

Exploring the Ancient Path in the Buddha's Own Words

Lesson 3.4.7 Tiracchānakathāsuttaṃ Avoiding Idle Chatter



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Tiracchānakathāsuttaṃ	Avoiding Idle Chatter
“Mā, bhikkhave, anekavihitam tiracchānakatham katheyyātha, seyyathidaṃ:	“O’ Bhikkhus, do not entertain yourselves with low talk of diverse nature, such as:
rājakatham corakatham mahāmatthakatham senākatham, bhayakatham yuddhakatham,	talk about kings, robbers, great ministers, armies, dangers, war,
annakatham pānakatham vatthakatham sayanakatham mālākatham gandhakatham, ñātikatham,	food, drink, clothes, beds, garlands, perfumes, relatives,
yānakatham gāmakatham nigamakatham nagarakatham janapadakatham,	vehicles, villages, towns and cities, countries,
itthikatham sūrakatham visikhākatham kumbhaṭṭhānakatham , pubbapetakatham nānattakatham,	women, heroes, gossip at street-corners and at the well, ghost-stories, desultory talk,
lokakkhāyikaṃ samuddakkhāyikaṃ itibhavābhavakatham iti vā.	speculation about the world and oceans, talk of being and non-being and such like.
Taṃ kissa hetu?	What is the reason for this?
Nesā, bhikkhave, kathā atthasaṃhitā nādirahmacariyakā na nibbidāya na virāgāya na nirodhāya na upasamāya na abhiññāya na sambodhāya na nibbānāya saṃvattati.	Such kind of talk, O’ Bhikkhus, is not connected with the goal, does not affect the holy life, and does not lead to weariness of the world, to dispassion, to cessation, to tranquillity, to universal knowledge, to full enlightenment, to nibbāna.
Kathentā ca kho tumhe, bhikkhave,	O’ Bhikkhus, when you speak, you talk about,

<p>‘Idaṃ dukkhan’ti katheyyātha, ‘ayaṃ dukkhasamudayo’ti katheyyātha, ‘ayaṃ dukkhanirodho’ti katheyyātha, ‘ayaṃ dukkhanirodhagāminī paṭipadā’ti katheyyātha.</p>	<p>‘This is suffering’; you talk about ‘This is the origination of suffering’; you talk about ‘This is the eradication of suffering’; you talk about ‘This is the path leading to the eradication of suffering.’</p>
<p>Taṃ kissa hetu?</p>	<p>“What is the reason for this?”</p>
<p>Esā, bhikkhave, kathā atthasaṃhitā, esā ādibrahmacariyakā, esā nibbidāya virāgāya nirodhāya upasamāya abhiññāya sambodhāya nibbānāya saṃvattati.</p>	<p>“Such kind of talk, O’ Bhikkhus, is connected with the goal, is related to the holy life, and leads to weariness of the world, to dispassion, to cessation, to tranquillity, to universal knowledge, to full enlightenment, to nibbāna.</p>
<p>Tasmātiha, bhikkhave,</p>	<p>Therefore, O’ Bhikkhus, make it your obligation to practice:</p>
<p>‘Idaṃ dukkhan’ti.</p>	<p>‘This is suffering’.</p>
<p>Yogo karaṇīyo ...pe... ‘ayaṃ dukkhanirodhagāminī paṭipadā’ti yogo karaṇīyo”ti</p>	<p>Make it your obligation to practice: ‘This is the origination of suffering’. Make it your obligation to practice: ‘This is the eradication of suffering’. Make it your obligation to practice: ‘This is the path leading to the eradication of suffering’”</p>