


Paṭhama Sovacassatā Sutta

AN VII 34 *First Discourse on Accepting Instructions*

Translated by Bhante Ānanda

May 2020

"uring the night, bhikkhus,

*Some Devatā of exceeding beauty,
At the waning of the night
Illuminating the whole of Jeta's grove
With her radiance,
Came to the me,
Paid loving homage,
And stood to the side.*

Then she said to the me:

[The Devatā]

*"Bhante, there are seven things
That lead a monk to growth."*

What seven?

- (1) One has respect for the Teacher,*
- (2) One has respect for the Dhamma,*
- (3) One has respect for the Saṅgha,*
- (4) One has respect for the training,*
- (5) One has respect for mental composure,*
- (6) One easily accepts instructions,*
- (7) One has virtuous friends.¹*

*"Bhante, these are the seven things
That lead a monk to growth."*

¹ *Satthugāravatā, dhammagāravatā, saṅghagāravatā, sikkhāgāravatā, samādhigāravatā, sovacassatā, kalyāṇamittatā.*

This is what she said.

*After declaring this, she paid homage
And disappeared right there.*

*One who esteems the Teacher and esteems the Dhamma,
Who sincerely esteems the saṅgha too,
Who is wide awake, and esteems Samādhi,
And who sincerely esteems the Training.*

*Having virtuous friends, being easily spoken to,
Respectful and reverential,
That person is incapable of falling away,
And is in the presence of Nibbāna.*



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