

0.0.1 Upali

1. Thus was heard by me. At one time the Auspicious One was dwelling at Nalanda, in the Pavarika Mango Grove. At that time, Nigantha Nataputta lived at Nalanda with a large assembly of Niganthas. It so happened that Dighatapassi, the Nigantha, having wandered in Nalanda for alms food, after his meal, having gone back after alms gathering, stopped by the Pavarika Mango Grove. Upon arrival, he exchanged friendly greetings with the Auspicious One. Having exchanged friendly greetings and cordial talk, he stood to one side. [While] standing to one side, the Auspicious One said this to Dighatapassi, the Nigantha: “There are seats, Tapassi. Sit down if you wish.” When thus was said, Dighatapassi, the Nigantha, having grabbed a certain lower seat, sat down to one side. Having sat down to one side, the Auspicious One said this to Dighatapassi, the Nigantha:

2. “But Tapassi, how many actions does Nigantha Nataputta declare for the performance of evil kamma, for the activation of evil kamma?” Friend Gotama, it is not the practice of Nigantha Nataputta to declare “action, action.” Friend Gotama, it is the practice of Nigantha Nataputta to declare “cane, cane.” “But Tapassi, how many canes does Nigantha Nataputta declare for the performance of evil kamma, for the activation of evil kamma?” Friend Gotama, Nigantha Nataputta declares three canes for the performance of evil kamma, for the activation of evil kamma. Namely: bodily cane, verbal cane, mental

cane.” “But Tapassi, is the bodily cane one, the verbal cane another, and the mental cane yet another?” “Friend Gotama, the bodily cane is one, the verbal cane is another, and the mental cane is yet another.”

3. But Tapassi, of these three canes thus defined, thus distinguished, which cane does Nigantha Nataputta declare to be the most blameworthy for the performance of evil kamma, for the activation of evil kamma, whether the bodily cane, the verbal cane, or the mental cane?” “Friend Gotama, of these three canes thus defined, thus distinguished, Nigantha Nataputta declares the bodily cane to be the most blameworthy for the performance of evil kamma, for the activation of evil kamma, not so the verbal cane, not so the mental cane.” “Do you say “bodily cane,” Tapassi? I say “bodily cane,” friend Gotama. Do you say “bodily cane,” Tapassi? I say “bodily cane,” friend Gotama. Do you say “bodily cane,” Tapassi? I say “bodily cane,” friend Gotama.” Thus indeed the Auspicious One cause Dighatapassi, the Nigantha to establish this point of dispute as far as the third time.

4. When thus was said, Dighatapassi, the Nigantha, said this to the Auspicious One: “But you, friend Gotama, how many canes do you declare for the performance of evil kamma, for the activation of evil kamma?” O Tapassi, it is not the practice of the Tathagata to declare “cane, cane.” Tapassi, it is the practice of the Tathagata to declare “action, action.” “But you, friend Gotama, how

many actions do you declare for the performance of evil kamma, for the activation of evil kamma?" I, O Tapassi, declare three actions for the performance of evil kamma, for the activation of evil kamma. Namely: bodily action, verbal action, mental action." "But friend Gotama, is the bodily action one, the verbal action another, and the mental action yet another?" "Tapassi, the bodily action is one, the verbal action is another, and the mental action is yet another."

5. But friend Gotama, of these three actions thus defined, thus distinguished, which action do you declare to be the most blameworthy for the performance of evil kamma, for the activation of evil kamma, whether the bodily action, the verbal action, or the mental action?" "Tapassi, of these three actions thus defined, thus distinguished, I declare the mental action to be the most blameworthy for the performance of evil kamma, for the activation of evil kamma, not so the bodily action, not so the verbal action." "Do you say "mental action," friend Gotama? I say "mental action," O Tapassi. Do you say "mental action," friend Gotama? I say "mental action," O Tapassi. Do you say "mental action," friend Gotama? I say "mental action," O Tapassi." Thus indeed Dighatapassi, the Nigantha, having caused the Auspicious One to establish this point of dispute as far as the third time, having risen up from his seat, he visited with the Nigantha Nataputta.

6. At that time, Nigantha Nataputta was seated with a large assembly of lay people consisting of fools, headed by Upali. Nigantha Nataputta saw Dighatapassi, the Nigantha from afar approaching. Having seen, he said this to Dighatapassi, the Nigantha: “Well Tapassi, where are you coming from, in the middle of the day?” “Indeed I, O Bhante, am coming from the presence of the samana Gotama.” But Tapassi, for you was there also some conversation with the samana Gotama? For me O Bhante, there was also some conversation with the samana Gotama. But for you, Tapassi, in which way was there also some conversation with the samana Gotama? Then Dighatapassi, the Nigantha, reported to Nigantha Nataputta the extent of all the friendly conversation he had with the Auspicious One. When thus was said, Nigantha Nataputta said this to Dighatapassi, the Nigantha: “Good, good Tapassi. Just as happens from a learned disciple who rightly understands the Teacher’s dispensation, just so has Dighatapassi, the Nigantha answered to the samana Gotama. [For] how indeed, can this low mental cane shine thus in comparison with the gross bodily cane. Rather, the bodily cane is the most blameworthy for the performance of evil kamma, for the activation of evil kamma, not so the verbal cane, not so the mental cane.”

7. When thus was said, Upali, the head of household, said this to Nigantha Nataputta: “Good, good, [for] the venerable Tapassi. Just as happens from a learned disciple who rightly understands the Teacher’s dispensation,

just so has the venerable Tapassi answered to the samana Gotama. [For] how indeed, can this low mental cane shine thus, in comparison with the gross bodily cane. Rather, the bodily cane is the most blameworthy for the performance of evil kamma, for the activation of evil kamma, not so the verbal cane, not so the mental cane. Well now, O Bhante, I must go. I will refute the samana Gotama's doctrine on this point of dispute. If the samana Gotama will establish it for me thus, as established with the venerable Tapassi, [then] just as a strong man, having seized a long haired wild goat by the hair, might drag it forward, might drag it about, might drag it this way and that way, in the same way, statement by statement, I will drag the samana Gotama forward, I will drag him about, I will drag him this way and that way. Just as a strong brewer, having placed a large distilling basket in a deep pond, might drag it forward, might drag it about, might drag it this way and that way, in the same way, statement by statement, I will drag the samana Gotama forward, I will drag him about, I will drag him this way and that way. Just as a strong brewer's mixer, having grasped a sieve, might toss it, might shake it, might throw it about, in the same way, statement by statement, I will toss the samana Gotama, I will shake him, I will throw him about. Just as an elephant, sixty years old, having plunged into a deep lotus pond, might play the game called hemp-washing, in the same way, I think I will play the game of hemp-washing with the samana Gotama. Well now, I, O Bhante, will go to refute the samana Gotama's doctrine on this point of dispute." "Go

you, head of household, refute the samana Gotama's doctrine on this point of dispute. Indeed, head of household, either I would refute the samana Gotama's doctrine, or Dighatapassi, the Nigantha, or you."

8. When thus was said, Dighatapassi, the Nigantha said this to Nigantha Nataputta: "This is not pleasing to me, O Bhante, that Upali, the head of household, would refute the samana Gotama's doctrine. Indeed, O Bhante, the samana Gotama is a magician. He knows a converting magic, with which he converts the disciples of other standpoints." "This is impossible, O Tapassi, there is no chance, in that Upali, the head of household, might undertake discipleship [under] the samana Gotama. But this possibility is to be found in that the samana Gotama might undertake discipleship under Upali, the head of household. Go you, head of household, refute the samana Gotama's doctrine on this point of dispute. Indeed, head of household, either I would refute the samana Gotama's doctrine, or Dighatapassi, the Nigantha, or you." Also for a second time, Dighatapassi, the Nigantha said this to Nigantha Nataputta: "This is not pleasing to me, O Bhante, that Upali, the head of household, would refute the samana Gotama's doctrine. Indeed, O Bhante, the samana Gotama is a magician. He knows a converting magic, with which he converts the disciples of other standpoints." "This is impossible, O Tapassi, there is no chance, in that Upali, the head of household, might undertake discipleship [under] the samana Gotama. But

this possibility is to be found in that the samana Gotama might undertake discipleship under Upali, the head of household. Go you, head of household, refute the samana Gotama's doctrine on this point of dispute. Indeed, head of household, either I would refute the samana Gotama's doctrine, or Dighatapassi, the Nigantha, or you." Also for a third time, Dighatapassi, the Nigantha said this to Nigantha Nataputta: "This is not pleasing to me, O Bhante, that Upali, the head of household, would refute the samana Gotama's doctrine. Indeed, O Bhante, the samana Gotama is a magician. He knows a converting magic, with which he converts the disciples of other standpoints." "This is impossible, O Tapassi, there is no chance, in that Upali, the head of household, might undertake discipleship [under] the samana Gotama. But this possibility is to be found in that the samana Gotama might undertake discipleship under Upali, the head of household. Go you, head of household, refute the samana Gotama's doctrine on this point of dispute. Indeed, head of household, either I would refute the samana Gotama's doctrine, or Dighatapassi, the Nigantha, or you."

9. "Yes, Bhante," Upali, the head of household, having replied to Nigantha Nataputta, having risen up from his seat, having bowed down, having circumambulated Nigantha Nataputta, he stopped by the Pavarika Mango Grove. Upon arrival, he bowed down to the Auspicious One and sat down to one side. Having sat down to one side, Upali, the head of household said this to the Auspi-

cious One: “Bhante, did Dighatapassi, the Nigantha come here?” “Head of household, Dighatapassi, the Nigantha did come here?” But Bhante, for you was there also some conversation with Dighatapassi, the Nigantha? For me O head of household, there was also some conversation with the Dighatappasi, the Nigantha. But for you, Bhante, in which way was there also some conversation with the Dighatappasi, the Nigantha? Then the Auspicious One reported to Upali, the head of household, the extent of all the friendly conversation he had with Dighatapassi, the Nigantha.

10. When thus was said, Upali, the head of household said this to Dighatapassi, the nigaṇṭha: “Good, good, [for] Tapassi. Just as happens from a learned disciple who rightly understands the Teacher’s dispensation, just so has Dighatapassi, the Nigantha answered to the Auspicious One. [For] how indeed, can this low mental cane shine thus, in comparison with the gross bodily cane. Rather, the bodily cane is the most blameworthy for the performance of evil kamma, for the activation of evil kamma, not so the verbal cane, not so the mental cane.” “If you, head of household, would discuss based on truth, there might be a conversation for us here. I, O Bhante, will discuss based on truth, [so] let there be a conversation for us here.”

11. “So what do you think, O head of household? Here, a Nigantha is afflicted, in pain, severely ill, a refuser of

cold water, one committed to [the practice of accepting only] hot water. He, not obtaining cold water, would die. Now, head of household, where does Nigantha Nataputta declare for his rebirth?" "There are, O Bhante, devas named mental beings, he is reborn in that place. What is the reason for that? Because, O Bhante, he was bound up with mind when he died." Head of household! Head of household! Having paid attention, [only then] answer. Head of household! Your later [statement] does not agree with your former [statement], nor does your former [statement agree with] your later [statement]. Yet head of household, this statement was made by you, "I, O Bhante, will discuss based on truth, [so] let there be a conversation for us here." However much, O Bhante, the Auspicious One has said thus, rather, the bodily cane is the most blameworthy for the performance of evil kamma, for the activation of evil kamma, not so the verbal cane, not so the mental cane."

12. "So what do you think, O head of household? Here, a Nigantha is restrained by the restraint of the fourfold restraint, one restrained by all restraints, one devoted to all restraints, one who shakes off by all restraint, one pervaded by all restraint. [While] going forward and going backwards, he brings destruction to many tiny living beings. Now for this, O head of household, what does Nigantha Nataputta declare for the results [of kamma]?" "Nigantha Nataputta, O Bhante, does not declare the unintentional to be very blameworthy." "But, O head of

household, what if it is intentional?” “It is very blame-worthy, O Bhante.” “But, O head of household, rooted in what, does Nigantha Nataputta declare for intention?” “In the mental cane, O Bhante.” “Head of household! Head of household! Having paid attention, [only then] answer. Head of household! Your later [statement] does not agree with your former [statement], nor does your former [statement agree with] your later [statement]. Yet head of household, this statement was made by you, “I, O Bhante, will discuss based on truth, [so] let there be a conversation for us here.” However much, O Bhante, the Auspicious One has said thus, rather, the bodily cane is the most blameworthy for the performance of evil kamma, for the activation of evil kamma, not so the verbal cane, not so the mental cane.”

13. “So what do you think, O head of household, is this Nalanda simply successful and prosperous and has many people, crowded with humans?” “Yes, Bhante. This Nalanda is simply successful and prosperous and has many people, crowded with humans?” “So what do you think, O head of household? Here, a man might come with a drawn sword. He might say thus: “As far as this Nalanda [extends], by one moment, by one instant, I will make those living beings [in it] one mash of flesh, one heap of flesh.” “What do you think about that, O head of household? Is the man able to make those living beings into one mash of flesh, one heap of flesh by one moment, by one instant, as far as this Nalanda [extends]?” “Even

ten men, O Bhante, even twenty men, even thirty men, even forty men, even fifty men are not sufficient to make those living beings into one mash of flesh, one heap of flesh by one moment, by one instant, as far as this Nalanda [extends]. How indeed, can one low man shine?”

14. “So what do you think, O head of household? Here, a samana or brahmana might come endowed with superhuman powers, one attained to mastery of mind. He might say thus: “I will make this Nalanda into ashes with one mental act of hate.” What do you think about that, O head of household? Is the samana or brahmana endowed with superhuman powers, one attained to mastery of mind, able to make this Nalanda into ashes by one mental act of hate?” “Even ten Nalandas, O Bhante, even twenty Nalandas, even thirty Nalandas, even forty Nalandas, even fifty Nalandas, a samana or brahmana endowed with superhuman powers, one attained to mastery of mind, can make into ashes with one mental act of hate. How indeed, can one low Nalanda shine?” “Head of household! Head of household! Having paid attention, [only then] answer. Head of household! Your later [statement] does not agree with your former [statement], nor does your former [statement agree with] your later [statement]. Yet head of household, this statement was made by you, “I, O Bhante, will discuss based on truth, [so] let there be a conversation for us here.” However much, O Bhante, the Auspicious One has said thus, rather,

the bodily cane is the most blameworthy for the performance of evil kamma, for the activation of evil kamma, not so the verbal cane, not so the mental cane.”

15. “So what do you think, O head of household? Have you heard [of how] the Dandaka forest, the Kalinga forest, the Mejjha forest, the Matanga forest, came to be forests?” Yes, Bhante. I have heard [of how] the Dandaka forest, the Kalinga forest, the Mejjha forest, the Matanga forest, came to be forests?” “So what do you think, O head of household? How precisely have you heard [of how] the Dandaka forest, the Kalinga forest, the Mejjha forest, the Matanga forest, came to be forests?” I have heard, O Bhante, that the Dandaka forest, the Kalinga forest, the Mejjha forest, the Matanga forest, came to be forests by the seers’ mental act of hate.” “Head of household! Head of household! Having paid attention, [only then] answer. Head of household! Your later [statement] does not agree with your former [statement], nor does your former [statement agree with] your later [statement]. Yet head of household, this statement was made by you, “I, O Bhante, will discuss based on truth, [so] let there be a conversation for us here.”

16. “O Bhante, I was even contented and satisfied with the Auspicious One’s first simile, but wishing to hear the Auspicious One’s manifold readiness of speech on the question, I thought [I] just ought to oppose the Auspicious One. Excellent! O Bhante. Excellent! O Bhante.

Just as, O Bhante, one might set upright what has been overturned, or open up what has been closed, or show a path to one who is lost, or bear an oil lamp in the darkness so that those with good eyesight can see forms, just so has the Dhamma been explained by the Auspicious One in countless ways. I go, O Bhante, to the Auspicious One, as refuge, and to the Dhamma, and to the Sangha of bhikkhus. May the Auspicious One bear it in mind, that I am a lay disciple who has gone for refuge from today, for as long as life lasts.”

17. “Act through investigation, O head of household, It is good for well-known men of your kind to act through investigation.” “In this way, I, O Bhante, am even more contented and satisfied of the Auspicious One, in that the Auspicious One has said to me thus: “Act through investigation, O head of household, It is good for well-known men of your kind to act through investigation.” Indeed, O Bhante, followers of other standpoints, having gained me as a disciple, might carry about a banner in almost the whole of Nalanda: “Upali, head of household, has become a disciple of ours!” So now for the second time, I go, O Bhante, to the Auspicious One, as refuge, and to the Dhamma, and to the Sangha of bhikkhus. May the Auspicious One bear it in mind, that I am a lay disciple who has gone for refuge from today, for as long as life lasts.”

18. “For a long time, for you O head of household, your family has become a welling spring for the Niganthas. Having approached for alms food, may you think them fit to be given to.” “In this way, I, O Bhante, am even more contented and satisfied of the Auspicious One, in that the Auspicious One has said to me thus: “For a long time, for you O head of household, your family has become a welling spring for the Nigaṇṭhas. Having approached for alms food, may you think them fit to be given to.” This was heard by me, O Bhante. The samana Gotama has said thus: Gift is fit to be given only for me. Gift is not fit to be given for others. Gift is fit to be given only for my disciples. Gift is not fit to be given for others disciples. Only gifts given for me bear great fruits. Gifts given for others do not bear great fruits. Only gifts given for my disciples bear great fruits. Gifts given for others disciples do not bear great fruits.” Yet now, the Auspicious One instigates for me to offer gifts to the Niganthas too. Nevertheless, O Bhante, we will know the time here. So now for the third time, I go, O Bhante, to the Auspicious One, as refuge, and to the Dhamma, and to the Sangha of bhikkhus. May the Auspicious One bear it in mind, that I am a lay disciple who has gone for refuge from today, for as long as life lasts.”

19. Then for Upali, head of household, the Auspicious One taught a graduated discourse. That is, talk on generosity, talk on virtue, talk on heaven, explaining the danger, degradation and defilements of sense desires,

and the advantages of renunciation. When the Auspicious One knew that Upali, head of household's mind was ready, pliable, free from the hindrances, joyful, confident, he revealed in brief the teaching on Dhamma unique to the Buddhas: suffering, origination, cessation, path. And just as a clean cloth from which all stains have been removed, receives the dye perfectly, just so for Upali, head of household, as he sat there, there arose the pure and spotless Dhamma-eye: "Whatever is liable to origination, all that is liable to cessation." Then Upali, head of household, having seen the Dhamma, reached the Dhamma, known the Dhamma, plunged into the Dhamma, having crossed over doubt, being without uncertainty, having attained self-confidence, having become independent of others in the Teacher's dispensation, said this to the Auspicious One: "Well now, O Bhante, we must go, as we have much duties, much to do." "Now is the time, O head of household, for you to do as you think fit."

20. Then Upali, head of household, having delighted and rejoiced in the Auspicious One's words, having risen up from his seat, having bowed down, having circumambulated the Auspicious One, went to his house. Upon arrival, he address the gate keeper: From this day forth, good gate keeper, I shut my door to the Niganthas and Niganthis. I open my door to the Auspicious One's bhikkhus, bhikkhunis, male lay disciples and female lay disciples. If any Nigantha comes, you may say thus to him: "Stay Bhante, do not enter. From this day forth, Upali, head

of household, has become the disciple of the samana Gotama. He shuts his door to the Niganthas and Niganthis. He opens his door to the Auspicious One's bhikkhus, bhikkhunis, male lay disciples and female lay disciples. If you are one [wishing] to gain alms food, O Bhante, just stand here. They will bring it for you just here." Yes, Bhante," the gatekeeper replied to Upali, head of household.

21. Dighatapassi, the Nigantha heard, apparently, Upali, head of household, has become the disciple of the samana Gotama. So then, Dighatapassi, the Nigantha went to Nigantha Nataputta. Upon arrival, he said this to Nigantha Nataputta: "This was heard by me, O Bhante. They say Upali, head of household, has become the disciple of the samana Gotama." "This is impossible, O Tapassi, there is no chance, in that Upali, the head of household, might undertake discipleship [under] the samana Gotama. But this possibility is to be found in that the samana Gotama might undertake discipleship under Upali, the head of household." Also for a second time, Dighatapassi, the Nigantha, said this to Nigantha Nataputta: "This was heard by me, O Bhante. They say Upali, head of household, has become the disciple of the samana Gotama." "This is impossible, O Tapassi, there is no chance, in that Upali, the head of household, might undertake discipleship [under] the samana Gotama. But this possibility is to be found in that the samana Gotama might undertake discipleship under Upali, the head of household." Also for a third

time, Dighatapassi, the Nigantha, said this to Nigantha Nataputta: “This was heard by me, O Bhante. They say Upali, head of household, has become the disciple of the samana Gotama.” “This is impossible, O Tapassi, there is no chance, in that Upali, the head of household, might undertake discipleship [under] the samana Gotama. But this possibility is to be found in that the samana Gotama might undertake discipleship under Upali, the head of household.” “Well now, O Bhante, I must go. I must find out to what extent [this is true], whether Upali, head of household, has become a disciple of the samana Gotama or not.” “Go you Tapassi. Find out whether Upali, head of household, has become a disciple of the samana Gotama or not.”

22. Then Dighatapassi, the Nigantha stopped by Upali, head of household’s house. The gatekeeper saw Dighatapassi, the Nigantha approaching from afar. Having seen, he said this to Dighatapassi, the Nigantha. “Stand [here] O Bhante, do not enter. From this day forth, Upali, head of household, has become the disciple of the samana Gotama. He shuts his door to the Niganthas and Niganthis. He opens his door to the Auspicious One’s bhikkhus, bhikkhunis, male lay disciples and female lay disciples. If you are one [wishing] to gain alms food, O Bhante, just stand here. They will bring it for you just here.” Having said: “I am not one [wishing] to gain alms food, O friend.” having turned back from there, he went to Nigantha Nataputta. Upon arrival, he said this to Ni-

gantha Nataputta: It is only so true, O Bhante, in that Upali, head of household, has become a disciple of the samana Gotama. Here I, O Bhante did not gain your [consent] with this [objection]: “This is not pleasing to me, O Bhante, that Upali, the head of household, would refute the samana Gotama’s doctrine. Indeed, O Bhante, the samana Gotama is a magician. He knows a converting magic, with which he converts the disciples of other standpoints.” “Upali, head of household, O Bhante, has been converted by the samana Gotama, with his converting magic.” “This is impossible, O Tapassi, there is no chance, in that Upali, the head of household, might undertake discipleship [under] the samana Gotama. But this possibility is to be found in that the samana Gotama might undertake discipleship under Upali, the head of household.” Also for a second time, Dighatapassi, the Nigantha said this to Nigantha Nataputta: It is only so true, O Bhante, in that Upali, head of household, has become a disciple of the samana Gotama. Here I, O Bhante did not gain your [consent] with this [objection]: “This is not pleasing to me, O Bhante, that Upali, the head of household, would refute the samana Gotama’s doctrine. Indeed, O Bhante, the samana Gotama is a magician. He knows a converting magic, with which he converts the disciples of other standpoints.” “Upali, head of household, O Bhante, has been converted by the samana Gotama, with his converting magic.” “This is impossible, O Tapassi, there is no chance, in that Upali, the head of household, might undertake discipleship [under] the samana Gotama. But this possibility is to be

found in that the samana Gotama might undertake discipleship under Upali, the head of household.” Also for a third time, Dighatapassi, the Nigantha said this to Nigantha Nataputta: It is only so true, O Bhante, in that Upali, head of household, has become a disciple of the samana Gotama. Here I, O Bhante did not gain your [consent] with this [objection]: “This is not pleasing to me, O Bhante, that Upali, the head of household, would refute the samana Gotama’s doctrine. Indeed, O Bhante, the samana Gotama is a magician. He knows a converting magic, with which he converts the disciples of other standpoints.” “Upali, head of household, O Bhante, has been converted by the samana Gotama, with his converting magic.” “This is impossible, O Tapassi, there is no chance, in that Upali, the head of household, might undertake discipleship [under] the samana Gotama. But this possibility is to be found in that the samana Gotama might undertake discipleship under Upali, the head of household.” Well now, O Tapassi, I must go. I must find out for myself whether Upali, head of household, has become a disciple of the samana Gotama or not.”

23. So then, Nigantha Nataputta went to Upali, head of household’s house, with a large assembly of Niganthas. The gatekeeper saw Nigantha Nataputta approaching from afar. Having seen, he said this to Nigantha Nataputta: “Stand [here] O Bhante, do not enter. From this day forth, Upali, head of household, has become the disciple of the samana Gotama. He shuts his door to

the Niganthas and Niganthis. He opens his door to the Auspicious One's bhikkhus, bhikkhunis, male lay disciples and female lay disciples. If you are one [wishing] to gain alms food, O Bhante, just stand here. They will bring it for you just here." "Well now, good gate keeper, go to Upali, head of household and say thus: "Venerable sir, Nigantha Nataputta is standing outside the door at the gatehouse with a large assembly of Niganthas. He wishes to see you." "Yes, Bhante." The gatekeeper, having replied to Nigantha Nataputta, went to Upali, head of household. Upon arrival, he said this to Upali, head of household: "Venerable sir, Nigantha Nataputta is standing outside the door at the gatehouse with a large assembly of Niganthas. He wishes to see you." Well then, good gate keeper, prepare seats in the middle door hall." "Yes, Bhante." The gatekeeper, having replied to Upali, head of household, having caused seats to be prepared in the middle door hall, went to Upali, head of household. Upon arrival, he said this to Upali, head of household: "Seats have been prepared for you in the middle door hall, O venerable sir. It is now time to do as you think fit."

24. So then, Upali, head of household went to the middle door hall. Upon arrival, having sat down on the foremost, the best, the highest, the most excellent seat in that place, he address the gate keeper: Well now good gate keeper, go to Nigantha Nataputta. Upon arrival, say thus to Nigantha Nataputta: "Bhante, Upali, head

of household, has said thus: Enter now, Bhante, if you wish.” “Yes, Bhante.” The gatekeeper, having replied to Upali, head of household, went to Nigantha Nataputta. Upon arrival, he said this to Nigantha Nataputta: “Bhante, Upali, head of household, has said thus: Enter now, Bhante, if you wish.” So then, Nigantha Nataputta went to the middle door hall with a large assembly of Niganthas. Formerly, from the time Upali, head of household, sees Nigantha Nataputta approaching from afar, having gone out to meet him from there, having dusted off the foremost, the best, the highest, the most excellent seat in that place, having grabbed it all around, offers [for him] to sit down. [But] now, having sat down on the foremost, the best, the highest, the most excellent seat in that place himself, he said this to Nigantha Nataputta: “There are seats, O Bhante, sit down if you wish.” When thus was said, Nigantha Nataputta said this to Upali, head of household: “You, O head of household, are out of your mind.” You, O head of household, are stupid.” “Having gone [saying:] O Bhante, I must go. I will refute the samana Gotama’s doctrine on this point of dispute.” you have come back fastened to the vast net of [his] doctrine. It is as if, O head of household, a castrator, having gone to [castrate] a man, might come back with his testicles removed. Moreover, it is as if, O head of household, an eye plucker, having gone to [pluck out the eyes] of a man, might come back with his eyes removed, It is just so, O head of household, having gone [saying:] O Bhante, I must go. I will refute the samana Gotama’s doctrine on this point of dispute.” you have come back

fastened to the vast net of [his] doctrine. You have been converted, O head of household, by the samana Gotama, with his converting magic.”

25. Auspicious, O Bhante, is the converting magic, excellent, O Bhante, is the converting magic. Were my dear relations to be converted by this converting magic, that will lead to the welfare and happiness of my dear relations for a long time. O Bhante, even if all Khattiyas too would be converted by this converting magic, that will be for the welfare and happiness of all Khattiyas too for a long time. O Bhante, even if all Brahmins too would be converted by this converting magic, that will be for the welfare and happiness of all Brahmins too for a long time. O Bhante, even if all Vessas too would be converted by this converting magic, that will be for the welfare and happiness of all Vessas too for a long time. O Bhante, even if all Suddas too would be converted by this converting magic, that will be for the welfare and happiness of all Suddas too for a long time. O Bhante, even if [all] the deva, mara and brahma worlds, together with the population of samanas and brahmanas, devas and humans too would be converted by this converting magic, that will be for the welfare and happiness of [all] the deva, māra and brahma worlds, together with the population of samanas and brahmanas, devas and humans too for a long time.

26. Well then, O Bhante, I will make a simile for you. Some wise men here understand the meaning of a statement by a simile. Once upon a time, O Bhante, a certain aged Brahmin, old, an old man, [had a] young maiden, a goddess of creation who came to be pregnant, nearing childbirth. Then, O Bhante, that maiden said this to that Brahmin: “Go you Brahmin, to the market and having bought a young monkey, bring it to me. It will be my child’s playmate.” When thus was said, O Bhante, the Brahmin said this to that maiden: “Dear Madam, which [gender] you give birth, that [gender of monkey] comes. If you, dear Madam, give birth to a boy, then I will buy a young male monkey from the market and bring for you to be a playmate for your child. However, if you, dear Madam, give birth to a girl, then I will buy a young female monkey from the market and bring for you to be a playmate for your child.” Also for a second time, O Bhante, that maiden said this to that Brahmin: “Go you Brahmin, to the market and having bought a young monkey, bring it to me. It will be my child’s playmate.” When thus was said, O Bhante, the Brahmin said this to that maiden: “Dear Madam, which [gender] you give birth, that [gender of monkey] comes. If you, dear Madam, give birth to a boy, then I will buy a young male monkey from the market and bring for you to be a playmate for your child. However, if you, dear Madam, give birth to a girl, then I will buy a young female monkey from the market and bring for you to be a playmate for your child.” Also for a third time, O Bhante, that maiden said this to that Brahmin: “Go you Brahmin, to the market

and having bought a young monkey, bring it to me. It will be my child's playmate." So then, O Bhante, that Brahmin being enamoured of that maiden, with his mind bound to her, having bought a young monkey from the market, having brought it, said this to the maiden: "Dear Madam, having bought this young male monkey from the market, [I] bring for you to be a playmate for your child." When thus was said, O Bhante, that maiden said this to that Brahmin: "Having taken this young monkey, go you Brahmin, to Rattapani, the dyer's son. Upon arrival, say thus to Rattapani, the dyer's son: Good Rattapani, I wish this young monkey to be dyed the color called yellow-unguent, pressed and repressed and smoothen on both sides." So then, O Bhante, that Brahmin being enamoured of that maiden, with his mind bound to her, having taken that young monkey, went to Rattapani, the dyer's son. Upon arrival, he said this to Rattapani, the dyer's son: "Good Rattapani, I wish this young monkey to be dyed the color called yellow-unguent, pressed and repressed and smoothened on both sides." When thus was said, O Bhante, Rattapani, the dyer's son, said this to the Brahmin: "This young monkey, venerable sir, can indeed withstand dyeing, [but] cannot withstand pressing and cannot withstand smoothening. It is just so, O Bhante, the doctrine of the foolish Niganthas is indeed a suitable stage for fools, [but] cannot withstand the inquiry of the wise, and cannot withstand smoothening." Then on another occasion, O Bhante, that Brahmin, having taken a suit of new garments, went to Rattapani, the dyer's son. Upon arrival, he said this to Rattapani, the dyer's son: "I

wish this suit of new garments to be dyed the color called yellow-unguent, pressed and repressed and smoothened on both sides.” When thus was said, O Bhante, Rattapani, the dyer’s son, said this to the Brahmin: “This suit of new garments, venerable sir, can indeed withstand dyeing, can withstand pressing and can withstand smoothening. It is just so, O Bhante, the doctrine of the Auspicious One, the Arahant, the rightly self-awakened One, is a suitable stage only for the wise, not for fools, and can withstand inquiry and can withstand smoothening.”

27. This assembly, O head of household, including the king, knows thus: “Upali, head of household, is a disciple of Nigantha Nataputta. Whose disciple, O head of household, should we remember you as?” When thus was said, Upali, head of household, having risen up from his seat, having arranged his outer robe on one shoulder, having joined his palms together in anjali in the direction of the Auspicious One, said this to Nigantha Nataputta: Well then, O Bhante, hear whose disciple I am:

“That one of wisdom, rid of delusion,
 broken the [city] pillar, the victorious one, the
 conqueror;
 Free from all troubles, well balanced in mind,
 matured in virtue, excellent in wisdom;
 Gone beyond the uneven, free from all stains,
 The Auspicious One is he, and I am his disciple.

That contented one, free from perplexity,
 renouncer of the world's bait, the happy one;
 The human being made a samana,
 the man who bears his final body;
 The incomparable one, the faultless one,
 The Auspicious One is he, and I am his disciple.

That skillful one free from all doubts,
 the excellent charioteer and trainer;
 Unsurpassed in beautiful qualities,
 undoubtedly he is the light maker;
 The hero who has cut off conceit,
 The Auspicious One is he, and I am his disciple.

The best of men, the one without measure,
 the profound one, the attainer of silence;
 The maker of safety, the one who has become
 knowledge,
 the righteous one inwardly restrained;
 The liberated one who has surmounted all at-
 tachments,
 The Auspicious One is he, and I am his disciple.

That Naga, the secluded one,
 having destroyed the fetters, he is liberated;
 Skilled in discussion, a wise one is he,
 with the banner lowered, he is free from lust;
 The one of tamed [mind], he is free from pa-
 panca,
 The Auspicious One is he, and I am his disciple.

The best of seers, free from deceit,
 possessed of the three knowledges, he is the
 embodiment of Brahma;
 The trainer of men, the master of discourses,
 tranquil is he, the finder of knowledge;
 the breaker of fortresses, he is ever capable,
 The Auspicious One is he, and I am his disciple.

The noble one, he is well-trained,
 having obtained the highest gain, he is the
 master of expositions;
 endowed with mindfulness, the one of clear
 vision,
 with neither an inclination nor disinclination;
 imperturbable is he, well attained to mastery,
 The Auspicious One is he, and I am his disciple.

The rightly placed one, a dweller in jhana,
 of independent mind, the purified one;
 inwardly undefiled and altogether fearless,
 abiding in solitude, attained to the highest;
 Having crossed over, he helps others to cross,
 The Auspicious One is he, and I am his disciple.

The peaceful one with extensive wisdom,
 of great wisdom, free from greed;
 He is the Tathagata, the Well-farer,
 the matchless person, one without equal;
 He is self-possessed and accomplished,
 The Auspicious One is he, and I am his disciple.

He has quenched all thirst, he is the Buddha,
 free from fumes he is unsmeared;
 worthy of offerings, a yakkha is he,
 the best of persons, unequaled in fame;
 the greatest in grandeur, attained the peak of
 glory,
 The Auspicious One is he, and I am his disci-
 ple.”

28. “But when, O head of household, were these hymns of praise to the samana Gotama composed by you?” “It is as if, O Bhante, there were a great heap of flowers, of various flowers. By that a skilled florist or florist apprentice might string together just a beautiful garland. It is just so, O Bhante, the Auspicious One has many praises, many hundreds of praises. Who indeed, O Bhante, will not praise the praiseworthy?”

29. “Then, for Nigantha not able to bear the honor of the Auspicious One, hot blood gushed from his mouth just there.”