

Ugga, the king's chief minister, said to the Blessed One: "It's amazing, lord, and awesome, how prosperous Migara Rohaneya is, how great his treasures!"

The Buddha replied: "But what is his property, Ugga? What are his great treasures?"

"One hundred thousand pieces of gold, lord, to say nothing of his silver."

"That is treasure, Ugga. I don't say that it's not. And that treasure is open to fire, floods, kings, thieves, & hateful heirs. But these seven treasures are not open to fire, flood, kings, thieves, or hateful heirs. Which seven?"

1. Treasure of conviction

One has conviction of the virtues of the Tathagata: "Indeed, the Blessed One is worthy and rightly self-awakened, consummate in knowledge and conduct, well-gone, knower of the world, unexcelled as a trainer for those people fit to be tamed, the Teacher of divine and human beings, awakened, blessed."

2. Treasure of virtue

One abstains from taking life, from stealing, from illicit sexual conduct, from lying, from taking intoxicants that cause heedlessness.

3. Treasure of conscience

One feels shame at bodily, verbal and mental misconduct.

4. Treasure of concern

One feels concern for the consequences of bodily, verbal and mental misconduct.

5. Treasure of listening

One has heard much, has retained what he has heard. Whatever teachings are admirable in the beginning, admirable in the middle, admirable in the end, that – in their meaning and expression – proclaim the holy life that is entirely complete and pure: those he has listened to often, retained, discussed, accumulated, examined with his mind, and well-penetrated by views.

6. Treasure of generosity

One is cleansed of the stain of stinginess, freely generous, open handed, devoted to charity, responsive to requests, delighting in relinquishment.

7. Treasure of wisdom

One is discerning, endowed with discernment of arising and passing away – noble, penetrating, leading to the right ending of stress.

Whoever, man or woman, has these treasures, has great treasure in the world that no human or divine being can excel.

