

NAMO BUDDHAYA !

Namo Tassa Bhagavato Arahato Samma Sambuddhassa !

Homage to the Blessed One, the Worthy One, the Supremely Enlightened One !

THE CONNECTED DISCOURSES WITH SIMILES OF THE BUDDHA.

Aani sutta - Discourses of the Drum Peg (SN02-20:7)

At Savatthi. "Bhikkhus, once in the past the Dasarahas had a kettle drum called the Summoner. When the Summoner became cracked, the Dasarahas inserted another peg. Eventually the time came when the Summoner's original drumhead had disappeared and only a collection of pegs remained.

"So too, bhikkhus, the same thing will happen with the bhikkhus in the future. When those discourses spoken by the Tathagata(Buddha) that are deep, deep in meaning, supra-mundane (spiritual / transcendental) in the world, dealing with emptiness, are being recited, they will not be eager to listen to them, nor lend an ear to them, nor apply their minds to understand them; and they will not think those teachings should be studied and mastered. But when those discourses that are mere poetry composed by poets, beautiful in words and phrases, created by outsiders, spoken by their disciples, are being recited, they will be eager to listen to them, will lend an ear to them, will apply their minds to understand them; and they will think those teachings should be studied and mastered. In this way, bhikkhus, those discourses spoken by the Tathagata that are deep, deep in meaning, supra-mundane, dealing with emptiness, will disappear.

"Therefore, bhikkhus, you should train yourselves thus: 'When those discourses spoken by the Tathagata that are deep, deep in meaning, supra-mundane, dealing with emptiness, are being recited, we will be eager to listen to them, will lend an ear to them, will apply our minds to understand them; and we will think those teachings should be studied and mastered.' Thus should you train yourselves."

The numerical Discourses of the Buddha

Saddhamma Sammosa sutta - Decline of the Good Dhamma (AN05- 155)

"Bhikkhus, there are these five things that lead to the decline and disappearance of the good Dhamma. What five?

(1) "Here, the bhikkhus do not learn the Dhamma:(A) **Sutta**-Discourses, (B) **Gayya**-Discourses mixed with verses, (C)**Veyyaakarana**- Discourses from the higher teachings without the verses, (D)**Gathaa**-verses, (E) **Udana**-inspired utterances, (F)**Itivuttaka**- quotations(the 112 discourses which begins with the phrase "Thus the blessed One has said", (G)**Jathaka**- birth stories, (H)**Abbhutadhamma**-amazing accounts, (I) and **Vedalla**-questions-and-answers. This is the first thing that leads to the decline and disappearance of the good Dhamma.

(2) "Again, the bhikkhus do not teach the Dhamma to others in detail as they have heard it and learned it. This is the second thing that leads to the decline and disappearance of the good Dhamma.

(3) "Again, the bhikkhus do not make others repeat the Dhamma in detail as they have heard it and learned it. This is the third thing that leads to the decline and disappearance of the good Dhamma.

(4) "Again, the bhikkhus do not recite the Dhamma in detail as they have heard it and learned it. This is the fourth thing that leads to the decline and disappearance of the good Dhamma.

(5) "Again, the bhikkhus do not ponder, examine, and mentally inspect the Dhamma as they have heard it and learned it. This is the fifth thing that leads to the decline and disappearance of the good Dhamma.

"These are the five things that lead to the decline and disappearance of the good Dhamma.

"Bhikkhus, there are these five other things that lead to the continuation, non-decline, and non-disappearance of the good Dhamma. What five?

(1) "Here, the bhikkhus learn the Dhamma: discourses ... and questions-and-answers. This is the first thing that leads to the continuation, non-decline, and non-disappearance of the good Dhamma.

(2) "Again, the bhikkhus teach the Dhamma to others in detail as they have heard it and learned it. This is the second thing that leads to the continuation, non-decline, and non-disappearance of the good Dhamma.

(3) "Again, the bhikkhus make others repeat the Dhamma in detail as they have heard it and learned it. This is the third thing that leads to the continuation, non-decline, and non-disappearance of the good Dhamma.

(4) "Again, the bhikkhus recite the Dhamma in detail as they have heard it and learned it. This is the fourth thing that leads to the continuation, non-decline, and non-disappearance of the good Dhamma.

(5) "Again, the bhikkhus ponder, examine, and mentally inspect the Dhamma as they have heard it and learned it. This is the fifth thing that leads to the continuation, non-decline, and non-disappearance of the good Dhamma.

"These are the five things that lead to the continuation, non-decline, and non-disappearance of the good Dhamma."

Translated from the Pali by Bhikkhu Bodhi - Wisdom publications.

Sadu! Sadu!! Sadu!!!