

0.1 Bhaddali (Excerpt)

1. Thus was heard by me. At one time the Auspicious One was dwelling in Sāvattthi at Jeta's Grove, Anathapindika's Park. There, the Auspicious One did address the bhikkhus: O bhikkhus, I only ever eat a meal in one-sitting. But I, O bhikkhus, eating a meal in one-sitting, do perceive that little affliction and that little illness, a lightness and strength and a comfortable abiding. "Come you, O bhikkhus, you too must eat a meal only in one-sitting. You too, O bhikkhus, eating a meal in one-sitting, you will nevertheless perceive that little affliction and that little illness, a lightness and strength and a comfortable abiding."

2. When thus was said, the venerable Bhaddali said this to the Auspicious One: "I, O Bhante, cannot endeavor to eat a meal in one-sitting. Indeed Bhante, there might be worry in me from eating a meal in one-sitting, there might be regret." "Well now Bhaddali, the place at which you are invited [for alms], in that place, having eaten one portion, having also taken out one portion, [you] may eat. Thus eating too, you bhaddāli, do keep [yourself] going." "Even so too, I, O Bhante, cannot endeavor to eat a meal in one-sitting. Indeed Bhante, there might be worry in me from eating a meal in one-sitting, there might be regret. So when the training rule was being made known by the Auspicious One, when the bhikkhu Sangha was upholding the training, the venerable Bhaddali declared

his lack of endurance for undertaking the training. So then, the venerable Bhaddali, for all that three months, did not present [himself] face to face to the Auspicious One, as happens for one who does not fulfill the training in the Teacher's dispensation.

3. At that time, many bhikkhus were engaged in robe making for the Auspicious One, [with the expectation:] "With the passing away of three months, the Auspicious One will set out wondering when the robe is finished." So then, by which [way led to] those bhikkhus, by that way the venerable Bhaddali approached. Having approached, he exchanged friendly greetings with those bhikkhus. Having exchange greetings of friendliness and courtesy, he sat down to one side. Having sat down to one side, those bhikkhus ever said this to the venerable Bhaddali. "This robe making [here] friend Bhaddali, is being done for the Auspicious One [with the expectation:] "With the passing away of three months, the Auspicious One will set out wondering when the robe is finished." "Come now friend Bhaddali, pay good attention to this advice. Let it not come to be even more difficult for you afterwards."

4. "Yes friends." The venerable Bhaddali having replied to those bhikkhus, by which [way led to] the Auspicious One, by that way he approached. Having approached the Auspicious One, having bowed down, he sat down to one side. Having sat down to one side, the venerable Bhaddali ever said this to the Auspicious One. A transgression

overcame me, O Bhante, in that being so foolish, so deluded, so unskillful, when the training rule was being made known by the Auspicious One, when the bhikkhu Sangha was upholding the training, I declared my lack of endurance for undertaking the training. Bhante, may the Auspicious One forgive my transgression seen as transgression for the sake of future restraint.

5. Certainly, a transgression overcame you Bhaddali, in that being so foolish, so deluded, so unskillful, when the training rule was being made known by me, when the bhikkhu Sangha was upholding the training, you declared your lack of endurance for undertaking the training.

6. On that occasion, O Bhaddali, this was not comprehended by you: “The Auspicious One dwells in [this] very Sāvatti. The Auspicious One will know me [thus:] indeed the bhikkhu Bhaddali, is one who does not fulfill the training in the Teacher’s dispensation.” On that occasion, O Bhaddali, this was not comprehended by you.

7. On that occasion, O Bhaddali, this too was not comprehended by you: “Many bhikkhus have come to [this] very Sāvatti for the rains. Those too will know me [thus:] the bhikkhu named Bhaddali, is one who does not fulfill the training in the Teacher’s dispensation.” On that occasion, O Bhaddali, this too was not comprehended by you.

8. On that occasion, O Bhaddali, this too was not comprehended by you: “Many bhikkhunis have come to [this] very Sāvatti for the rains. Those too will know me [thus:] the bhikkhu named Bhaddali, is one who does not fulfill the training in the Teacher’s dispensation.” On that occasion, O Bhaddali, this too was not comprehended by you.

9. On that occasion, O Bhaddali, this too was not comprehended by you: “Many male lay disciples dwell in [this] very Sāvatti. Those too will know me [thus:] the bhikkhu named Bhaddali, is one who does not fulfill the training in the Teacher’s dispensation.” On that occasion, O Bhaddali, this too was not comprehended by you.

10. On that occasion, O Bhaddali, this too was not comprehended by you: “Many female lay disciples dwell in [this] very Sāvatti. Those too will know me [thus:] the bhikkhu named Bhaddali, is one who does not fulfill the training in the Teacher’s dispensation.” On that occasion, O Bhaddali, this too was not comprehended by you.

11. On that occasion, O Bhaddali, this too was not comprehended by you: “Many ascetics and brāhmins of various sects have come to [this] very Sāvatti for the rains. Those too will know me [thus:] a certain elder bhikkhu named Bhaddali, a disciple of the ascetic Gotama, is one who does not fulfill the training.” On that occasion, O Bhaddali, this too was not comprehended by you.

12. A transgression overcame me, O Bhante, in that being so foolish, so deluded, so unskillful, when the training rule was being made known by the Auspicious One, when the bhikkhu Sangha was upholding the training, I declared my lack of endurance for undertaking the training. Bhante, may the Auspicious One forgive my transgression seen as transgression for the sake of future restraint. Certainly, a transgression overcame you Bhaddali, in that being so foolish, so deluded, so unskillful, when the training rule was being made known by me, when the bhikkhu Sangha was upholding the training, you declared your lack of endurance for undertaking the training.

13. So what do you think Bhaddali? [Suppose] here that I might say of a both ends liberated bhikkhu thus: “come you bhikkhu, be a bridge in the mud for me.” Would he cross over [the mud himself] or would he turn his body another [way], or would he say “no.” Certainly not Bhante. So what do you think Bhaddali? [Suppose] here that I might say of a wisdom liberated bhikkhu thus: “come you bhikkhu, be a bridge in the mud for me.” Would he cross over [the mud himself] or would he turn his body another [way], or would he say “no.” Certainly not Bhante. So what do you think Bhaddali? [Suppose] here that I might say of a body witness bhikkhu thus: “come you bhikkhu, be a bridge in the mud for me.” Would he cross over [the mud himself] or would he turn his body another [way], or would he say “no.” Certainly

not Bhante. So what do you think Bhaddali? [Suppose] here that I might say of a view attainer bhikkhu thus: “come you bhikkhu, be a bridge in the mud for me.” Would he cross over [the mud himself] or would he turn his body another [way], or would he say “no.” Certainly not Bhante. So what do you think Bhaddali? [Suppose] here that I might say of a faith liberated bhikkhu thus: “come you bhikkhu, be a bridge in the mud for me.” Would he cross over [the mud himself] or would he turn his body another [way], or would he say “no.” Certainly not Bhante. So what do you think Bhaddali? [Suppose] here that I might say of a dhamma follower bhikkhu thus: “come you bhikkhu, be a bridge in the mud for me.” Would he cross over [the mud himself] or would he turn his body another [way], or would he say “no.” Certainly not Bhante. So what do you think Bhaddali? [Suppose] here that I might say of a faith follower bhikkhu thus: “come you bhikkhu, be a bridge in the mud for me.” Would he cross over [the mud himself] or would he turn his body another [way], or would he say “no.” Certainly not Bhante. So what do you think Bhaddali? “Were you then, O Bhaddali, on that occasion, both ends liberated and wisdom liberated, or a body witness, or view attainer, or faith liberated, or dhamma follower and faith follower?”). Certainly not Bhante. “Were you not, O Bhaddali, on that occasion empty, barren, and at fault?” Yes Bhante. A transgression overcame me, O Bhante, in that being so foolish, so deluded, so unskillful, when the training rule was being made known by the Auspicious One, when the bhikkhu Sangha was uphold-

ing the training, I declared my lack of endurance for undertaking the training. Bhante, may the Auspicious One forgive my transgression seen as transgression for the sake of future restraint.

14. Certainly, a transgression overcame you Bhaddali, in that being so foolish, so deluded, so unskillful, when the training rule was being made known by me, when the bhikkhu Sangha was upholding the training, you declared your lack of endurance for undertaking the training. But since you, O Bhaddali, having seen your transgression as transgression, make amends in accordance with the Dhamma for the sake of future restraint, we forgive you. For this is growth indeed, O Bhaddali, in the Noble Ones' discipline when, having seen one's transgression as transgression, one makes amends for the sake of future restraint.

15. Here, O Bhaddali, a certain bhikkhu is one who does not fulfill the training in the Teacher's dispensation. It occurs to him thus: What if I were to resort to secluded lodging, a wilderness, a root of a tree, a mountain glen, a hillside cave, a charnel ground, a lonely spot in the forest, the open air, a heap of straw. Perhaps I might realize a beyond-human dhamma, a distinction in knowledge and vision worthy of the Noble Ones. He resorts to a secluded lodging, a wilderness, a root of a tree, a mountain glen, a hillside cave, a charnel ground, a lonely spot in the forest, the open air, a heap of straw. Of him dwelling

thus withdrawn, the Teacher censures [him]. Having found out, his wise companions in the life of purity also censor [him]. The devas too censor [him]. He himself too censures himself. He being censored by the Teacher, also censored by his wise fellows in the life of purity having found out, also censored from the devas, also self-censored by he himself, he does not realize a beyond-human dhamma, a distinction in knowledge and vision worthy of the Noble Ones. What is the reason for that? This is just so indeed, O Bhaddali, as happens of one who does not fulfill the training in the Teacher's dispensation.

16. Here, O Bhaddali, a certain bhikkhu is one who fulfills the training in the Teacher's dispensation. It occurs to him thus: What if I were to resort to secluded lodging, a wilderness, a root of a tree, a mountain glen, a hillside cave, a charnel ground, a lonely spot in the forest, the open air, a heap of straw. Perhaps I might realize a beyond-human dhamma, a distinction in knowledge and vision worthy of the Noble Ones. He resorts to a secluded lodging, a wilderness, a root of a tree, a mountain glen, a hillside cave, a charnel ground, a lonely spot in the forest, the open air, a heap of straw. Of him dwelling thus withdrawn, the Teacher does not censor [him]. Having found out, his wise companions in the life of purity also do not censor [him]. The devas too do not censor [him]. He himself too does not censor himself. He not being censored by the Teacher, also not censored by his wise fellows in the life of purity having

found out, also not censored from the devas, also not self-censored by himself, he realizes a beyond-human dhamma, a distinction in knowledge and vision worthy of the Noble Ones. What is the reason for that? This is just so indeed, O Bhaddali, as happens of one who fulfills the training in the Teacher's dispensation.

17. "Quite secluded from sense-desires, secluded from unwholesome dhammas, he enters and dwells in the first jhana, which is with thinking and pondering, with rapture and pleasure born of seclusion. What is the reason for that? This is just so indeed, O Bhaddali, as happens of one who fulfills the training in the Teacher's dispensation.

18. Furthermore, O Bhaddali, with the subsiding of thinking and pondering, by gaining inner tranquility and oneness of mind, he enters upon and dwells in the second jhana, which is without thinking and pondering, with rapture and pleasure born of samadhi. What is the reason for that? This is just so indeed, O Bhaddali, as happens of one who fulfills the training in the Teacher's dispensation.

19. Furthermore, O Bhaddali, with detachment from rapture, dwelling equanimous, mindful and clearly comprehending, still experiencing in himself that pleasure of which the Noble Ones say: "He is an equanimous one, a mindful one, one who dwells in pleasure," he enters upon

and dwells in the third jhana. What is the reason for that? This is just so indeed, O Bhaddali, as happens of one who fulfills the training in the Teacher's dispensation.

20. Furthermore, O Bhaddāli, having given up [physical] pleasure and pain, and with the disappearance of former mental pleasure and mental pain, he enters upon and dwells in the fourth jhana, which is beyond pleasure and pain, with utter purity of mindfulness and equanimity. What is the reason for that? This is just so indeed, O Bhaddali, as happens of one who fulfills the training in the Teacher's dispensation.

21. When his samadhi is thus purified, cleansed, unblemished, devoid of defilements, malleable, workable, steady, and attained to imperturbability, he directs it to knowledge of the recollection of past abodes. He recollects his manifold past abodes, that is, one birth, two births, three births, four births, five births, ten births, twenty births, thirty births, forty births, fifty births, a hundred births, a thousand births, a hundred thousand births, many aeons of world-contraction, many aeons of world expansion, many aeons of world-contraction and expansion thus: "There I was so named, of such a clan, with such an appearance, such was my nutriment, such my experience of pleasure and pain, such my life span; and passing away from there, I re-appeared elsewhere; and there too I was so named, of such a clan, with such an appearance, such was my nutriment, such my

experience of pleasure and pain, such my life span; and passing away from there, I re-appeared here.” Thus with their aspects and particulars he recollects his manifold past abodes. What is the reason for that? This is just so indeed, O Bhaddali, as happens of one who fulfills the training in the Teacher’s dispensation.

22. When his samadhi is thus purified, cleansed, unblemished, devoid of defilements, malleable, workable, steady, and attained to imperturbability, he directs it to knowledge of the passing away and reappearance of beings. With the divine eye, which is purified and surpasses the human, he sees beings passing away and reappearing, inferior and superior, beautiful and ugly, fortunate and unfortunate. He understands how beings pass on according to their actions thus: “These worthy beings who were ill-conducted in body, speech, and mind, revilers of Noble Ones, wrong in their views, giving effect to wrong view in their actions, on the dissolution of the body, after death, have reappeared in a state of deprivation, in a bad destination, in perdition, even in hell; but these worthy beings who were well-conducted in body, speech, and mind, not revilers of Noble Ones, right in their views, giving effect to right view in their actions, on the dissolution of the body, after death, have reappeared in a good destination, even in the heavenly world.” Thus with the divine eye, which is purified and surpasses the human, he sees beings passing away and reappearing, inferior and superior, beautiful and ugly, fortunate and unfortu-

nate, and he understands how beings pass on according to their actions. What is the reason for that? This is just so indeed, O Bhaddali, as happens of one who fulfills the training in the Teacher's dispensation.

23. When his samadhi is thus purified, cleansed, unblemished, devoid of defilements, malleable, workable, steady, and attained to imperturbability, he directs it to knowledge of the destruction of the asavas. He understands as it has come to be: "This is suffering"; he understands as it has come to be: "This is the origin of suffering"; he understands as it has come to be: "This is the cessation of suffering"; he understands as it has come to be: "This is the way leading to the cessation of suffering." He understands as it has come to be: "These are the asavas"; he understands as it has come to be: "This is the origin of the asavas"; he understands as it has come to be: "This is the cessation of the asavas"; he understands as it has come to be: "This is the way leading to the cessation of the asavas." When he knows and sees thus, his mind is liberated from the asava of sensual desire, from the asava of being, and from the asava of ignorance. When it is liberated there comes the knowledge: "It is liberated." He understands: "Birth is destroyed, the holy life has been lived, what had to be done has been done, there is no other for thusness." What is the reason for that? This is just so indeed, O Bhaddali, as happens of one who fulfills the training in the Teacher's dispensation."