



Exploring the ancient path in the Buddha's own words -- Lesson 3.1.3

Dhammacakkappavattanasuttam-1

Ekaṃ samayaṃ bhagavā bārāṇasiyaṃ viharati isipatane migadāye¹. Tatra kho bhagavā pañcavaggiye bhikkhū āmantesi– "dveme, bhikkhave, antā pabbajitena na sevitabbā. Katame dve? Yo cāyaṃ kāmesu kāmasukhallikānuyogo² hīno gammo pothujjaniko anariyo anatthasaṃhito, yo cāyaṃ attakilamathānuyogo dukkho anariyo anatthasaṃhito. Ete kho, bhikkhave, ubho ante anupagamma majjhimā paṭipadā tathāgatena abhisambuddhā cakkhukaraṇī ñāṇakaraṇī upasamāya abhiññāya sambodhāya nibbānāya saṃvattati".

"Katamā ca sā, bhikkhave, majjhimā paṭipadā tathāgatena abhisambuddhā cakkhukaraṇī ñāṇakaraṇī upasamāya abhiññāya sambodhāya nibbānāya saṃvattati? Ayameva ariyo aṭṭhaṅgiko maggo, seyyathidaṃ- sammādiṭṭhi sammāsaṅkappo sammāvācā sammākammanto sammā-ājīvo sammāvāyāmo sammāsati sammāsamādhi. Ayaṃ kho sā, bhikkhave, majjhimā paṭipadā tathāgatena abhisambuddhā cakkhukaraṇī ñāṇakaraṇī upasamāya abhiññāya sambodhāya nibbānāya saṃvattati.

Saṃyuttanikāyo, Mahāvaggapāļi, Mahāvagga, Dhammacakkappavattanavaggo

alliyati anariyo anatthasamhito

an+attha+saṃhito

to cling to, adhere to not healthy, not noble not connected to the goal

Isipatane migadāye: It is said that in the vincity of this park isipatane migadāye many sages of the past have alighted, settled or dwelled before they went to heavenly fields (isi—saint—patati—to alight). This area had also been a sacred area where no animals could be killed. (miga—deer dāye—has two connotation: gift, park). The Nigrodhamiga Jataka relates how a former king who favoured a meat dish for every of his meals was convinced by the king of the deers, ready to sacrifice his own life on behalf of a pregnant doe, to give a boon that no animal, that was living in this park should be killed.

These two extremes were spiritual practises of those days—attakilamathānuyogo: all kinds of practises of self-torment—kāmasukhallikānuyogo: various kinds of rolling in sensual pleasures, partly depicted for example in the temples of Khajuraho.



dveme

pothujjaniko

antā ends

anupagamma anu+pa+gamma not to be followed attakilamathānuyogo atta+kilamatha+anuyogo self+weariness+practise cakkhukaraṇī cakkhu + karaṇī eye(sight) + doing,

making dve + ime two + these

gammo ordinary

hīno low, inferior, vile

kāmasukhallikānuyogo kāma+sukha+allika+anuyogo sense

+happines+clinging to+practise

kāmesu (loc.) in senual pleasures

majjhimā middle

ñāṇakaraṇīñāṇa + karaṇīknowledge + makingpaṭipadāpaṭi + padāmeans of reaching the

goal.

Pabbajitena pabbajita (pp., instr.) someone who has left

the householders life belonging to ordinary

man

sevitabbā sevati + opt. should be persued

ubho both