

# ບົດທີ່ສີ່

## ທີ່ພຣະບາດໂພນສັນ

ຣົດຍົນຂອງພວກສອດແນມກໍອອກເດີນທາງຕໍ່ໄປ. ເມື່ອໄປຮອດຢ່ານໃດຢ່ານນຶ່ງ ເລີຍໄດ້ຍົນສຽງຮ້ອງໃສ່ວ່າ: “ຢຸດກ່ອນ! ຢຸດກ່ອນ!”<sup>1</sup> 12

ເວລາງວາກໜ້າໄປຈຶ່ງເຫັນຊາຍໜຸ່ມຄົນນຶ່ງໝອບຢູ່ແປະພຸ່ມໄມ້. ຄົນຜູ້ນີ້ຫົວຍິ້ມພ້າວ ຢ່າງມາຫາຣົດທີ່ຢຸດຢູ່, ໄຂປະຕູແລ້ວຖາມວ່າ:

- ແມ່ນທ່ານອັງຕວນບໍ່?
- ແມ່ນແລ້ວ, ທ່ານສອດແນມຕອບຢ່າງເສີຍໆ.<sup>2</sup> 13

ເພິ່ນຖິ້ມສາຍຕາເບິ່ງຄາວນຶ່ງເພື່ອສັງເກດວ່າ ຄົນຜູ້ນັ້ນຈະມີເທື່ອແຮງພໍໃຊ້ການໄດ້ຫຼີບໍ່ (ນີ້ເປັນນິດສັຍຂອງພວກສອດແນມ).<sup>3</sup> 14

- ຂ້ານ້ອຍແມ່ນຄຳຈັນ. ຂ້ານ້ອຍມາຄອຍຖ້າທ່ານຢູ່ເທິງເຕີບແລ້ວ . . . ເຮົາຮີບພາກັນໄປຢ່າໃຫ້ເສັຽເວລາ. ໃກ້ຈະຮອດບ້ານທວຍ, ເຮົາຕ້ອງແວະບ່ອນນຶ່ງກ່ອນ. 15

ທ່ານອັງຕວນສັງເກດເຫັນວ່າຄົນຜູ້ນັ້ນມີແຜຮູບຕີນກາຢູ່ແກ້ມຊ້າຍ ເໝືອນກັນກັບຮູບຊຶ່ງຜາກົດຂຶ້ນທີ່ຮົ່ມຕົ້ນໂພໃນເມື່ອພັກເຊົາຢູ່ໃນປ່ານັ້ນ. ເພິ່ນມີຄວາມລະແວງແຄງໃຈຈຶ່ງຖາມມັນວ່າ:

- ເຈົ້າຈະພາໝູ່ຂ້ອຍໄປໃສ?

---

1. ຢ່ານໃດຢ່ານນຶ່ງ one section of the journey (ຢ່ານ is classifier for sections of a journey); ກ່ອນ in ຢຸດກ່ອນ should not be translated as "stop first" or "stop before"; see the Grammar Notes at the end of this Chapter for more.

2. ໝອບ to crouch; ພ້າວ urgently.

3. ເທື່ອແຮງພໍໃຊ້ການ sufficient strength and energy [for the task]



- ຂ້ານ້ອຍຈະພາທ່ານໄປທີ່ພຣະບາດໂພນສັນ, ໄປກວດເບິ່ງທີ່ເບິ່ງຖານໃຫ້ຄັກໆແລ້ວເຮົາຈຶ່ງໄປບ້ານ ທວຍ; ເວລາກາງຄືນເຮົາຈະກັບຄືນມາພຣະບາດອີກ; ຄັນບໍ່ຊັ້ນເຮົາຈະຄອຍຖ້າຢູ່ຫັ້ນເລີຍກໍໄດ້.<sup>4</sup> ບ່ອນຫັ້ນ ແລ້ວເປັນທີ່ສຳຄັນຊຶ່ງເຮົາຄວນໄປສິ່ງຊອນເບິ່ງ ເຮົາ ຄົງພຍາຍາມຫາຜົນຢ່າງໃດຢ່າງນຶ່ງໄດ້ເປັນແນ່. **16**

ທ່ານສອດແນມເຫັນວ່າການດຳເນີນເຮືອງນີ້ ເປັນສິ່ງແປກປລາດຢູ່ ແຕ່ເພິ່ນບໍ່ອອກປາກ, ກອງ ຄວາມຄິດຢູ່ໃນໃຈແລະຄອຍເບິ່ງອາການເປັນໄປຢ່າງ ໃຈທຸ່ນໃຈເວີ້ນ.<sup>5</sup> **17**

ພວກສອດແນມໄປຮອດພຣະບາດໂພນສັນເວລາຊຸ່ມມິດ. ພຣະພຸທບາດຕັ້ງຢູ່ແຄມ ທາງຫຼວງເລກທີ ໑໓ (ທາງໄປປາກຊັນ) ຫ່າງຈາກວຽງຈັນ ໘໑ ກິໂລແມດ. ທຸກໆປີເດືອນ ຍີ່ເພັງມີການທຳບຸນຢ່າງມະໂຫລານ.<sup>6</sup> ພຣະສົງອົງຄະເຈົ້າອຸປາສິກອຸປາສິກາພ້ອມດ້ວຍ ປະຊາຊົນທັງສອງຝັ່ງແມ່ນ້ຳຂອງເຕົ້າໂຮມກັນຢູ່ທີ່ນັ້ນ ເພື່ອຮ່ວມການທຳບຸນນະມັສການພຣະ ພຸທບາດອັນເປັນທີ່ນັບຖືຂອງຊາວລາວເຮົາ ຊຶ່ງເປັນພຸທສາສະນິກກະຊົນ.<sup>7</sup> **18**

---

4. ຖານ area  
 5. ອາການ situation; ຢ່າງໃຈທຸ່ນໃຈເວີ້ນ patiently  
 6. ຫ່າງຈາກ distant from; ເດືອນຍີ່ເພັງ full moon of the second lunar month (see Culture Notes at the end of Chapter One for more); ມະໂຫລານ grand, splendid  
 7. ອຸປາສິກອຸປາສິກາ the Buddhist faithful (laypeople); ອຸປາສິກ is male and ອຸປາສິກາ is female (Sanskrit and Pali nouns are inflected for gender, unlike Lao). ໂຮມກັນ to assemble, gather; ພຸທສາສະນິກະຊົນ "the Buddhist faithful".

ໃນບໍລິເວນນັ້ນຜູ້ເດີນທາງໄປຊົມ ຄົງສັງເກດເຫັນພຣະພຸດທະຮູບໃຫຍ່ສອງອົງ ອົງນຶ່ງອົງນຶ່ງແລະອົງນອນອົງນຶ່ງຊຶ່ງຍາວປະມານ ໑໕ ແມດ, ມີຮອຍພຣະບາດຢູ່ໃນສິມ, ຫໍແຈກຫຼັງໃຫຍ່ຫຼັງນຶ່ງ, ກຸຕິນ້ອຍປະມານ ໑໐ ຫຼັງແລະເຮືອນຫຼັງນຶ່ງສຳລັບໄວ້ເປັນທີ່ພັກຂອງປະຊາຊົນໃນເວລາທຳບຸນ.<sup>8</sup>

19

---

8. ບໍລິເວນ perimeter; ອົງນຶ່ງ a Buddha in seated pose; ອົງນອນ a reclining Buddha; ສິມ temple sanctuary; ຫໍແຈກ temple pavilion; ກຸຕິນ້ອຍ monks' quarters.

---

## Chapter Four Vocabulary

ເສີຍໆ indifferently; noncommittal

ຖິ້ມສາຍຕາ to cast a glance; to throw a glance

ນິດສັຍ habit

ແວະ make a quick stop; make a side trip

ລະແວງແຄງໃຈ suspicion, doubt

ຊັ້ມມືດ under cover of darkness

ພຣະພຸດທະບາດ footprint of the Buddha (these are believed to exist all over Southeast Asia by the Buddhists in the various countries)

ທາງຫຼວງ National Route

ຫຼັງ classifier for various types of buildings, such as houses (includes temple buildings such as pavilions and monks' quarters)

## *Grammar Notes*

### Translating ກ່ອນ

As you've hopefully learned by now, translating is not the major (or even *a* major) goal of learning how to speak Lao naturally. But neither should translation be neglected. As speakers of both Lao and English, we're often called upon to build bridges between the two languages for others. So it's worth paying attention to potential pitfalls and mistakes many people tend to make when translating.

No doubt you're also aware, at this stage of your study of Lao, that there are many, many Lao words which do not translate directly into just one English word: context is everything when trying to render the speech (and written form) of Lao into English. We have one good example of this in this chapter: paragraph 12, where we see the exhortation ຢູ່ດກ່ອນ ("Stop! Hold on!"). Note that this use of ກ່ອນ in an exhortation or supplication is qualitatively different than its use meaning "before" in a sentence such as ຂ້ອຍຊີກິນເຂົ້າກ່ອນຈະໄປໂຮງຮຽນ "I'm going to eat before going to school." For that matter, the use of ກ່ອນ in exhortations or requests is also different than how the character of ອັງຕວນ uses it in Chapter Five, paragraph 25 when he says ສ່ວນສົບນີ້ ປະໄວ້ນີ້ກ່ອນ ("As for this corpse, let's just leave it here.").

Sure, there is a sense in which ກ່ອນ in the Chapter Five "corpse example" above might be thought of as "before" ("Let's leave it here [before we do anything else with it]"), or more likely "first" ("Let's leave

the corpse here, while we do something else first.") Or we could maybe think of ຢຸດກ່ອນ as literally "stop [for a second] **before** [you continue on]. But as you can see, careful attention to the context of what's being said, and the intention of the speaker, are essential to capturing the true meaning and flavor of the use of ກ່ອນ in an accurate translation to English. Another thing that's essential is a firm command of colloquial English--which, by the way, gives you a definite advantage as a translator of Lao to English over, say, someone who grew up in Laos.

Consider other "exhortative" or "supplicative" uses of this particle: ລາກ່ອນ "Goodbye" (more literally, "[I'm] leaving [first]"...but you wouldn't want to translate that literally, would you? Assuming, that is, that your goal is rendering the Lao meaning in natural English...) or ດຽວກ່ອນ ("Hold on!" "Just wait a second!"), *not* "Wait before" or "Wait first".

The main lesson here, with ກ່ອນ and with countless other Lao particles that cover a semantic range expressed by many different English words and expressions (as opposed to a single word), is to think before you translate. Go for the meaning, not the structure of the utterance in the source language. In doing so, you'll be the intended meaning most clear to the audience, and you won't inadvertently make the source language--in this case Lao--come off sounding "awkward"

or "stupid" to English speakers who don't know any Lao. Remember, your "audience" only has your translation to rely on as a window into the expression of ideas and thoughts in Lao.