Na hi pāpaṃ kataṃ kammaṃ, Sajju khīraṃ va muccati, ḍahantaṃ bālam'anveti, bhasmacchanno'va pāvako. (Dhp. V. 71)

Just as milk does not curdle at once, an evil deed committed does not produce immediate results. But it follows the fool, burning him like a smouldering fire covered with ashes.