioned, dispassionate, and freed regarding all conditions."

sattamam.

Linked Discourses 15

1. paṭhamavagga

1. The First Chapter

8. gangāsutta

8. The Ganges

rājagahe viharati veluvane.

Near Rājagaha, in the Bamboo Grove.

atha kho aññataro brāhmaṇo yena bhagavā tenupasaṅkami; upasaṅkamitvā bhagavatā saddhiṃ sammodi.

Then a certain brahmin went up to the Buddha, and exchanged greetings with him.

sammodanīyam katham sāranīyam vītisāretvā ekamantam nisīdi. ekamantam nisinno kho so brāhmano bhagavantam etadavoca:

When the greetings and polite conversation were over, he sat down to one side and asked the Buddha,

"kīvabahukā nu kho, bho gotama, kappā abbhatītā atikkantā"ti?

"Sir, how many eons have passed?"

"bahukā kho, brāhmana, kappā abbhatītā atikkantā.

"Brahmin, many eons have passed.

te na sukarā sankhātum:

It's not easy to calculate

'ettakā kappā iti vā, ettakāni kappasatāni iti vā, ettakāni kappasahassāni iti vā, ettakāni kappasatasahassāni iti vā'''ti.

how many eons have passed, how many hundreds or thousands or hundreds of thousands of eons."

"sakkā pana, bho gotama, upamam kātun"ti?

"But sir, can you give a simile?"

"sakkā, brāhmanā"ti bhagavā avoca.

"I can," said the Buddha.

"seyyathāpi, brāhmaṇa, yato cāyaṃ gaṅgā nadī pabhavati yattha ca mahāsamuddaṃ appeti, yā etasmim antare vālikā sā na sukarā sankhātum:

"Consider the Ganges river from where it originates to where it enters the ocean. Between these places it's not easy to calculate

'ettakā vālikā iti vā, ettakāni vālikasatāni iti vā, ettakāni vālikasahassāni iti vā, ettakāni vālikasatasahassāni iti vā'ti.

how many grains of sand there are, how many hundreds or thousands or hundreds of thousands of grains of sand.

tato bahutarā kho, brāhmana, kappā abbhatītā atikkantā.

The eons that have passed are more than this.

te na sukarā sankhātum:

It's not easy to calculate

'ettakā kappā iti vā, ettakāni kappasatāni iti vā, ettakāni kappasahassāni iti vā, ettakāni kappasatasahassāni iti vā'ti.

how many eons have passed, how many hundreds or thousands or hundreds of thousands of eons.

tam kissa hetu?

Why is that?

anamataggoyam, brāhmaṇa, saṃsāro.

Transmigration has no known beginning.

pubbā koṭi na paññāyati avijjānīvaraṇānaṃ sattānaṃ taṇhāsaṃyojanānaṃ sandhāvatam samsaratam.

No first point is found of sentient beings roaming and transmigrating, hindered by ignorance and fettered by craving.

evam dīgharattam kho, brāhmaṇa, dukkham paccanubhūtam tibbam paccanubhūtam byasanam paccanubhūtam, kaṭasī vaddhitā.

For such a long time you have undergone suffering, agony, and disaster, swelling the cemeteries.

yāvañcidam, brāhmaṇa, alameva sabbasaṅkhāresu nibbinditum, alam virajjitum, alam vimuccitun"ti.

This is quite enough for you to become disillusioned, dispassionate, and freed regarding all conditions."

evam vutte, so brāhmaņo bhagavantam etadavoca:

When he said this, the brahmin said to the Buddha,

"abhikkantam, bho gotama, abhikkantam, bho gotama ... pe ...

"Excellent, Master Gotama! Excellent! ...

upāsakam mam bhavam gotamo dhāretu ajjatagge pāņupetam saranam gatan"ti.

From this day forth, may Master Gotama remember me as a lay follower who has gone for refuge for life."

atthamam.

saṃyutta nikāya 15

Linked Discourses 15

1. pathamavagga

1. The First Chapter

9. dandasutta

9. A Stick

sāvatthiyam viharati.

At Sāvatthī.

"anamataggoyam, bhikkhave, samsāro.

"Mendicants, transmigration has no known beginning.

pubbā koṭi na paññāyati avijjānīvaraṇānaṃ sattānaṃ taṇhāsaṃyojanānaṃ sandhāvatam samsaratam.

No first point is found of sentient beings roaming and transmigrating, hindered by ignorance and fettered by craving.

seyyathāpi, bhikkhave, daṇḍo uparivehāsaṃ khitto sakimpi mūlena nipatati, sakimpi majjhena nipatati, sakimpi antena nipatati;

Suppose a stick was tossed up in the air. Sometimes it'd fall on its bottom, sometimes the middle, and sometimes the top.

evameva kho, bhikkhave, avijjānīvaraṇā sattā taṇhāsaṃyojanā sandhāvantā saṃsarantā sakimpi asmā lokā paraṃ lokaṃ gacchanti, sakimpi parasmā lokā imaṃ lokaṃ āgacchanti.

It's the same for sentient beings roaming and transmigrating, hindered by ignorance and fettered by craving. Sometimes they go from this world to the other world, and sometimes they come from the other world to this world.

tam kissa hetu?

Why is that?

anamataggoyam, bhikkhave, samsāro ... pe ...

Transmigration has no known beginning. ...

alam vimuccitun"ti.

This is quite enough for you to become disillusioned, dispassionate, and freed regarding all conditions."

navamam.

saṃyutta nikāya 15 Linked Discourses 15

1. pathamavagga

1. The First Chapter

10. puggalasutta

10. A Single Person

ekam samayam bhagavā rājagahe viharati gijjhakūţe pabbate.

At one time the Buddha was staying near Rājagaha, on the Vulture's Peak Mountain.

tatra kho bhagavā bhikkhū āmantesi:

There the Buddha addressed the mendicants,

"bhikkhavo"ti. "Mendicants!"

"bhadante"ti te bhikkhū bhagavato paccassosum.

"Venerable sir," they replied.

bhagavā etadavoca:

The Buddha said this:

"anamataggoyam, bhikkhave, samsāro ... pe ...

"Mendicants, transmigration has no known beginning. ...

ekapuggalassa, bhikkhave, kappam sandhāvato saṃsarato siyā evam mahā aṭṭhikankalo aṭṭhipuñjo aṭṭhirāsi yathāyaṃ vepullo pabbato, sace saṃhārako assa, sambhatañca na vinasseyya.

One person roaming and transmigrating for an eon would amass a heap of bones the size of this Mount Vepulla, if they were gathered together and not lost.

tam kissa hetu?

Why is that?

anamataggoyam, bhikkhave, samsāro ... pe ...

Transmigration has no known beginning. ...

alam vimuccitun"ti.

This is quite enough for you to become disillusioned, dispassionate, and freed regarding all conditions."

idamavoca bhagavā.

That is what the Buddha said.

idam vatvāna sugato athāparam etadavoca satthā:

Then the Holy One, the Teacher, went on to say:

"ekassekena kappena,

"If the bones of a single person

puggalassatthisañcayo;

for a single eon were gathered up,

siyā pabbatasamo rāsi,

they'd make a pile the size of a mountain:

iti vuttam mahesinā.

so said the great hermit.

so kho panāyam akkhāto,

And this is declared to be

vepullo pabbato mahā;

as huge as Mount Vepulla,

uttaro gijjhakūṭassa, higher than the Vulture's Peak

magadhānaṃ giribbaje.

in the Magadhan mountain range.

yato ca ariyasaccāni, But then, with right understanding,

sammappaññāya passati; a person sees the noble truths—

dukkham dukkhasamuppādam, suffering, suffering's origin,

dukkhassa ca atikkamam; suffering's transcendence,

ariyam caṭṭhaṅgikam maggam, and the noble eightfold path

dukkhūpasamagāminam.

that leads to the stilling of suffering.

sa sattakkhattumparamam, After roaming on seven times at most,

sandhāvitvāna puggalo; that person

dukkhassantakaro hoti, makes an end of suffering,

sabbasaṃyojanakkhayā"ti. with the ending of all fetters."

dasamam.

pathamo vaggo.

tiņakaṭṭhañca pathavī,

assu khīrañca pabbatam;

sāsapā sāvakā gangā,

daṇḍo ca puggalena cāti.

saṃyutta nikāya 15 Linked Discourses 15

2. dutiyavagga 2. The Second Chapter

11. duggatasutta 11. In a Sorry State

ekam samayam bhagavā sāvatthiyam viharati.

At one time the Buddha was staying near Sāvatthī.

tatra kho ... pe ...

[&]quot;anamataggoyam, bhikkhave, samsāro.
"Mendicants, transmigration has no known beginning.

pubbā koti na paññāyati avijjānīvaranānam sattānam tanhāsamyojanānam sandhāvatam samsaratam.

No first point is found of sentient beings roaming and transmigrating, hindered by ignorance and fettered by craving.

yam, bhikkhave, passeyyātha duggatam durūpetam nitthamettha gantabbam: When you see someone in a sorry state, in distress, you should conclude:

'amhehipi evarūpam paccanubhūtam iminā dīghena addhunā'ti.

'In all this long time, we too have undergone the same thing."

tam kissa hetu ... pe ...

Why is that? Transmigration has no known beginning. ...

yāvañcidam, bhikkhave, alameva sabbasankhāresu nibbinditum alam virajjitum alam vimuccitun"ti.

This is quite enough for you to become disillusioned, dispassionate, and freed regarding all

pathamam.

saṃyutta nikāya 15

Linked Discourses 15

dutiyavagga

2. The Second Chapter

12. sukhitasutta

12. In a Good Way

sāvatthiyam viharati.

At Sāvatthī.

"anamataggoyam, bhikkhave, samsāro ... pe ...

"Mendicants, transmigration has no known beginning. ...

yam, bhikkhave, passeyyātha sukhitam susajjitam, nitthamettha gantabbam: When you see someone in a good way, in a happy state, you should conclude:

'amhehipi evarūpam paccanubhūtam iminā dīghena addhunā'ti.

'In all this long time, we too have undergone the same thing.'

tam kissa hetu?

Why is that?

anamataggoyam, bhikkhave, samsāro.

Transmigration has no known beginning. ...

pubbā koti na paññāyati ... pe ...

alam vimuccitun"ti.

This is quite enough for you to become disillusioned, dispassionate, and freed regarding all conditions.

dutiyam.

samyutta nikāya 15

Linked Discourses 15

dutiyavagga

2. The Second Chapter

13. timsamattasutta

13. Thirty Mendicants

rājagahe viharati veluvane.

Near Rājagaha, in the Bamboo Grove.

atha kho timsamattā pāveyyakā bhikkhū sabbe āraññikā sabbe piṇḍapātikā sabbe paṃsukūlikā sabbe tecīvarikā sabbe sasaṃyojanā yena bhagavā tenupasaṅkamiṃsu; upasaṅkamitvā bhagavantaṃ abhivādetvā ekamantaṃ nisīdiṃsu.

Then thirty mendicants from Pava went to the Buddha. All of them lived in the wilderness, ate only alms-food, wore rag robes, and owned just three robes; yet they all still had fetters. They bowed to the Buddha and sat down to one side.

atha kho bhagavato etadahosi:

Then it occurred to the Buddha,

"ime kho timsamattā pāveyyakā bhikkhū sabbe āraññikā sabbe piņḍapātikā sabbe pamsukūlikā sabbe tecīvarikā sabbe sasamyojanā.

"These thirty mendicants from Pāvā live in the wilderness, eat only alms-food, wear rag robes, and own just three robes; yet they all still have fetters.

yannūnāham imesam tathā dhammam deseyyam yathā nesam imasmimyeva āsane anupādāya āsavehi cittāni vimucceyyun"ti.

Why don't I teach them the Dhamma in such a way that their minds are freed from defilements by not grasping while sitting in this very seat?"

atha kho bhagavā bhikkhū āmantesi:

Then the Buddha said to the mendicants.

"bhikkhavo"ti.
"Mendicants!"

"bhadante"ti te bhikkhū bhagavato paccassosum.

"Venerable sir," they replied.

bhagavā etadavoca:

The Buddha said this:

"anamataggoyam, bhikkhave, samsāro."

"Mendicants, transmigration has no known beginning.

pubbā koṭi na paññāyati avijjānīvaraṇānaṃ sattānaṃ taṇhāsaṃyojanānaṃ sandhāvataṃ saṃsarataṃ.

No first point is found of sentient beings roaming and transmigrating, hindered by ignorance and fettered by craving.

tam kim maññatha, bhikkhave, katamam nu kho bahutaram, yam vā vo iminā dīghena addhunā sandhāvatam samsaratam sīsacchinnānam lohitam passannam paggharitam, yam vā catūsu mahāsamuddesu udakan"ti?

What do you think? Which is more: the flow of blood you've shed when your head was chopped off while roaming and transmigrating for such a very long time, or the water in the four oceans?"

"yathā kho mayam, bhante, bhagavatā dhammam desitam ājānāma, etadeva, bhante, bahutaram, yam no iminā dīghena addhunā sandhāvatam saṃsaratam sīsacchinnānam lohitam passannam paggharitam, na tveva catūsu mahāsamuddesu udakan"ti.

"As we understand the Buddha's teaching, the flow of blood we've shed when our head was chopped off while roaming and transmigrating is more than the water in the four oceans."

"sādhu sādhu, bhikkhave, sādhu kho me tumhe, bhikkhave, evam dhammam desitam ājānātha.

"Good, good, mendicants! It's good that you understand my teaching like this.

etadeva, bhikkhave, bahutaram, yam vo iminā dīghena addhunā sandhāvatam saṃsaratam sīsacchinnānam lohitam passannam paggharitam, na tveva catūsu mahāsamuddesu udakam.

The flow of blood you've shed when your head was chopped off while roaming and transmigrating is indeed more than the water in the four oceans.

dīgharattam vo, bhikkhave, gunnam satam gobhūtānam sīsacchinnānam lohitam passannam paggharitam, na tveva catūsu mahāsamuddesu udakam.

For a long time you've been cows, and the flow of blood you've shed when your head was chopped off as a cow is more than the water in the four oceans.

dīgharattam vo, bhikkhave, mahimsānam satam mahimsabhūtānam sīsacchinnānam lohitam passannam paggharitam ... pe ...

For a long time you've been buffalo ...

dīgharattam vo, bhikkhave, urabbhānam satam urabbhabhūtānam ... pe ...

ajānam satam ajabhūtānam ...

migānam satam migabhūtānam ... deer ...

kukkutānam satam kukkutabhūtānam ...

chickens ...

sūkarānam satam sūkarabhūtānam ...

dīgharattam vo, bhikkhave, corā gāmaghātāti gahetvā sīsacchinnānam lohitam passannam paggharitam.

For a long time you've been bandits, arrested for raiding villages,

dīgharattam vo, bhikkhave, corā pāripanthikāti gahetvā sīsacchinnānam lohitam passannam paggharitam.

highway robbery,

dīgharattam vo, bhikkhave, corā pāradārikāti gahetvā sīsacchinnānam lohitam passannam paggharitam, na tveva catūsu mahāsamuddesu udakam.

or adultery. And the flow of blood you've shed when your head was chopped off as a bandit is more than the water in the four oceans.

tam kissa hetu?

Why is that?

anamataggoyam, bhikkhave, samsāro ... pe ...

Transmigration has no known beginning. ...

alam vimuccitun"ti.

This is quite enough for you to become disillusioned, dispassionate, and freed regarding all conditions."

idamavoca bhagavā.

That is what the Buddha said.

attamanā te bhikkhū bhagavato bhāsitam abhinandunti.

Satisfied, the mendicants were happy with what the Buddha said.

imasmiñca pana veyyākaraṇasmiṃ bhaññamāne tiṃsamattānaṃ pāveyyakānaṃ bhikkhūnaṃ anupādāya āsavehi cittāni vimucciṃsūti.

And while this discourse was being spoken, the minds of the thirty mendicants from Pāvā were freed from defilements by not grasping.

tatiyam.

saṃyutta nikāya 15

Linked Discourses 15

dutiyavagga

2. The Second Chapter

14. mātusutta 14. Mother

sāvatthiyam viharati.

At Sāvatthī.

"anamataggoyam, bhikkhave, samsāro ... pe ...

"Mendicants, transmigration has no known beginning. ...

na so, bhikkhave, satto sulabharūpo yo namātābhūtapubbo iminā dīghena addhunā.

It's not easy to find a sentient being who in all this long time has not previously been your mother.

tam kissa hetu?

Why is that?

anamataggoyam, bhikkhave, samsāro ... pe ...

Transmigration has no known beginning. ...

alam vimuccitun"ti.

This is quite enough for you to become disillusioned, dispassionate, and freed regarding all conditions."

catuttham.

samyutta nikāya 15

Linked Discourses 15

2. dutiyavagga

2. The Second Chapter

15. pitusutta

15. Father

sāvatthiyam viharati.

At Sāvatthī.

"anamataggoyam, bhikkhave, samsāro ... pe ...

"Mendicants, transmigration has no known beginning. ...

na so, bhikkhave, satto sulabharūpo yo napitābhūtapubbo ... pe ...

It's not easy to find a sentient being who in all this long time has not previously been your father. ...

alam vimuccitun"ti.

This is quite enough for you to become disillusioned, dispassionate, and freed regarding all conditions."

pañcamam.

samyutta nikāya 15

Linked Discourses 15

2. dutiyavagga

2. The Second Chapter

16. bhātusutta

16. Brother

sāvatthiyam viharati ... pe ...

At Sāvatthī.

"na so, bhikkhave, satto sulabharūpo yo nabhātābhūtapubbo ... pe ...

"It's not easy to find a sentient being who in all this long time has not previously been your brother. ...

alam vimuccitun"ti.

This is quite enough for you to become disillusioned, dispassionate, and freed regarding all conditions."

chattham.

Linked Discourses 15

2. dutiyavagga

2. The Second Chapter

17. bhaginisutta

17. Sister

sāvatthiyam viharati ... pe ...

At Sāvatthī.

"na so, bhikkhave, satto sulabharūpo yo nabhaginibhūtapubbo ... pe ...

"It's not easy to find a sentient being who in all this long time has not previously been your sister. ...

alam vimuccitun"ti.

This is quite enough for you to become disillusioned, dispassionate, and freed regarding all conditions."

sattamam.

saṃyutta nikāya 15

Linked Discourses 15

2. dutiyavagga

2. The Second Chapter

18. puttasutta

18. Son

sāvatthiyam viharati ... pe ...

At Sāvatthī.

"na so, bhikkhave, satto sulabharūpo yo naputtabhūtapubbo ... pe ...

"It's not easy to find a sentient being who in all this long time has not previously been your son. ...

alam vimuccitun"ti.

This is quite enough for you to become disillusioned, dispassionate, and freed regarding all conditions."

aṭṭhamaṃ.

saṃyutta nikāya 15

Linked Discourses 15

2. dutiyavagga

2. The Second Chapter

19. dhītusutta

19. Daughter

sāvatthiyam viharati.

At Sāvatthī.

"anamataggoyam, bhikkhave, samsāro.

"Mendicants, transmigration has no known beginning.

pubbā koţi na paññāyati avijjānīvaraṇānam sattānam taṇhāsaṃyojanānam sandhāvatam samsaratam.

No first point is found of sentient beings roaming and transmigrating, hindered by ignorance and fettered by craving.

na so, bhikkhave, satto sulabharūpo yo na dhītābhūtapubbo iminā dīghena addhunā.

It's not easy to find a sentient being who in all this long time has not previously been your daughter.

tam kissa hetu?

Why is that?

anamataggoyam, bhikkhave, samsāro.

Transmigration has no known beginning.

pubbā koṭi na paññāyati avijjānīvaraṇānam sattānam taṇhāsamyojanānam sandhāvatam samsaratam.

No first point is found of sentient beings roaming and transmigrating, hindered by ignorance and fettered by craving.

evam dīgharattam vo, bhikkhave, dukkham paccanubhūtam tibbam paccanubhūtam byasanam paccanubhūtam, katasī vaddhitā.

For such a long time you have undergone suffering, agony, and disaster, swelling the cemeteries.

yāvañcidam, bhikkhave, alameva sabbasankhāresu nibbinditum, alam virajjitum, alam vimuccitun"ti.

This is quite enough for you to become disillusioned, dispassionate, and freed regarding all conditions."

navamam.

samyutta nikāya 15

Linked Discourses 15

2. dutiyavagga

2. The Second Chapter

20. vepullapabbatasutta

20. Mount Vepulla

ekam samayam bhagavā rājagahe viharati gijjhakūte pabbate.

At one time the Buddha was staying near Rājagaha, on the Vulture's Peak Mountain.

tatra kho bhagavā bhikkhū āmantesi:

There the Buddha addressed the mendicants.

"bhikkhavo"ti.

"Mendicants!"

"bhadante" ti te bhikkhū bhagavato paccassosum.

"Venerable sir," they replied.

bhagavā etadavoca:

The Buddha said this:

"anamataggoyam, bhikkhave, samsāro."

"Mendicants, transmigration has no known beginning.

pubbā koṭi na paññāyati avijjānīvaraṇānaṃ sattānaṃ taṇhāsaṃyojanānaṃ sandhāvataṃ saṃsarataṃ.

No first point is found of sentient beings roaming and transmigrating, hindered by ignorance and fettered by craving.

bhūtapubbam, bhikkhave, imassa vepullassa pabbatassa 'pācīnavamso'tveva samaññā udapādi.

Once upon a time, mendicants, this Mount Vepulla was known as Pācīnavaṃsa.

tena kho pana, bhikkhave, samayena manussānam 'tivarā'tveva samaññā udapādi. *And at that time people were known as Tivaras.*

tivarānam, bhikkhave, manussānam cattārīsa vassasahassāni āyuppamāṇam ahosi. *The lifespan of the Tivaras was 40,000 years.*

tivarā, bhikkhave, manussā pācīnavaṃsaṃ pabbataṃ catūhena ārohanti, catūhena orohanti.

It took them four days to climb Mount Vepulla, and four days to descend.

tena kho pana, bhikkhave, samayena kakusandho bhagavā araham sammāsambuddho loke uppanno hoti.

At that time Kakusandha, the Blessed One, the perfected one, the fully awakened Buddha arose in the world.

kakusandhassa, bhikkhave, bhagavato arahato sammāsambuddhassa vidhurasañjīvam nāma sāvakayugam ahosi aggam bhaddayugam.

Kakusandha had a fine pair of chief disciples named Vidhura and Sañjīva.

passatha, bhikkhave, sā cevimassa pabbatassa samaññā antarahitā, te ca manussā kālaṅkatā, so ca bhagavā parinibbuto.

See, mendicants! This mountain's name has vanished, those people have passed away, and that Buddha has become fully extinguished.

evam aniccā, bhikkhave, sankhārā;

So impermanent are conditions,

evam addhuvā, bhikkhave, sankhārā;

so unstable are conditions,

evam anassāsikā, bhikkhave, sankhārā.

so unreliable are conditions.

yāvañcidam, bhikkhave, alameva sabbasankhāresu nibbinditum, alam virajjitum, alam vimuccitum.

This is quite enough for you to become disillusioned, dispassionate, and freed regarding all conditions.

bhūtapubbam, bhikkhave, imassa vepullassa pabbatassa 'vankako'tveva samaññā udapādi.

Ônce upon a time this Mount Vepulla was known as Vankaka.

tena kho pana, bhikkhave, samayena manussānam 'rohitassā'tveva samaññā udapādi.

And at that time people were known as Rohitassas.

rohitassānam, bhikkhave, manussānam timsavassasahassāni āyuppamāṇam ahosi. *The lifespan of the Rohitassas was 30,000 years.*

rohitassā, bhikkhave, manussā vankakam pabbatam tīhena ārohanti, tīhena orohanti. It took them three days to climb Mount Vepulla, and three days to descend.

tena kho pana, bhikkhave, samayena koṇāgamano bhagavā araham sammāsambuddho loke uppanno hoti.

At that time Koṇāgamana, the Blessed One, the perfected one, the fully awakened Buddha arose in the world.

konāgamanassa, bhikkhave, bhagavato arahato sammāsambuddhassa bhivyosuttaram nāma sāvakavugam ahosi aggam bhaddavugam.

Koṇāgamana had a fine pair of chief disciples named Bhiyyosa and Uttara.

passatha, bhikkhave, sā cevimassa pabbatassa samaññā antarahitā, te ca manussā kālankatā, so ca bhagavā parinibbuto.

See, mendicants! This mountain's name has vanished, those people have passed away, and that Buddha has become fully extinguished.

evam aniccā, bhikkhave, saṅkhārā ... pe ...

So impermanent are conditions ...

alam vimuccitum.

bhūtapubbaṃ, bhikkhave, imassa vepullassa pabbatassa 'supasso'tveva samaññā udapādi.

Once upon a time this Mount Vepulla was known as Supassa.

tena kho pana, bhikkhave, samayena manussānam 'suppiyā'tveva samaññā udapādi. *And at that time people were known as Suppiyas*.

suppiyānam, bhikkhave, manussānam vīsativassasahassāni āyuppamāṇam ahosi. *The lifespan of the Suppiyas was 20,000 years.*

suppiyā, bhikkhave, manussā supassam pabbatam dvīhena ārohanti, dvīhena orohanti.

It took them two days to climb Mount Vepulla, and two days to descend.

tena kho pana, bhikkhave, samayena kassapo bhagavā araham sammāsambuddho loke uppanno hoti.

At that time Kassapa, the Blessed One, the perfected one, the fully awakened Buddha arose in the world.

kassapassa, bhikkhave, bhagavato arahato sammāsambuddhassa tissabhāradvājam nāma sāvakayugam ahosi aggam bhaddayugam.

Kassapa had a fine pair of chief disciples named Tissa and Bhāradvāja.

passatha, bhikkhave, sā cevimassa pabbatassa samaññā antarahitā, te ca manussā kālaṅkatā, so ca bhagavā parinibbuto.

See, mendicants! This mountain's name has vanished, those people have passed away, and that Buddha has become fully extinguished.

evam aniccā, bhikkhave, sankhārā;

So impermanent are conditions ...

evam addhuvā, bhikkhave, sankhārā ... pe ...

alam vimuccitum.

etarahi kho pana, bhikkhave, imassa vepullassa pabbatassa 'vepullo'tveva samaññā udapādi.

These days this Mount Vepulla is known as Vepulla.

etarahi kho pana, bhikkhave, imesam manussānam 'māgadhakā'tveva samaññā udapādi.

And these people are known as Magadhans.

māgadhakānam, bhikkhave, manussānam appakam āyuppamāṇam parittam lahukam;

The lifespan of the Magadhans is short, brief, and fleeting.

yo ciram jīvati so vassasatam appam vā bhiyyo.

A long life is a hundred years or a little more.

māgadhakā, bhikkhave, manussā vepullam pabbatam muhuttena ārohanti muhuttena orohanti.

It takes the Magadhans an hour to climb Mount Vepulla, and an hour to descend.

etarahi kho panāham, bhikkhave, araham sammāsambuddho loke uppanno.

And now I am the Blessed One, the perfected one, the fully awakened Buddha who has arisen in the world.

mayham kho pana, bhikkhave, sāriputtamoggallānam nāma sāvakayugam aggam bhaddayugam.

I have a fine pair of chief disciples named Sāriputta and Moggallāna.

bhavissati, bhikkhave, so samayo yā ayañcevimassa pabbatassa samaññā antaradhāyissati, ime ca manussā kālam karissanti, ahañca parinibbāyissāmi.

There will come a time when this mountain's name will disappear, those people will die, and I will be fully extinguished.

evam aniccā, bhikkhave, sankhārā;

So impermanent are conditions,

evam addhuvā, bhikkhave, sankhārā;

so unstable are conditions,

evam anassāsikā, bhikkhave, sankhārā.

so unreliable are conditions.

yāvañcidam, bhikkhave, alameva sabbasankhāresu nibbinditum, alam virajjitum, alam vimuccitun"ti.

This is quite enough for you to become disillusioned, dispassionate, and freed regarding all conditions."

idamavoca bhagavā.

That is what the Buddha said.

idam vatvāna sugato athāparam etadavoca satthā:

Then the Holy One, the Teacher, went on to say:

"pācīnavamso tivarānam,

"For the Tivaras it was Pācīnavamsa,

rohitassāna vankako:

for the Rohitassa, Vankaka,

suppiyānam supassoti,

Supassa for the Suppiyas,

māgadhānañca vepullo.

and Vepulla for the Magadhans.

aniccā vata sankhārā,

Oh! Conditions are impermanent,

uppādavayadhammino;

their nature is to rise and fall;

uppajjitvā nirujjhanti,

having arisen, they cease;

tesam vūpasamo sukho"ti.

their stilling is true bliss."

dasamam.

dutiyo vaggo.

duggatam sukhitañceva,

timsa mātāpitena ca;

bhātā bhaginī putto ca,

dhītā vepullapabbatam.

anamataggasamyuttam samattam.

The Linked Discourses on the unknown beginning are complete.