

Introduction

*Evam me sutam
Ekam samayam Bhagavā
Sāvattthiyam viharati
Jetavane Anāthapindikassa ārāme
Atha kho aññatarā devatā
Abhikkantāya rattiya abhikkanta vannā
Kevala kappam Jetavanam obhāsetvā
Yena Bhagavā tenupasamkami
Upasamkamitvā bhagavantam
Abhivādetvā ekamantam atthāsi
Ekamantam thitā kho sā devatā
Bhagavantam gāthāya ajjhabhāsi*

Thus have I heard:
On one occasion, the Blessed One
was dwelling at the monastery of
Anāthapindika in Jeta's Grove near Savatthi.
When the night was far spent,
a certain deity whose surpassing splendour
illuminated the entire Jeta Grove,
came to the presence of the Blessed One,
and drawing near, respectfully saluted the Lord
and stood to one side.
Standing thus,
he addressed the Blessed One in verse:

Meaning

<i>evam</i>	thus
<i>me</i>	I [Instrumental case : "by me"]
<i>sutam</i>	heard
<i>ekam</i>	(On) one
<i>samayam</i>	occasion
<i>Bhagavā</i>	(the) Blessed One, i.e. the Buddha
<i>Sāvattthiyam</i>	(in) Sāvattthi, the capital of Kosala
<i>viharati</i>	(was) living
<i>Jetavane</i>	Jeta's Wood; Jeta's Grove
<i>Anāthapindikassa</i>	Anāthapindika's
<i>ārāme</i>	monastery
<i>atha kho</i>	then; [at the time]
<i>aññatarā</i>	a certain
<i>devatā</i>	deity [Masculine : <i>deva</i>]
<i>abhikkantāya</i>	(at the) last watch
<i>rattiya</i>	(of the) night
<i>abhikkanta</i>	extreme; outstanding; magnificent
<i>vannā</i>	brilliance; handsome
<i>kevala</i>	whole
<i>kappa</i>	surrounding
<i>Jetavanam</i>	Jeta's Wood
<i>obhāsetvā</i>	set aglow (in full radiance)
<i>Yena ... tena</i>	[Locative case : "towards where"]

	<u>Meaning</u>
<i>upasamkami</i>	approach
<i>upasamkamitoā</i>	having approached
<i>bhagavantam</i>	(to the) Buddha; Blessed One
<i>abhivādetoā</i>	having paid respect
<i>ekam antam</i>	at one side
<i>atthāsi</i>	(the deity) stood
<i>ekamantam thitā kho</i>	and thus; standing at one side
<i>sā devatā</i>	that deity
<i>gāthāya</i>	in verses
<i>ajjhabhāsi</i>	addressed (the Buddha)