

## Pācittiya #22: Exhorting Nuns After Sundown

On this occasion the Buddha, the Blessed One, was dwelling at Sāvatti, at Jeta's Grove, in Anāthapiṇḍaka's park. Furthermore, on this occasion, senior monks were exhorting nuns in turn. On this occasion, it was Venerable Cūḷapanthaka's turn to exhort the nuns. The nuns said this: "Now on this day the exhortation will not be successful, Sir Cūḷapanthaka will now recite that same utterance again and again." Then those nuns approached Venerable Cūḷapanthaka; after approaching and paying respects to Venerable Cūḷapanthaka, they sat to one side. When the nuns were seated to one side, Venerable Cūḷapanthaka said, "Are you in concord, Sisters?" "We are in concord, Sir." "Sisters, do the eight rules of respect persist?" "They persist, Sir." After saying, "This, Sisters, is the exhortation," he recited this utterance again and again:

"Lofty-minded and vigilant, a sage training in the ways of sagacity;  
Such a one has no sorrows, always tranquil and mindful."

The nuns said, "Didn't we say, 'Now on this day the exhortation will not be successful, Sir Cūḷapanthaka will now recite that same utterance again and again'?" Venerable Cūḷapanthaka heard the nuns' conversation. Then Venerable Cūḷapanthaka, having risen up into the sky, walked, stood, sat, and reclined in the atmosphere; smoldered, burst into flame, and vanished. He recited that very utterance and many other sayings of the Buddha. The nuns said this: "Oh so wonderful, oh so marvelous! Never before has an exhortation been so successful<sup>501</sup> as Venerable Cūḷapanthaka's." Then Venerable Cūḷapanthaka, having exhorted the nuns until it was dark; dismissed [them]: "Go, Sisters."

Then those nuns, after staying outside the city because the city gate was closed, entered the city in the early morning. People denounced, criticized, and castigated: "These nuns are not celibate; after staying in the park with monks, now they enter the city." The monks heard of those people denouncing, criticizing, and castigating. Those monks who were of few wishes... denounced, criticized, and castigated: "How is it that Venerable Cūḷapanthaka will exhort nuns when the sun has disappeared!" ... "Is it true that you, Cūḷapanthaka, exhorted nuns when the sun had disappeared?" "It is true, Blessed One." The Buddha, the Blessed One, reprimanded... "How is it that you, Cūḷapanthaka, will exhort nuns when the sun has disappeared! This is not, Cūḷapanthaka, for the faith of the faithless... And thus, monks, you may recite this training rule:

**"Even when authorized, if any monk exhorts nuns when the sun has disappeared: a Pācittiya."**

**Authorized:** Authorized by an act with the notification as the fourth.

**When the sun has disappeared:** When the sun has gone down.

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<sup>501</sup> *Iddha*. This is a pun on the word for psychic powers (*iddhi*).

**Nun:** Ordained by both communities.

**Exhorts:** One exhorts with the eight rules of respect or with another teaching: a Pācittiya offense.

Perceiving it as disappeared when it has disappeared, one exhorts: a Pācittiya offense.

In doubt when it has disappeared, one exhorts: a Pācittiya offense.

Perceiving it as not disappeared when it has disappeared, one exhorts: a Pācittiya offense.

One exhorts a one-side-ordained [nun]: a Dukkaṭa offense.

Perceiving it as disappeared when it has not disappeared, one exhorts: a Dukkaṭa offense.

In doubt when it has not disappeared: a Dukkaṭa offense.

Perceiving it as not disappeared when it has not disappeared: non-offense.

**Non-offense[s]:** Giving an explanation; giving a line of questioning; being told “Expound, Sir,” one expounds; one asks a question; when asked a question, one speaks; when speaking for the sake of another, nuns hear; to a female trainee; to a female novice; for one who is crazy; for the first offender.