

Chapter Notes for Chapter 23: The First Goodbye

Some of the relics found in the original Piprahwa excavation in 1898 by the landowner, William Peppe, were recently discovered in the stores of the Buddhist Society in London. Their research unearthed another cache still owned by his family. Since our visit the Lumbini Development Project has managed to move on, and there are now a few completed modern temples and guest houses on the site. However, it is still beset with problems, much of them due to corruption. See Castleman 1999 for a more up-to-date description of the site and details on the project and all its problems. This includes the killing in 1997 of a Japanese monk unpopular because of complaining about the lack of progress.

“the news gathered a blinding storm around it...and a number of scholars, mainly from Nepal, took recourse to the most unbecoming language.” This is part of the wonderfully Indian introduction to a book by the archaeologist who made the recent excavation and discovery (Srivastava 1986).

“The son of a slave has sat on this seat,” “Let them pour milk over my seat to purify it. When I am king I will wash the place with the blood of their hearts,” “Be not concerned, King, the shade of my kinsmen keeps me cool” and “killed all the people he found without caring whether they were man or child.” Jataka IV, Bhadda-sala jataka, no. 465. [Jat iv.145,152]

All compounded things are impermanent... One of the traditional chants used at Buddhist funerals.

The account of the Tibetan pilgrim Dharmavamsin, or Chag Lotsawa, was translated by Roerich (1959).

The music at the end of this chapter, *Elegy from Homage to Kindness* by *Davis Darling*, is used with the permission of the publisher and artist. It and other pieces can be found here:

<http://smarturl.it/homage-to-kindness>

References:

Castleman, Seth. "Lumbini: Birthplace of the Buddha." *Tricycle: The Buddhist Review* , Winter 1999, pp. 25–30.

Srivastava K.M. *Discovery of Kapilavastu*. New Delhi: Book & Books, 1986.

Roerich, G. N. *Biography of Dharmasvamin, a Tibetan Monk Pilgrim*. Patna, 1959.