

# Canda Parittam̐ Discourse Given to the Moon Deity

Evam̐ me sutam̐. Ekaṃ samayaṃ Bhagavā Sāvattiyaṃ viharati Jetavane Anāthapiṇḍikassa ārāme. Tena kho pana samayena Candimā devaputto Rāhunā asurindena gahito hoti. Atha kho Candimā devaputto Bhagavantaṃ anussaramāno tāyaṃ velāyaṃ imaṃ gāthaṃ abhāsi.

Thus have I heard: ♦ On one occasion ♦ the Blessed One was living in Sāvatti, ♦ at Jetavana, ♦ at Anāthapiṇḍika's monastery. At that time Candima, the moon deity, ♦ was captured by Rāhu, ♦ one of the kings of the Asurās. Thereupon, calling to mind the Blessed One, ♦ Candima, the moon deity, recited this stanza:

## 1. Namo te Buddha vira'tthu – Vippanutto'si sabbadhi

Sambādhapaṭipanno'smi – Tassa me saraṇaṃ bhavā'ti

Oh Buddha, the Hero, I pay homage to you. You are completely free from all suffering. I have fallen into trouble. Please be my refuge and help me.

Atha kho Bhagavā Candimaṃ devaputtaṃ ārabha Rāhuṃ asurindaṃ gāthāya ajjhabhāsi.

Then the Blessed One addressed Rāhu the Asura in verse, ♦ on behalf of Candima, the moon deity, thus:

## 2. Tathāgataṃ Arahantaṃ – Candimā saraṇaṃ gato

Rāhu candaṃ pamuñcassu – Buddhā lokānukampakā'ti

Oh Rāhu, ♦ Candima has gone for refuge ♦ to the Tathāgata, the Arahant. Oh Rāhu, ♦ release Candima. ♦ The Buddhas radiate compassion ♦ on the beings of the world.

Atha kho Rāhu asurindo Candimaṃ devaputtaṃ muñcivā taramānarūpo yena Vepacitti asurindo ten'upasaṅkami. Upasaṅkamtivā saṃviggo lomahaṭṭajāto ekamantaṃ aṭṭhāsi. Ekamantaṃ ṭhitaṃ kho Rāhuṃ asurindaṃ Vepacitti asurindo gāthāya ajjhabhāsi.

Thereupon Rāhu the Asura released Candima, the moon deity, ♦ and immediately went to the presence of Vepacitti, ♦ the leader of Asurās, ♦ and stood beside him trembling with fear, ♦ with hair standing on end. Then Vepacitti the Asura addressed Rāhu the Asura with this stanza.

## 3. Kinu santaramāno'va – Rāhu, Candaṃ pamuñcasi?

Saṃviggārūpo āgamma – Kinu bhīto'va tiṭṭhasi'ti?

Rāhu, why did you suddenly release Candima? Why have you come here trembling? And why are you standing here terrified?

## 4. Sattadhā me phale muddhā – Jivanto na sukhaṃ labhe

Buddhagāthābhigīto'mhi – No ce muñceyya Candimaṃ'ti.

I have been spoken to ♦ by the Buddha in a stanza ♦ requesting me to release Candima. If I had not released Candima ♦ my head would have split into seven pieces. If I lived, ♦ I would not have had any happiness.

Etena saccena suvatthi hotu! By this truth, may there be well-being!