

## Verse 24: The Energetic Prosper (Heedfulness – Appamāda Vagga)

*Uṭṭānavatō satimatō*  
Steadfast attentive

*Suci kammaṣṣa nisammakārinō*  
Pure in action careful in all activities  
and behaviour

*Saññatassa ca dhammajivinō*  
Well-restrained and leading a righteous life

*Appamattassa yaso 'bhivaddhati*  
Mindful person glory increases greatly

Translation: The glory of him who is energetic, mindful pure in deed, considerate, self-controlled, right living, and heedful steadily increases.

Significance: If a person preserves with a focused mind, if his physical and spiritual actions are pure and if he is self-restraint and live according to the Teaching with a sane mind, his fame will grow.

Wise and heedful actions have always been the advice of the Tathagata in his sermons e.g. Mahamangala sutta, Sigalovada sutta, Parabhava sutta or even in Alavaka sutta.

Story: The Buddha spoke verse 24 in reference to a banker, Kumbhaghōsaka at the Vēluvana Monastery

- A plague broke out at city of Rājagaha and many people were infected with the epidemic disease including the city banker and his wife.
- So they told their young son, Kumbhaghōsaka to flee and only to return after a long time. They also revealed that they had buried a treasure of great worth.
- Kumbhaghōsaka returned to the city after being in the forest for 12 years but by then being a grown youth, nobody recognised him
- He found the treasure was still intact but he knew if should he use it, people might misunderstand him and report him to the king. He might be put in captivated with his property confiscated.
- He decided to work for a living until the time is right for him to unearth the treasure. As such, he strove diligently for a decent living as the town's time announcer.
- King Bimbisara, being a keen judge of voices, heard him one day and sent his maid to investigate on the source of this voice as he perceived that it's the voice of a man with great wealth.
- To everyone's surprise, it was the voice of a youth labourer. But, the king's maid preserved to uncover the mystery and setting out in a disguised as ordinary folk she and her daughter, put up at Kumbhaghōsaka's house.
- One day, to perform a ceremony, it was essential that each household has to do some contributions.
- As the youth doesn't have any money, he took some coins for his treasure. The maid substituted the coins with the money and sent the coins to the king, asking the king to summon the youth to court the next day.
- Kumbhaghōsaka finally revealed his story to the King.
- King Bimbisara brought all the youth's treasure to the palace, married his daughter to the youth and made him a banker.
- This incident was related to the Buddha by King Bimbisara.