

Nissaggiya Pācittiya #26: Having a Robe Sewn With Indicated Thread

On this occasion the Buddha, the Blessed One, was dwelling at Rājagaha, in the Bamboo grove, at a the squirrel's feeding-ground. Furthermore, on this occasion, [some] group-of-six monks indicated [a desire for] a lot of thread at a time of robe-making. When the robe was finished there was a lot of thread left over. Then it occurred to those group-of-six monks, “Come, Venerables, after indicating [a desire for] more thread we will have robe[-cloth] woven by weavers.” Then the group-of-six monks, after indicating [a desire for] more thread, had robe[-cloth] woven by weavers. When the robe[-cloth] was woven, there was a lot a thread left over. A second time... a third time as well, the group-of-six monks, after indicating [a desire for] more thread, had robe[-cloth] woven by weavers. People denounced, criticized, and castigated: “How is it that Sakyan-son contemplatives will have robe[-cloth] woven by weavers after personally indicating [a desire for] more thread?”

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 have robe[-cloth] woven by weavers after personally indicating [a desire for] thread?” 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 had robe[-cloth] woven by weavers after personally indicating [a desire for] thread?” “It is true, Blessed One.” The Buddha, the Blessed One, reprimanded... “How is it, foolish men, that you will have robe[-cloth] woven by weavers after personally indicating [a desire for] thread? This is not, foolish men, for the faith of the faithless... And thus, monks, you may recite this training-rule:

“If any monk causes robe[-cloth] to be woven by weavers after personally indicating [a desire for] thread: a Nissaggiya Pācittiya.”

Any monk: ...

Personally: After indicating it himself.

Thread: Six [kinds of] thread - flax, cotton, silk, wool, jute, hemp.

By weavers: One causes it to be woven by needle-workers³⁷³: a Dukkaṭa for each 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 robe[-cloth] of mine was caused to be woven by weavers after personally indicating [a desire for] thread. It [requires] relinquishment. I relinquish it to the Saṅgha...”

³⁷³ *Pesa-kāra*. According to PED, *pesa* may be related to the verb *piṃsati* (prick, embellish, embroider).

Perceiving it as caused to be woven when it was caused to be woven: a Nissaggiya Pācittiya.

In doubt when it was caused to be woven: a Nissaggiya Pācittiya.

Perceiving it as not caused to be woven when it was caused to be woven: a Nissaggiya Pācittiya.

Perceiving it as caused to be woven when it was not caused to be woven: a Dukkaṭa offense.

In doubt when it was caused to be woven: a Dukkaṭa offense.

Perceiving it as not caused to be woven when it was not caused to be woven: non-offense.

Non-offense[s]: To sew a robe, a bandage, a belt, a shoulder-strap, a bowl-bag, [or] a water-strainer; for one who has been invited by relatives; for the sake of another; by means of one's own wealth; for one who is crazy; for the first offender.