AN 3.137 — A Hair Blanket

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Text

Numbered Discourses 3.137

14. A Warrior

A Hair Blanket

“Mendicants, a hair blanket is said to be the worst kind of woven cloth. It’s cold in the cold, hot in the heat, ugly, smelly, and unpleasant to touch. In the same way, the teaching of the bamboo-staffed ascetic is said to be the worst of all the doctrines of the various ascetics and brahmins.

The bamboo-staffed ascetic, that futile man, has this doctrine and view: ‘There is no power in deeds, action, or energy.’

Those who were perfected ones, fully awakened Buddhas in the past also taught the efficacy of deeds, action, and energy. But the bamboo-staffed ascetic opposes them by saying: ‘There is no power in deeds, action, or energy.’

Those who will be perfected ones, fully awakened Buddhas in the future will also teach the efficacy of deeds, action, and energy. But the bamboo-staffed ascetic opposes them by saying: ‘There is no power in deeds, action, or energy.’

I too, the perfected one, the fully awakened Buddha in the present, teach the efficacy of deeds, action, and energy. But the bamboo-staffed ascetic opposes me by saying: ‘There is no power in deeds, action, or energy.’

It’s like a trap set at the mouth of a river, which would bring harm, suffering, calamity, and disaster for many fish. In the same way that futile man the bamboo-staffed ascetic is a trap for humans, it seems to me. He has come into the world for the harm, suffering, calamity, and disaster of many beings.”