Cp 35 — The Great Hair-raising Conduct

English translation by Bhikkhu Sujato.
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Text

The Conduct Leading to Buddhahood

The Chapter With Yudhañjaya

The Perfection of Equanimity

The Great Hair-raising Conduct

“I made my bed in a charnel ground,

resting on a skeleton.

Village louts came up

and mocked me in all sorts of ways.

Others brought me

incense and flowers,

and many kinds of cooked food,

all thrilled, their minds elated.

Those who brought me pain,

and those who gave me happiness,

were all the same to me.

I felt no favor or anger.

I became balanced toward pleasure and pain,

fame and disgrace.

I was equal in every case:

this is my perfection of equanimity.”

Having thus experienced many kinds of suffering

and many kinds of success,

in various past lives,

I realized supreme awakening.
I gave what could be given,
and fulfilled ethics without reserve.
Having won the perfection of renunciation,
I realized supreme awakening.
I inquired of the astute,
and put forth highest effort,
having won the perfection of acceptance,
I realized supreme awakening.
Having made a firm resolve,
and guarded truthful speech,
having won the perfection of love,
I realized supreme awakening.
In gain and loss, fame and disgrace,
respect and contempt,
having become equal in every case,
I realized supreme awakening.
Seeing laziness as fearful,
and energy as a sanctuary,
rouse up energy:
this is the Buddhas' instruction!
Seeing dispute as fearful,
and harmony as a sanctuary,
be harmonious and courteous:
this is the Buddhas' instruction!
Seeing negligence as fearful,
and diligence as a sanctuary,
develop the eightfold path:
this is the Buddhas' instruction!

That is how the Buddha, illustrating his own conduct in past lives, spoke the exposition of the teaching named the “Legends of the Buddha”.