

Why Do We Not Kill? Why Sakyamuni Buddha was Headache for Three Days?

Hi everyone, this is Nancy. Today is July 3rd, 2021. How are you doing? In Buddhism, there is a well-known saying: Bodhisattvas are afraid of causes, and sentient beings are afraid of results. Bodhisattvas are afraid of wrongdoings because that could lead to fearful results; and sentient beings are not aware of their own deeds, but only complain when something bad happens. Today, I would like to share a story about the Buddha with you.

According to the Buddhist scriptures, countless kalpas ago, when the Buddha was still a worldly person like you and me, once he was reincarnated as a boy in a family in a small village. In the village there was a fish pond. When the fish were big enough, the villagers used fish nets to catch all the fish and shrimps. The boy was ignorant. He was curious and playful when he saw the biggest fish. He hit the head of the big fish three times with a wooden stick. The big fish struggled painfully on the ground for a while. After the fish and shrimps were distributed, the villagers took them home and had a rich meal. Karma was planted that day.

After countless kalpas, after Gautama was enlightened and became Sakyamuni Buddha, over five hundred people of the Sakya clan which was the Buddha's clan were all annihilated when King Virudhaka invaded the kingdom of Kapilivastu, the Buddha's country. The Buddha at that time was also headache for three days. Those over five hundred people of Sakya clan once were those over five hundred villagers who caught the fish and shrimps and ate them. The army led by King Virudhaka is the reincarnated fish and shrimps while King Virudhaka himself was the fish king at that time whose head was hit three times by that boy who was now the Buddha. Though the boy did not eat the fish and shrimps, but because he hit the fish head three times, he was headache for three days.

People often say everything is impermanent, but everything could be explained if the causes are known. When karma is ripe, nobody can avoid the result, even the Buddha.

Once I heard people saying, "I have been a Buddhist for many years, and I have not benefit much from it. I don't believe it any more."

It was kind of funny to hear that. Changes come from changing our own mind, our own behavior, not from anything outside. When the mind changes, everything else changes.

Could the Sakya clan avoid their fate? Yes, they could if they were not that arrogant. They had chance to change their fate. But because they were not willing to lower their head and repent, they could not change the results.

Amitabha! This is today's Dharma share. Wish everyone be aware of own actions, words, and thoughts. Always plant good causes, and harvest good results. Thank you everyone for being here. I will see you next time. Bye.