

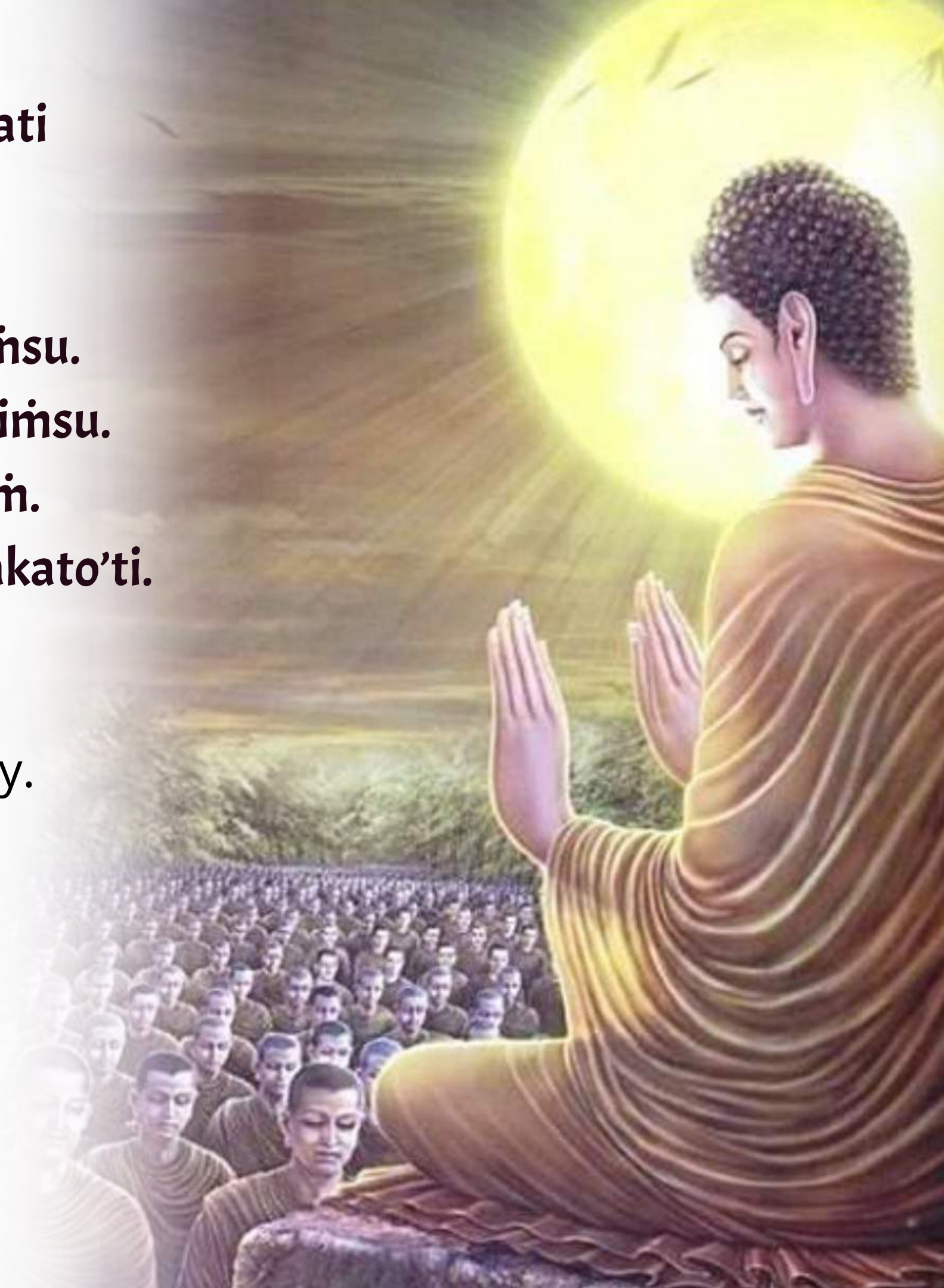
# Khandha Paritta

Loving Kindness towards  
Royal Tribes of Snakes



**Evaṃ me sutaṃ. Ekaṃ samayaṃ Bhagavā Sāvatthiyaṃ viharati  
Jetavane Anāthapiṇḍikassa ārāme. Tena kho pana samayena  
Sāvatthiyaṃ aññataro bhikkhū ahinā daṭṭho kālakato hoti.  
Atha kho sambahulā bhikkhū yena Bhagavā ten'upasaṅkamimsu.  
Upasaṅkamitvā Bhagavantam abhivādetvā ekamantaṃ nisīdimsu.  
Ekamantaṃ nisinnā kho te bhikkhū Bhagavantam etadavocuṃ.  
Idha bhante Sāvatthiyaṃ aññataro bhikkhu ahinā daṭṭho kālakato'ti.**

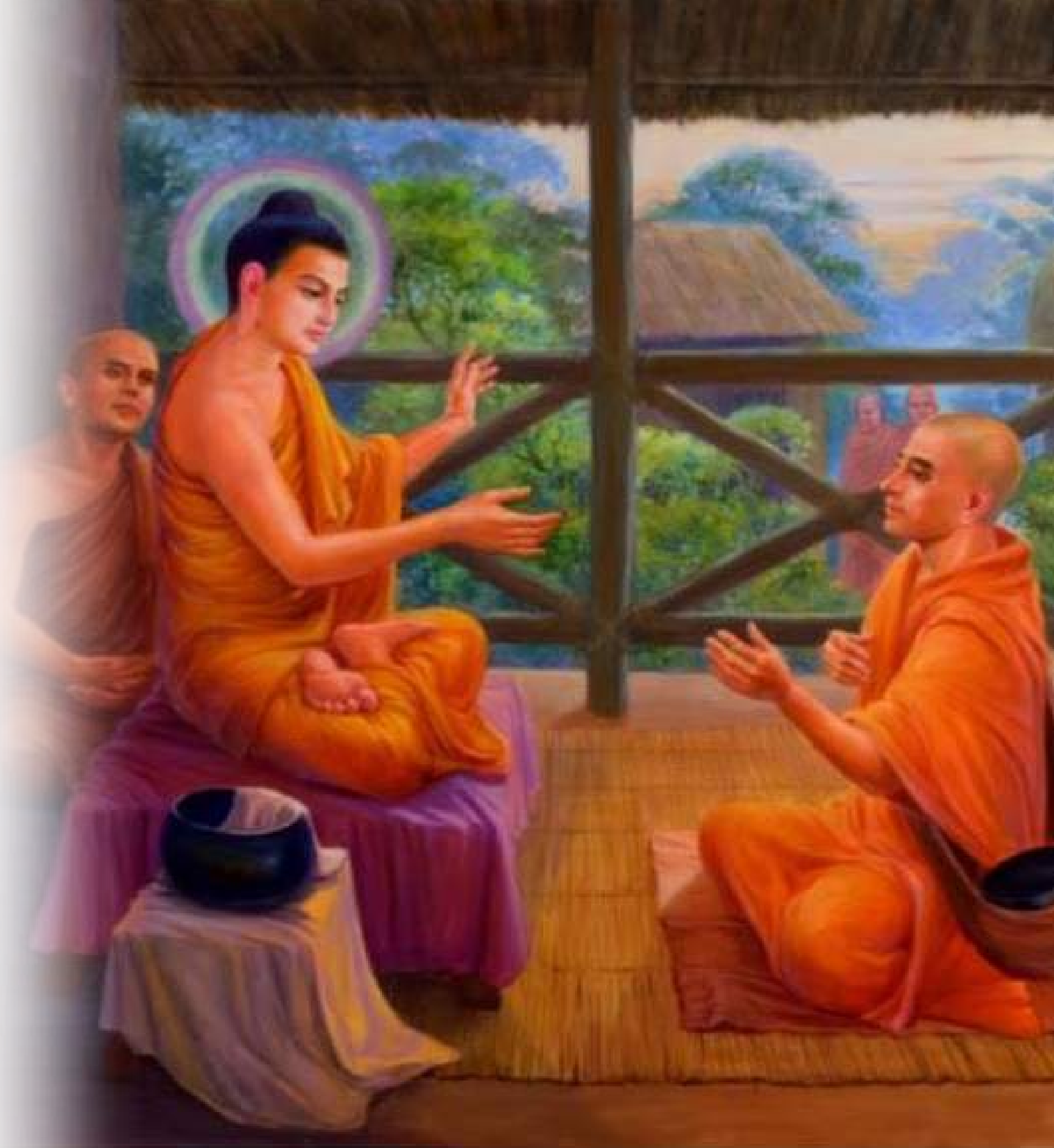
Thus have I heard: On one occasion the Blessed One was living in Sāvatthi at Jetavana, at Anāthapiṇḍika's monastery. During that time, at Sāvatthi, a monk had passed away having been bitten by a snake. Thereupon many monks approached the Blessed One, and having saluted him, sat beside him. So seated, those monks spoke thus to the Blessed One: "Oh Bhante, a certain monk at Sāvatthi has died, having been bitten by a snake."





**Naha nūna so bhikkhave bhikkhu cattāri  
ahirājakulāni mettena cittena phari.  
Sacehi so bhikkhave bhikkhu cattāri  
ahirājakulāni mettena cittena phareyya,  
nahi so bhikkhave bhikkhu ahinā  
daṭṭho kālaṃ kareyya.**

Monks, that monk did not radiate  
thoughts of loving-kindness  
towards the four royal tribes of  
snakes. Monks, had he done so,  
that monk would not have died  
of a snake bite.



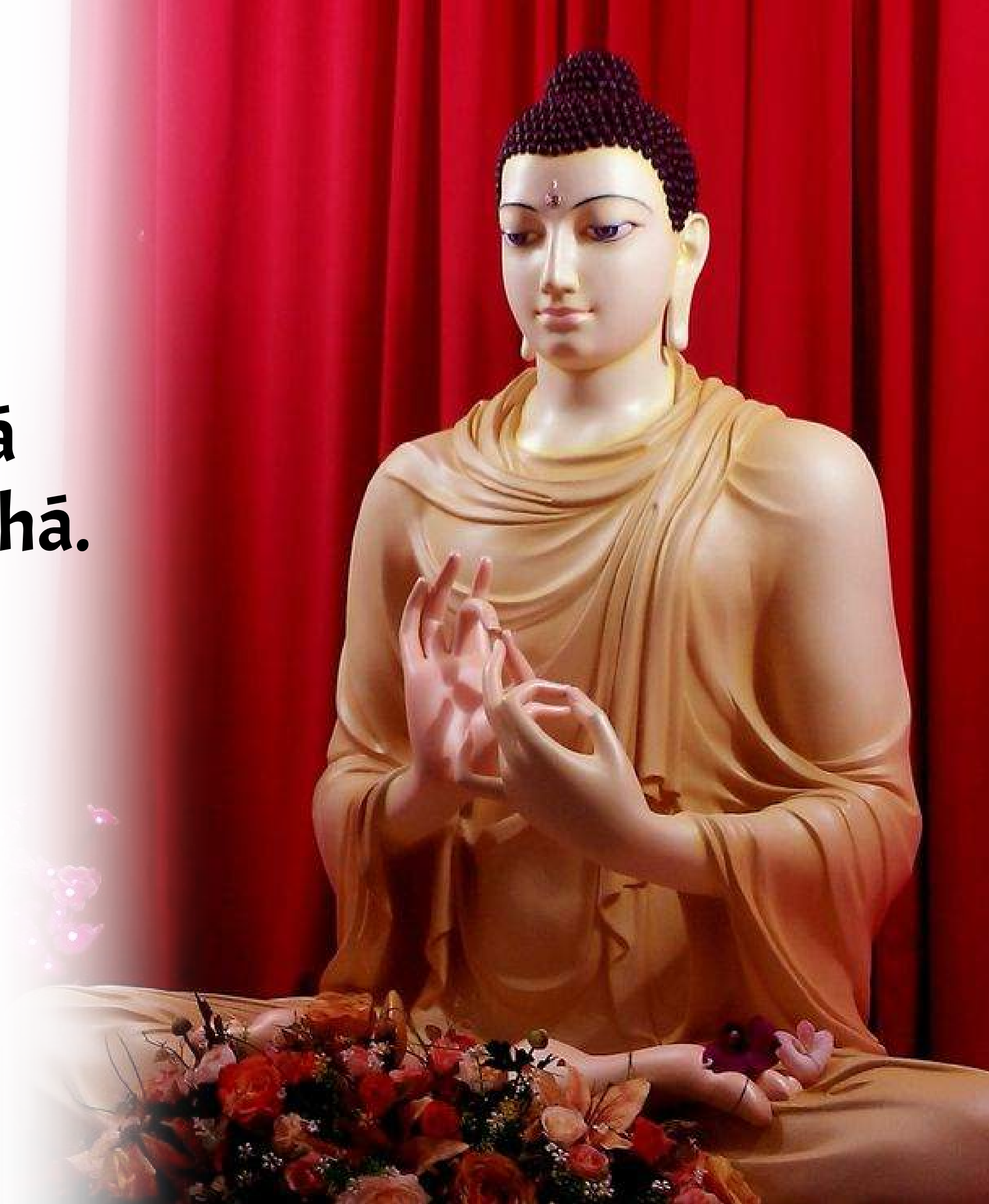
**Katamāni cattāri ahirājakulāni? Virūpakkhaṃ ahirājakulaṃ, Erāpathaṃ ahirājakulaṃ, Chabyāputtaṃ ahirājakulaṃ, Kaṇhā gotamakaṃ ahirājakulaṃ. Naha nūna so bhikkhave bhikkhu imāni cattāri ahirājakulāni mettena cittena phari. Sace hi so bhikkhave bhikkhu imāni cattāri ahirājakulāni mettena cittena phareyya, na hi so bhikkhave bhikkhu ahinā daṭṭho kālaṃ kareyya. Anujānāmi bhikkhave imāni cattāri ahirājakulāni mettena cittena pharituṃ attaguttiyā attarakkhāya attaparittāyā'ti.**

What are the four royal tribes of snakes? They are: the royal tribe of snakes called Virūpakkha, the royal tribe of snakes called Erāpatha, the royal tribe of snakes called Chabyāputta, and the royal tribe of snakes called Kaṇhā Gotamaka. Monks, that monk did not radiate thoughts of loving-kindness towards these four royal tribes of snakes. Monks, had he done so he would not have died of a snake bite. Monks, I advise you to radiate thoughts of loving-kindness towards these four royal tribes of snakes for your safety, for your protection, and as a protective blessing for you.



**Idam'avoca Bhagavā, Idam vatvā  
Sugato athāparam etada'voca Satthā.**

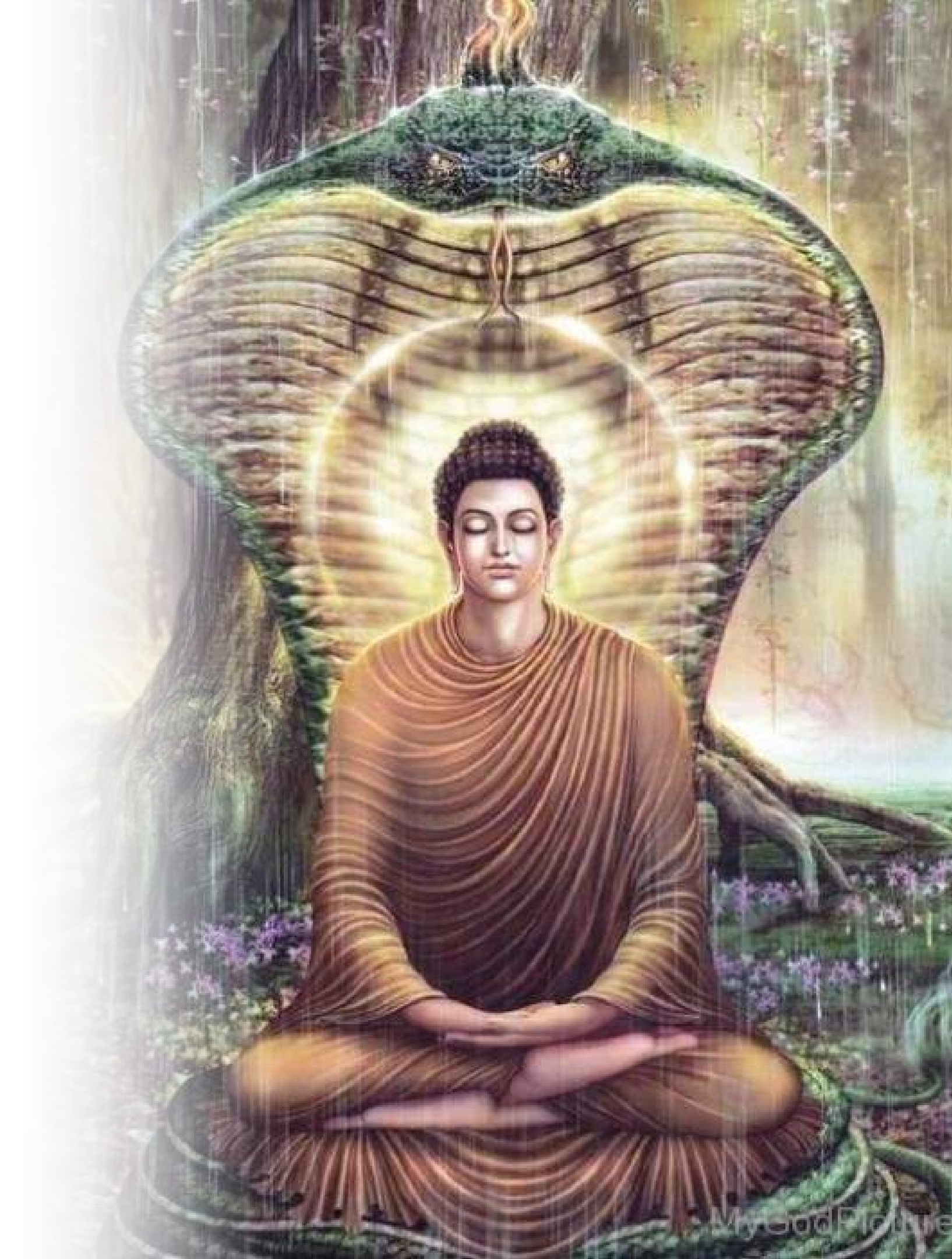
Thus said the Blessed One.  
Having thus spoken, the Great  
Teacher, the Sublime One,  
further said:





**Virūpakkehi me mettaṃ –  
Mettaṃ Erāpathehi me  
Chabyāputtehi me mettaṃ –  
Mettaṃ Kaṇhāgotamakehi ca**

May I have mettā towards  
Virūpakkhas, towards Erāpathas  
may I have mettā. May I have  
mettā towards Chabyāputtas,  
towards Kaṇhā Gotamakas also  
may I have mettā.



**Apādakehi me mettaṃ –  
Mettaṃ dipādakehi me  
Catuppadehi me mettaṃ –  
Mettaṃ bahuppadehi me**

May I have mettā towards  
the footless.  
May I have mettā towards those  
with two feet.  
May I have mettā towards those  
with four.  
May I have mettā towards the  
many-footed.





**Mā maṃ apādako hiṃsi –  
Mā maṃ hiṃsi dipādako  
Mā maṃ catuppado hiṃsi –  
Mā maṃ hiṃsi bahuppado**

Let not the footless do me harm;  
nor those that have two feet.  
Let not the four-footed do me harm;  
nor those endowed with many feet.





**Sabbe sattā sabbe pāṇā – Sabbe bhutā ca kevalā  
Sabbe bhadraṇi passantu – Mā kañci pāpamāgamā**

All beings, all living creatures, all beings who have  
come to birth may good fortune bless them all.  
May no harm come to them.





**Appamāṇo Buddho appamāṇo Dhammo  
appamāṇo Saṅgho. Pamāṇavantāni  
sirim̐sapāni ahi vicchikā satapadī  
uṇṇānābhī sarabhū mūsikā. Katā me  
rakkhā. Katā me parittā. Paṭikkamantu  
bhūtāni. So'haṃ namo Bhagavato namo  
sattannaṃ Sammā Sambuddhānan'ti.**

Immeasurable in virtue is the Buddha;  
immeasurable is the Dhamma; immeasurable  
is the Saṅgha. Measurable are creeping  
creatures, snakes, scorpions, centipedes,  
spiders, lizards and rats, due to their  
defilements. I have guarded myself. I have  
made my protection. Depart from me, all you  
beings. I worship the Blessed One, and the  
Seven Supreme Buddhas.





**Etena saccena  
suvatthi hotu!**

By this truth, may there  
be well-being!

