

(Continued from Bosat - Volume I - No. 5)

Verses from

ලෝවැඩි සංඝරාව - *Lovāḍa Sangārava*
(TOWARDS UNIVERSAL WELL-BEING)¹

by

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[Last four of the eight places where meritorious actions cannot be done.]

23. තැනෙකින් ගෙන දූමුවක් කැට නුබ කුස
 අතරක නොරඳන මෙන් මේ බිම මිස
 සිත සතොසින් පින් නොකළොත් නිසි ලෙස
 නැත සිටිනා තැන් සතර අපා මිස

**With whatever effort a stone is thrown up to the sky,
 It will not remain in space but will fall to the ground.
 Unless a person engages in wholesome acts with joyous
 mind and diligence.**

**There is no other place for him except in the four lower
 worlds of misery.**

*Just as a stone that is thrown up skywards with whatever
 effort will not remain in the sky but will fall to the ground,
 even so, if wholesome acts are not done with a joyous mind
 and with diligence, there is no other place for him except in
 the four lower worlds of misery.*

24. තිර ව නො සිත කුණු කය මෙ තමායේ
 නොතිර බවට විදුලිය උපමායේ
 නිතර මෙ කය පවකට නොනමායේ
 කරව කුසල් විරිය නොපමායේ

1. Translated by *Siri Vajirārāmaye Ñāṇasīha Thera*
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**Do not think that your putrid decaying body is everlasting
Impermanent it is like a flash of lightening.
Never allow this body to tilt towards evil.
Forever strive to perform skilful deeds with diligence.**

Do not regard this rotten decaying body of yours as everlasting. It is like a flash of lightening. Hence, never allow this body to bend to do any evil deed. Always strive diligently to do skilful deeds.

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| 25. අඳුරෙහි අස් ලොම විදිනට | දුරැදී |
| විදුලිය පැහැ වැරදුණ හොක් | වරදී |
| විදුලිය වන් මේ කය ලක් තැනැ | දී |
| සිදු නොකළොත් මතු සහමොක් | වරදී |

**The archer poised to shoot in darkness at a horse's hair
from afar,
Will miss the mark if he fails to take advantage of a swift
lightening flash.
This human form of yours is like a flash of lightening;
By not seizing this opportunity to do good you will miss
heavenly and Nibbāna's bliss.**

When an archer is to shoot an arrow at a hair of the horse's tail in the darkness of a night from afar, if he misses the flash of lightening, he has missed the target. Now that you have got this (human) body, which is comparable to a lightening streak, by neglecting doing skilful deeds, you will miss the chance of gaining heavenly and Nibbana's bliss.

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| 26. කොතැන වුවත් නැත මරු හට | බාද |
| විදින මෙ සැප පින් ඇති කෙක් | වේද |
| ගෙවන සසර දුක් බුදු බණ | නාද |
| කුමන නැටුම් කෙළි කවට | සිනාද |

**There is no haven that is inaccessible to certain death.
 Whatever comforts enjoyed, isn't that only until your
 accumulated merit lasts?
 Without hearing the words of the Buddha to end sansara's
 woes
 What for is dancing, playing, jesting and laughter?**

There is no hiding place that is not accessible to death. Isn't it a fact that all pleasures that are enjoyed now last only so long as one's accumulated merit lasts? Without hearing to the words of the Buddha that are for the ending of samsaric sufferings, what for is dancing, playing, jesting and laughter?

27. සැදහැන්තන් හට බව දුක් නොකැමැති
 යහපත් කල් මේ කල් මිස වෙන නැති
 දනිතොන් දන් සිල් ගුණ සහ නොනැවති
 පැයකුත් අවුරුදු දහසක් විතරැති

**For those with faith who despise the sorrows of the world,
 There is no other opportune time than the present.
 If the values of generosity and morality are known they
 will never delay.
 To them an hour is equivalent to a thousand years.**

For those who have faith and who despise the sufferings of the world, there is no better opportune time than this (the Buddha-age). If the values of generosity and morality are well understood, even an hour is worth a thousand years.

28. අද අද එයි මරු පින් කර ගන්නේ
 කෙලෙස ද සෙට මරු නේත සිතන්නේ
 කිකල ද මහසෙන් මරු ඇප වන්නේ
 කුමට ද කුසලට කම්මැළි වන්නේ

