

## Nissaggiya Pācittiya #11: Making a Silk Spread<sup>338</sup>

On this occasion the Buddha, the Blessed One, was dwelling at Āḷavī, at the Aggāḷava Shrine. Furthermore, on this occasion, [some] group-of-six monks, after approaching silk-makers, said, “Sir, you prepare<sup>339</sup> a lot of silk. Give [some] to us, we wish to make a silk<sup>340</sup> spread.” They denounced, criticized, and castigated: “How is it that Sakyan-son contemplatives will approach us and say, ‘Sir, you prepare a lot of silk. Give [some] to us, we wish to make a silk spread?’ It is not a gain for us, it is bad fortune for us, that for the sake of a livelihood in service of our wives and children, we cause death for many small beings.” Monks heard of those people – denouncing, criticizing, and castigating. Those monks who were of few wishes... denounced, criticized, and castigated: “How is it that group-of-six monks will approach silk-makers and say, ‘Sir, you prepare a lot of silk. Give [some] to us, we wish to make a silk spread?’” Then those monks, after reprimanding the group-of-six monks in many ways, reported this matter to the Blessed One... “Is it true, monks, that you approached silk-makers and said, ‘Sir, you prepare a lot of silk. Give [some] to us, we wish to make a silk spread?’” “It is true, Blessed One.” The Buddha, the Blessed One, reprimanded... “How is it, foolish men, that you will approach silk-makers and say, ‘Sir, you prepare a lot of silk. Give [some] to us, we wish to make a silk spread?’ This is not, foolish men, for the faith of the faithless... And thus, monks, you may recite this training-rule:

**“If any monk causes a silk spread to be made: a Nissaggiya Pācittiya.”**

**Any monk:** ...

**Spread:** It is made after spreading; it is not woven.

**Causes to be made:** After mixing it with even one silk-fiber, one makes it or causes it to be made: a Dukkata for the undertaking. When it is obtained, it [requires] relinquishment. It is to be relinquished to a Saṅgha, a group, or an individual. And, monks, it is to be relinquished in this way... “Bhante, this silk spread which I caused to be made [requires] relinquishment. I relinquish it to the Saṅgha...”

Unfinished by oneself, completed by oneself: a Nissaggiya Pācittiya.

Unfinished by oneself, completed by another: a Nissaggiya Pācittiya.

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Unfinished by another, completed by another: a Nissaggiya Pācittiya.

<sup>338</sup> *Santhata*. Lit. “spread,” “strewn,” or “scattered.” This may be a rug or possibly a blanket. Its name refers to its method of production, defined below; however, no further detail is provided in the Canon.

<sup>339</sup> *Pacati*. Lit. “cook.” The preparation of silk usually involves killing cocooned silkworms using heat, then carefully unraveling the silk-thread from the dead worm. While there are ways of harvesting silk without killing silkworms, the resultant silk is of lower quality.

<sup>340</sup> *Kosiya-missaka*. Lit. “silk-mixture.” As is clarified below, this means any mixture of materials that contains at least one silk-fiber.

One makes it or causes it to be made for the sake of another: a Dukkaṭa offense.  
After obtaining [an item] made by another, one uses it: a Dukkaṭa offense.

**Non-offense[s]:** One makes a canopy, ground-sheet, screen, mattress, or pillow; for one who is crazy; for the first offender.