

Daṇḍasutta - The Stick (SN 56.33)

“Seyyathāpi, bhikkhave, daṇḍo uparivehāsaṃ *khitto* sakimpi mūlena *nipatati*, sakimpi aggena *nipatati*, evameva kho, bhikkhave, avijjānīvaraṇā sattā taṇhāsaṃyojanā sandhāvantā saṃsaraṇtā sakimpi asmā lokā paraṃ lokam *gacchanti*, sakimpi parasmā lokā imaṃ lokam *āgacchanti*. Taṃ kissa hetu? Adiṭṭhattā, bhikkhave, catunnaṃ ariyasaccānaṃ. Katamesaṃ catunnaṃ? Dukkassa ariyasaccassa . . . dukkhanirodhagāminiyā paṭipadāya ariyasaccassa.”

“Just as, monks, a stick, thrown up into the air, sometimes falls on its bottom and sometimes falls on its top, just so, monks, beings who have ignorance as a hindrance and craving as a fetter, running and roaming, sometimes go from this world to the other world, and sometimes come from the other world to this world. For what reason? Because, monks, of not having seen the four noble truths. What four? The noble truth of suffering . . . the noble truth of the way leading to the cessation of suffering.”

“*tasmātiha, bhikkhave, ‘idaṃ dukkhan’ti yogo karaṇīyo ... pe ... ‘ayaṃ dukkhanirodhagāminī paṭipadā’ti yogo karaṇīyo’ti. tatiyaṃ.*

“Therefore, monks, an exertion should be made [to understand]: ‘This is suffering.’ ... An exertion should be made [to understand]: This is the way leading to the cessation of suffering.”