

SUTTA FOR LIFE

When I started translating suttas some 20 years ago (in 2002),
and has been doing so,
I never thought I was going to set up an awesome Sutta Central;
I was no computer whiz. I did not think of reaching out to millions.
That's why you don't see the SD series on Sutta Central:
I was told I do not use Unicode fonts and
it would take a lot of effort to convert the SD files.
But life seems simpler for me the way things are.
Yet SD users know the SD style is far different from other translations.

I never thought I was qualified to work on a huge financial success
of commercial Sutta Translations to fill the world's libraries.
Somehow, I felt and still feel that nothing beats the real thing:
The suttas themselves as close as possible to how they were taught and recorded
But with lots of explanations and notes for myself originally; now they are yours.

LOVE FOR LEARNING

I knew some monastic Pali, some basic computer skill in writing,
and great love for the English language.
Still I made a lot of errors in my translations;
(But previous translations made worse ones and are still famous for them!)
I realize I am actually studying myself.
I need to keep on checking for typos, checking the grammar,
bettering the style of writing, and straightening my views.
Then, dedicated PROOF-READERS volunteered to help with the SD sutta, sadhu!
They all learned the suttas and we became Dharma friends.

THE JOY OF SIMPLICITY

I have been to a few universities, Malaya, Singapore, and Berkeley;
That's where I learned some academic discipline in research and writing.
But I never spent those years for an academic degree.
I was not ambitious enough or not bright enough, probably both.
Success and status would have helped, but would it be Sutta Discovery?
I'm not sure.

MY LIFE'S GEM

I have led a charmed life of learning and teaching Dhamma.
Kind people like yourself have helped me all the way.
That is how SD got this far (and must continue into the future).
But someone who has never given up on my work and me
Is of course my wife Ratna (Gem) Lim,
without whom the SD series would not have reached you today.
With SD, we all celebrate life as living Buddhists,
Daily Dharmafarers.
May the noble path be clearer to us each day.

R935 Inspirations 576
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