

Kālāma Sutta

Etha tumhe, Kālāmā, mā anussavena, mā paramparāya, mā itikirāya, mā pitakasampadānena, mā takkahetu, mā nayahetu, mā ākāraparivitakkena, mā ditthinijjhānakkhantiyā, mā bhabbarūpatāya, mā samano no garū'ti. Yadā tumhe, Kālāmā, attanāva jāneyyātha: “Ime dhammā akusalā, ime dhammā sāvajjā, ime dhammā viññugarahitā, ime dhammā samattā samādinna ahitāya dukkhāya samvattanti”ti, atha tumhe, Kālāmā, pajaheyyātha.

Mā anussavena: Do not believe something just because it has been passed along and retold for many generations.

Mā paramparāya: Do not believe something merely because it has become a traditional practice.

Mā itikirāya: Do not believe something simply because it is well-known everywhere.

Mā Pitakasampādanena: Do not believe something just because it is cited in a text.

Mā takkahetu: Do not believe something solely on the grounds of logical reasoning.

Mā nayahetu: Do not believe something merely because it accords with your philosophy.

Mā ākāraparivitakkena: Do not believe something because it appeals to “common sense.”

Mā ditthinijjhānakkhantiyā: Do not believe something just because you like the idea.

Mā bhabbarūpatāya: Do not believe something because the speaker seems trustworthy.

Mā samano no garū ti: Do not believe something thinking, “This is what our teacher says.”

When you yourselves know, “This is unwholesome, this is blameworthy, this is censured by the wise, these things when accepted and practised lead to harm and suffering, then you should give them up.”