Pācittiya #17: Angrily Expelling a Monk from a Communal Dwelling

On this occasion the Buddha, the Blessed One, was dwelling at Sāvatthi, at Jeta's Grove, in Anāthapiṇḍaka's park. Furthermore, on this occasion, [some] group-of-seventeen monks were restoring an adjacent large dwelling, [thinking] "Here we will live out the Rains." [Some] group-of-six monks saw the group-of-seventeen monks restoring the dwelling. Having seen this, they said, "Venerables, these group-of-seventeen monks are restoring a dwelling. Come, we will make them leave." Some of them said, "Wait, Venerables, as long as they are restoring; when it is restored, we will make them leave."

Then those group-of-six monks said to the group-of-seventeen monks, "Leave, Venerables; this dwelling belongs to us." "Venerables⁴⁷⁵, isn't this meant to be declared beforehand, so that we might restore a different one?" "Isn't this a communal dwelling?" "Yes, this is a communal dwelling." "Leave, Venerables; this dwelling belongs to us." "This is a large dwelling. You live here, and we will also live here." [Saying,] "Leave, Venerables; this dwelling belongs to us," they resentfully and discontentedly seized [their] necks and expelled them. Being expelled, they wept. [Other] monks said, "Venerables, why do you weep?" "Venerables, these group-of-six monks resentfully and discontentedly expelled us from a communal dwelling." Those monks who were of few wishes... denounced, criticized, and castigated: "How is that group-of-six monks will resentfully and discontentedly expel monks from a communal dwelling!" Then those monks, having reprimanded the group-of-six monks in various ways, reported this matter to the Blessed One... "Is it true that you, monks, resentfully and discontentedly expelled monks from a communal dwelling?" "It is true, Blessed One." The Buddha, the Blessed One, reprimanded... "How is it that you, foolish men, will resentfully and discontentedly expel monks from a communal dwelling! This is not, monks, for the faith of the faithless... And thus, monks, you may recite this training rule:

"If any monk, resentful and discontented, expels a monk from a communal dwelling, or causes [him] to be expelled: a Pācittiya [offense]."

Any monk: ...

Monk: Another monk.

Resentful and discontented: A callous mind affected by anger.

Communal: Given [or] left behind for the community.

In the Pāli text, this form of address is used for every statement made between the two groups of monks in this incident. For ease of reading, it has usually been omitted in subsequent statements

Expels: Having seized inside, one expels to the front 476 : a Pācittiya offense. Having seized at the front, one expels outside: a Pācittiya offense. With a single action one makes [him] go through multiple doors: a Pācittiya offense.

Causes to be expelled: One commands another: a Pācittiya offense. Commanded once, he makes [him] go through multiple doors: a Pācittiya offense.

Perceiving a communal [dwelling] as communal, resentful and discontented, one expels [a monk] or causes [him] to be expelled: a Pācittiya offense.

In doubt about a communal [dwelling]...: a Pācittiya offense.

Perceiving a communal [dwelling] as personal...: a Pācittiya offense.

One expels his property⁴⁷⁷ or causes it to be expelled: a Dukkaţa offense.

One expels [a monk] or causes him to be expelled from the vicinity of a dwelling, an attendance-hall, an awning, a tree-root, or the open air: a Dukkaṭa offense.

One expels his property or causes it to be expelled: a Dukkaţa offense.

One expels an unordained person, or causes that person to be expelled, from a dwelling, the vicinity of a dwelling, an attendance-hall, an awning, a tree-root, or the open air: a Dukkata offense.

One expels his property or causes it to be expelled: a Dukkata offense.

Perceiving a personal [dwelling] as communal: a Dukkaṭa offense.

In doubt about a personal [dwelling]: a Dukkata offense.

Perceiving a personal [dwelling] as personal, belonging to another: a Dukkaṭa offense.

A personal [dwelling] belonging to oneself: Non-offense.

Non-offense[s]:

One expels or causes to be expelled a shameless person or his property; one expels or causes to be expelled a crazy person or his property; one expels or causes to be expelled a disputatious, quarrelsome, contentious, gregarious⁴⁷⁸, community-issue-making person or his property; one expels or causes to be expelled an apprentice or co-resident who is not behaving properly, or his property;

for one who is crazy; and for the first offender.

 $^{^{476}}$ Pamukha. Lit. "to the face" [of the building]. Ven. Ṭhānissaro renders this as "porch".

⁴⁷⁷ Parikkhāra. Lit. "all-around doer" or "multi-purpose item(s)". Usually translated "equipment," "accessory," or "requisite".

⁴⁷⁸ Bhassakāraka. Lit. "maker of speech."