

Pāṭidesaniya #2: Eating a Meal Directed by a Nun

On this occasion the Buddha, the Blessed One, was dwelling at Rājagaha, in the Bamboo Grove, at the squirrel's feeding-ground. Furthermore, on this occasion, [some] monks ate by invitation among [lay] families. Group-of-six nuns were standing [there], directing [food] to group-of-six monks: "Give soup here, give rice here." The group-of-six monks ate as much as they needed. Other monks did not eat as they considered appropriate. Those monks who were of few wishes... denounced, criticized, and castigated: "How is it that group-of-six monks will not prevent nuns from directing [food distribution]?" ... "Is it true that you, monks, did not prevent nuns from directing [food distribution]?" "It is true, Blessed One." The Buddha, the Blessed One, reprimanded... "How is it that you, foolish men, will not prevent nuns from directing [food distribution]? This is not, foolish men, for the faith of the faithless... And thus, monks, you may recite this training-rule:

"When monks eat by invitation among [lay] families, if a nun is standing there directing [food distribution], [saying] 'Give soup here, give rice here,' that nun is to be dismissed by the monks, [saying] 'Sister, leave while the monks eat.' If not even one monk speaks in response to that nun to dismiss her, [saying] 'Sister, leave while the monks eat,' it is to be acknowledged by those monks: 'Venerable, we have performed a blameworthy and inappropriate act that is to be acknowledged. We acknowledge it.'"

When monks eat by invitation among [lay] families: Four [kinds of] families – *khattiya* family, *brahmin* family, *vessa* family, *sudda* family.

Eat by invitation: One eats when invited to a meal [consisting of] any of the five kinds of edibles.

Nun: Ordained by both Saṅghas.

Directing: Based on friendship, acquaintance, devotion, having the same preceptor, [or] having the same teacher, [she says] "Give soup here, give rice here." This is called "directing."

By those monks: By the monks who are eating.

That nun: The nun who is directing.

That nun is to be dismissed by the monks, [saying] "Sister, leave while the monks eat." When she has not been dismissed by even one monk, one receives [food], [thinking] "I will consume, I will eat": a Dukkaṭa offense. For each ingestion: a Pāṭidesaniya offense.

Perceiving her as fully ordained when she is fully ordained, one does not prevent her from directing: a Pāṭidesaniya offense.

In doubt when she is fully ordained...: a Pāṭidesaniya offense.

Perceiving her as unordained when she is fully ordained...: a Pāṭidesanīya offense.

One does not prevent a one-side-ordained nun from directing: a Dukkaṭa offense.

Perceiving her as fully ordained when she is unordained: a Dukkaṭa offense.

In doubt when she is unordained: a Dukkaṭa offense.

Perceiving her as unordained when she is unordained: non-offense.

Non-offense[s]: She causes food to be given to herself, she does not give; she gives food to others, she does not cause to give; what was not given she causes to be given; where [food] was not given she causes it to be given; she causes [food] to be given equally to everyone; a female trainee directs; a female novice directs; having set aside the five [kinds of] edibles everything else is a non-offense; for one who is crazy; for the first offender.