AN 10.40 — With Ānanda (2nd)

English translation by Bhikkhu Sujato.
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Text

Numbered Discourses 10.40

4. With Upāli

With Ānanda (2nd)

“Sir, they speak of ‘harmony in the Saṅgha’. How is harmony in the Saṅgha defined?”

“Ānanda, it’s when a mendicant explains what is not the teaching as not the teaching, and what is the teaching as the teaching. They explain what is not the training as not the training, and what is the training as the training. They explain what was not spoken and stated by the Realized One as not spoken and stated by the Realized One, and what was spoken and stated by the Realized One as spoken and stated by the Realized One. They explain what was not practiced by the Realized One as not practiced by the Realized One, and what was practiced by the Realized One as practiced by the Realized One. They explain what was not prescribed by the Realized One as not prescribed by the Realized One, and what was prescribed by the Realized One as prescribed by the Realized One. On these ten grounds they don’t split off and go their own way. They don’t perform legal acts autonomously or recite the monastic code autonomously. That is how harmony in the Saṅgha is defined.”

“But sir, what does someone who has forged harmony in a schismatic Saṅgha brim with?”

“They brim with divine merit.”

“But what is divine merit?”

“They rejoice in heaven for an eon, Ānanda.

A Saṅgha in harmony is happy,

as is support for those in harmony.

Taking a stand on the teaching,

favoring harmony, they ruin no sanctuary.

After forging harmony in the Saṅgha,

they rejoice in heaven for an eon.”