(Continued from Bosat - Volume I - No. 10

10. Verses from

ලෝවැඩ සඟරාව - *Lovāḍa Sangārava*

(TOWARDS UNIVERSAL WELL-BEING)[1]

by

Ven. Vidagama Maitreya Maha Thera

52. මෙ බස් තම නුවණින් ම විමසා නොතිර වූ කය ගති අසන්නේ
දෙ තිස් කුණුයෙන් යුතුව මඳකුත් සාර නූ බව නැණින් දන්නේ
ලත් තැනේ කුසලක් නොකර උන්නොත් අපල වන්නේ
සතිස් එක්සිය නිරේ වැටුණොත් එදයි අනුවණකම් දැනෙන්නේ

Use your own judgment in this and listen to the nature of this impermanent human body.
Understand that it consists of thirty-two impurities and nothing substantial;
After obtaining human birth if you neglect to do good deeds it benefits you not.
If you fall into any of the 136 hells then alone you will realize your own folly.

Using your own powers of reasoning, listen to what I have to say about the impermanence of this body. Understand that this body with its thirty-two repulsive parts has nothing material. If you neglect doing wholesome deeds after being born as a human, it will not be for you good. The day you fall into one of the 136 hells, you will realize your folly.

1. Translated by *Siri Vajirārāmaye Ñāṇasīha Thera*
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53. පෙරත් ජාතියෙ පතාගත් දැන් හේතු බලයෙන් මෙ තැන්නේ
ළඟත් වෙන් නො වැ සමඟ දවසැර උන් නමුත් සෙනෙහසින්නේ
පණත් යන කල තනිව ගෙයි උන් අයත් වෙන් වේ බඳින්නේ
පිනුත් කළ නිති කැටුව යෙයි ගිය තැනේ දී සැප විඳින්නේ

By the potency of the wishes made in lives before, in this existence
You live intimately with your kin without separation, and spend the days with love.
But when lying alone on your deathbed the love of your family will be of no avail.
Only your good deeds that will accompany you will make you happy in your future birth.

Due to wishes made in past births, you live now with your near and dear ones, with whom you affectionately spend your days without separation. But the day you breathe your last on your deathbed, all alone, those connections will be of no avail. It is only the good meritorious deeds that you have done that will accompany you and make you happy in your future birth.

54. සාර නූ කුණුකයක් ඇරගෙන කරන බහුනාටක තදේ
නැර තම හිමි සමග දවසැර උන් නමුත් සැප විඳ විඳේ
ගෝර මරුවා පැමිණි කල් දැන යන්ට කැඳවා එම සඳේ
බාර ව ම සිටුවන්ට බැරි ව ද පිනක් කර ගත්තොත් සොඳේ

What a multitude of diverse clowning acts this valueless putrid body performs.
Even if you remain with your spouse all the time enjoying every moment of life,
When unwelcome Mara comes in due course inviting you to go with death
Could you stop by making pledges? Therefore, it is well that you do good deeds.

With your putrid body reflect on the number of acts you perform daily, which in the ultimate sense are valueless, like those of a clown. Even if you spend your days enjoying life with your spouse, when someday Mara-death beckons you to come along because your time is ripe, could you evade death by giving promises. Isn't it better, therefore, for you to perform meritorious deeds when able?

55. සරණ මුනිඳුගෙ අදහ පිනකුත් නො කර ඉන්නේ කුමට දෝ
මරණ පැමිණෙන කලට යමයා ඇවිත් කැඳවා යන්ට දෝ
කරන සොඳකම් දම් පිනක් කළ කියනු නුවණින් සොඳ දෝ
කුමන අනුවණකම් ද නැයිනි අඬනු සිටුවා ගන්ට වෙදෝ

After taking refuge in the Buddha and being convinced, why exist not doing good deeds?
Is it to allow Yama to accompany you when death does come?
Truly isn't it wiser to do some virtuous acts, give in charity and perform good deeds?
Oh Relatives! What foolishness is this? Are you weeping to hold back the dying person?

Why don't you do any meritorious deeds with faith taking refuge in the Buddha? Are you waiting for Yama to come and take you when it is the time for death? If one is wise enough, the best thing to do for the sake of a dying man is to remind him of the meritorious deeds he has performed. How unwise is to weep before him, you relatives? Can you make him stay on by weeping?

56. අඬාලා කම්පා ව උන්නත් ඉතින් දැක්මක් නොවන්නේ
තනාලා සිත පිනක් නොකර ම කුමට උපයා තබන්නේ
දමාලා යන නරක කුණු කය කුමට දෝ සැප විඳින්නේ
දිනාලා මොක් පුරට යන්නට ම කී මේ බණ අසන්නේ

However much one weeps and laments there is no seeing again once dead.
Not performing good deeds with resolve why continue to amass wealth to be left behind?
Why enjoy sensual pleasures when this putrid body too will be left behind?
Listen to the Dhamma as stated by me and overcoming defilements gain entry to Nibbāna.

Though you may weep and grieve, never again will you see him. Without developing your mind and doing any merit, why do you simply earn and hoard? What is the use of entertaining this wretched putrid body which you have to abandon and go? Listen to this sermon of mine so that you can conquer your passions and reach the city of Nibbana.

57. සිටින ඇවිණ ගෙන මෙසසර බිළියේ
විඳින මෙ සැප ජරයෙන් තැළි තැළියේ
දකින නැටුම් වැනි විදුලිය එළියේ
මෙ දැන නො කර කුසලට කම්මැළියේ

Attached to this cycle of existence as if by a fish hook,
What is being enjoyed as happiness, whilst undergoing continuous ageing
Is like seeing a dance, only with a flash of lightening.
Knowing this, do not be slothful in performing good deeds.

Stuck as if by a hook to samsara but undergoing ageing from moment to moment, what you are enjoying now, calling it happiness, is like seeing a beautiful dance by the flash of lightning. Knowing this, do not be lazy in doing good deeds.

(To be continued in BOSAT Vol.1- No.12)

Go to Table of Contents