0.0.1 Dona

1. At one time the Auspicious One happens to have entered upon the high road between Ukkattha and Setavya. The Brahmin Dona too happens to have just entered upon the high road between Ukkattha and Setavya. The Brahmin Dona ever gazed at the Auspicious One's footprints, a thousand-spoke wheeled, having a rim, having a nave, wholly complete. Having seen it, this occurred to him: "Marvellous indeed Sir! Unprecedented indeed Sir! Certainly they could not be the footprints of a human being."

2. Then the Auspicious One, having gone aside from the path, sat down at the root of a certain tree, folded his legs crosswise and set his body erect. Solely intent on the foremost, he established mindfulness.

3. Then the Brahmin Dona, following the Auspicious One's footprints, saw that the Auspicious One has sat at the root of a certain tree, graceful, inspiring confidence, faculties calmed, peaceful mind, one attained to the highest taming and tranquility, a Naga with faculties restrained, tamed and guarded. Having seen, he went to the Auspicious One. Upon arrival, he said this to the Auspicious One:

4. Could you be a Deva, sir? I could not be a Deva, O Brahmin. Could you be a Gandhabba, sir? I could not

be a Gandhabba, O Brahmin. Could you be a Yakkha, sir? I could not be a Yakkha, O Brahmin. Could you be a Human, sir? I could not be a Human, O Brahmin.

5. When you are asked: Could you be a Deva, sir? you say: "I could not be a Deva, O Brahmin." When you are asked: Could you be a Gandhabba, sir? you say: "I could not be a Gandhabba, O Brahmin." When you are asked: Could you be a Yakkha, sir? you say: "I could not be a Yakkha, O Brahmin." When you are asked: Could you be a Human, sir? you say: "I could not be a Human , O Brahmin." What, then, could you be, sir?

6. O Brahmin, I have abandoned those asavas because of which I could be a Deva; I have cut them off at the root, made them like palm stumps, obliterated them so that they are no longer subject to future arising. I have abandoned those asavas because of which I could be a Gandhabba; I have cut them off at the root, made them like palm stumps, obliterated them so that they are no longer subject to future arising. I have abandoned those asavas because of which I could be a Yakkha; I have cut them off at the root, made them like palm stumps, obliterated them so that they are no longer subject to future arising. I have abandoned those asavas because of which I could be a Human ; I have cut them off at the root, made them like palm stumps, obliterated them so that they are no longer subject to future arising.

7. Just as, O Brahmin, a blue lotus, a red lotus, or a white lotus, born in the water, grown up in the water, rises well above the water and remains unsmeared by water, even so, O Brahmin, do I dwell untarnished by the world, having overcome the world. Bear me in mind, O Brahmin, as the Buddha.

> "Whatever [asavas] by which a Deva's appearance comes to be
> or a flying Gandhabba,
> whatever [asavas] by which the state of a Yakkha may come,
> and a Human comes to be [designated] as a being,
> those asavas are extincted for me
> uprooted, rendered useless.
>
> As a lovely white lotus
> is unsmeared by the water,
> since untarnished by the world:
> therefore I am a Buddha, O Brahmin."