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Some Phases in the Life of Buddha

Taken from 'The Light of Asia'

Edwin Arnold



Some Phases in the Life of Buddha

First published in 1915, this book presents a dramatization of part of Edwin Arnold's *The Light of Asia*. The original text represents one of the first successful attempts to popularise Buddhism and its founder Gautama Buddha — presenting his life, teachings and philosophy in verse poetry. This adaptation includes staging instructions, properties required, illustrative drawings of suggested costumes, and incidental music composed specifically for the piece. This book will be of interest to students of Indian and Buddhist literature — and how this has interacted with the West — as well as students of drama.



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First published in 1915 by Kegan Paul, Trench, Trübner & Co.

This edition first published in 2017 by Routledge 2 Park Square, Milton Park, Abingdon, Oxon, OX14 4RN and by Routledge 711 Third Avenue, New York, NY 10017

Routledge is an imprint of the Taylor & Francis Group, an informa business

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ISBN 13: 978-1-138-29010-5 (hbk) ISBN 13: 978-1-315-26637-4 (ebk)



King Suddhôdana and his Councillors

Frontispiece]



THE LIGHT OF ASIA Dramatised

SOME PHASES IN THE LIFE OF BUDDHA

TAKEN FROM

THE LIGHT OF ASIA

BY

SIR EDWIN ARNOLD

ARRANGED BY

VALERIE WYNGATE

WITH INCIDENTAL MUSIC BY HUBERT BATH

AND FOUR ILLUSTRATIONS BY RUPERT GODFREY LEE The rights of translation are reserved

Printed by BALLANTYNE, HANSON & Co. at the Ballantyne Press, Edinburgh, Scotland

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NOTE ON THE COSTUME-DRAWINGS

THE costumes for these drawings are taken mostly from the Amaravati Tope carvings in the British Museum. They are intended to represent very roughly the dress of the earlier Indian period, which is quite unlike the modern. Much alteration has been necessary to adapt them to the requirements of private performance at a girls' school, though they are archæologically correct, and maintain, as far as possible, the spirit and particular characteristics of their period.

Further information as to the costumes can be had by studying the carvings placed on the great stairway of the British Museum.

RUPERT GODFREY LEE.