

0.0.1 Living Beings

0.0.1 pāṇasuttaṃ

1. Suppose, O bhikkhus, that a man having chopped the grass, trunks, branches and leaves on this earth, would collect them into one heap. having collected them into one heap, he would make a stake. Having made stakes, he would impale those large living beings in the great ocean on the large stakes, he would impale those living beings of medium size in the great ocean on the medium-sized stakes, he would impale those small living beings in the great ocean on the small stakes, yet, O bhikkhus, the large living beings in the great ocean would not be exhausted.

seyyathāpi bhikkhave, puriso yaṃ imasmiṃ jambudīpe tiṇakaṭṭhasākḥāpalāsaṃ tacchetvā ekajjhaṃ saṃhareyya, ekajjhaṃ saṃharitvā sūlaṃ kareyya, sūlaṃ katvā ye mahāsamudde mahantakā pāṇā te mahantakesu sūlesu āvuṇeyya¹, ye mahāsamudde majjhimakā pāṇā te majjhimakesu sūlesu āvuṇeyya, ye mahāsamudde sukhumakā pāṇā te subumakesu sūlesu āvuṇeyya aparīyādinna ca bhikkhave, mahāsamudde oḷārikā pāṇā assu.

2. So from this, the grass, trunks, branches and leaves on this earth would go to exhaustion, waste away. Indeed more, O bhikkhus, are the minute living beings in the

¹avineyya-sī 1, 2. ■

great ocean who cannot be easily impaled on stakes. What is the reason for that? [Because of] the minuteness, O bhikkhus, of their bodily form. So vast, O bhikkhus, is the woeful plane. The individual accomplished in view, freed from this vast woeful plane, wisely understands as it has come to be: "This is suffering." He wisely understands as it has come to be: "This is the origination of suffering." He wisely understands as it has come to be: "This is the cessation of suffering." He wisely understands as it has come to be: "This is the path leading to the cessation of suffering."

atha imasmiṃ jambudīpe tiṇakatthasākhāpalāsaṃ parikkhayaṃ pariyādānaṃ gaccheyya. ato² bahutarā kho bhikkhave, mahāsamudde sukhumakā pāṇā, ye na sukarā sūlesu āvunituṃ. taṃ kissa hetu: sukhumattā bhikkhave, attabhāvassa. evaṃ mahā kho bhikkhave, apāyo. evaṃ mahantasmā kho bhikkhave, apāyamhā parimutto diṭṭhisampanno puggalo yo "idaṃ dukkhanti" yathābhūtaṃ pajānāti. "ayaṃ dukkhasamudayoti" yathābhūtaṃ pajānāti. "ayaṃ dukkhanirodhoti" yathābhūtaṃ pajānāti. "ayaṃ dukkhanirodhagāminī paṭipadā"ti yathābhūtaṃ pajānāti.

3. Therefore, O bhikkhus, an endeavour should be made [to realize]: "This is suffering;" An endeavour should be made [to realize]: "This is the origination of suffering;" An endeavour should be made [to realize]: "This is the

²ito-machasaṃ, tato-sī 1. ■

cessation of suffering;" An endeavour should be made [to realize]: "This is the path leading to the cessation of suffering;"

tasmātiha bhikkhave, "idaṃ dukkhanti" yogo karaṇīyo, "ayaṃ dukkhasamudayoti" yogo karaṇīyo, "ayaṃ dukkhanirodhagāminī paṭipadā"ti yogo karaṇīyoti.

