

### **Chapter 3: Leaving Home**

“But you should know this Ananda...” Majjhima Nikaya, Acchariya-abbhita Sutta (sutta 123). [MN iii, 124].

The “leaving home” scenario of making off in the middle of the night on first sight of his son is a much later concoction. It must have been a heartrending and inspiring motif at the time: giving up what one holds most dear. Unfortunately the modern age presents many examples of inadequate parenting, and this legendary Buddha gets labelled as irresponsible. Details of the most ancient account are in Majjhima Nikaya, Ariyapariyesana Sutta (sutta 26). [MN i, 163].

The past history of Lumbini came from Dutt (1962) and Dhammika (1992).

#### **References:**

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