

KIAU-SHANG-MI [KAUSĀMBĪ].

This country⁶³ is about 6000 li in circuit, and the capital about 30 li. The land is famous for its productiveness; the increase is very wonderful. Rice and sugar-canes are plentiful. The climate is very hot, the manners of the people hard and rough. They cultivate learning and are very earnest in their religious life and in virtue. There are ten *saṅghārāmas*, which are in ruins and deserted; the priests are about 300; they study the Little Vehicle. There are fifty Dêva temples, and the number of heretics is enormous.

In the city, within an old palace, there is a large *vihāra* about 60 feet high; in it is a figure of Buddha carved out of sandal-wood, above which is a stone canopy. It is the work of the king U-to-yen-na (Udâyana). By its spiritual qualities (*or*, between its spiritual marks) it produces a divine light, which from time to time shines forth. The princes of various countries have used their power to carry off this statue, but although many men have tried, not all the number could move it. They therefore worship copies of it,⁶⁴ and they pretend that the likeness is a true one, and this is the original of all such figures.

When Tathâgata first arrived at complete enlightenment, he ascended up to heaven to preach the law for the benefit of his mother, and for three months remained absent. This king (*i.e.*, Udâyana), thinking of him with affection, desired to have an image of his person; therefore he asked Mudgalyâyanaputra, by his spiritual power, to transport an artist to the heavenly mansions to observe the excellent marks of Buddha's body, and carve a sandal-wood

⁶³ This has been identified with Kosâmbi-nagar, an old village on the Jumnâ, about thirty miles from Allahâbâd (Cunningham). Kosâmbi is mentioned in the *Râmâyana*. It is the scene of the drama of *Ratnavali*, composed by Bâna in the court of Sri-Harsha or Silâditya.

⁶⁴ A copy of this sandal-wood figure was brought from a temple near Pekin, and is referred to in Beal's *Buddhist Pilgrims*, p. lxxv. A facsimile of it is stamped on the cover of that work. The story of Udâyana, king of Kosâmbi, is referred to by Kâlidâsa in the *Mêghadûta*.