The Living Word of the Buddha
The Buddha’s Teachings in the Oldest Texts
Translations, essays & notes by Piya Tan ©2019b

Sutta Discovery
Volume 54b
Devas 1 (part 2)

1 54.3d  S 1.14  Khattiya Sutta. The Discourse on the Kshatriya.
The greatest of humans, animals, wives and sons.

13 54.3e  S 1.15  Sañamāna Sutta. The Discourse on Murmuring.
The awakened find the solitary forest blissful.

18 54.3f  S 1.16  Niddā, tandi Sutta. The Discourse on Drowsiness and Lethargy.
Sleep, sleepiness and spirituality.

35 54.3g  S 1.17  Dukkara Sutta. The Discourse on the difficult to practise.
Meditation difficulties can and should be overcome.

45 54.3h  S 1.18  (Nandana) Hiri Sutta. The (Nandana) Discourse on Moral Shame.
One with moral shame is ultimately free from blame.

50 54.3i  S 1.19  Kuṭikā Sutta. The Discourse on a Little Hut.
The Buddha has renounced everything.

54 54.4  D 20  Mahā, samaya Sutta. The Discourse on the Great Assembly.
A god-believer’s way to the Buddha.

83 54.5  A 7.53  (Brahmā) Tissa Sutta. The Discourse on (Brahma) Tissa.

102 54.5(4)  A 6.34  (Tissa) Moggallāna Sutta. The knowledge of the gods is limited.

112 54.6  The Vepacittī Suttas. Victory by patience.

125 54.6a  S 11.4  (Sakka) Vepacitti Suttas. The (Sakka) Discourses on Vepacitti.
To answer anger with anger is to fail twice.

128 54.6b  S 11.5  Subhāsita, jaya Sutta. The Discourse on the victory by the well-spoken word.
The word is mightier than the sword.

132 54.7  S 11.7  Na Dubbhiya Sutta. The “Do Not Harm” Discourse.
Not harming even our enemies.

140 54.8  D 21  Sakka, pañña Sutta. The Discourse on Sakra’s Questions.
The erotic, the spiritual and streamwinning.

217 54 end  Bibliography

The divine within us and without us

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Piya Tan (TAN Beng Sin), 1949-
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□ PIYA TAN, a former Theravada monk for 20 years, works full-time on the Suttas with new commentaries, and teaches them. As a full-time lay Dharma teacher, he specializes in early Buddhism. He was consultant and regular lecturer to the Buddhist Studies Team (BUDS) that successfully introduced Buddhist Studies in Singapore Secondary Schools in the 1980s, and then, invited as a visiting scholar to the University of California at Berkeley, USA. He has written many ground-breaking and educational books on Buddhism (such as Total Buddhist Work) and social surveys (such as Buddhist Currents and Charisma in Buddhism).

As a full-time Dharma teacher, he runs Sutta and related classes like the basic Pali course series, the Sutta Study Group (NUSBS), Dharma courses (the Singapore Buddhist Federation), Sutta Discovery classes (Buddhist Fellowship and elsewhere), and Sutta-based (including meditation) courses (The Minding Centre), besides his own full-time Pali translation and research project, the Pali House, and doing a comparative study of the Pali Nikāyas and the Chinese Āgamas. As a Theravāda monk, he learned insight meditation from Mahasi Sayadaw himself in the 1980s, and forest meditation from various forest monks. He has run numerous meditation courses and retreats for students and adults (including non-Buddhists) since 1980s. In 1992, he taught meditation at the University of California at Berkeley, USA, and also to BP, JPMorgan, the Defence Science Organization, GMO, HP and SIA. He writes weekly reflections and gives daily online teachings on Facebook. All this for the love of Dharma and of Ratna and their two sons.
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