

0.0.1 Mother's Milk

0. At Savatthi

1. This samsara is without a discoverable beginning. A first point is not discerned of beings roaming and wandering on, hindered by ignorance and fettered by thirst. So what do you think, O bhikkhus, which is more? The mother's milk that you have drunk in this long time roaming and wandering on, or the water in the four great oceans?

2. "Bhante, as we understand the Dhamma taught by the Auspicious One, just this, O Bhante, is more: The mother's milk that we have drunk in this long time roaming and wandering on, not even the water in the four great oceans."

3. Good, good, O bhikkhus, it is good, O bhikkhus, that you understand the Dhamma taught by me thus. This is just more, O bhikkhus: The mother's milk that you have drunk in this long time roaming and wandering on, not even the water in the four great oceans. What is the reason for that? [Because] this samsara is without a discoverable beginning. A first point is not discerned of beings roaming and wandering on, hindered by ignorance and fettered by thirst. This much, O bhikkhus, is just enough to be enstranged in all sankharas, enough to fade away in them, enough to be liberated in them.