0.0.1 Passing Away as Humans

- 1. It so happened that the Auspicious One, having put a small soil on the tip of his fingernail, addressed the bhikkhus: "So what do you think, O bhikkhus, which is more? This small soil put on the tip of a fingernail by me, or this great earth?"
- 2. "This, O Bhante, is clearly more, namely the great earth. This is a trifle, insignificant, this small soil the Auspicious One has put on the tip of his fingernail. In comparison with the great earth, this small soil the Auspicious One has put on the tip of his fingernail does not even count, it does not even come close to comparison, it does not even approach part of a fraction."
- 3. It is just so, O bhikkhus, few are those beings who when they pass away as human beings, take birth among human beings. Rather, simply many are those beings who when they pass away as human beings, take birth in hell. What is the reason for that? [Because of] the non-seeing-ness, O bhikkhus, of the four noble truths. Which four? The noble truth of suffering, the noble truth of the arising of suffering, the noble truth of the cessation of suffering, the noble truth of the path leading to the cessation of suffering.
- **4.** Therefore, O bhikkhus, an endeavour should be made [to realize]: "This is suffering." An endeavour should be

0.0.1manussacutisuttam

- atha kho bhagavā parittam nakhasikhāyam pamsum āropetvā bhikkhū āmantesi: "tam kim maññatha bhikkhave, katamam nu kho bahutaram, yo cāyam mayā paritto nakhasikhāyam pamsu āropito, ayam vā mahāpathavī"ti.
- 2. "etadeva bhante, bahutaram yadidam mahāpathavī. appamattakovam bhagavatā paritto nakhasikhāvam pamsu āropito, sankhampi na upeti, upanidhimpi na upeti, kalabhāgampi na upeti, mahāpathavim upanidhāya bhagavatā paritto nakhasikhāyam pamsu āropito"ti.
- evameva kho bhikkhave, appakā te sattā ye manussā¹ cutā manussesu paccājāyanti. atha kho eteva bahutarā sattā ve manussā cutā nirave paccājāvanti. tam kissa hetu? aditthattā bhikkhave, catunnam ariyasaccānam katamesam catunnam? dukkhassa ariyasaccassa dukkhasamudayassa ariyasaccassa dukkhanirodhassa ariyasaccassa dukkhanirodhagāminīpatipadāva arivasaccassa.
- tasmātiha bhikkhave, "idam dukkhanti" yogo karanīvo "avam dukkhasamudavo"ti vogo karanīvo "avam dukkhanirodho"ti yogo karanīyo "ayam dukkhanirodhagāminī paţipadā"ti yogo karanīyoti.

¹pahena-atthakathā.

made [to realize]: "This is the origination of suffering." An endeavour should be made [to realize]: "This is the cessation of suffering." An endeavour should be made [to realize]: "This is the way leading to the cessation of suffering."