

FIGTREE RELATED MATERIAL

H) Translation of TIG53

The two Children of the Heart

Citta is our heart; *cetasika* our discrimination (*vitmana*). One is called Princess of the Heart, the other Prince of the Heart. These are the two Children of the Heart.

The land of the Rose-apple tree

It is located to the south of holy Mount **Sumeru**. Around Mount **Sumeru** is situated first Mount Giri, then Mount Vulture Peak and lastly the seven ramparts of Mount Sevenfold Ring.

The figtree which grows up in the land of the Rose-apple tree

This figtree has **five** branches and as many very fierce *indriya* birds to guard each branch. Four crystal spheres are placed within the figs. The person who wishes to take these crystal spheres must slay the five *indriya* birds. Then he will be able to take hold of them. In order to slay them, fashion the staff of a bow with the bone of a hare, the string with its hairs and the arrows with its vessels. When the *indriya* birds are dead, reflect in order to obtain the four holy crystal spheres. If one doesn't come there, one should have oneself instructed by a person of wisdom.

Mount Sumeru

In the five aggregates of our bodily form, our head is Mount Sumeru; our chest Mount Giri; our pelvis Mount Vulture Peak; the two knees, the two ankles and the two soles the seven stages of Mount Sevenfold Ring, the ramparts of Mount Meru. The four lakes situated at the foot of Mount Sumeru are the four elements in our bodily form.

The figtree

The five aggregates of our form are called the figtree. That which grows up in the land of the Rose-apple tree is the two Children of the Heart who are reborn in the maternal womb.

The three worlds

That is to say the three circles of rebirth — are possessions, wives and children. This is what is called the three attachments in the circle of rebirths.

The fruits of the figtree

The figs are our body. The four crystal spheres are the four elements. The holy Kammattana (place of work) is found in our body. The person who does not venerate and does not practise this holy Kammattana, does not distinguish good from ill and commits serious faults because he has contempt for his own body. The person who venerates and practises this holy Kammattana, considers his own body as a place of establishing (*tthana*) for which he dare not have contempt. Such a one will attain the paths and fruits which will lead him to heavenly good and to nibbanic good.

The five indriya birds

are called: *cakkhindriyain* — the creature in the eyes; *sotindriyam* — the creature in the ears; *ghdnindriyam*. — the creature in the nose; *jivhindriyam* — the creature in the tongue; *kayindriyam* — the creature in the body. This is what is called the five *indriya* birds.

To take a hare bone by way of bowstaff is to use the heart in order to reflect. To take the hairs of the hare by way of string is to use discrimination in order to awaken the presence of remembrance. To take the vessels of the hare by way of arrow is to use wisdom in order to pierce through ill (*papa*).