

1. All phenomena are Mind-made.
Mind is the chief and forerunner {of the states}.
If one speaks or does an action-
With a wicked mind,
Miseries shall follow him
As wheels follow the hooves of the bull.

2. The enmity of those who keep thinking:
“He has abused me, he has harmed me,
He has robbed me, he has defeated me.”
Never comes to an end.

3. Enmity never ends
Through enmity.
Rather, enmity ends by non-enmity.
This is the law of samsara, this is the eternal Dharma.

4. One who roams about finding everything good and
pleasant,
One who does not control his senses,
One who does not know the right proportion of food.
One who is lazy and indolent, is tortured by Mara,
Just as a weak tree is, by a current of air.

5. A man who puts on the ochre robes
Without abandoning the defilements such as
Attachment, hatred, etc.
And is devoid of truth and self-control,
He has no right to wear the ochre robes.

6. If a house is not well-thatched

Rains may easily penetrate.

Likewise, if a person does not strive to check his mind,

Attachment may easily penetrate his mind.

7. It is good to control the mind which is difficult to be caught,

fast-moving, light-natured, going where it likes;

The controlled mind brings happiness.

8. The watchful person,

Whose mind is stainless and steadfast,

Who is bereft of merit and demerit,

Has no fear.

9. Alas! Before long, this worthless body

Will fall down upon the earth,

Like a log of wood,

Devoid of consciousness.

10. Who along with the gods, can overcome this earth,

The realm of Yama,

Who will inquire into the elegantly taught Dharma-

As an expert {garland-maker} who picks flowers?

11. As a bee-
Without harming the color and scent of a flower, collects
honey and flies away,
Likewise, a bhikkhu should move about in a village.

12. Just as from a collection of flowers
Several garlands are made,
A mortal born
Should gather a lot of merit.

13. The fragrance of flower, sandalwood, Tagara or
jasmine,
Does not blow against the wind.
But fragrance of purity of holy persons does;
The holy person emits perfume in all directions.

14. Just as in the heap of garbage on the roadside
A beautiful fragrant lotus flower may emerge,
So also, among ignorant ordinary people,
We find the Buddha-savakas,
Shining in the glory of prajna and sila.

15. Long is the night for the wakeful one.
Long is the journey for the tired one.
Long is samsara for the ignorant,
Who knows not the holy Dharma.

16. “The son is mine, the wealth is mine” –
Thinking thus, the fool invites suffering;
When even the body is not ours,
What of the son and of the wealth?

17. Even though a fool may live all his life
In the company of the wise,
He cannot understand the true religion,
Just as a ladle does not know the taste of curry.

18. One should not do an action,
Which will make one repent later.
And suffer its fruit
With tears in eyes.

19. So long as sins do not bear fruit,
The ignorant consider them sweet like honey;
But when they bear fruit,
He has to suffer.

20. Wishing to become the leader of monks,
The head of monasteries, temples, institutes,
Expecting worship and what one doesn't deserve
Is only the wishfulness of the fool,
which increases his craving and pride.

21. The path of pleasure is one,
And the path of nirvana is another;
Knowing this is this way,
The bhikkhu, the Buddha's disciple,
Should not long for felicitation,
And live in isolation.

22. Consider one who points out your faults
As one who points out the wealth hidden underground;
The self-controlled and intelligent one,
Keeping company with the wise,
Does only good to himself.

23. One, who drinks the juice of Dharma,
Is happy, and sleeps happily;
The wise dwells happily
In the Dharma, taught by the Noble Ones.