KING PASENADI KOSALA

A royal supporter of the Buddha (Part 1)

King Pasenadi Kosala was the king of Kosala, which was north of Magadha ruled by King Bimbisara. The capital of the kingdom of Kosala was Savatthi. One of his sisters was the chief queen of King Bimbisara, and hence he was the brother-in-law of King Bimbisara.

King Pasenadi Kosala became a follower of the Buddha very early in the Buddha’s ministry, and had remained a loyal supporter ever since. His chief queen was Mallika, a wise and religious queen who was well versed in the Dhamma and acted as his religious guide on several occasions.

The first time the King met the Buddha, he asked, “How is it that Master Gotama claimed that He has gained Full Enlightenment? Master Gotama is both young in years and young as a monk.”
The Buddha replied, “Great king, there are four things that should not be looked down upon and despised because they are young. They are a noble warrior, a serpent, a fire and a Bhikkhu (holy man). An enraged young warrior may ruthlessly cause harm to others. The bite of even a small snake may kill. A little fire may become a huge fire that destroys buildings and forests. Even a young monk may be a saint.”

Hearing this King Pasenadi Kosala understood that the Buddha was indeed a wise teacher and decided to become his follower.

King Pasenadi liked going to the Buddha for advice. Even during his official duties, he found time to speak to the Buddha. When talking to the Buddha one day, he received news that his wife, Queen Mallika, had given birth to a daughter. The king was not pleased with the news because he wanted a son.
The Buddha, unlike any other religious teacher, spoke well of women. He said, “Some women are better than men, O king. There are women who are wise, good, who regard their mothers- in-law as goddesses, and who are pure in word, thought and deed. They may one day give birth to brave sons who would rule a country.”

Once, the king came to hear that the Buddha had said, “Dear ones whom we love bring sorrow and lamentation, pain, grief and despair.” The king asked Queen Mallika whether she agreed with the Buddha. She said that if the Buddha had said so, it must be true. But the king was not satisfied. “How can a loved one bring sorrow?” wondered the king.

Queen Mallika approached a Brahmin to ask the Buddha to explain this. After hearing many stories to explain this, the Brahmin related them to the queen. She then asked the king, “Sire, what is your opinion, is Princess Vajira, your daughter, dear to you?”
နောက်ဆုံးမှာင်မှုရော်မဟာမိတ်သတော်မှာင်းသည်။

သာဓာတ်ကန်းများသည် ဗုဒ္ဓဘာသာကျော်ကြားရေးရာတွင် အဓိကဖော်ပြထားသည်။

ထိုစောင်ရောင်းကျော်သည် ဗုဒ္ဓသောက်ကြောင့် ဗုဒ္ဓဘာသာရေးရာတွင် အဓိကဖော်ပြထားသည်။

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