

Here there is no trouble

The safe eye of the storm

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The Vinaya Mahāvagga contains the story of the wealthy youth Yasa's renunciation. Troubled by the vagaries of worldly life, Yasa leaves home in the dark of night, deeply troubled.

Then, Yasa, the son of family, when he was near the Blessed One, uttered the inspired saying:

"Oh, what trouble indeed! Oh, what affliction indeed!"

Then, the Blessed One said this to Yasa, the son of family:

"**Here, Yasa, there is no trouble**; here there is no affliction. Come, Yasa, sit down: I will show you the Dharma."¹

Then, he meets the Buddha. What else happens when we meet the Buddha? He teaches us the Dhamma, and when we attentively listen with an open mind and ready heart, we become streamwinners at least. In fact, this is just what happens to Yasa. In the same night, after listening to the Buddha teaching his own father, Yasa becomes an arhat.

This safe space

This Dharmafarer FB page (<https://www.facebook.com/piyatan>) is a small miracle of a "safe Dhamma spot," free from the world's afflictions. We have started this Page for only one purpose: to seek the teachings of the historical Buddha and to celebrate our love for the Buddha Dhamma. That way we seek to know ourself better and grow in wisdom and nearer the path of awakening.

The FB Page is accessible to countless people throughout the world who have an Internet connection. Some of us make postings here, but many more are contented to rejoice in the Dhamma we often see here. For a number of us, our lives have significantly changed just by keeping in touch with the Dhamma through this amazing cyber-window into our hearts and mind.

Understandably, we are protective of this space. We take this to be like a safe and comfortable little home for Dhamma-seekers. The Bodhi tree is just outside in our beautiful garden like the deer park where the Buddha teaches Dhamma. We learn the Dhamma here; the teaching is still present in our lives.

Most of us have not even met each other, but we are communicating on such a deep level connected by the most joyful and liberating wisdom there is, the Buddha Dhamma. Hence, there is no quarrelling here, only seeking and rejoicing in seeing one another in the spaces of our words.

¹ Source: The great commission, SD 11.2(7).

Some of us here have been tricked and troubled by cult gurus, but we are now free from that dark cold hell that Gurus haunt. Some of us have crippling human difficulties; we wish to enjoy some peace away from frivolous words and vicious putdowns. We seek the Dhamma. Most of us have yet to start our Dhamma journey. This is just the place to start.

We should not be discouraged by the world. Just keep a safe distance, far enough not to hear its unwelcome din. Most of us have now learned not utter a word if it is not more beautiful than joyful silence. But when the Dhamma moves us, it is difficult to be silent because we want others to be joyfully out of their sufferings, too.

Often enough, we feel deeply sickened at the world, at the worldliness of those who should know and act better. We are sick because the world is sick. Let us heal ourselves with loving-kindness: accept the world as it is. Rejoice in Dhamma. Then, we are empowered to smile on the world and light it up.

We only have one goal here:
To know Dhamma, make Dhamma known;
to **see** Dhamma, let Dhamma be **seen**.

Avoid the foolish and frivolous,
seek the wise in word and way,
respect the respect-worthy—
there shines the Buddha-dhamma.

R655 Inspiration 399
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