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BUDDHISM HANDBOOK

COMPILED BY SAR MAUNG TOH

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## Life After Death Is Not A Mystery

The difference between death and birth is only a houghtmoment : the last thought-moment in this life conditions the first thought-moment in the so-called next life, which, in fact, is the continuity of the same series. During this life itself, too, one thought-moment conditions the next thought-moment. So, from the Buddhist point of view, the question of life after death is not a great mystery, and a Buddhist is never worttod about this problem.

Dr. W. Rahula

## The Buddha's Greatness

I cannot myself feel that either in the matter of wisdom or in the matter of virtue Christ stands quite as high as some other people known to history-I think I should put Buddha above him in those respects.

> Bertrand Russel, "Why I am not a Christian"

Do not be led by hearsay or by what is handed down by tradition or by what people say, or by waht is stated on the authority of your traditional teachings.
Be not led by reasoning,
nor by inferring,
nor by argument as to method,
nor by delight in speculative opinions,
nor by seeming possibilities, nor by the directions from your teachers.

But, when you know of yourselves that certain actions done by you are not good, wrong and considered worthless by the wise;
when followed and put in practice, lead to loss or suffering, then give them up ... and when you know of yourselves that certain actions done by yuou are good, true and considered worky by the wise, then accept them and put them in practice.

## BUDDHA'S TEACHING

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## Buddhism Handbook

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## NAMO TASSA bagavato arahato SAMMĀ-SAMBUDDHASSA

1 Pay homage to the Exalted, the Worthy, and the Fully Self-Enllghtened the Buddha who has rid Himself of all evil thoughts and who is the discoverer of Noble Truths.

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## Fundamental Principles of Buddhism

1. The Universe was evolved, not created and it is subject to a natural causation.
2. The existence is the law of change or impermanence. All that exists pass through the same cycle of existence i.e. Birth. Growth. Decay and Death - life alone is continuous, ever seeking self-expression in new forms.
3. Man's character is the sum total of his previous actions, Kamma, governs all existences, and man is the sole creator of his circumstances. All are concerned with truth of the process of cause and effect.
4. Hindrances to the attainment of good action may be removed by the observance of the following precepts, which are embraced in the moral code (Sīla) of Buddhism, viz:l. Kill not; 2. Steal not; 3. Indulge in no forbidden sexual pleasure; 4. Lie not; 5. Take no intoxicating drug and liquor.
5. Ignorance produces sense-desire that causes sufferings. The dispersion of sufferings can be attained by the persevering practice of the Nobble Eightfold Path that is essential to self-development which leads to the end of sufferings and to the highest states of peace, Nibbäna.
6. Buddhism lays great stress on the need of meditation which leads to the purification of the mind. The subjective life is as important as the daily round, and periods of quietude for actions are essential for a balanced life. A Buddhist should at all time be mindful and selfpossessed, refraining from emotional attachments.

## Buddhism Hankbook

of Suffering (Dukkha). It was then that the ego-centralism in Him broke down into the void and got over to a stage beyond Suffering with no more traces of Atta (attachment to self) left behind. Mind and matter were to him but empty phenomena which roll on forever, within the range of the laws of Dependent Origination. The Four Noble Truths was realized. The inherent qualities of an Embryo Buddha, by his own will, effort and wisdom, then developed and the complete Enlightenment came to him. Verily Prince Siddhattha attained Samma Sambodhi (Supreme Enlightenment) and became the Buddha.

## BUDDHISM

Buddhism is not a philosophy, for it does not contain an elaborate system of theories and facts exclusively for cogitation, although it must be admitted that the Buddha has anticipate much modern speculation.

Buddhism consists of three aspects, the doctrinal (pariyatti), the practical (patipatti) and the realizable (pativedha), which are interdependent and interrelated.

The Dhamma, commonly known as Buddhism, is classified into different divisions, namely (1) Three constituent parts (Tipiţaka), (2) Five collections (Pañca Nikäya), (3) Nine Parts of teachings (Navangani) (4) 84000 groups of doctrines (Caturasiti Dhammakkhandha Sahassani)

The doctrine in the Tipitaka, is estimated to be about eleven times the size of the Christian Bible. As the word itself implies, it consists of three baskets.

1. The Vinaya Pitaka, which is subdivided into five Books, deals with the rules and regulations of the order monks and nuns, and gives a detailed account of the life and ministry of the Buddha.
2. The Sutta Pitaka consists of discourses preached by the Buddha, and also, in some instances, by his distinguished disciples such as the Ven. Sãriputta, Moggallãna, Ananda, etc. Divided into twenty-six books it is rather like a collection of prescriptions, for the sermons were propounded to suit the occasion and the temperament of different individuals.
3. The Abhidhamma Pitaka, however, is the most important and the most interesting because it elaborates the four ultimate things, i.e., consciousness (Citta), mental properties (mental concomitants, cetasika), matter (material qualities, rüpa) and and Nibbäna.

Buddhism is concerned with truth and facts. It is to be learned and put into practice in the course of one's life, for without actual practice one cannot appreciate truth. Study and practice come first, but above all it is realization, selfrealization, which is its ultimate goal. As such Buddhist is comparable to a raft which is meant for the sole purpose of escaping form the ocean of Samsara (round of birth and death); Buddhism, therefore, cannot strictly be called a philosophy.

It is then a religion? Neither is it a religion in the sense in which that word is commonly understood, for it is not a system of faith and worship. Buddhism does not demand blind faith from its adherents; here, mere belief is dethroned and replaced by confidence, Saddha, based on knowledge of truth.

There were also innumerable Buddhas who arose in earlier world-cycles and who preached the very same Dhamma that gives deliverance from suffering and death to all matured beings.

Buddhas are all compassionate, glorious and Enlightened.

## THE BUDDHA

The word "Buddha" means "Awakened" or the "Enlightened One", and is not a name but a title of honour bestowed upon the Sage Gotama who attained Enlightenment under the Bodhi Tree at Buddhagayã in India.

The word of the Buddha is called Dhamma, which in the Sanskrit form becomes Dharma. It means truth, that which really is; it also means law, the law which exists in a man's own heart and mind. It is the principle of righteousness, therefore the Buddha appeals to man to be noble, pure and charitable, in order to be true to the highest in himself. A Buhhda is one who has attained Bodhi. By Bodhi is meant an ideal state of intellectual and ethical perfection.

Nearly two thousand five hundred and fifty years ago, about 623 years before the Christian era, there was born in Lumbini Park, the district of modern Nepal, an Indian Sakyan prince, Siddhattha Gotama by name. He was the founder of Buddhism.

His father, wanting him to be a very great ruler, kept his son's mind turned towards worldly things instead of the
religious life. At the age of sixteen he was married to his cousin, Yasodhara, the daughter of the King of Devadaha and he had a son named Rahula. For nearly thirteen years Siddhattha led the life of a luxurious prince.

In this twenty-ninth years, however, while on his way to the royal park, Gotama for the first time saw an old man, a sick manand a dead man, and he learned that all men without exception were subject to birth, old age and death, and that all worldly pleasures were only a prelude to pain. It was when he saw a monk that he realized that in order to learn the way to overcome man's universal sorrow he must give up worldly pleasures, and accordingly he renounced his kingdom and became an ascetic.

Gotama wandered about the countryside as a seekér after truth and real peace, approaching many a distinguished teacher of his day, but nobody was competent to give him what he earnestly sought. He strenuously practised all forms of severe austerities, and made a superhuman effort for six long years until eventually his delicate body was reduced to almost a skeleton, but the more he tormented his body, the further away he was from his goal. Finally, having realized the utter futility of self-mortification, he decided to follow a different course, avoiding the two extremes of self-mortification and selfindulgence. The new path which he discovered was the Middle Way, the Majjhima Paṭipadä, which subsequently became one of the salient characteristics of his teachings. By following this path he discovered the Four Noble Truths and then he come to a realization of the perpetual change of mind and matter in himself (Anicca) and as a sequel thereto the Truth
7. The Buddha Said, "work out your own salvation with diligence". Buddhism knows no authority for truth save the intuition of the individual, and that is authority for himself alone.
8. Buddhism discourages superstitious credulity. Buddha taught that no one should believe what is spoken by any sage, written in any book, or affirmed by tradition, unless it accords with reason. Drafted as a common platform upon which all Buddhists can agree. Study, Practice and Self-realization are its main tasks.
9. Buddhist monks are teachers and examplers, and in no sense intermediates between Reality and the individual.
10. As Buddhism is a way of living, not merely a theory of life, the treading the Noble Path is essential to selfdeliverance. "Not to do evil, to do good, to purify the mind", this is the fundamental teaching of the Buddhas.
11. Buddhism is neither pessimistic nor optimistic nor escapist. It denies the existence of God or Soul. It is a system of thought which is reasonable and practical. Buddhism has no dogmas. It embraces science, other religions, philosophy, ethics and arts.
12. The purpose of the "Holy Life" does not consist in acquiring alms, honour or fame. That unshakable deliverance of the heart; that, indeed, is the object of the Holy Life. Its goal is to attain the Nibbana which is freedom from the bondage of passions and round of birth and death.

## Buddhism Hankbook

13. All living-beings are mutually composed to two characters, mind and body.
14. All Buddhists should try to practise the following Buddhistic aspects or living methods which are performed by means of the physical, verbal and mental actions : -
15. Lust, ill-will and ignorance must be always destroyed and controlled.
16. Impermanence, suffering and no-self are ever studied with mindful awareness.
17. Morality, concentration and wisdom be trained perfectly.
18. Thoughts of loving-kindness, compassion, sympathetic joy and equanimity will be pervaded constantly.
19. Dhamma, the ultimate truth, must be specifically realized without limit.

## THE FIVE BUDDHAS

Gotama Buddha is the fourth of the five Buddhas to rise in the world-cycle which is known as a Baddha Kappa (an auspicious world-cycle).

Mettayya will be the Future Buddha.
Gotama's predecessors were the Buddhas : -

1. KAKUSAN
2. KON ĀGON
3. KASSAPA

The confidence placed by a follower of the Buddha is like that of a sick man towards the physician or of a student towards his teacher. A Buddhist seeks refuge in the Buddha because it is he who discovered the path of deliverance.

The starting point of Buddhisan is reasoning and understanding.

Is Buddhism, then an ethical system? It no doubt contains an excellent code of morals which is adaptable to all climes and ages, but it is much more than ordinary morality. Mingala Sutta, Metta Sutta etc. should be read carefully to understand the high standard of morality; but morality (sila) is only the A.B.C of Buddhism.

Buddhism, therefore, is neither a philosophy nor a religion, nor an ordinary ethical code, it is the doctrine of actuality, a means of deliverance; or, as it is called the Dhamma (the principle of righteousness).

## HISTORY OF BUDDHISM

Gotama Buddha lived and taught all the times during his life of 80 years, 500 years before the dawn of the Christian era and over 1000 years before the birth of Mohammed.

Soon after the attainment of Enlightenment the Buddha founded the Order of monks (Samgha) containing both the community of those noble disciples who have reached the Ariyan noble stages, of which the last is perfect sainthood (arahat), and also the community of Buddhist monks who are striving to reach the Ariyan noble stages. The Order of monks increased, and within the forty-fifty years of the Buddha's ministry it
had spread throughout India and beyond, and the Gospel of Liberation became known to all "whose eyes were but lightly covered with dust". A similar Order was established by the Buddha for nuns, with all the same rules and such additional ones as were required for women. The Buddhist Samigha, which historically is the earliest monastic institution to be governed by perfectly democratic principles, continues to the present day.

On the seventh day after the Buddha had passed away Mahã Kassapa who was head of the Samgha, decided to hold a convocation to establish the authoritative teachings of the Buddha. They then held a Great Council at Rajagaha under the patronage of King Ajätasattu, and the Buddhist canon was collected and recited in chants.

During the first century after the demise of the Buddha, there was only one schism among Buddhists, but at the end of the first century during the reign of King Kala ãsoka a community of monks attempted to introduce ten new indulgences into the Discipline of the Samgha, pronouncing them to be allowable to the Samigha. To suppress this heresy, and for the purpose of securing the permanency of the doctrines of the Buddha, seven hundred leading arahats having Revata for their chief, protected by King Kâlasoka, held the Second Great Council at Vesali in precisely the same manner as the previous one.

220 years after the Buddha's decease (323 B.C.) Asoka, the emperor of India, became the defender of the Buddhist faith and conferred the royal protection on the Samgha, causing all those heretical monks to be expelled from the Order. The
whole of the monks thus degraded numbered sixty thousand, and the Order was then restored to unanimity of communion and upheld the rules of sanctification. For the purpose of holding a further convocation the chief monk at that time. Tissa, selected a thousand monks of sanctified character, perfect in religious knowledge and versed in the Tipitaka. Under the auspices they held the Third Council at Patana according to the methods used by Mahã Kassapa and Revata, who led the first and second convocations respectively, and that Council was brought to a close in nine months.

Then the Emperor Asoka gave his beloved son, also his daughter, to the Order, and sent them to Sri Lanka to introduce the religion there. His monks taught it throughout the whole of India and carried it to fourteen Indian nations outside its boundaries, also to five Greek kings, his allies, with whom he made treaties to admit his religious preachers. The names of the five kings mentioned in the Edicts of the Emperor Asoka, and inscribed by him on stone pillars, are Antiochus of Syria, Ptolemy of Egypt. Antigonus of Macedon, Magas of Cyrene and Alexander of Epirus. Five of Asoka's monks were sent to the five divisions of China in the third century B.C., from whence Buddhism reached Korea in 372 A.D. and Japan in 552 A.D. In the fourth and fifth centuries A.D. It spread to Cochin China, Mongolia and other Asiatic countries, and from Kashmir it spread to Nepal and Tibet Sona and Uttara, two of Asoka's monks, introduced Buddhism in Myanmar, and thence gradually it spread to Rakhine and Cambodia. In the seventh century, A.D. 638, it spread from Sri Lanka to Thailand where it became the state religion, even as it still is today.

The Fourth Great Council was held in Sri Lanka early in the sixth century after the Buddha, headed by Mãha Agga and supported by King Vattagämini. At that Council the Tipitaka, which had been transmitted in Palli by memory from the time of the Buddha, was committed to writing for the first time.

Between 1856 to 1871 the Fifth Great Council was held in Mandalay, Myanmar, headed by Jägara Thera with the support of King Mindon. At that time the whole Tipitiaka was inscribed on seven hundred and twenty-nine marble slabs places at the foot of Mandalay Hill.

The Sixth Great Council was held in Yangon, Myanmar, commencing at the full moon of May, 2498 years after the demise of the Buddha, and ending on the 2500th anniversary (May 1956). At that Council the Tipiṭaka was recited in Päli, and steps were taken toward translating it into some more modern languages.

Towards the end of the first century of the Christian era the Buddhists in India were divided into two schools, one of which taught that all the individual had to do was follow the pure doctrine of the Buddha and seek Nibbanna; this was named Hinayana, or the Little Vehicle.

Sri Lanka, Myanmar, Thailand, Cambodia and Laos are said to belong to this school. The other taught special doctrines about the Buddha and some new metaphysical theories, this was styled the Mahayana, or the Great Vehicle. However, the terms Hinayäna and Mahayana are not mentioned in the texts, but they have become common among Western writers owing to their usage by Chinese Pilgrims. One of the best known
philosophers of the Mahãyana school was Nããriuna, who founded and expounded in Madhyamika philosophy. The end and aim of his philosophy was to bring about a compromise, as it were, between the Buddhists and the Brahmins, and to find a mid-point where the adherents of these two could meet and shake hands with one another. Since his time the Brahmins began to regard the Mahayãna Buddhists as their brothers in religion, and the Manayaana school had the predominant voice.

In modern times there are mainly two schools of Buddhism, i.e., Theravãda (Hinayãna), which is practised chiefly in Sri Lanka, Myanmar, Thailand, Cambodia and Laos; and Mahäyäna, which is practised in China, Tibet, Japan and Korea.

Theraväda, the Way of the Elders, was the original and only tradition from the earliest times to the time of the Second Great Council when the Mahãsamighika school, a precursor of Mahäyäna, was formed. Sarvästiväda then arose as the second major school which differed from Theravada, although in only minor details at first, after which it divided into several subjects, many of which eventually developed into Mahäãana.

The main differences between Theraväda and Mahäyanna Buddhism are the concepts in regard to the Buddha himself, as well as in regard to the Bodhisatta ideal, the canon of scriptures, the development of doctrine; the celibacy of the monks and the form of ceremony.

The similarities between the two schools of Buddhism are : the Four Noble Truths, which relate human suffering to the attachment of what is only transient and impermanent; the Noble Eightfold Path, as the way of deliverance which involves
a moral discipline as well as the practice of meditation; the virtue of metta, loving-kindness, as being fundamental; the acceptance of the Buddhist Teaching as being universal in its application; and the Middle Way of life to the goal of Nibbana, the highest of all happiness.

In the closing years of the eleventh century, however, India was overrun by the religious extremists who destroyed the Buddhist monasteries, appropriated the monastic lands for the use of soldiers, massacred monks by the thousands and burned libraries wherever found. Many monks fled across the borders into Tibet and other safe places of refuge, carrying their books with them, and so Hinayäna was practically stamped out from India, while Mahayãa lingered in nooks and corners for two more centuries before it was lost altogether.

## ASHIN THITTILA

> "Everything that is, is without self"; when this one discerns with wisdom, then in one disgusted with ill ; this is the Path to Purity.

DHAMMAPADA 279

## PAEAN of JOY (Udãna)

Soon after the Enlightenment the Buddha uttered a Paean of Joy or Verse of Victory : -
"Though many a birth in samsãra wandered I, Seeking, but not finding the builder of this house.
Sorrowful is repeated birth.
O house-builder ! You are seen.
You shall build no house again.
All your rafters are broken, your ride-pole is shattered,
The mind attains the unconditioned, achieved is the end of craving.

## THE FIRST SERMON

The Lord's first thoughts on the attainment of the supreme wisdom were of his erstwhile teachers, $\tilde{A} \| a ̈ a$ and Udaka but they had already dissolved their lives and had missed Him, the former by seven days and the latter by a few hours. Then He turned his thoughts toward His five Disciples (Panca Vaggl) who were then living in Migadavana forest within the domains of Bäranna (present Benares) whither the Blessed One wended his way on foot, having seen that on His way He would come across one Upaka, a holy man who would in due course receive his enlightenment. Upaka seeing the Blessed One, noble and serene in His aspects thought "That holyman is so majestic in his appearance. He must be very learned and wise and I must befriend him" and approached Him with these words "Oh Holy man! Thy aspects are so noble and serene. May I enquire
who Thy leacher is and what thy name is?" The Lord replied. "My friend, I own no teacher as I am the supreme teacher of the three beings in the universe and my name is jina" (victorious). Upaka then queried, "Should the wise one deign to take me under thy wing, if I should come to seek thee? The Lord replicd, "Yes, my friend, you may come to me and enquire from Jina at any feature date. "Then the Lord continued His journey towards Migadāvana forest to meet His recalcitrant disciples.

On arrival at their habitation, the Lord announced to them of his having attained the Supreme Wisdonz, but the five friends were sceptical and openly refused to accept His statement. The Lord then asked if He had at any time before claimed to have attained Buddhahood. They pondered over the question and frankly admitted that no such claim had ever been made before. The Lord then spoke. "I have mastered the Four Noble Truths in all their progressive aspects in the clearest manner possible, and I will now give you the benefit of my supreme knowledge. So saying the Lord, delivered The First Sermon, to wit: Dhamma cakka pavattana Sutta and continued all night until dawn when the Sage Konḍanna alone fuily understood them and saw the first light of the Lord's Dhamma thus attaining the first of the four stages of wisdom.

## Pacceka-Buddha

Individual Buddha. He is Arahat who has realised Nibbana without ever in this in this life having heard from others the Buddha's doctrine. He does not posses the faculty
to proclaim the doctrine to the world, and to become a leader of mankind.

## DHAMMACAKKA

( Setting in Motion the Wheel of Truth )
At the one time, The Bhagavä (Buddha) was dwelling in Benares (Bärãnasi Country), at the deer park, Isipatana (Modern Sarnath).

Then the Bhagavä addressed the group of five Bhikkhus (disciples).

Those two extremes, Bhikkhus, Should not be followed by one who has given up the world.

Which two?
A life given to attractive sense pleasures, low, vulgar of the average folk, ignoble, unprofitable. And a life given to self-torment, which is suffering, ignoble and unprofitable.

Now, Bhikkhus, by avoiding both these extremes, there is a middle course, fully understood by the Tathagata (Truthfinder, Synonym for Buddha).

Making for vision, Making for knowledge, which leads to tranquility, to higher knowledge, to ENLIGHTENMENT, to Nibbäna.

And what Bhikkhus, is the middle course fully understood by the Tathägata.

It is, this Noble Eightfold Path itself, Namely,
Right understanding Right livelihood
Right thinking Right effort

| Right speech | Right mindfulness |
| :--- | :--- |
| Right action | Right concentration |

( It is only the first three stanzas from
Dhammacakkappavattana Sutta)
by U Pe Maung Tin

The DHAMMA, which the Buddha preached in his first sermon is known as the Middle Path (Majjhima Patipadā̄) because it is neither optimistic nor pessimistic. Optimism tends to overestimate the conditions of life, whereas pessimism tends to under-estimate them. To plunge on the one hand into the sensual excesses and pleasures of the ordinary worldly life is mean, degrading and useless. On the other hand, extravagant asceticism is also evil and useless. Self-indulgence tends to retard one's spiritual progress and self-mortification to weaken one's intellect. The Path is a Middle Way between the pairs of opposites, and the doctrine of the Way may only be grasped by an understanding of the correlation and interdependence of the two. Progress is an alternating change of weight or emphasis between the two. Yet, just as a fencer's weight seem ever poised between his feet, resting upon either foot only for so long as is needed to swing back the emphasis, so on the path the traveller rests at neither extreme but strives for balance on a line between, from which all opposite are equally in view. All extremes beget their opposites, and both are alike unprofitable.

For all people, the Middle Way of a good life lived in the world is in every way best and safest. The Buddha said:
these two extremes are not to be practised by one who has gone forth to the higher life as a Bhikkhu (who renounces the world). What are the two? That conjoined with passion, low, vulgar, common, ignoble. And that conjoined with self-torture, painful, ignoble and useless. Avoiding the two extremes, the Buddha had gained the knowledge of the Middle Path which gives sight and knowledge and tends to calm, to insight, Enlightenment.

## ASHIN THITTILA

## THE FOUR NOBLE TRUTHS

The foundation of Buddhism is the Four Noble Truths. This Dhamma is summed up in the universal moral Law: the Truths about the universal sway of Suffering about its Origin, its Extinction, and the Path leading to its extinction,
(1) The Truth of Suffering, (Dukkha Sacca)
(2) The Truth of the Cause of Suffering (Samudaya Sacca)
(3) The Truth of the Cessation of Suffering (Nirodha Sacca)
(4) The Truth of the Path leading to the Cessation of Suffering (Magga Sacca)

## 1. The Truth of Suffering

The Truth that all sentient life involves suffering. The coming into existence and passing away of all are suffering. Birth is suffering, old age is suffering, disease is suffering, death is suffering, association with the disliked is suffering, separation from the liked is suffering, not to get what one wishes is suffering which mean " Dukkha" (anguish).

This is so because all sentient existence bears the three characteristics of impermanence, unsatisfactoriness and the absence of any real, enduring ego-entity.

## 2. The Truth of the Cause of Suffering

The Truth of the cause of suffering is Ignorance conjoined with Craving for Sankhäras (for existence), because they are considered good, is the cause of suffering.

The craving which seeks delight, now here, now there, the craving for sensual pleasures and for existence.

The cause of this painful round of rebirths is Craving. This is, thirst for the enjoyment of pleasure of the senses, from the lowest animal indulgences upto the most refined mental pleasure. All desires are craving for experience and renewed experience which promote the psychic will to live. Craving is thus the generator of mental energy, the strongest force in the cosmos. This Craving force is associated with Ignorance of the nature of reality.

The Second Truth, about the "Origin of Suffering" teaches that all suffering is rooted in Selfish Craving and Ignorance (tanhä and avijiā)

It further teaches us that the future life, with all its weal and woe, must result from the seeds sown in this and former lives.

## 3. The Truth of the Cessation of Suffering

"The Extinction of Suffering" can be brought to an end only with the attainment of Nibbana, the extinction of the fires of passion.

Nibbana is the ceasing of the overflowing stream of the mental and physical processes.

It is cessation of desire, the total destruction of this very craving, the deliverance from it.

Craving and lgnorance are eliminated altogether and with them the psychic elements of grasping and attaching.

It is the end of suffering and the sole unchanging reality. All suffering will vanish and liberation from Samsara (the continuity of existence) be attained.

The third noble Truth points out that, through the cessation of all selfish craving and all ignorance of necessity all suffering comes to an end, to extinction, and no new rebirth will take place. For, if the seed is destroyed can never sprout again.

## 4. The Truth of the Path

The Truth of the Path to the Cessation of Suffering can be attained by following the Nobel Eightfold Path to perfection. That shows the way, or the means, by which this Goal is reached.

The personal intuitive apprehension of cessation is the Eightfold Path of mental or spiritual development. Each of these terms has a very exact ethical and psychological significance: they are not simple vague, unformulated ideals but are minutely and systematically delineated modes of thought and behaviour. Taken all together they constitute the three essentials of spiritual development, Morality (Sila), Concentration (Samädhi) and Wisdom (Pannã). This is the way to the cessation of suffering.

Whether Buddhas arise or not these four truths exist in the universe, Buddhas only reveal these truths which lie hidden in the dark abyss of times. Scientifically interpreted the Dhamma may simply can be called the law of cause and effect, and this law embraces the entire body of the teachings of the Buddha. Craving is the cause of sorrow, sorrow is the effect of carving. Adherence to the middle path is the cause of Nibbana; Nibbana is the effect of adherence to the Middle Path.

## NOBLE EIGHTFOLD PATH

The practice of the Noble Eightfold Path have been preserved and handed down to us since the time of the Buddha Himself. That is, Disciples who have gained the highest fruits of liberation through self-purification, attest the truth of the doctrine and the effectiveness of the method.

The Eightfold Path is divided into three main stages namely : - Sl$l a$ (Morality), Samädhi (Concentration) and Pañäā (Wisdom).

## Slla (Morality Group)

1. Right Speech (Sammã - Väcä)
2. Right Action (Sammä - Kammanta)
3. Right Livelihood (Sammã - aj̄iva)

Samädhi (Concentration Group)
4. Right Effort (Sammã - Vayama)
5. Right Mindfulness (Sammã - Sati)
6. Right Concentration (Sammã - Samãdhi)

## Pañ̃ä (Wisdom Group)

7. Right Thinking (Sammã - Sañkappa)
8. Right Understanding (Sammä - Ditthi)

## 1. Right Speech

Speech must be true, beneficial and neither foul nor malicious. We should speak aiways of good things. If we must talk, at least we might say something useful and helpful. Speech must be kindly, direct and forceful, and not silly.

Refraining from telling lies.
Refraining from back biting and calumny.
Refraining from using abusive language, harsh words, speech harmful to others.
Refraining from frivolous talk.

## 2. Right Action

The fundamentals of morality which are opposed to killing, stealing, sexual misconduct and drunkenness.

Action must be prompt and yet well-considered and it must be unselfish. We should do what we can to help others. We live amongst others, so whatever we do will necessarily effect a great many people.

All actions are meant to be used for services.

## 3. Right Livelihood

A way of living by trades other than those which increase the suffering of all beings. The livelihood may cause no harm to any living thing. We should not obtain our livelihood by harming any being.

You have a night to make a reasonable profit in the course of your bargain, but you must also look to your duty.

In the case of laity refraining from wrong livelihood by means of immoral physical and verbal actions.

## 4. Right Effort

Right Effort is a prerequisite of right attentiveness. What is desired of us is not mere abstinence from evil, but the positive doing of good.

Buddha made a short statement, "Cease to do evil, learn to do good."

Every person has a certain amount of strength, not only physical, but mental, and can do a certain amount of work.

Making effort in the practice of the Eightfold Path so that those vices (evil practices) that have never arisen during the present existence may not arisen even for a moment in future existence.

It is the effort which, we make in "Overcoming" old and "Avoiding" fresh bad actions by body, speech and mind; and the effort which we make in "Developing" old and "Cultivating" fresh action of righteousness, inner peace and wisdom.

## 5. Right Mindfulness

Vigilant attention leads us to see correctly and to attain a point of view from which we see beyond the pairs of opposites. We should be conscious of our movement and acts, both physical and mental. We should be conscious of the falling which arise in us and recognize them.

The practice of perfect attention is a means of learning to know oneself, to know the world in which one lives, consequently to acquire right understanding.

The stage• is "aleimess of mind". It is the everready mental clearness in whatever we are doing, speaking, or thinking, and keeping before our mind the realities of existence, i.e. the Impermanence (anicca), Unsatisfactoriness (dukkha) and Impersonality (anatta), of all forms of existence.
Application of mindfulness to the contemplation of -

- in breathing and out-breathing.
- painful and pleasurable feelings.
- consciousness rooted in lust or anger.
- sensuous lust.


## 6. Right Concentration

It is right concentration of thought upon a single object, narrowing the field of attention. Meditation is to be practised only after concentration.

In concentration we start with simple objects, and in meditation we carry the clear conception of that simple object to the higher mental and intellectual levels. concentration makes our consciousness steady without leakage and meditation fill it with clear vision and wisdom.

As his power of concentration increases the nature of forces in him becomes more and more vivid.

By meditation on a chosen object, you will observe that object clearly and understand the function of it in conjunction with other things. Therefore, we enlarge our knowledge and wisdom.

When meditation is fully developed in opens up ways of intuition and many supernormal powers. These powers may be obtained even before one reaches the State of Nibbana.

## 7. Right Thinking

The analytical study of mind and matter, both withir. and without, in order to come to a realization of truth.

We can have at the back our minds always high and beautiful thoughts.

Right though must never have the slightest touch of evil in it. We must be quite sure that our thoughts are only kind and good.

In right aspiration, the disciple, who by then has developed the powerful lens of mind, focuses his attention into his ownself and by introspective meditation makes an analytical study of the nature.

Right thinking free from greed and sensuous desire, aiming at an escape from the round of rebirths. Right aspiration for the welfare of all living beings and the non-injury of all living beings.
"Right Thinking", i.e. a pure state of mind, free from sensual lust, from ill-will, and from cruelty; in other words. thoughts of self-renunciation, of goodness, and of mercy.

## 8. Right Understanding

The aim and object of Buddhism is Right Understanding of the true nature of existence.

Whenever he contemplates, there arises in him the Right Understanding of the real fact that there is no such thing as I, You, somebody else, head, hand, etc.; but only a collection of elements.

After the Right Understanding, knowledge-arising has became clear in respect of the whole body.

Persons who understand and practise the true Dhamma, possess tranquility of mind.

To be of real effect, to ensure an absolute inner progress, all our efforts must be based upon our own understanding and insight. All absolute inward progress is rooted in Right Understanding, and without Right Understanding there is no Attainment of Perfection and of the unshakable Peace of Nibbaña.

After observing the three constituents of the Moralitygroup, the practice of the Wisdom-group is undertaken. The three constituents of the Concentration-group come along together with the two constituents of the wisdom-group.

Thus this liberating Eightfold Path is a path of inner culture, of inner progress. By mercly external worship, mere ceremonies and selfish prayers, one never can make any real progress in righteousness and insight.

The Buddha Says : -
"Be your own isle of refuge,
be your own shelter,
Seek not for any other protection!
Let the truth be you isle of refuge,
let the truth be your sheiter,
seek not after any other protection!

## NIBBĀNA

Nirvana, which is the Sanskrit from of the Päli-Nibbana, is a combination of 'ni' and 'vāna'. means not and 'vana' means selfish desire. So Nibbana means the cessation of selfish desire, the absence of craving, hatred and ignorance.

Nibbana means the highest refuge: safety; unique: absoiute purity: Supramundane: sceurity; emancipation: peace: and so on, there are many positive definition. Nibbäna is, therefore. freedom. Freedom, thought, does not mean freedom from
circumstances, nobody is free from circumstances. It is freedom from the bonds with which we have bound ourselves to circumstances, my circumstances, my activities, my, my; so we bind ourselves to our circumstances, make circumstances as our own. Thי's Nibbana is freedom from those bonds, and every kinds of infelicity. Nibbana of the Buddhists is neither a mere nothingness nor a state of annihilation.

Nibbana is an ultimate truth which is uncreated and unformed, hence it is boundless, to be sought after happiness, because it is free form all sufferings, free from birth, death and so on. Nibbana is not situated in any place nor is it a Surt of heaven wherc a transcendental ego resides, it is a state which is dependent upon ourselves. It is getting out of the circle of existence.

Where, however, there is no birth, there can be no passing away, where, there is no existence, no suffering can exist. Now, as with the extinction of all selfish craving all its concurrent phenomena, such as conceit, self-seeking, "greed, hate, anger and cruelty, come to extinction, therefore this freedom from selfish craving signifies the highest state of selflessness, wisdom and holiness.

How is NIBBANA to be attained?
It is by following The Boble Eightfoid Path.

## Discourse on Nibbāna

Now, the Bralmin Janussoni approached to where the Buddha was. Having approached, he paid respects, sat at one side and asked the Buddha:
"O Gotama, it is said, 'Nibbãna can be visualised by oneself, Nibbãna visualised by oneself"? (1) In what respect, O Gotama, can Nibbãna to be visualised by oneself? (2) In what respect can Nibbana be attained simultaneously (with Magga)? (3) In what respect does Nibbanna invite cveryone to come and see it? (4) In what respect can Nibbäna be attained by proper practice? (5) In what respect can Nibbãna be realised or experienced by the wise?"
'O Brahmin, he who takes delight in lust is overcome by lust, and having lost control over his mind plans harm to himself, to others and to both. He experiences painful and unpleasant mental feelings. When lust is extinguished he does' not plan harm to himself, to others or to both. He does not experience painful and unpleasant mental feelings. Thus, $O$ Brahmin, is Nibbanna visualised by oncself.

O Brahnin, he who is defiled by ill-will is afflicted by it, having lost control over his mind he plans harm to himself, to others and to both. He experiences painful and unpleasant mental feelings. When ill-will is extinguished, he does not plan harm to himself, to others or to both. He does not experience painful and unpleasant mental feelings. Thus O Brahmin, is Bibbana visualised by oneself.

O Brahmin, he who is bewildered with delusion is overcome by it, and having lost control over his mind plans harm to himself, to others and to both. He experiences painful and unpleasant mental feelings. When delusion is extinguished, he does not plan harm to himself, to others or to both. He does not experience painful and unpleasant mental feelings.

Thus, O Brahmin is Nibbana Visualised by oneself.
O Brahmin, because he enjoys the extinction of lust without any remainder, the extinction of ill-will without any remainder, the extinction of delusion without any remainder, thus O Brahmin is Nibbana visualised by himself, can be attained simultaneously (with Magga) invites everyone to come and see it, can be realised and experienced by the wise."
ánguttara nikã ya

水 $* * * *$
From craving springs grief, from craving springs fear;
for him who is wholly free from craving there is no grief, much less fear.

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## ANATTA LAKKHANA SUTTAM

## (Discourses on Non-Existence of Soul )

The Blessed One who was most merciful repeated the same sermons during the four successive nights, and the remaining four disciples duly attained first stage of wisdom, that is at the rate of one disciple every night.

On the sixth night the Lord delivered His sermons on Anatta Lakkhana Sulta, and at dawn on the following morning all the five disciples attained in succession the second, the third, and the fourth stages of wisdom, thus becoming Arahats (saints) who formed the nucleus of the Lord's Sanighar (body of disciples) whom the Lord termed the "Third Gem" (Ratana) the First and Second being the Lord Buddha Himself and His Laws (Dhamma) the objects of veneration and adoration.

The five Khandhas fall within the cope of Anatta Lakkhanã of which Rūpa received His first notice in this wise: Rūpa is anaita and if it were taken to be an Atta (soul) it would not suffer oppression at the hand of Anicca Lakkhaña, and Dukkha Lakkhanâ, (constant decay and suffering). Since it is being continually subject to such oppression, it is evidently clear that Rūpa is Anatta. He then proceeded to treat the other four Khandñäs; Vedanā, Sañnā, Sankhãra and Viññāña in a similar manner as for instance, Vedana is Anatta, and if it were taken to he an Atta, it would not be subject to the vagaries of Anicca Lakkhañä, and Dukkha Lakkhanä. Since it is being continually assailed by those Lakkhanãs, it cannot be otherwise than Anatta, and so forth.
M.ZEYA

## The Non-Existence (ANATTA) Doctrine

Individual existence, as well as the whole world, are in reality nothing but a process of everchanging phenomena which all are comprised in the five Groups of Existence. This process has gone on from time immemorial, before one's birth, and also after one's death it will continue for endless periods of time, as long, and as far, as there are conditions for it. The five Groups of Existences-either taken separately or combined-in no way constitute a real Ego-entity or subsisting personality, and outside of these Groups too, no self, soul or substance can be found as their "owner". In other words, the five Groups of Xistence are "not self" (anattā), nor do they belong to a Self (anattaniya). In view of the impermanence and conditionality of all existence, the belief in any form of Self must be regarded as an illusion.

Just as that what we designate by the name of "chariot", had no existence apart from axle, wheels, shaft, carriage, and so forth; or, as the word "house" is merely a convenient designation for various materiais put together after a certain fashion so as to enclose a portion of space, and there is no separate house-entity in existence: - in exactly the same way, that which we call a "being", or an "individual", or a "person", or by the name " I ", is nothing but a changing combination of physical and psychic phenomena, and has no real existence in itself.

## BODHIPAKKHIYA DHAMMA

## ( The Requisites of Enlightenment )

This Dhamma Bodhi, supreme, contribute to the attainment of supreme wisdom. These laws consists (37) varieties of seven main interdependent categories, namely :

## 1. Satipaṭthãna

2. Sammappadhāna
3. Iddhipāda
4. Indriya
5. Bala
6. Samboj̈haniga
7. Magganiga,
which are essential for those who are attempting to gain a true insight into the Buddha's teachings and duly attain wisdom.
8. SATIPATTHANA This is a compound word, comprising of Sati, mindfulness $+p a$, in all details +t , added for phonetics + thana, place or location, thereby meaning constant watchfulness of one's Cittam wherever it is fixed to remain, observing its activities in all details. It consists of four varieties :
(i) Kãyänupassanã, a compound word consisting of Kãya, embodiment of one's own constitution $+\boldsymbol{a} u$, repeatedly + passanaz, looking into: meaning constant examination of one's own constitution in all its details. This subject comprises various parts, each of which is self sufficient to gain a complete insight into high wisdom.
(ii) Vedanānupassanã, consisting of Vedanã + anupassanä. constant examination of one's own feelings, which comprises five varieties in all details. This will also give a complete insight.
(iii) Cittänupassanä, consisting of Citta + anupassanä, meaning ce istant examination of one's own mind (Cittam) in all details, thereby gaining a complete insight.
(iv) Dhammänupassanã, consisting of Dhamma + anupassanã meaning constant examination of certain truths (Dhamma) thereby gaining an insight.

One who aspires to gain an insight will choose one of the four courses herein stated and apply himself most assiduously in strict practice.
2. SAMMAPPADHANA The word means exerting assiduously:
(i) in cultivating one's good action to rise
(ii) in remembering one's good actions from rising
(iii) in preventing evil actions from rising
(iv) in forgetting one's evil actions in the past.

Action here means not only the physical actions but also includes mental activities as well as evil speech of four kinds noticed in training of higher morality (Adhisila Sikkha).
3. IDDHIPA $D A$ The word means essential conditions which consist of four kinds :
(i) Chandiddhip pãda The word means the essential condition of a strong desire or will, Chanda being desire or will.
(ii) Viriyiddhi päda This word means the essential conditions of great industry, Vīriya being exerting or being industrious.
(ii) Cittiddhi päda This word means the essential condition of steadfastness of Cittam.
(iv) Vimamisiddhi pãda This word means the essential condition of a right judgment, Vimansa being right judgnent.

These four essential conditions are mutually interdependent. Those who aspire to seek the supreme wisdom must in the first instance cultivate a strong will which in turn induces a strong energy to arise, thereby the disciple's mind or Cittami will gain steadfastness which alone will prepare the way to acquire the right judgment in the subject under treat:ment.
4. INDRIYA This word means governing forces, without which the disciple cannot expect to gain the much desired insight. The governing forces are of five kinds which are interdependent as in the pervious Dhamma: they are :
(i) Saddhindriya, the governing force of faith, Saddhä, meaning faith,
(ii) $\bar{V}$ iriyindariya, the governing force of $\bar{V}$ iriya great effort or industry.
(iii) Satindriya , the governing force of Sati, mindfulness, (iv) Samädhindriya, the governing force of Samädhi, steadfastness of Cittam,
(v) P'añinindriva, the governing force of Pañāa, intellec: or insight-wisdom.

To acquire wisdom stage by stage, it is absolutely essential that the disciple should exert himself to cultivate those forces to rise which govern all other forces, and when they become paramount over others, his intellect will sharpen to gain a true insight.
5. BALA Bala means great strength and as in the previous Dhamma, consists of the same five classifications:-
(i) Saddhä bala, - great strength of faith,
(ii) Viriya bala, - great strength of Viriya, industry or effort,
(iii) Sati bala, - great strength of Sati mind fulness,
(iv) Samãdhi bala, - great strength of Samädhi, steadfastness of Citta,
(v) Paññã bala, - great strength of Pañ̃ãa, intellect,

The disciple must gradually cultivate these five balas to grow in strength and vigour which will tend to gain the true insight.
6. SAMBOJJHANGA This word consists of Sam, noble + boja, supreme wisdom + ariga, ingredients or elements, meaning noble elements of Super Wisdom. This Dhamma comprises of seven ingredients which are also interdependent as in the previous Dhammas:
(i) Sati sambojihaniga, Sati meaning mindfulness, being one of the ingredients for gaining the true insight.
(ii) Dhammavicaya sambojijhaiga - Dhammavicaya meaning penetration Dhamma is the second ingredient.
(iii) Viriya, sambojijhariga - Viriya, great effort or industry is third ingredient,
(iv) Piti sambojijhanga - Pitit, satisfaction or enthusiasm is the fourth ingredient.
(v) Passadhi sambojihaniga - Passadhi peacefulness, is the fifth ingredient.
(vi) Samãdhi samboijhaniga - Samãdhi steadfastness of citta is the sixth ingredient,
(vii) Upekkhã sambojjhariga - Upekkhã indifference to pleasant or unpleasart feelings, is the last and seventh ingredient.

The disciple must strive to cultivate his Citta to acquire these seven ingredients which alone will pave his way to gain the true insight.
7. MAGGANGA Which comprises the Noble Eightfold Path.

The Bodhipakkhiya Dhamma which consists of thirtyseven classifications as enumerated above should be thoroughly studied and appreciated, before a serious attempt is made to dive into the depths of Patipatti aspects of the Lord's Sãsana, which will enable the disciple to verify in his course forward the correctness or otherwise of the path he is following. If he is on the right track, he will observe on his way all the roadsigns of which he has learned by this Dhamma to identify ${ }^{\text {' }}$ them and will accordingly push forward with zeal until he actually gains the true insight.

The Dhammas are associates of magga ñanna (knowledge of the Holy Paths). They are Dhammas that are the Padathäna
(Proximate cause), Sambhära (Requisite ingredients), and Upanissaya (Basis of Sufficing Condition) of Magga ñãṇa (Knowledge of the Holy Paths).

These Thirty-seven Dhammas should be attempted with energy and determination by those persons wishing to practise calm (samatha) and Insight (vipassanã), and thus make the rare opportunity of rebirth as a human being within the present Buddha Sãsanã worth-while.

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## ACTION (KAMMA)

Kamma is a Pali word meaning action. It is called Karma in Sanskrit. In its general sense Kamma means all good and bad actions. It covers all kinds of intentional actions whether mental, verbal or physical - thought, words and deeds. In its ultimate sense Kamma means all moral and immoral volition.

The Buddha says : "Mental volition is what I call action (Kamma). Having volition one acts by body, speech and thought".

Kamma is neither fatalism nor a doctrine of predetermination. The past influences the present but does not dominate it, for Kamma is past as well as present. The past and present influence the future; the past is the background against which life goes on from moment to moment, the future is yet to be. Only the present moment exists, and the responsibility of using the present moment for good or for ill lies with each individual.

Every action produces an effect and it is a cause first and effect afterwards, we therefore speak of Kamma as the law of cause and effect.

Throw a stone into a pond and watch the effect. There is a splash and a number of little rings appear round the place where it strikes. See how the rings grow wider and wider till they become too wide and too tiny for our eyes to follow. The little stone disturbs the water in the pond, but its work is not finished yet. When the tiny waves reach the edges of the pond, the water moves back till it pushes the stone that has disturbed it.

The effects of our actions come back to us just as the waves do to the stone, and as long as we do or act with evil intention the new waves of effect come back to beat upon us and disturb us. If we are kind and keep ourselves peaceful, the returning waves of trouble will grow weaker and weaker till they die down, and our good Kamma will come back to us in blessings. If we sow a mango seed, for instance, a mango tree will come up and bear mangoes, and if we sow a chilli seed, a chili plant will grow and produce chillis.

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## RESULT OF THE ACTION

## ( Sabbe Sattã Kammassakã )

There exist such properties as vehicles, fields, buildings, jewels etc. Those properties can be said to belong to us in the present existence before we pass away. But when we pass away those properties do not accompany us beyond death. They are like properties which we borrow for some time for our use. They are liable to destruction during the present existence. As those properties which beings posses do not accompany them to their new existence, they cannot be claimed as properties belonging to those beings. The Buddha therefore said, "Sabbe Sattā Kammassakã".

Only the mental, verbal and physical volitional actions of beings always accompany them in this as well as in future existences. They are not liable to destruction by fire, water, thieves, robbers etc.

| Sabbe $\quad=$ | All |
| ---: | :--- |
| Sattä $=$ | Beings |
| Kammassakã $=$ | Subject to their actions |
|  | $\times \times \times \times \times$ |

## THREE ACTIONS

( Three Kamis )

The physical, verbal and mental actions are known as three Kammas in the Buddhist teaching.

1. Käya Kani : - "Physical Action" means all movements of such parts of the body as hands and legs etc.
2. Vaci Kamं : - "Verbal Action" means all verbal expressions made by means of the mouth, tongue and throat.
3. Mano Kam : - "Mental Action" means the functioning of the mind.

The 10 fold unwholesome actions :
Käyakamma : 3 fold bodily actions : killing, stealing, sexual misconduct.

Vacikamma : 4 fold verbal actions: lying, rude speech, slandering, foolish bable.
Manokamma : 3 fold mental actions : avarice, ill will, wrong view.
All beings perform these 3 Kams at all waking hours. All their work great or small is performed by means of these 3 Kamis. These 3 Kams become inert when a person is asleep. In the case of a dead person the 3 Kamis cease to function as far as that body is concerned.

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\mathrm{x} \times \mathrm{x} \times \mathrm{x} \mathrm{x}
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## KAMMA Process

Kamma is a name for wholesome and unwholesome volition or will (Kusala - and akusala - cetana) and the therewith associated consciousness and mental factors, manifested as bodily, verbal or more mental action. Already in the Sutta Texts it is said :

Cetanahani bhikkhave kammam vadami,
Cetayityā Kammam karoti
Kāyena vācāya manassa
"The will (cetana), O Monks, do I call Kamma.
Through Will one does the Kamma by means of body, speech or mind".

In Visuddhi-Megga XVII it is said that, at the moment before death, there, as a rule, will appear to the memory of the evil-doer the mental image of any evil deed, or Kamma, formerly done; or that there will appear before his mental eyes an attendant circumstance, or object, called Kamma-nimitta, connected with that bad deed. such as blood, or a blood - stained dagger etc : or he may see before his mind an indication of his imminent miserable rebirth, gati-nimitta, such as fiery flames, etc. To another dying man there may appear before his mind the image of a voluptuous object inciting his sensual fust.

To a good man there may appeat hefore his mind any noble deed, or Kamma, formerly done by him, or an object that was present at that time, the socalled Kamma-nimitta; or he may see in his mind an indication of his imminent rebirth.
or gati-nimitfa, such as heavenly palaces etc.
"Whoso kills and is cruel, will either go to hell, or if reborn as man, he will be short-lived.

Whoso tortures other beings will be affected with disease.
The hater will be hideous, the envious will be without influence, the stubborn will be of low rank, the indolent will be ignorant"

In the reverse case, man will be reborn in a heavenly world; or, if reborn as man, he will be endowed with health, beauty, influence, riches, noble rank and intelligence.

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\text { ( AN̆ GUTTARA - NIKĀYA } I I I-40)
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$$

## DEATH

According to Buddhism 'death' is "the tempory end of a temporary phenomenon". It is not the complete annihilation of the being, for although the organic life has ceased, the kammic force which hitherto actuated it is not destroyed. Our forms are only the outward manifestations of the invisible kammic force. This force carries with it all characteristics which usually lie latent but may rise to the surface at any moment. When the present form perishes another form takes its place according to a good or bad volitional impulse (kamma that was the most powerful) at the moment before death.

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$$

## REBIRTH

According to the Buddhism, there are 3 factors necessary for the rebirth of human being, that is, for the formation of the embryo in the mother's womb. They are : the female ovum, the male sperm, and the Kamma-energy (Kamma-vega), which in the Suttas metaphorically called "gandhabba" i.e., "soul", or "being". This Kamma-energy is sent forth by a dying individual at the moment of his death. Father and mother only provide the necessary physical material for the formation of the embryonic body. With regard to the characteristic features, the tendencies and faculties lying latent in the embryo, the Buddha's teaching may be explained in the following way:-
"The dying individual, with his whole being convulsively clinging to life, at the very moment of his death, sends forth kammic energies which, like a flash of lightning hit at a new
mother's womb ready for conception. Thus, through the impinging of kamma-energies on ovum and sperm, there arises, just as a precipitate, the so-called primary cell."

There are in the ultimate sense no real beings or things, neither creators nor created; there is but this process of corporeal and mental phenomena. This whole process of existence has an active and passive side, the active or causal side of existence consists of the kamma-process (kamma-bhava), i.e., of wholesome and unwholesome kamma-activity, while the passive or caused side consists of Kamma-results, or vipāka, the socalled Rebirth or Life-process (uppatti-bhava) i.e. the arising, growing, decaying and passing away of all these Kammically neutral phenomena of existence.

This so called present life is, as it were, the reflection of the past one, and the future life the reflection of the present one. Or, the present life is the result of the past kammic activity, and the future life the result of the present kammic activity. Therefore, nowhere is there to be found an Ego-entity that could be the Performer of the kammic activity or the Recipient of the kamma-result. Hence, Buddhism does not teach any real transmigration, as in the highest sense there is no such thing as a Being, or Ego-entity, how much less a transmigration of such a one.

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## THE FIVE KHANDHÃS

( Groups of Existence )
The Five Groups of Existence are :

1. Rūpa-khandhä : The group of corporeality.
lt is the four primary elements and corporeality derived from them.

They are the Solid Element (earth), the Fluid Element (water), the Heating Element (fire), the Vibrating Element (wind). All four are present in every material object, through in varying degrees of strength.

One should understand, according to reality, and true wisdom : "This does not belong to me; this am I not; this is not my Ego".
2. Vedanã-khandhã : The group of feeling

There are three kinds of feeling: pleasant, unpleasant, and neither pleasant nor unpleasant (indifferent).

The Yogi will enquire if these ideas have forms, or name, or if they are non-existent.
3. Sañ̃ãa-khandhä : The group of perception

There are six classes of perception : perception of forms, sounds, odours, tastes, bodily impressions, and of mental objects.

They are a collective body of $\operatorname{San} \tilde{n} \tilde{a} \tilde{s}$. remembrances which are also treated as a distinct Khandhä because of their special importance like the previous Khandhä.

The $y \log \bar{i}$ will try to examine the appearance of these ideas and enquire if they have forms, or names, or if they are non-existent.
4. Sankhära-khandhä: The group of mental formations

There are six classes of volitions (cetana) : will directed to forms (rüpa-cetanä), to sounds, odours, tastes, bodily impressions, and to mental objects.

Having dealt with Vedanã and Sañ $\tilde{n} \tilde{a}$ which are collectively classified under each one single Khandhä. There are varieties of mental working, good, bad and indefferent, appearing as an accompaniment of Vत̄ñ̃anam and disappeating with them at same time.

The Yogi will try to examine each and every appearings and enquire if it has a form, or a name, or if it is nonexistent, with a view to penetrate into what is real.
5. Viñnäna-khandhä : The group of consciousness

This word consists of Viñnãna, idea of knowing and added Khandha, collective body, thereby meaning the collective body of the idea of knowing, which rises from causes.

In the course of a single hour Viñnãna are appearing incessantly from six causes and immediately disappearing for countless number of times and they are collectively termed Viññãna Khandhã.

The Yogi will try to examine them everytime they appear, if they have in them any forms, or names, or if they are nonexistent as in the treatment of $R \bar{u} p a$.

All corporeal phenomena, whether past, present or future, one's own or external, gross or subtle, lofty or low, far or near, all belong to the Group of Corporeality; all feelings belong to the Group of Feeling; all perceptions belong to the Group
of Perception; all mental formations belong to the Group of Formations; all consciousness belong to the Group of Consciousness.

These Groups are fivefold classification in which the Buddha has summed up all the physical and mental phenomena of existence, and in particular, those which appear to the ignorant man as his ego or personality. Hence, birth, decay, death, etc, are also included in these five Groups which actually comprise the whole world.

All formations are "transient" (anicca); all formations are "subject to suffering" (dukkha), all things are without a self (anatta).

Corporeality is transient, feeling is transient, perception is transient, mental formations are transient, consciousness is transient.

An that which is transient, is subject to suffering; and of that which is transient and subject to suffering and change, one cannot rightly say : - "This belong to me; this am I; this is my Self".

Therefore, whatever there be of corporeality, feelings, perception, mental formations, or consciousness, whether past, present or future, one's own or external, gross or subtle, lofty or low, far or near, one should understand according to reality and true wisdom : - "This does not belong to me; this am I not; this is not my Self".

## THE SIGNS OF LIFE

( The Three Characteristics of Existence)
(Ti-Lakkhanã)
The signs of life are the immutable laws which condition all beings. These Three Characteristics are : $A N I C C \bar{A}$ : impermanent (uncertaintly), owing to constant decay
$D U K K H \bar{A} \quad: \quad$ constant suffering
ANATTA $\bar{A}$ : soullessness, all things are without a self

All living beings are subject to these three characteristics. They constitute the natural laws of the physical world.
sabbe sanikhārā aniccã,
sabbe sanikhärā dukkhā,
sabbe sankhãrã anattã,
The word "sankhãra" (formation) comprises here all things (sabbe) that are conditioned or formed, i.e. all possible physical and mental constituents of existence.

Aniccã, (impernanence) goes beyond the scope of living beings and applies to everything in the universe, Nothing which takes form can endure for eternity. Sooner or later it will be worn away, broken, destroyed or disintegrated, providing the material form which new forms come into being. This law operated without limit, from the tiniest grain of dust to the largest star in the universe. Everything is in a constant state of flux, coming into being and passing away. Nothing is still for a moment and therefore nothing can be enduring or permanent.

Only in the mind's eye do we conceive things as still or stationary. All phenomena and all natural laws are the result of this flux or movement.

Dukkhã (suffering) has already been explained under the Four Noble Truths. It will, however, be of value to consider why suffering is not always so obvious to all human beings. People whom we know have been through "living-hell" in the manifold aspects of life, often astound us when we hear them say that life is not so bad after all. To understand this strange attitude, and also the incongruity that those who suffer most are seldom the ones who are seeking an escape from suffering, we must consider the delusive instrument that the mind can be.

Anatta, (soullessness) applies to everything that exists but we are concerned with it mainly in relation to living beings. All things that live are without a soul, self, or spirit, without a permanent and enduring ego or personality. Soul, self and spirit are philosophical conceptions of an immaterial part of man which survives and endures death and destruction of the body. Science today does not support this legendary belief but recognises the existence of the human ego or personality, as an aspect of the mind. It is astounding how close Buddhism is running with the scientific thinking of tody. This ego or personlity is often confused by unenlightened people, with a soul or spirit. This individual charecter has nothing to do with soul-theory for while we can recognise the versatile and changing character of the personality, a permanent soul or spirit caninot exist in nature.

# MOHNYIN SAYADAW'S MODES OF DEPORTMENT with Three characteristics 

Anicca-lakkhana (Characteristic of Impermanence),
Dukkha-lakkhana (Characteristic of Suffering),
Anatta-lakkhana (Characteristic of Ungovernableness).
In these words, anicca means the whole of the Five Groups of Existence, Corporeality group, Feeling group, Perception group, Group of Mental Formations and Consciousness Group. Why! Because of nothingness apart from the arising and passing - away of phenomena, this flux is called anicca: or in other words, the whole of the Five Groups of Existence is called anicca. The processes from the stage of "arising" to the stage of "passing-away" of a phenomenon are called anicca lakkhanã (Characteristic of Impermanence).

In practising the Vipassanã bhävanã according to the instructions, a meditating disciple will find that by paying constant attention to the lakkhana (the alternation, displacements, disturbances, modes of changing, etc.) he is developing his mental faculties in such a way that the Insight thus practised by him is free from both Eternity and Annihilation beliefs.

In moving his hand from one position to another, a yog $\bar{i}$ will find that his whole hand moves, but in reality, trillions of Corporeal Groups arise and pass away instantaneously. If a yogi contemplates this mode of deportment, he will find that older Corporeal Groups arise and vanish yielding place to new one, thus becoming anicca (Impermanence). Move the hand from one position to another again and again and
contemplate the "Impermanence" of the Copporeal Groups. As this point will be much donducive to the better understanding of higher knowledges, it should be clearly understood by a yogi.

In moving the hand from one position to another, a yogī will say that the hand moves onward. In the Ultimate sense, on account of the diffusion of the process of oscillation born of mental activity, the hand moves. This process of oscillation thus produces bodily expression.

When a yog $\bar{i}$ starts walking by the right leg, he determines the dissolution of the physical and mental phenomena mentally noting "Dissolve", "Dissolve" - "Disappear", "Disappear", "Exists no more", "Exists no more", or "Anicca", "Anicca". He should adopt the same procedure when he walks by the left leg also. As this point is very important, a yogi should carry on these exercises for days and months so that he may be able to perceive the passing away or disolution of the physical and mental phenomena even while he is walking slowly or quickly.

During the process of oscillation, trillions of Corporeal Groups arise and vanish; or in other words, they become "anicca" (Impermanence). This fact can only be perceived by an Insightknowledge. If, after noticing the meekness of Corporeal Groups and their rapid vanishing, a yogī practises "aniccã nupassanã" (Contemplatino of Impermanence), he will also be able to realise Anicca and also the remaining two signs ... Dukkha and Anatta.

## BODHI TREE

The Bodhi tree (Bo Tree) or the pipal tree is often mentioned as a Sacred Tree having significant associations with Buddha Gotama.

Prince Siddhattha finally arose fully Enlightened as Gotama Buddha under the shade of the Bodhi tree which is said to have been "born" simutaneously with Him.

Thus the Bodhi tree is a sanctified image of worship as a worthy Paribhoga cet $\bar{i}$ or shrine in Buddhist countries. Buddhists therefore pay respect to the Bodhi tree that has sacred association with the Buddha.

## Thirty-One Planes of Existence

1. Four nether planes called Apāya.
2. The human plane of existence (Lokī).
3. Six planes of Devas or lower spiritual beings.
4. Twenty plances of Brahmas or higher Spiritual beings

These are thirty-one planes in which the successive sequence of mental processes re-birth. One can be rebom in one or other of the plances and not escape from the ills of existance which roughly are old age, discase, death and sorrow.

## PAGODA (CETIYA)

Pagoda; temple; stupa: edifice.
A thing which is honoured, venerated and paid homage to by men, devas and brahmas.

These stupas or shrines are often built up with bricks to some considerable height and are called cetiyas.

There are four types of cetiya ;
(1) Paribhoga cetiyas which include the Buddha's personal belongings, such as water strainer, girdle, robes and aims-bowl; also the edifices where any one of these are enshrined; as well as the Bodhi tree where the Buddha attained Enlightenment;
(2) Dhãtu cetiyas which are the Buddha's relics and the stupas or edifices where any one of these relics are enshrined;
(3) Dhamma cetiyas which are the books and palmleaves, ctc, on which the Buddha's teachings are recorded and the stupas or edifices where these are enshrined;
(4) Udissaka cetiyas which are the images and statues of the Buddha.

## TWO Extremes

Everybody should avoid these two extreme behaviours:

1. Kāmasukhallikãnuyoga $=$ Indulgence in sensual pleasures.
2. Attakilamathãnuyoga $=$ Self-mortification

## Three Kinds of Craving

 (Tahnăă)| 1. Kämatanhã | $=$ Craving for sensual pleasures |
| :--- | :--- |
| 2. Bhavatanhã | $=$ Craving for continual existence |
| 3. Vibhavatanhã | $=$ Craving for non-existence in future |

## Ten Good Deeds (Puñ̄na)

To do these good behaviours : -

1. Dãna
$=$.Generosity, charity
2. Sila $=$ Morality, Good Moral conduct
3. Bhävanã $=$ Mental Development, Meditation
4. Apacāyana $=$ Reverence, paying due respect
5. Veyyävacca $=$ Services, Helping others
6. Pattidãna $=$ Sharing merit to others
7. Pattãnumodana $=$ Rejoicing at other's merits
8. Dhammasavana $=$ Hearing the Doctrine
9. Dhammadesenã $=$ Teaching the doctrine
10. Ditthijukamma $=$ Straightening of one's view

Ten Defilements (Kilesa)
Not to do these bad behaviours : -

## 1. Lobha

2. Dosa $=$ Hatred, Anger
3. Moha $=$ Bewilderment, Stupidity
4. Mäna = Conceit, Arrogance
5. Ditthi = Wrong View
6. Vicikicchã $=$ Doubt, Scepticism
7. Thina $=$ Mental Torpor, Sloth
8. Uddhacca $=$ Restlessness
9. Ahirika $=$ Shamelessness to do evil
10. Anottappa $=$ Not fearing to do evil

## THE FIVE HINDRANCES

(NIVARANA)
"The Five Hindrances" (Nivarana) which corrupt the mind, are obstacles to the attainment of absorption, These are-

1. Sense-Desire
(The pleasant object)
2. Ill-will
$V y a ̃ p a ̃ d a$
(Hateful Object)
3. Sloth and Torpor - Thina-middha
(Dullness of Mind)
4. Restlessness and Worry - Uddhacca-Kukkucca (The Uncalmed Mind)
5. Doubt - Vicikicchã
(Paying Attention in
An Improper Manner)
6. "The sensual desire" (Kämacchanda) means hindrance which arises as lust in sensuality, greed, longing, craving etc.
("arise" means appears, come into existence.)
It should be understood that this sensual desire that has not arisen for lack of practice or for not having an enjoyable ubject to arise. In reality, however, there is no sensual desire hat has not arisen throughout the beginning rounds of rebirth.
7. Ill-will (Vyäpãda) means the wrong state of mind the abandoning of the original state of mind.

It is name of the hindrance of ill-will which is with undersirable object. It is also the name of hatred (dosa) as well as repulsive object and phenomenon which is the cause of hatred.
3. "Sloth and Torpor" (Thina-middha) means stolidity and drowsiness. Therein the lack of workableness of consciousness is sloth (thina). It is the name of the state of being lazy.

The lack of pliancy and workableness, Shrouding and cloudiness of the three mental aggregates-khandhas(Vedana, Sañ̃̄ā-, Sankhārak-) is torpor (middha). It is the name of the state of a person who is dosing and blinking in drowsiness.
4. "Restlessness and Worry" (Uddhacca-Kukkucca). "Restlessness" (uddhacca) means the wavering state of mind. "Worry" (Kukkucca) means remorse over the good that has not been done and the evil that has been committed.

The uncalmed mind is the name of restlessness and worry. "Who has uncalmed mind" means who has the mind
which has not been calmed by ecstasy (Jhäna) or by Insight (Vipassanā).

This uncalmed mind indeed conditions restlessness and worty basically.
5. "Doubt" (Vicikiccha) is the hindrance of sceptical doubt, paying attention in an improper manner and ever doubt about Buddha and also Dhamma with heaviness or uneasiness through indecision. When assailed by this cetasikam (Psychic-factor) uncertainty ar.ses, being oppressed by wavering thoughts which will not bring any relief whatsoever and being dominated by moha (ignorance).

He who has cut away these "Five Hindrances", he dwells with a heart free from lust; etc. And he obtaines : -

- Cherishing love and compassion toward all living beings;
- With watchful mind and clear comprehension;
- With mind undisturbed and full peace;
- Full of confidence iir good;

He cleanses his mind from all these five hindrances. He has put aside these hindrances and come to know the paralysing corruptions of mind. And far from sensual impressions, far from evil things, he enters into the all Absorptions (Jhäna).

## Eleven Marks of ill

## ( 11 Dukkhas)

1. Jãti : ill of birth
2. Jarã : ill of decay
3. Marana : ill of death
4. Soka : ill of sorrow
5. Parideve : ill of lamentation
6. Käyika : bodily ill
7. Cetasika : mental ill
8. Upãyãsa : ill of despair
9. Appiyehisampayoga : ill due to association with enemies
10. Piyehivippayoga : ill due to separation from loved ones
11. Icchä vigata: ill due to nonfulfilment of wishes

## Birth (Jãti)

The birth of beings belonging to this or that order of beings or planes (jãti) being born with full development (sañjãti); their conception (okkanti); coming into existence (abhinibbatti); the arising of the constituent groups of existence (khandhãnami pãtubhavo) and the appearance of sense organs (ãyatanänam patitabho); is called Birth.

## Decay (Jarã)

The decay of beings existing in this or that order of beings; their getting aged, becoming toothless, greyhaired and wrinkled; the failing of their vital force, the wearing of the senses; this is called Decay.

## Death (Marana)

Passing away (cuti) of beings out of this or that order of beings, the state of pasing away (cavanatã); the destruction of the groups of existence (bhedo); disappearance of the groups of existence (antaradhäna); dying (maccu-maraṇa); making an end of life (kälakiriyä); dissolution of five groups of existence (Khandhãnami bhedo); discarding of the body (Kälavārassanikkhepo); and the cessation of the vital force (Jivitindriyassa upacchedo); is called Death.

## Sorrow (Soka)

Sorrow (soka), sorrowfulness (socana), the state of beings sorry (socitatta), inward sorrow (antosoko), inward woe (into parisoko), inward burning sorrow (cetaso parijijhāyanā), distress (domanassa), the arrow (pang) of sorrow (sokasalla) - which arises through : - (1) loss of relatives; (2) loss of property; (3) loss of health, (4) loss of virtue; (5) loss of right view; (6) any other loss (or ruin) or (7) any other suffering; this is called Sorrow.

## Lamentation (Parideva)

The moaning for loss (e.g. of children etc., calling their names) ( $\tilde{A} d e v o$ ), wailing and lamenting, mentioning their respective qualities (Paridevo), the state of such moaning ( $\tilde{A}$ devanã), the state of such wailing and lamentation (paridevanã), the state of being a bemoaner ( $\tilde{A}$ devitattã), the state of being such a wailer or lamenter (Paridevitatta) talking vainly (Väcapaläpo), talking incoherently (vippaläpo), repeated
grumbling (lālappo), the act of repeated grumbling (Lālallama), the state of being one who grumbles repeatedly (Lalappita), which arises through: - (1) loss of relatives, (2) loss of property; (3) loss of health; (4) loss of virtue; (5) loss of right views; (6) any other loss (or ruin); or (7) any other suffering, this is called Lamentation.

## Pain (Kãyika Dukkha)

Bodily pain and unpleasantness, the painful and unpleasant feeling produced by bodily contact; this is called Pain.

## Grief (Domanassa)

Mental pain and unpleasantness, the painful and unpleasant feeling produced by mental contact : this is called Grief.

## Despair (Upāyãsa)

Mental suffering ( $\bar{A} y a \tilde{a} s o$ ), intense mental suffering (upãyãso), the state of having mental suffering (äyāsitatta), the state of having intense mental suffering (upãyãsitatta) which arises through : - (1) loss of relatives; (2) loss of property; (3) loss of health; (4) loss of virtue; (5) loss of right view; (6) any other loss (or ruin); or (7) any other suffering; this is called Despair.

## FEELING

(VEDANÃ)
(1) "Bhikkhus, it is said : "Feeling should be understood; the origin of feeling should be understood; the variety of feeling should be understood; the resultant of feeling should be understood; the practice leading to the cessation of feeling should be understood - and therefore is this said"?
"Bhikkhus, feeing are these three : -
(i) Agreeable feeling ;
(ii) Disagreeable feeling ;
(iii) Indifferent fecling.
(2) "Bhikkhus, what is the origin of feeling?

Bhikkhus, phassa (contact) is the origin of feeling?
(3) "Bhikkhus, what is the variety of feeling?
"Bhikkhus, (i) there are agreeable feelings associated with kilesa (defilement); (ii) there are agreeable feelings not asspciated with kilesa; (iii) there are disagreeable feelings associated with kilesa; (iv) there are disagrecable feelings not associated with kilesa; (v) there are indifferent feelings associated with kilesa; (vi) there are indifferent feelings not associated with kilesa.

This, Bhikkhus, is the variety of feeling.
4. "Bhikkhus, what is the resultant of feeling?
"Bhikkhus, whatever being is brought into existence in the plane of merits or in the plane of demerits by feeling as its offspring is the resultant of feeling.
5. "Bhikkhus, what is the cessation of feeling?
"Bhikkhus, the cessation phassa (contact) is the cessation of feeling.
(6) "Bhikkhus, what is the practice leading to the cessation" of feeling?
"Bhikkhus, This Noble Eightfold Path is the practice leading to the cessation of feeling.
"And when the noble disciple understands feeling, the origin of feeling, the variety of feeling, the resultant of feeling, the cessation of feeling, the practice leading to the cessation of feeling, he understands this Nibbedhika-brähnacariya (Noble Practice which explodes masses of Lobha, Dosa and Moha).
"Bhikkhus, it is said: Feeling should be understood; the origin of feeling should be understood; the variety of feeling should be understood; the resultant of feeling should be understood; the cessation of feeling should be understood; the practice leading to the cessation of feeling should be understood because of this is said.

## Suffering (Dukkha)

Birth is suffering; Decay is suffering; Death is suffering; Sorrow, Lamentation, Pain, Grief and Despair are suffering; association with those one docs not love is suffering; to part with those one loves is suffering; not to get what one desires, is suffering.

There are six classes of sense objects which are undesirable, disagreeable and not appealing to mind. To see, hear, smell, taste and contact physically or mentally such objects are suffering.

## THE FOUR IDEAL ATTITUDES

(BRAHMAVIHARA)
The Buddha was not only Lord of Wisdom. He was also the supreme Lord of Compassion. It was out of pity for suffering humanity that He sought and found the Truth. He taught his followers to develop a heart of loving-kindness that embraces without distinction all beings. This He called the godlike state of consciousness. There are four of these Brahmavihãras; they are

1. Mettä, Universal benevolence;
2. Karunā, Compassion;
3. Muditã, Sympathetic joy;
4. Upekkhä, Equanimity and no discrimination.

Mettã embrances all beings.
karunä embrances sufferers.
Muditã embraces the prosperous.
Upekkhã embraces the good and the bad, the loved and the unloved, the pleasant and the unpleasant.

## THE FOUR MAHÃ $B H \bar{U} T A S$

( the Four Great Essentials )
Mahäbhūta means to develop greatly :
(1) Earth (Pathavi) The element of extension is the element of earth; that is, the fundamental principle or foundation of matter. It exists in gradations of many kinds, such as, hardness, more hardness, stiffness, more stiffness, softness, more softness, pliability, and so on.
(2) Water ( $\bar{A} p o$ ) The element of cohesion is the element of water, that is, the cohesive power of material qualities whereby they form into mass or bulk or lump. There are apparently many kinds of cohesion.
(3) Heat (Tejo) The element of heat is the element of fire, that is, the power to burn to inflame, and to mature the material qualities. This maturative quality is of two kinds, namely, the maturative quality of heat and the maturative quality of cold.
(4) Motion (vãyo) The element of motion is the element of wind, that is, the power of supporting or resisting. It is of many kinds, such as supportive, resistive, conveying, vibratory, diffusive, and so on. From these four great Elements all other forms of matter are derived or are born. Or, expressed in another way. All matter is a combination, in one proportion or another, of these four elementary properties.

## THE FOUR PRODUCERS

( Generators of Material Phenomena)
There are four kinds of producers which produce material phenomena : -

1. Kamma, Action
2. Citta, Mind
3. Utu, Temperature or Climate
4. Ahära, Nutriment

Kamma means moral and immoral actions actions committed in previous existences.

Citta means mind and mental concomitants existing in the present life.

Utu means the two states of Tejo-dhãtu, the fire-element, i.e., heat and cold.

Ahära means the two kinds of nutritive essence, internal nutriment that obtains from the time of conception and external nutriment that exists in edible food.

Out of the twenty-eight species of material qualities, the nine species i.e., the six bases, two sexes, and life, are produced only by Kamma. The two media of communications are produced only by Citta.

Sound is produced by Citta and Utu. The three plasticities are produced by Citta, Utu, and Ahära. Of the remaining thirteen, excluding Jaratã (decay) and Aniccatã (impermanence), the eleven comprising the Four Great Essentials, nutriment, visible form, odour, savour, the element of space, integration, and continuance are produced by the four causes. These eleven always appertain severally to the four classes of phenomena produced by the four causes. There are no phenomena that enters into composition without these. Material phenomena enter into composition with these, forming groups of eight, nine, and so forth, and each group is called Rüpa-Kaläpa.

As to the two salient features, decay and impermanance, they exclude themself from the material qualities born of the four causes as they disorganise what has been produced.

Neither for the sake of oneself nor for the sake of another (does a wise person do any wrong); he should not desire sons, wealth, or kingdom (by doing wrong); by unjust means be should not desire his own success.

Then (only) such a one is indeed virtuous, wise, and righteous. DHAMMAPADA-84

## THE ABHIDHAMMA <br> ( Buddhist Philosophy )

Abhidhamma - the word is composed of Abhi and Dhamma in Pali. Abhi means subtle or ultimate. Dhamma means truth or doctrine. So Abhidhamma means Ultimate Truth.

Buddha's entire teachings consist of three aspects : -

1. The Doctrinal
2. The Practical
3. The Realizable

These aspects are preserved in Scriptures called "Three Pitaka (Tripitaka)" or baskets of the canon. All words of the Buddha are in this Pitaka which consists of three baskets as:-

1. Discipline (Vinaya Pitaka)
2. Discourses (Sutta Pitaka)
3. Ultimate things or Realities (Abhidhamma Pitaka)

The following four ultimate things in the Abhidhamma Pitaka are subdivided into seven books : -

1. Mind (Citta)
2. Psychic-factors (Cetasikas) $=$ Mental factors
3. Matter (Rüpa)
4. Nibbäna

The Abhidhamma is analyzed and preached in purely philosophical terms true in the absolute sense. Thus in the Abhidhamma, realities of physical and psychic phenomena are described and elucidated.

Abhidhamma is a philosophy in as much as it deals with the most general causes and principles of things. It is also an ethical system because it is enables one to realize the ultimate goal, Nibbäna. As it deals with the working of the mind, thoughts, thought-processes and psychic factors, it is also a system of psychology. Abhidhamma is therefore generally translated as "The Psycho-Ethical Philosophy of Buddhism."

The main reason of Abhidhamma is that it is so extremely subtle in its analysis and technical in treatment that it is very difficult to understand without the guidance of an able teacher.

## 24 TYPES OF RELIATIONS

## ( Principles of Cause and Effect )

BUDDHISM views the world, with the exception of Nibbãna and Pañnatti, (Concept) to be impermanent, liable to suffering, and soulessness. So Buddhist philosophy, to elaborate the impermanency as applied to the Law of Perpetual Change, has from the outset dissolved all things. all phenomena both psychic and physical, into a continuous succession of
happenings, of states (sabhãva) of mind and matter, under the Fivefold Law of Cosmic Order (Niyäma). And the happenings are determined and determining, both as to their constituent states and as to other happenings, in a variety of ways, which Buddhist Philosophy expresses by the term "paccayas" or "relations". One complex happening of mental and material states, with its three phases of time-genesis or birth, cessation or death and a static interval between, is followed by another happening, wherein there is always a causal series of relations. Nothing is casual and fortuitous. When one happening by its arising, persisting, cessation, priority, and posteriority, is determined by an determining another happening by means of producing (janaka), supporting (upathambhaka), and maintaining (anupãlana); the former is called the relating thing (paccaya-dhamma), the latter the related thing (paccayuppannadhamma); and the determination, or the influence, or the specific function, is called the correlativity (paccayasatti). As the various kinds of influence are apparently known, the relations are classified into the following 24 species: -
(1) Hetu - root
(2) Ãrammana - object
(3) Adhipati - dominance
(4) Anantara - contiguity
(5) 'Samantara - immediate contiguity
(6) Sahajāta - co-existence
(7) Añnamañña - reciprocity (mutuality)
(8) Nissaya - dependence

| (9) Upanissaya | - sufficing (strong-dependence) |
| :--- | :--- |
| (10) Purejāta | - pre-existence (antecedence) |
| (11) Pacchãjãta | - causal relation of posteriority in |
|  | time (consequence) |
| (12) Āsevana | - habitual recurrence (repetition) |
| (13) Kamma | - action |
| (14) Vipãka | - effect (resultant) |
| (15) Ähãra | - food (support) |
| (16) Indriya | - control |
| (17) Jhãna | - ecstasy |
| (18) Magga | - path (Means) |
| (19) Sampayutta | - association |
| (20) Vippayutta | - dissociation |
| (21) Atthi | - presence |
| (22) Natthi | - absence |
| (23) Vigata | - abeyance |
| (24) Avigata | - continuance |

These 24 species of relations are extensively and fully expounded in the seventh and last of the analytical works in the Abhidhamma Pitaka of the Buddhist Canon, called the Pat! hãna - "the Eminence", or the Mahā Pakarana - "the Great Book".

The Causal Law of Relations in the course of the analytical study of which six coloured rays emerged from the person of the Buddha during His non-stop meditation for 49 days soon after the attainment of Buddhahood.

The co-relation of Hetu (condition) and Kamma (action) and the effect produced by their causes.

Hetu is the condition of the mind at one conscious moment of each Kamma (action) whether physical, vocal or mental. Each Kamma therefore produces a condition of mind which is either moral, immoral or neutral. This is what is Buddhism we call Kusala Dhamma, Akusala Dhamma and Abyãkata Dhamma. These Dhammas are mere forces - i.e., mental forces - which collectively create the Universe of Mental Forces.

Moral (Kusala) forces are positive forces generated from Kammas (actions, words, and thoughts) motivated by such good deeds as almsgiving, welfarework, devotion, purification of mind, etc.

Immoral (Akusala) forces are negative forces generated from Kammas (actions, words and thoughts) motivated by desire, greed, lust, anger, hatred, dissatisfaction, delusion, etc.

Neutral (Abyäkata) forces are neither moral nor immoral. This is the case, for example, of an Arahat who has got rid of all traces of ignorance (Avijjä). In the case of an Arahat, contact (Phassa) of sense objects with the sense centres produces no sense impressions (Vedanã) whatsoever, just, as no impression is possible on flowing water which is ever changing. To him the whole framework of the body is but an ever changing mass and any impression thereon automatically breaks away with the mass.

## DEPENDENT ORIGINATION

## ( Paṭicca - Samupäda)

All religious, no doubt, claim to show the way to Truth. In Buddhism, for so long as one has not realized the truth (i.e., the Four Noble Truths), he is in ignorance. It is this ignorance (Avijija) that is responsible for the generation of mental forces (Sarikhãra) which regulate the life continum (Viñ̃̈äna) in all sentient beings. Just as the life continuum is established in a new existence, Mind and Matter (Nãma and Rüpa) appear automatically and correlatively. These, in turn, are developed into a vehicle or body with sense centres (Salãyatana). These sense centres give rise to contact (Phassa) and contact of these sense centres with sense objects gives rise to sense impressions (Vedanar) which have the effect of arousing desire (Tanhã) followed closely by attachment or clinging to desire (Upädänu). It is this attachment, or clinging to desire, which is the cause of becoming (Bhava) or of existence with the attendant birth (Jäti), old age, illness, death, anxiety, agony, pains, etc., (Jarãmarana, etc.), all of which denote suffering. In this way the Buddha traced the origin of suffering in ignorance.

So the Buddha said : -
Ignorance is the origin of mental forces;
Mental forces, the origin of the life continuum;
The life continuum, the origin of sense centres;
The sense centres, the origin of contact;
Contact, the origin of impression;
Impression, the origin of desire;
Desire, the origin of attachment;
Attachment, the origin of becoming (existence);

Becoming (existence), the origin of birth;
Birth, the origin of old age, illness, death, anxiety, agony, pains, etc., (which are all sufferings).

This chain of origination is called the Law of Dependent Origination and the root cause of all these is therefore Avijja, ignorance - that is, ignorance of the Truth. It is true that superficially desire is the origin of suffering. This is so simple. When you want a thing, desire is aroused. You have to work for it or you suffer for it. But this is not enough. The Buddha said, "The five aggregates, which are nothing but mind and matter, also are suffering". The Truth of suffering in Buddhism is complete only when one realizes by seeing mind and matter as they really are (both within and without) and not as they seem to be.

SAYAGYI U BA KHIN
"Not by birth is one an outcaste, Not by birth is one a noble;
But by deeds is one an outcaste, And by deeds is one a noble."

## Sutta-Nipāta Two Truths (Saccās)

Twơ kinds of Saccãs which the Buddha had accepted as always true, viz -

1. Paramattha Saccã : The truth which is innately and always true in all aspects.
2. Sammuti Sacce$\tilde{a}$ : It is the truth in as much as they correct for the conveyance of one's thoughts to others and not more.

According to Sammuti Saccã, it is true to say that a man loses his temper and that he hits another. When we come to consider it according to Paramattha Sacca, it is not true that there is a man, or that a man hits another. Instead of a man there is a collective bory of Nãma and Rüpa, which together are believed by means of delusion to be a man, and there exists also not an another person which is in fact a collective body of Nãma and Rūpa. There is in fact Dosa (ill-temper) in which the idea is present in conjunction with Citta (mind) and the two ideas enlisting the aid of Rupa, here Patthav $\bar{v}$ (earth) and Vayo (air) to make necessary motion, i.e., to hit. But in ordinary human speech or intercourse, it will be quite confusing to employ a language in terms of Paramattha Sacca and we are bound to use a language generally understood for, Sammuti Saccã, though no inherently true as it is regarded by the Buddha as tiue for general intercourse only. The Buddha Himself would employ the language of Sammuti Saccã in His discourses and sermons though He would here and there strike a note of warning to keep in mind the distinction between the real and the unreal.

## 10 PARAMITS (PERFECTIONS)

A Bodhisatta is Buddha in the making, and is thus a being practising over an incalculable period of world cycles to attain to the highest level in ethical, intellectual and spititual achievement. As a Boddhisatta, in each succeeding birth he practises the ten perfections (ten paramis), a prerequisite for Buddhahood.

One need not think that the Bodhisatta ideal is reserved only for supermen; what has been accomplished by one could also be accomplished by another, given the necessary effort and enthusiasm. We should endeavour to work disinterestedly for the good of ourselves and others, having for our object in life the noble ideal of service and perfection.

The ten perfections are :

1. Generoṣity, alms giving (Dāna)
2. Morality
3. Renunciation (Sila)
4. Wisdom
(Nikkhamma)
5. Energy (Perseverance) (Viriya)
6. Patience
(Khanti)
7. Truthfulness
(Sacca)
8. Determination
(Adhitthāna)
9. Loving-kindness
(Metta)
10. Equanimity •
(Upekkha)

## THE SIX BASES (The Six Sense-doors)

Basis is that where consciousness generates, anises, develops, or that whereupon it depends.
(1) The eye-basis (Cakklu) is the element of the sensorium within the eye-ball where consciousness of sight is generated; and the consciousness of sight connotes the power of seeing various kinds of colours, appearances, forms and shapes.
(2) The ear-basis (Sota) is the element of the sensorium within the organ of the ear where consciousness of sound is generated, and the consciousness of sound connotes the power of hearing various kinds of sound.
(3) The nose-basis (Ghāna) is the element of the sensorium within the nose organ where consciousness of smell is generated, and the consciousness of smell connotes the power of smelling different kinds of odours.
(4) The tongue-basis (Jivhä) is the element of the sensorium upon the surface of the longue where consciousness of taste is generated, and the consciousness of taste connotes the power of tasting many kinds such as sweet, sour, and so forth.
(5) The body-basis (Kãya) is the element of the sensorium locating itself by pervading the whole body within and without from head to foot, where consciousness of touch is generated, and the consciousness of touch connotes the power of feeling or sensing physical contacts.
(6) The mind-basis (Mano) a kind of very fine, bright, subtle matter within the organ of sense where mind consciousness, comprising sixty-nine classes of the same in number is generated.

From these six bases all classes of consciousness are generated and arise.

## THE TWO SEXES (BHÃVAS)

Bhãva means production or productive principle.
(1) The Itthi-bhãva or the female sex is a certain productive principle of matter which produces several different kinds of female appearances and ferwinine characters.
(2) The Pum-bhãva or the male sex is a certain productive principle of matter which produces several different kinds of male appearances and masculine characters.

The two sexes respectively locate themselves in the bodies of male and female, like the body-basis pervading the entire frame, from the sole of the foot to the top of the head within and without. Owing to their predominant features the distinction between masculinity and femininity is readily discerned.

## VOLITION (Cetanã)

Buddha says, "Cetanã ham bhikkhave Kammami-Vadämi." It means that alms-giving (dâna), observing precepts ${ }^{*}$ (sīla) and practising meditation (bhävanã), or doing other deeds of merit, only the volition (cetanã) that arises in one's mind is called kamma (deed)

It produces benefits that gained without wishing for any benefits from the deed are far greater, more forceful and
peaceful than those gained by wishing for benefits from the deed.

Wishing for anything is greed (lobha) and not wishing for anything is non-greed (alobha). Lobha is akusala (demeritorious) and "alobha" is kusala (meritorious). So lobha is to possess for oneself and alobha is to give away for all beings (loka) and to sacrifice.

## SOTÄPAN

A "Stream Winner"; the first of the Four Groups of Noble Personalities. The Satäpan is one who by meditation has realised the truth of Anatt $\tilde{a}$, is confirmed in confidence in the Doctrine and hence has destroyed the first three fetters, i.e., (1) Belief in Self, (2) Doubt and hesitation and (3) Belief in the efficacy of rites and ceremonies for the attainment of liberation.

The Sotāpan, who has gained the fruit of the first stage of the Path, is assured of his final emancipation within a measurable period, is not reborn more than seven times, and is no longer in danger of a lower rebirth. He may in this lifetime complete the further three stages and attain Nibbãna as an Arahant.

(The Light of the Dhamma vol. 1, No. 3)

remains firmly fixed on it for that period. If one wishes to do so for two hours, one's attention remains firmly fixed on it for two hours. There is no occasion when the attention becomes released from its object on account of the instability of thoughtconception (vitakka).

The essential meaning is, whether it be by out-breathing or in-breathing, or by iriyãpatha (four postures - going, standing, sitting, lying,)or by sampajañña. (clear comprehension), or by dhãtu-manasikãra (advertence of mind on the elements), or by atthika-sañ̄̄̄a $a$ (contemplation of bones), one must put forth effort in order to acquire the ability of placing one's attention on one's body and its postures for as long as one wishes through out the day and night at all waking hours. If one can keep one's attention fixed for as long as one wishes, then mastery has been obtained over one's mind.

There are many kinds, and many grades, of mastery over the mind. The successful practice of Käyagatäsati is, in the Buddha Säsanã, the first stage of mastery over one's mind.

Those who do not wish to follow the way of Samatha (Calm), but desire to pursue the path of pure vipassanã which is the way of the Sukhavipassana (One who practises Vipassana only.) individual, should proceed straight to Vipassanã after the successful establishment of kãyagatásati.

It they do not want to practise kãyagatãsati separately and if they mean to practise. Vipassanä with such industry that it may carry käyagatäsati with it, they will succeed, provided that they really have the necessary wisdom and industry. The $k \tilde{a} y a g a t a ̃ a t i$ that is associated with udayabbaya-ñana
(Knowledge arising from contemplation of the arisings and vanishings of mental and physical phenomena), which clearly sees their coming into existence and passing away, is very valuable indeed.

Even if completion is not arrived at in the practice of samatha and vipassanä (Calm and Insight), if the stage is reached where one attains control over one's mind and the ability to keep one's attention fixed on wherever one wishes it to be, it was said by the Buddha that such a one can be said to be one who enjoys the savour of Amata Nibbāna.

Those who enjoy käyagatãsati, enjoy Amata (Nibbãna).
Which means great peacefulness of tranquility of mind.

## LEDI SAYADAW

## VISUDDHIS

## (Purifications)

One should not thus defer the practice of samādhi before the completion of the practice of Sila, or defer the practice of Pañnāa before the completion of the practice of Samādhi. In accordance with the order of the seven visuddhis (Purifications), such as (1) Sila - visuddhi (Purification of Virtue), (2) Citta - visuddhi (Purification of Consciousness), (3) Ditthi - visuddhi (Purification of View), (4) Kanikhävitaraṇa - visuddhi (Purification by Overcoming Doubt), (5) Maggāmaggañā nadassanavisuddhi (Purification by Knowledge and Wisdom of what is and what is not Path), (6) Patipadañanadassana - visuddhi (Purification by Knowledge and Vision of the Way),
and (7) Nāṇadassana - Visuddlhi (Purification by Knowledge and Vision), they should not postpone the practice of any course for a Visuddhi until the completion of the respective previous course. Since they are persons engaged in the accumulation of as much of the seeds of Paremi as they can, they should contrive to accumulate the largest amount of Sila, Samädhi, and $\operatorname{Pan} \tilde{n} \vec{a}$, that lies in their power.

When it is stated that Citta - Visuddhi should be practised only after the completion of the practice of Sila - visuddhi, that $D ; t h i$ - visuddhi should be practised only after the completion of the practice of citta-Visuddhi, that Karikhà Vitarana- Visuddhi should be practised only after the complection of the practice of Ditthivisuddhi, that the work of Anicca, Dukkha, and Anatta Bhā vanä (Contemplation of Impermanence, Suffering and Impersonality) should be undertaken only after the completion of the practice of kankhāvitarana-visuddhi the order of practice prescribed is meant for those who attempt the speedy realisation of the Paths and the Fruits thereof in this very life. Since those who find it unable to call forth such effort, and are engaged only in the accumulaion of the seeds of Pārami, are persons occupied in grasping whatever they can, it should not be said in their case that the work of Samatha manasikära Cittavisuddhi (the practice of Purification of Consciousness consisting of advertence of mind to tranquillity) should not be undertaken before the fulfillments of Sila-Visuddhi.

The Essential Point of Ledi Sayadaw's Dipanī by U Sein Nyo Tun

## MENTAL CULTURE

The whole of the Buddha's Teachings may be summed up in 3 words: Morality, Mental Concentration and Wisdom. This is the threcfold division of the Eightfold Path leading to the deliverance from the misery of Samisāra (Round of Rebirth).

Of these 3 stages, morality constitutes the foundation without which no real progress along the Eightfold Path to purity and deliverance is possible. The 2 higher stages, Concentration and Wisdom which are brought to perfection, are practised as "Meditation". By this latter term is usually translated the Buddhist Pāli term Bhãvanã.

The word Bhãvanã is a verbal noun derived from the causative of the verb bhilbhavati, to be, to become; and therefore literally means "the bringing into existence", i.e. the producing. the Development. Thus the Development of mind is iwofold:-

1. Development of Mental Concentration (Samädhibhã vanã), or Tranquillity (Samatha-bhãvanā)
2. Development of Wisdom (Pañ̄̃ā-bhãvanā) or clear insight (Vipassanâ-bhãvanã)

Thought the Concentration or Samãdhi - exercise may serve various preliminary purpose, yet their ultimate object is to reach that unshakable Tranquillity and purity of the mind, which is the foundation of Insight leading to deliverance from the cycle of rebirth and misery. The Buddha has said: "Now, what, O monks, is Nirvanna? It is the extinction of Greed (lobha), Hate (dosa) and Delusion (moha)" "And what, O monks. is the path leading to Nirvana? It is mental Tranquillity (Samatha) and Insight (Vipassanã)."
"Mental Tranquillity"(samatha) is the unshakable state of mind gained through the persevering training in mental concentration. Tranquillity, according to the Commentary Sankhepavannanã. bestows a three-fold blessing: auspicious rebirth, bliss in this very life, and mental purity and fitness for Insight.
"Insight" (vipassanã) is a name for the flashing forth of the light of wisdom and clear Insight into the true nature of existence, i.e. into the Impermanency, Misery and Impersonality (anicca, dukkha, anatta) of all corporeality, feelings, perceptions, mental formations and consciousness.

With regard to the development of concentration and mental tranquillity, there exist many different exercises. In Visuddhi-Magga (III-XI) 40 such concentration exercises are enumerated and minutely explained, namely: 10 Kasina-exercises, 10 Cemetery-meditations, 10 Reflections on the qualities of the Buddha, the Law, the Holy Ones, on Morality, Liberality, Heavenly Beings, and on Death, Body, In and Out-breathing, and the Peace of Detachment. Further the development of the 4 Divine Abodes (All-embracing Kindness, Compassion, Altruistic Joy, Equanimity), the 4 Immaterial States, the perception of the Filthiness of Food, and the analysis of the 4 Elements.

We have already stated that all the concentration exercises, as such, serve only the purpose of developing mental Tranquillity (samatha). Mental tranquillity, however, is the fundamental and indispensable condition for the successful
development of Insight (vipassanã). And this Insight alone possesses the power to confer immediate entrance to the 4 stages of Holines, and thus to free us for ever from the 10 Fetters (samiyojana) that are binding beings to the ever-turning Wheel of Existence.

Therefore our Buddha has said : "May you developmental concentration, O monks. For whose is concentrated in mind, sees things as they really are". Concerning Insight (vipassanã) we read in the Milinda Pañha: "Just as when a man brings a lamp into a dark chamber, the lamp produces light and renders all things visible, just so does lnsight, as soon as it arises, dispel the darkness of ignorance and bring forth the light of knowledge; and sending out its rays of wisdom, it renders clearly visible the 4 Noble Truths. And thus the earnestly striving monk, with clear and bright Insight. beholds the Impermanence, Misery and Impersonality of all existence."

And in Puggala-Pañ̃atti: "Just as a man in a dark and gloomy night, at the sudden flash of lightning, may with his eye clearly recognize the objects : even so one may, through deep Insight, perceive all things as they really are : "This is Misery, this is the Origin of Misery, this is the Extinction of Misery, this is the Path leading to the extinction of Misery."

Hence, just as Morality (Sila) forms the indispensable foundation for the successful development of mental Tranquillity and Concentration, just so, supported by morality, dose mental Tranquillity and Concentration form the necessary foundation for the development of Wisdom and Insight. And Insight is the immediate condition to the entrance into the 4 stages of Holiness.

Insigh as already said, is induced by means of analysis and intense contemplation on all the phenomena of existence, i.e. on corporeal phenomena, feelings, perceptions, mental formations and states of consciousness; by the contemplation on their impersonality, futility, emptiness and unsubstantiality; by contemplation the fact that in reality, neither within nor without these fleeting phenomena, is there to be found any Ego-entity (atta) and that ' I ' or 'Self' or 'Person' etc. are nothing but conventional names. Really, this teaching of unsubstantiality and Impersonality (anatta). together with the teaching of the Conditionedness of all phenomena of existence, are the only specific doctrines of Buddhism, and without insight into these profound truths, nobody can ever rightly grasp the Four Noble Truths, or enter the path (Magga).

There is only one way to the realization of deliverance, namely the 4 Foundations of Attentiveness, i.e., the attentive contemplation of body, of feeling, of mind, and of mind-objects.

For that purpose the monk retires to a solitary place; and sitting down and directing his whole attention in front of himself, he watches attentively his In and Out-breathing, and attains thereby mental concentration and the Jhanas.

Or : In going, standing, sitting or lying down, he is well aware and knows that there is no living entity, no real Ego, that moves about,, but that it is a mere conventional mode of speaking, if one says: ' I go, I stand' etc.

He is full of attention and clearly conscious in going and coming, looking forward, and backward; in bending and stretching his body, in eating, drinking, speaking and keeping silent. Thus in all outer activities, he is clearly conscious of
purpose, utility, duty and truth.
Further: He contemplates on the manifold parts of the body, as hairs, nails, teeth, skin, flesh. bones, etc.

Further: He analyses the body with regard to the 4 elements, i.e., the solid, liquid, heat and motion.

Further : Just as if he would see a corpse thrown to the burial ground, swollen up, blue-black in colour, he draws the conclusion: "Also this my body has the same nature, will become so, cannot escape it". Or : Just as he would see a corpse, a framework of bones, stripped of fresh, bespattered with blood bones disconnected and scattered in all directions - bones bleached and resembling shell bones heaped together - bones weatherworn and crumbled to dust, he draws the conclusion : "Also this my body has the same nature, will become so, cannot escape it" Thus he contemplates on his own body, on other bodies, and on both. He sees, how these bodily phenomena are arising and passing away. And he understands that only corporeality is there to be found, but no Ego-entity.

In contemplating on the feeling, he notices the agreeable feeling, the disagreeable feeling and the indifferent feeling; sees how these feelings are arising and passing away, and does not find any Ego-entity within or without the feelings,

In contemplating on the mind, he noties when it is filled with greed, or hate, or delusion, or when it is free from these things; notices when the mind is cramped or scattered, concentrated or not. And he sees how these states of mind are arising and passing away, and knows that there is no Ego= entity to be found.

In contemplating on the mind-objects, he notices when one of the mental hindrances is present, or not present, how it arises, and how it is overcame. He contemplates on the 6 sense-organs and the corresponding objects, and the mental fetters conditioned through them; contemplates on the 5 groups of existence, on their arising and disappearing.

Thus he contemplates on all the phenomena, sees how they are arising and passing away, and how nowhere any Egoentity can be found.

The Satipatthäna-Sutta closes with the encouraging words that he who in this way practises the 4 Foundations of Attentiveness, may find deliverance from all suffering.

NYANATILOKA

## MENTAL DEVELOPMENT

That which we call man is composed of mind and matter, nãma and rüpa. In essence, mind (nãma) is a stream of consciousness which can be expressed by the word 'thought', but thought is not of itself a physiological function, it is a kind of mental energy something rather like electricity except that the latter are of the material reaim. Thoughts and the radiation of currents of thoughts are mental elements of the mental world which correspond torthe four material elements of the physical world. We are essentially the manifestation of our thought forces, and these forces, the currents of our thoughts, although subject to change are never lost.

According to Buddhist philosophy there are three classes of thought, namely,
(1) Consciousness of the plane of sense desire,
(2) Higher grades of consciousness
(3) Supramundance consciousness.

Of these three, consciousness of the plane of sense desireworldly desires - is mainly of two types, good and bad. That which is accompanied by the three good roots of unselfishness, good will and insight, is called good, and any word or deed done with this good thought is called good kamma, or good action, such as kindness, helpfulness, etc. These actions produce good effects such as having a philanthropic nature (alobha), a compassionate and loving nature (adosa), and a sharp, intelligent nature of clear understanding (amoha).

The types of consciousness, thoughts, that are accompanied by the three bad roots of greed, hatred (ill-will), and ignorance, are called bad. Any deed done or word uttered with bad thoughts is called bad kamma, bad action, things such as killing, stealing, lying, etc. This produces bad effects such as short life, miserly nature (lobha), irritable and quarrelsome nature (dosa) and dull or deluded nature (moha).

Thus in the world of desires there are tow main types of thought, good and bad; and, accordingly, two main types of beings, good and bad. However, by purifying his thoughts, purging them of the three bad roots of greed, hatred and ignorance, a bad person can be changed into a good one by developing his lower nature into a higher one, thereby acquiring the three good roots of unselfishness, goodwill and insight. A good person can develop himself still further into an even better and higher type.

According to the order of the Noble Eightfold path, there are three stages of mental development. As the three stages are interdependent and interrelated, all of them should be practised together and at the same time. For example, when living a right life, a moral life, it is easicr to have right concentration and right view. In the same way that practice of right concentration helps one to live rightly and to concentrate rightly, but to try and live a right life without right concentration, which is mind control, also without right view, means that the result cannot be effective. You may think a thing is good at one moment, and may not think it is so at another; at one moment you may be happy concerning it, and at another sorry, because you lack right view. Right concentration cannot be attained without living a right life and having right view, and it is not possible to have right view without right living and right concentration.

## CONCENTRATION

Concentration means the narrowing of the field of your attention, or focusing your thoughts. If we do not concentrate our thoughts they are scattered and diffused. We are thinking all the time we are awake, whatever we are doing; these thoughts of ours are floating, spreading, diffusing, without any purpose, so they get us nowhere. But they can be concentrated on one object, if we will. Everybody can do this. It sounds rather serious, but you are doing it most of the time; while you write you are concentrating, while you are eating you are concentrating. Some people make a habit of reading during
meals, and try to read and eat at the same time, but in this way they spoil both things; they cannot enjoy food, neither can they read properly. So you should concentrate on one thing at a time.

You can concentrate on any object as though you are using a torch. Then you will have the ability, a habit of mind, to keep on one object until you have brought to bear on it all your possible thoughts in connection with it. Start by concentrating on simple objects; later on the ability to concentrate can be applied to any object, however difficuit and abstract. People who can study very quickly are those who can concentrate

## MEDITATION

The difference between thinking and meditating is, that, in thinking generally you have no definite object or purpose, while in meditation you think exclusively of a definite object chosen by your will. By thinking without purpose your thoughts may lead you to dangers and troubles, but by meditating on a chosen object you will gain benefit. By meditation you enlarge your intellect and develop your power of knowing or seeing things as they truly are.

Meditation is to be practised only after concentration. Some people try to jump straight to mediation, but if they do so they fail to obtain a clear picture of the object or the clearness of consciousness which concentration gives. Concentration is mere focusing of our thoughts on the object, but in meditation we keep that clear mental picture of the
object. Not only that, but we expand and develop the field of it, and also develop our knowledge, expand the field of our knowledge of it. That is why meditatioin without concentration is a failure. In concentration we start with simple objects, but in meditation we carry the clear conception of that simple object to the higher mental levels. To make it clear, imagine somone pouring water from above into a tall jar. If there are many holes round the bottom and sides of the jar, the water will run out, but if the holes are all filled in, the water will rise. Most of us are like the jar full of holes, ready to leak, so that we cannot concentrate. Meditation is like the pouring of the water, filling our consciousness with wisdom and clear vision. Concentration is filling the holes, making the consciousness steady without leąkage. By meditation we shall observe clearly the object chosen and shall understand the function of the object in conjunction with other things. In this way we develop our wisdom and knowledge.

We develop by meditation out power of seeing the object as it is, otherwise we may see only the appearance of the object without knowing anything of its nature. That is why meditation is very necessary. it purifies the thought, otherwise they are mixed with many things, especially with ignorance. We cannot see anything properly when we are hypnotized by ignorance. By meditation we see the object as it really is; our thoughts become pure and we develop wisdom.

> Mind foreruns (all good) conditions, mind is chief, mindmade are they, if one speaks or acts with pure mind, because of that, happiness follows him, even as the shadow that never leaves.

## DHAMMAPADA - 24

## CONTEMPLATION

Contemplation is not very different from concentration, but although it is concentration, one's attention is fixed and steady; Contemplation is the fully develop stage of concentration. Contemplation opens up ways of intuition and of many powers which people call occult, and we can gain these powers even before we attain the state of Nibbanna. In a way it is true that they are occult powers because they are hidden from people who have not developed themselves in this way, but these powers are not hidden from those who seriously practise concentration and meditation, they just form an extension of the powers used by everybody in ordinary life. For instance, it may sound spiritualistic, but is not: by the power developed you can see and hear certain things more than you usually do, because your consciousness, your thoughts, are of the purity of a polished mirror.

When the surface of a mirror is not clear you can see nothing in it. Without meditation your consciousness, your thoughts, are dull, but when they are purified, not mixed with evil tendencies, you can see and hear certain things which cannot be discerned by the ordinary physical sense organs.

If we are sincerely trying to meditate we must know ourselves as we really are. You can sometimes judge your own character by your habitual thoughts and acts. When you do certain things again and again, that is a sign of your character. Character can be developed or changed by meditation on the right object.

There are different kinds of characters and each person has his own. How can we tell which is our true character? There are cases where people do such diverse things that they cannot judge the dominant character. In Buddhism there is a classification in which characters are divided into six classes, and everybody's chief character is one of them. They are:
(1) lustful, greedy, emotional.
(2) angry, impatient, easily annoyed, irritable, quicktempered (3) dull-witted, ignorant, very dull and unintelligent.
(4) credulous, ready to believe everything people say.
(5) intelligent.
(6) speculative.

You can identify your own character and judge the most dominant in you. Once you know what it is you can choose the object for meditation that will help you. If you are a very quick-tempered person, the object must be one that will help you to be patient. To make you patient you should choose something opposite, such as goodwill or peace, or love (mettä). Now to meditate on love you must know something about it, what it is and why it is good to meditate on it. To purify your thoughts you must be free from hatred, then you will
sec things as they really are, and by so doing you will see the disadvantages of hatred and impatience and also realize the advantages of love. Having now some idea of love we can meditate on it as follows: first for oneself, as one cannot radiate thoughts of love unless one possesses them. Begin by repeating mentally the short formula. "May I be well and happy". Hold these thoughts for a few minutes and think that the whote universe is filled with love and that there is no place for any other thought at all. Continue until you feel that you are filled with love, and that you become nothing but love. Then send out thoughts of love toward all beings through universe is filled with love and that there is no place for any other idea at all. Continue until you feel that there is nothing but love pouring forth for all beings. When this meditation has been practised long enough, success will be obtained. A certain mental tranquillity, an unusual sense of contentment, a hitherto unknown happiness and an astonishingly clear consciousness will be obtained. These mental states may be experienced by anyone who succeeds in radiating thoughts of love towards all beings without measure.

Later on, higher stages of development may be obtained by this meditation.

ASHIN THITTILA

## Particulars for Bhāvanā

Averä hontu - Be free from enemies!<br>Abyã pacchã hontu - Be free from troubles!<br>Anighā hontu - Be free from sickness! of all kinds

Sukhi attãnami - Be achieve happiness and peace by pariharantu: themselves in any circumstances!
In practising the above courses, the Yogi should recite the pāli version of various beings slowly and audibly or inaudibly and at the same time understanding the meaning of each word and which will, in due course, tend to give steadfastness and softness of his mind.

## All-Embracing Practice of Meditation (BHĀVANĀ)

Bhãvanä means a practical course of meditation which consists of two categories :

1. Samatha Bhãvanã : Development of tranquillity (Calm).
2. Vipassanã Bhã yanã : Development of insight (Wisdom).

Samatha Bhāvanä leads to concentration of mind (Samãdhi) and Vipassanā Bhãvanã leads to Wisdom (pañ̃ãa). By the practice of these meditations concention of mind bestows a threefold blessing: favourable rebirth, a present happy life, and purity of mind which is the condition to gain insight of wisdom.

Samatha means expulsion of evil thoughts, and Samãdhi means fixing or nailing one's thoughts to one particular point, subject or place.

Samatha is a way of practice and Samãdhi is a target of the way.

Buddha had provided two vehicles (Samatha and Vipassanã) to cross through the life-ocean and to reach the goal of Nibbāna, the cessation of suffering.

Some people contend that Samatha should be practised in the first instance with to gain steadfastness of mind and then only the course should be altered to Vipassanä. Others take the view that vipassanã course also gives the necessary steadfastness by itself and should therefore be tackled with straightway, without having recourse to the other course in the first instance, there by saving time.

All living beings are naturally liable to four undesirable conditions in their daily lives:

1. Contact with enemy.
2. Contact with troubles, including distresses, anxieties and runis.
3. Contact with diseases, illness.
4. Inability to sustain oneself in adverse circumstances.

The disciples should practise the following application of four Bhāvanäs to overcome the above undesirable conditions, namely, mettã, karunā, mudită and upekkhã.

## Vipassanã Bhãvanã

The word "vipassana" consists of "vi", special or extraordinary and "passanã", to look, there by the word means look for or probe deeply into the ininerent quality of things, animate or inanimate, not content with their superficial features only and to distinguish the grain from the chaff, so to say.

There are three graduated stages in this Bhãvana:

1. Ñăta Pariññā: discriminative knowledge of five Khandha.
2. Tïraṇa Pariññā: viewing life as transient. suffering, no-self.
3. Pahāna Pariñnãa: discarding impurities.

We have noticed the term, Nâmarūpa Pariccheda Näna, which the disciple is supposed to have gained by denuding the Näma and the Rūpa of the extraneous Paññatil Dhamma, the next step is to delve into the Tirana stage. truly immersing simself in right carnest into the actual practice of Vipassana with a view to gain sammasana $\tilde{N} a \tilde{n a}$. the first stage of wisdom, leading to the true knowledge of Dukkha Saccä, the embodiment of five Khandhas which are the constant victim of four deplorable influences that is, Anicca, Dukkha, Anatta, and Asubha. The yougi will carefully practise and in minute details examine how those four influences are continually harassing the khandhas, there by duly gaining Sammasana Näna.

The three stages of wisdom to be attained in the practice of vipassanã, namely:

1. Sutamava $\tilde{N} a ̃ n a-k n o w l e d g e ~ g a i n e d ~ b y ~ l e a r n i n g . ~$
2. Cüntämaya Nãna-knowledge gained by dcep thinking.
3. Bhāvitamaya Ñana-knowledge gained by an insight into the truth of Dhamma.

When we come to know of it by Bhävitamaya Ñãna, we will realize that our earlier knowledge was a superficial one only. We have therefore given the courses step by step with the object of preparing the disciple with an elaborate practice
to acquire deeper knowledge of Cintāmaya Nãna which in due course ripens into Bhāvitamaya Ñāna.

It means practical insight (Mindfulness) and realization of Nibbäna Peace within. Mere academic knowledge is not enough. If one has true faith in Buddha, Dhamma and Samgha, he will practise Satipatṭhāna, mindfulness in every aspects of thoughts, words and deeds. This means real Bhävana knowledge. It opens the deepest truth of life and one sees Reality or sees that is in his five groups of existence called Five Khandhas.

## WAYS OF BHÃVANA

## 1. Mettā Bhävanã

Mettā means loving-kindness. This Bhävanã is an Embrasive Practice, extending love to all living beings consisting of those whom one has a natural love, of those to whom one is indifferent, and also of those for whom one has an extreme hatred. When the yogis practice is fairly intensive, he will feel that his love for those to whorn he is indifferent has gradually become deeper and deeper till it reaches the level with his love for those for whom he has a natural love. Again when his practice gets more intensive, his love for his enemies will grow to reach the same level.

## 2. Karunã Bhãvanãa

Karunä means mercifulness or pitifulness to those beings who are afflicted with misfortune, physically or mentally.

## 3. Muditã Bhãvanã

Muditā means pleasing in others' good fortune.

## 4. Upekkhä Bhävanä

Upekkhä means indifference to other's happiness or misfortune. When one feels happy or unhappy he will exhibit his feelings to others in more or less conspicuous manner but when one is indifferent he will not show it by any outward sign or signs whatsoever. Such a state of consciousness is subtle and fine and is perceivable only by oneself. A yogi should train himself to gradually acquire this desirable habit and his likes and dislikes will slowly lose intensiveness and in the end disappear in toto.

The Yogí in exercising these three kinds of Bhãvanã, that is :

## Buddha-nussati

## Dhamma-nussati

Samigha-nussati. will gain an unfliching faith in three Gems, which will facilitate him in the advanced course of Vipassanã Bhãvanã, and in the attainment of higher wisdom.

## A DISCOURSE

Just as, brethern, in the autumn season, when the sky is opened up and cleared of clouds, the sun, leaping up into the firmament, drives away all darkness from the heavens, and shines and burns and flashes forth; even so, brethern, the perceiving of impermanence, if practised and enlarged, wears out all sensual lust, wears out all lust for body, all desire for rebirth, all ignorance, wears out, tears out all conceit of "I am".

And in what way, brethern, does it wear them out?
It is by seeing "Such is body, Such is the arising of body, Such is the ceasing of body, Such is feeling, perception, the activities, Such is consciousness, its arising and its ceasing".

Even thus practised and enlarged, brethern, docs the perceiving of impermanence wear out all sensual lust, all lusi for body, all desire for rebirth, all ignorance, wears out, teats out all conceit of "I am"

Samyutta Nikãya. sec. 102

## APOTROPAIC BUDDHISM

Apotropaion is a technical term derived from Greek, which means any amulet or supposed charm against evil influences.

Apotropaic therefore indicates averting evil; of or pertaining to an apotropaion.

Most of the Myanmar Buddhist rituals are apotropaic and they are performed to extricate the believer from a calamity which he is now suffering, or to save the devotee from the danger which is impending. There are causes and occasions of these calamities and dangers.

They are -

1. Natural Kammaic
2. Supernatural Kammaic resources.

Because of natural Kammaic reasons, ills, hazards, and miserable troubles come into existence. For instance, accidents,
imprisonment, sickness, dogbites, snakchits, drought, loss of wealth, defamation and other inevitable quarrels and fights are the resultant issues of natural kammaic resources. Such imminent and critical problems are solved in a variety of ways by Myanmar. Medical treatments are given to the sick; agrarian and irrigation systems are improved and materialized to afford protection against famine and droght; legal, social and political measures are carried out to help those who have breached laws and regulations. Yet these solutions are sometimes ineffective. If these problems cannot be sutficiently coped with by such naturalistic techniques, Myanmar Buddhists customarily resort to rituals of apotropaic Buddhism.

Good and bad omens are also interpreted seriously by the nation or by the individual; and effective preventions must be carried out promptly. In such events the use of Buddhist sacra or spells for protection against the above mentioned dangers must be employed. The devout Myanmar must tell many rounds of rosary beads daily citing the Buddhist sacra.

Building of pagodas, constructing of roads and bridges; setting free fish or any living animal from the hands of fishmongers or butchers, or in the least to support the branches and water the Bodhi trees, must be done to avoid those forthcoming dangers and disasters. Sometimes the Nine Buddhas or the Dakkhinasãkhã image of the Buddha must be consecrated and honoured by the help of Buddhist monks to avert the predicted calamities.

> Over great areas of the world it still survives: it is possible that in contact with western science, and inspired by the spirit of history, the original reaching of Gautama, revived and purified, may yet play a large part in the direction of human destiny.

H.G.Wells<br>(The Outline of History)

## ELEVEN PARITTA SUTTAS

Among the categories of spells, the most important one is the collection of eleven Paritta Suttas. These Paritta Suttas are recited either individually or collectively in unison. Some or all of these suttas are recited as part of regular Buddhist devotions, to protect against dangers and calamities, whether they are natural or supernatural. To prevent oncoming unhappy events and to eradicate the hazards which have already happened are two main purposes of recitation on special occasions.

It is worthy to note that each Paritta Sutta has a specific function, though any paritta can be recited for general protective measure. Thus, for example, Angulimãla paritta must be chanted in case of difficult child-birth: Khandha paritta against snake bites and poisoning; Vatta paritta to calm down the burning
fire; Mora paritta to release oneself from imprisonment; Bojjhariga paritta to cure the illness of critical patients; and so on.

Mahä-paritta Suttas become therefore the indispensable element in the security system of the Myanmar Buddhist world. Without this core of Myanmar ritual no crisis can be confronted, and almost all problematic crises are solved by them. The Myanmar monks are responsible to perform the recitation ritual on behalf of the lay devotees. It is inconceivable for a member of the Myanmar Buddhist monks to refuse to perform such paritta recitation when requested by his devotees.

All eleven Paritta Suttas are prescribed in the Traditional Myanmar monastic education, and young scholars, neophytes, novices and deacons (Kyaungtha, Pothudow, Koyin, and Upazin) are trained to memorize them right from the original Păli texts. All of these texts have been translated into Myanmar vernacular language, and every grown up Myanmar is supposed to understand some or all of these suttas when the elder monks recite in Pãli on behalf of the householders in the village ceremonies. This religious practice is still in vogue in Myanmar Buddhist society.

## Sao Htun Hmat Win

## TEXTUAL RESOURCES

The Myanmar Buddhist pay equal respect to these eleven Paritta Suttas as they do to the canonical literature (Tipitaka Pāli). In spite of many later expositions and interpolations in the Paritta compilation, by ancient learned sages, all these suttas are essentially based upon the cononical discourses.

1. Mañgala sutta
2. Ratana paritta
3. Metta paritta
4. Khandha paritta
5. Mora paritta
6. Vatta paritta
7. Dhajagga paritta
8. Ãțãnâtiya paritta
9. Angulimãla paritta
10. Bojjhaniga sutta
11. Pubbanha sutta
Sao Htun Hmat Win
METTA-SUTTA
Discourse on Love

This discourse, as a matter of fact, is the Buddhist doctrine of love, which promulgates the method of practice to disseminate Love in order to attain Purity and Peace to realize finaliy the Perfect Emancipation.

This sutta is composed of twelve stanzas, with two introductory verses beautifully set by the learned eldermonks of Myanmar.

1. Due to the glorious power of this Discourse on Love, spirits dare not disclose the frightful sights. One who devotes to himself this doctrine day and night diligently.
2. Sleeps soundly and does not see any nightmare when asleep.
On thou! Let us recite this doctrine endowed with such and other merits.
3. He who is clever in the benefaction and who has anticipated in the attainment of the state of Perfect Tranquility must work to be efficient, right, upright, discussable, gentle and humble.
4. Contented, well-bred, less responsible, of frugal livelihood, serene in faculties, prudent', modest, not hanker after the families.
5. He must not commit even the slightest sin for which the wise men might censure. He must contemplate thus:may all sentient beings be cheerful and be endowed with happy secured life.
6. Whatever breathing beings there may be the frail ones or the firm creatures, with no exception tall or stout, short or medium-size, thin or fat.
7. Those which are seen or those unseen those who are dwelling far or near those who are already born or those still seeking to become yet, May all these beings be endowed with happy-life.
8. Let not one be angry with another, let him not despise anyone in any place.
By means of physical and verbal provocation or by frustrated enmity.
Let one not wish another's suffering.

9 Just like a mother would protect her baby, the only child, with her life, even so towards all beings Let one cultivate the (Agape) bound-less spirit of love.
10 Let him radiate the boundless rays of love towards the entire world,
to the above, below, and across unhindered, without malice and enmity.
11. While standing, walking, sitting, or reclining, as long as he be awake without sloth, let him devote himself to this mindfulness. This is called in this religion as "Noble Living" (HolyLife).
12. If the meditator, without falling into wrong view (egoism), be virtuous, and endowed with perfect insight, has expelled passion in sensual desires, he will surely come never again to be born in any womb.

Sao Htun Hmat Win

## MANGALA SUTTA

## Discourse on Auspices

A discourse on the Rules of Conduct for lay disciples. These are thirty-eight ways in number for uplifting moral standard.
(1) Asevanãca bälänann, Non-association with wicked people;
(2) Panditãnanica sevanã, Association with wise men;
(3) Pūjāca pūjaneyyānam, Paying honour those worthy of honour;
(4) Patirüpa desavãsoca, Living in a suitable place,
(5) Pubbeca katapuññatã,
(6) Attasammã panidhica,
(7) Bähussaccañca,
(8) Sippañca,
(9) Vinayoca susikkhito,
(10) Subhāsitãca yãvãcã,
(11) Mãtãpitu upatṭhãnam,
(12) Puttadārassa sanigaho,
(13) Anäkulãca kammantã, Being engaged in a fair
(14) Dänañca,
(15) Dhanmacariyã,
(16) Nätakãnañca, sanigaho,
(17) Anavajjãni kammāni,
business which is not injurious to others;-
Having done goodmeritorious deeds in the past;
Adapting oneself in the right course;
To acquire general knowiedge;
Learning useful arts and science;
Learning in the moral conduct;
Speaking in a pleasant manner, avoiding evil speeches;
Supporting one's own aged parent;
Supporting one's own family;

Doing charities or charitable acts, Performing in pure conduct; Helping one's own relatives; Being engaged in a blameless actions;

| (18) | Arratipãpã, | Abstention from evil practices; |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| (19) | Viratipãpa, | Abstention from evil thoughts; |
| (20) | Majjapãnãca samyamo, | Abstention from intoxicants; |
| (21) | Appamädoca dhammesu, | Being mindful of meritorious good deeds; |
| (22) | Gäravoca, | Paying respects to those to whom respects are due; |
| (23) | Nivãtoca, | Being humble in one's behaviours. |
| (24) | Santutthïca, | Being easily contented; |
| (25) | Katañnutã, | Being greateful to those who have done kindly acts to one; |
| (26) | Kãlena dhamma ssavanam | $i$, Hearing the Dhamma on proper occasions; |
| (27) | Khantica, | Having forbearance; |
| (28) | Sovacassatã, | Being readily to be obedient; |
| (29) | Samanãnañca dassanami, | Seeing holymen as occasion arises; |
| (30) | Kälena dhamma sākacchã | Discussing the Dhamma with others on prope occasions; |
| (31) | Tapoca, | Living a humble life; |
| (32) | Brahma cariyañca, | Exerting in noble and pious acts; |

(33) Ariya saccäna dassanami, Realising with insight into the Noble Truths;
(34) Nibbãna sacchikiriyãca, Gaining an in-sight into Nibbãna;
(35) Phuṭhassa lokadhammehi cittamyassa, Retaining an equanimity of mind in all circumstances;
(36) Asokam,
(37) Virajam,
(38) Khemam, Having no anxiety whatsoever;

Having no impure thought leading to evil notions or evil actions;
Having no possible dangers;

## Sayagyi U Ba Khin's Dhamma

## In Practice (condensed)

For progress in Vipassanã meditation, you must keep knowing Anicca as continuously as possible. The Buddha's advice to monks is that they shall try to maintain the awareness of Anicca or Dukkha or Anatta in all postures, whether sitting or standing or walking or lying down. The continuity of awareness of Anicca and so of Dukkha and Anatta is the secret of success. The last words of the Buddha, just before he breathed his last and passed away into Mahä-parinibbãna were:

Vaya-dhammä sanikhãra;
Appamãdena sammãdetha

Decay or Anicca is inherent
in all component things.
Work out your own salvation with diligence.

## Digha-nikãya, Sutta 166

This is in fact the essence of all his teachings during the forty-five years he taught.

The real meaning of Anicca is Impermanence or Decaythat is, the inherent nature of impermanence or decay in everything that exists whether animate or inanimate.

But in expounding the theory of Anicca, the Buddha started with the behaviour that makes matter, and matter as known to the Buddha is very much smaller than the atom that science of today has discovered. The Buddha made it known to his disciples that everything that exists in the universe, whether animate or inanimate, is composed of Kalãpas (very much smaller than atoms), each dying out simultaneously as it becomes. Each Kaläpa is a mass formed of the eight nature elements, namely, Pathavī, Āpo, Tejo, Vãyo, Vanna, Gandha, Rasa, Ojä (solid, liquid, heat, motion, colour, odour, taste and nutriment). The first four are called material qualities which are predominant in a Kalãpa. The other four are merely subsidiaries which are dependent upon and born out of the former. A Kalappa is the minutest particle in the physical plane.

It is only when the eight nature elements (which have merely the characteristics of behaviour) are together that the
entity of a Kalappa (the tiniest particle of matter in the physical plane) is formed. In other words, the co-existence for a moment of these eight nature elements of behaviour makes a mass, just for that moment, which in Buddhism is known as a Kaläpa. The size of a Kalãpa is about 1/46, 656th part of a particle of dust. The life span of a Kalãpa is a moment, there being a trillion such moments in the wink of an eye of a human being. These Kalāpas are all in a state of perpetual change or flux. To a develped Yogí in Vipassanä meditation they can be fell as a stream of energy. The human body is not an entity as it seems to be, but a continuum of an aggregate of matter (Rüpa) with the life force (Nâma) co-existing.

To know that our very body is composed of tiny Kalâpas, all in a state of change, is to know what is true of the nature of change or decay. This nature of change or decay (Anicca) occasioned by the continual breakdown and replacement of Kaläpas, all in a state of combustion, must necessarily be identified with Dukkha, the truth of suffering. It is only when you experience impermanence (Anicca) as Dukkha (suffering or ill) that you come to the realization of the Truth of Suffering of the Four Noble Truths, on which so much emphasis has been laid in the teachings of the Buddha. Why? Because when you realize the subtle nature of Dukkha from which you cannot escape for a moment, you will become truly afraid of, disgusted with, and disznclined to youi very existence of Rüpa and Nãma and look out for a way of escape to a state beyond - that is, beyond Dukkhu, and so to the end of suffering. What that end of suffering would be like, you will be able to be have a taste of, even as a human being, when you reach the level
of a Sotãpatti and are developed well enough by practice to go into the unconditioned state of the Peace of Nibbäna within.

Be that as it may, for everyday no sooner than you are able to keep up the awareness of Anicca in practice, you will know for yourself that a change is taking place in you, both physically and mentally, for the better.

Before entering into the practice of Vipassanä meditation, that is, after Samãdhi has been developed to a proper level, a Yogi should fir" be acquainted with the theoretical knowledge of Rūpa (matter) and Nãma (mind and mental properties). If he has understood these well in theory and has come to the proper level of Samädhi, there is every likelihood of his understanding Aniccca. Dukkha and Anatta in the true sense of the words of the Buddha.

In Vipassanä meditation, one contemplates not only the changing nature (Anicca) of Ruppa or matter, but also the changing nature (Anicca) of Nãma, thought-elements of attention projected towards the process of change of Rüpa or matter. At times the attention will be on the Anicca of Rüpa or matter only. At times the attention may be on the Anicca of thought-element; (Nãma). When one is contemplating the Anicca of Rüpa or matter, one realizes also that the thought-elements arising simulta-neously with the awareness of the Anicca of Rupa or matter are also in a state of transition or change. In that case you are knowing. Anicca of both Rūpa and Nāma together.

In fact, one can develop the understanding of Anicca through any of the six organs of sense. In practice, however: we have found that, of all types of feelings, the feelings of
the contact of touch with the component parts of the body in a process of change covers a wide area for introspective meditation. Not only that, the feeling by contact of touch (by way of the friction, radiation and vibrations of the Kalapas within) the component parts of the body is more tangible than other types of feeling, and therefore a beginner in Vipassanä meditation can come to the understanding of Anicca more easily, through body féclings of the nature of change of $R u \bar{p} a$ or inatter. This is the main reason why we have chosen the body feelings as a medium for the quick understanding of Anicca. It is open to anyone to try other means, but my suggestion is that one should have oneself well established in the understanding of Anicca through body feelings before an attempt is made through other types of feeling.

The anitial object of Vipassana meditation is to activate Anicca in one's own self or to experience one's own inner self in Anicca and to get eventually to a state of inner and outer calmness and balance. This is achieved when one becomes engrossed in the feeling of Anicca within.

The time clock of Vipassana is now struck - that is, for the revival of the Buddha-Dhamma, Vipassana $\tilde{\text { in practice. }}$ We have no doubt whatsoever about definite results accruing to those who wouls with open mind sincerely undergo a course of training under a competent teacher. I mean results which will keep them in good stead and in a state of well-being and happiness for the rest of their lives.

## THE BUDDHIST WAY OF LIFE

"Dhamma" that is independent'of all the factors of conditioned existence, and which He enable others to attain after Him. He pointed the way, with the invitation, Come and see for yourself' (Ehipassiko)

That Way, the fourth of the Noble truths of Buddhism, is called the Noble Eightfold Path: For the lay Buddhist, the moral code consists of five simple Precepts: to abstain from taking life, to abstain from taking what is not one's own by right, to abstain from sexual misconduct, to abstain from untruthfulness and to abstain from intoxicating drinks and drugs. In these five voluntarily undertaken vows the Buddhist layman establishes himself in basic morality, the everyday purification of thought, speech and conduct. One the Uposatha, or Fast Days, he takes upon himself three or five additional Precepts of a more ascetic character, including absolute chastity, making eight or ten Precepts for these regular observances. The Buddha did not enjoin severe asceticism, but only that which is necessary to free one-self from inordinate attachments; a simple wholesome life is the Buddhist ideal, and the practice of generosity and the cultivation of universal benevolence are the cardinal virtues of His Teaching. For the Buddhist monk, however, there are 227 rules of conduct which are very precisely laid down in the Vinaya, or monastic discipline.

But ethical principles and discipline, whether for the monk or layman, are only the beginning of the Buddhist way of life. Their purpose is to make the way clear for spiritual progress through mental concentration which, in Buddhism, a very exact psychological science. It is called "Bhãvanã"
or Mental Development, and is of two kinds "Samathabhãvana"., the cultivation of mental tranquillity, evenness and equilibrium, and "Vipassanā-bhāvan̄a" which is aimed at direct insight into the true nature or reality. In the first category, the develpment of a mind of boundless universal benevolence towards all beings, which is called Metta-bhāvamā", is of primary importance. When the Buddhist prepares for meditation he first purfies his mind by generating thoughts of love and compassion for all living beings without any exception, near and far, big and small, visible and invisible, and he directs these thoughts to all quarters of the universe. He does so with Compassion and with Altruism (joy in attainments and advantages gained by others) and then with Equanimity. These are performed with discursive thoughts and then with higher states of intellection. This practice gives calm and tranquillity and a more alert and poised mind, and thus helps towards the higher practice of Vipassanã.

Buddhist meditation consists in developing the power of concentrating the mind to what is called "one-pointedness"by the exclusion of all extraneous objects or related concepts.

The mind in fact, becomes de-personalised; it contemplates the physical and mental sensations as it were from the outside; detached and uninvolved. It is only when this process of mental depersonalisation is completed that the mind becomes capable of perceiving the reality that lies beyond the ever-changing forms. It then becomes a keen instrument, tempered to razor-edge sharpness, with which to cut though the bonds of ignorance. To put the case in another way, the mind, which up to that point had been constructing the moment-
to-moment continuum of its illusory conception of selfhood, all at once breaks the sequence of that activity, is no longer tied to it, and at once enters into a fresh real of knowledge. When this happens, the chain of cause and effect, which is linked by the emotional and intellectual reactions is broken: there is then no more Kamma rooted in desire, and so no further projection into the future of Samsära. The incessant round of birth and death comes to an end; in the Buddhist phrase, the fire of the passions is extinguished, and so Nibbāna is attained. One who has accomplished that is called an Arhat.

U CHAN HTOON

## THE GOAL OF BUDDHISM

The goal of Buddhism is very high, nothing less than absolute perfection; but there are stages of attainment on the way, and it is with these that the ordinary man is more immediately concerned. The ordinary man will asks. "What will Buddhist Meditation do for me or do to me?". The answer is given by the many who, without attaining to the highest path of Arahatship, have yet benefitted in an access of mental alertness and spiritual awareness in the wider sphere. Our manifold problems of worldly life, our social problems and problems of international relations, clamour for our attention with an urgency greater than ever before. If we do not succeed in resolving them the consequences threaten to be disastrous to civilisation, if not to humanity itself. When we look back on history we cannot say that religion - any religion- has ever
for any long period, succeeded in preventing war; but the fault lies in human nature rather than in religion. The desire for self-preservation, if necessary at the cost of others, is, in all but the most exceptional people stronger than the appeal riligion makes to the nobler side of their nature. The remedy for this can only lie in a form of religion which carries the fullest conviction; one that is impregnable against the cold blast of scientific knowledge and is philosophically comprehensive enough to include all the elements of human experience. It is only a religion of this kind which can so dominate the minds of men as to make them follow the path of virtue fearlessly, knowing that in the end riht will triumph, and that their is a spritual goal that makes their sufferings in this world bearable. Secure in this conviction, men will strive and live nobly, and the highest standards of today will become the average standards of the future. Despite all the anti-religious trends of the present day there is a growing desire on the part of greal numbers of people to embrace religion. They are seeking a solid basis for faith. This is the most encouraging feature of our times, the one that offers the greatest hope for the future of mankind.

## U CHAN HTOON

## THE MESSAGE OF BUDDHISM

In presenting their offerings of candies, flowers. rice, small paper flags, etc., before the images of the Buddha or the pongyis (Buddhist clergy), the Buddhist lay devotee bows himself thrice, the palms of the hand being placed together, the legs touching the ground and the thumbs touching the
forchead; then he rises to a sitting posture and after repeating the formula "I seek refuge in the Buddha, the Law and the Assembly (of Buddhist monks)" he promise to take on himself observance of the precepts of the law.

The Enlightenment gave the Buddha the spiritual freedom which He sought for all men. In that moment He could, had He wished have entered the spiritual state of Nirvăna, but for the sake of all living creatures He decided to stay on in the world and preach His gospel of how to attain Perfect Peace. For forty-five years He wandered round preaching His message in Central India and inspiring a band of devoted disciples who were to carry His teaching in successive generations to every country of the East. At the age of eighty He died and went to that blessed state of Nirvāna, the full enjoyment of which He had in the interests of mankind denied himself for so many years. Cessation of selfish desire and emancipation from the three cardinal evils of lobha, dosa, moha (lust, ill-will, ignorance) must be achieved to attain Nirvāna.

It is interesting to note that, strictly speaking, there is no Deity and no worship in Buddhism. Every person is the master of his own destiny; his present is the result of his past thoughts and deeds, and his future will be the combined result of his past and his present thoughts and deeds. No other individual can help or mar his destiny, but others who by their own efforts found the true path can show him the way to it. Buddha, who founded the true religion by His own efforts has shown the way for others to follow. One of the most honoured epithets of Buddha is therefore the simple one of Teacher.

The message of Buddhism is that happiness and final bliss cannot be attained by ordinary means. It is not by almsgiving, as has been usually preached, nor by mere observance of the rules of moral conduct that the final knowledge can be gained. Almsgiving and observance of precepts by thernselves may not bring about total emancipation but they are essential qualities required of a Path Finder. Buddhism has a special message to give to the world, which has not been proclaimed by any other system of thought. Buddhism teaches practical ways of gaining insight. Only by inner search can spiritual experience be discovered and nurtured. In this search one becomes aware that there is nothing constant or permanent. Life consists of momentary formations and dissolutions both in the physical plane and in the mental plane. The realization of such changing phenomenon in one's own body and mind is the only basis on which both the conviction and the practice of the spiritual life can be built and the fear of death dispelled.

Buddhism preaches universal love and as such is above politics. Buddhism, like other religions of the Orient, is often misunderstood and misrepresented as a type of Animism or worship of the spirits which it is not, and idolatry as understood in the West is strictly prohibited by it. The essence of Buddhism is universal love and its final goal is the attainment of eternal peace through scientific training of the mind. "This vencrable religion (Buddhism)" says Sir Edwin Arnold, "has in it the eternity of an universal hope, the immortality of the boundless love, an element of faith in final goal and the proudest assertion ever made of human freedom".
"Sabbapāpassa akaranam Kusalassa Upasampadä Sacittapariyodāpanani Etain Buddhānasäsanami."
"To cease from evil, to do good and to purify one's mind Such is the teaching of the Buddha."

U AUNG THAN

## LEDI SAYADAW'S VIPASSANÄ

## (Exposition of Insight)

The purpose of Vipassanä or the Exercise of Insight is to resolve into the three salient characteristics of Anicca, Dukkha and Anatta the illusory "Soul" (Atta) or imaginary "Selfprinciple" which from time out of mind has been held to exist in living beings by all Puhujjanas (ordinary unenlightened people) both Buddhist and non-Buddhist, the idea of "Soul" arising from simple ignorance, or unconsciously or through direct error.

Before the meditator begins his task, it is necessary that he shold know how and through what this Soul theory is formed and maintained; and why and in what it is so deeply rooted, as not to be eradicated or even disturbed no matter what may be done to try to correct it; and what is the destiny of those who take their stand upon this platform of Soul-belief.

Now I will indicate the main points necessary to those who practise the exercises of Insight. Of the three knowledges of Insight, the knowledge of Impermanence must first and foremost be acquired. How? If we carefully watch the cinematography show, we will see how quick are the changes
of the numerous series of photographs representing the wonderful scene, all in a moment of time. We will also see that a hundred or more photographs are required to represent the scene of a moving body. These are, in fact, the functions of Viparinăma and Aññathäbhãva, or the representation of Impermanence or Death, or cessation of movements. If we carefully examine the movements in a scene, such as the walking, standing, sitting, sleeping, bending, stretching, and so forth, of the parts of the body during a moment of time, we will see that these are full of changes, or full of Impermanence. Even in a moment of walking, in a single step taken with the foot, there are numberous changes of pictures which may be called Impermanence or death. It is also the same with the rest of the movements. Now we must apply this to ourselves. The Impermanence and the death of mental and material phenomena are to be found to the full in our bodies, our heads, and in every part of the body. If we are able to discern clearly those functions of impermanence and death which are always operating in our bodies, we shall acquire the Insight of the Destruction, the breaking-up, falling-off, cessation, and changes of the various parts of the body in each second, in each fraction of a second. That is to say, we will discern the changes of every part of the body small and great, of head, of legs, of hands and so forth and so on. If his be thus discerned, then it may be said that the excrise on the contemplation of impermanence is well accomplished. And if the exercise on the contemplation of impermanence is well accomplished, then that of the
contemplation of Non-soul is also accomplished. If this is thus discerned, then it may be said that the exercise on the contemplation of Impermanence is well accomplished. By the word "accomplished." it is meant that the exercise has been properly worked out so as to continue a permaent possession, during the whole term of life, but it is not meant that the knowledge of the Path and of Fruition, has been attained. The attainment of the knowledge of the Path and of the Fruition, however is quick or slow, according to opportunity or lack of opportunity, in the practice of higher virtues.

## U NU'S ADDRESS ON BUDDHISM

(condensed)
Mr. Chairman:

The New York Telephone company made a detailed study of telephone conversation to find out which word is the most frequently used. You have guessed it; it is the personal pronoun "I", "I", "I". It was used 3990 time in 500 telephone coversations "I", "I", "I".

The culprit that is at bottom of all conflicts in the world, from a quarrel between husband and wife to world wars between states resulting in holocausts is none other than this "I".

This being so, if we want to turn this world into a better world, we must look for ways and means of rooting out this "I"... "I"...consciousness, this "I" ..... "I" motif.

A person who wishes to get rid of the "I"...."I" consciousness, needs first to exercise effective control over his actions and his speech. He must exercise control so that his speech shall not be evil.

Actions and deeds which are evil are none but these:
(1) Taking another's life;
(2) Stealing another's property,
(3) Having carnal relations with any but one's own wife or husband;
(4) Taking intoxicants and drugs. Speech which is evil is in these forms:
(1) Falsehood:
(2) Back-biting, and setting one person against another;
(3) Frivolous and mean remarks;
(4) Rude and abusive words.

The person who wishes to eradicate the "I".... "J" consciousness, must, as a first stage, resolve, as taught by the Buddha, to avoid action which is evil and speech which is evil.

An evil thought is like a cobra shut in a covered basket. When basket is covered, the cobra remains quiet. But the moment the basket is uncovered, the cobra rears up with its hood spread. The mind, too, when it is under control, remains quiet. But,
as soon as the control is slackened, the evil in the mind like the hooded snake raises its head. So, a person who wishes to annihilate Self or the "I" consciousness, should not remain contented with simply restraining his actions, speech or thought. Instead, he should proceed to a further stage, where he shall annihilate all the causes of the "I" consciousness.

Actually, the "I" consciousness is nothing but the effect. It is not the cause. There are causes that make people full of the consciousness of "I" ... "I" ... "I".

According to Buddhism, the mental states known as Ditt hi and Vicikicchā are directly the cause of the "I" consciousness. Ditthi. in plain language, roughly means the mental state that makes one to have a wrong conception about oneself. vicikicchä, in plain language, roughly means the mental state that makes one doubt the Buddha, and the Dhamma, His teachings.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Therefore the primary duty of Buddhist is to annihilate these mental states called Ditthi and Vicikicch $\bar{a}$ which are the cause of the " I " consciousness.

How should this be done?
The mind is in constant contact through sense organs and the objects of thought every second. It is wrapt up constantly in mental impurities like greed or ill-will or anger. So one
should be aware of the contact. If awareness can be developed, such thoughts cannot arise at moment. You therefore need for the constant application of awareness as means of attaining purity of the mind.

Therefore, to make this world a better world and to make it a happier place to live in, I very earnestly urge the Buddhists to strive for it and do it in the Buddhist way, the Christains in the Christian way and similarly the Moslems, the Hebrews and the Hindus in their respective religious ways.

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One should give up anger; one should abandon
pride;
one should overcome all fetters.
Ills never befall him who clings not to mind
and body and is passionless.

Dhammapada
221

## WISDOM

Wisdom is the power of seeing things as they truly are, and how to act rightly when the problems of life come befor us. The seeds of wisdom lie latent in us and when our hearts are soft and warm with love they grow into their powers.

When a man has stilled the raging torrents of greed, hatred and ignorance, he becomes conscientious, full of sympathy, and he is anxious for the welfare of all living beings.

Bhävanämaya Pañ̃āa is gained by right meditation. Knowledge in conformity with the Four Noble Truths is called Saccānulomika Paññā. The Kalyäna-Puhujjana (noble common man) who practises Insight and sees all conditioned thing as Anicca. Dukkha and Anatta, is possessed of Vipassanā Paññā.

To one who strives diligently, perfect wisdom comes with the paths and the fruits.

It is when his mind is pure and his heart is soft by being equipped with the morality and mental development that the sublime seed, wisdom, grows. Knowledge of the properties of the magnetic needle enables the mariner to see the right direction in mid-ocean on the darkest night.

Wisdom enables a man to see things as they truly are, and to perceive the right way to real Peace and Happiness.

## METTÃ

## Loving Kindness

In the words of the Buddha, METTA has a far wider significance - a much more extensive implication than this. It means a great deal more than loving-kindness, harmlessness (Ahimisa), sympathy.

This Metta is much more than ordinary affection - warm affection. The word Mettã means literally - friendliness, also love without a desire to possess but with a desire tohelp, to sacrifice self-interest for the welfare and well-being of humanity. This love is without any selection or exclusion.

Mettã - pure loving-kindness - embraces all beings everywhere, either on earth or in the skies or Heaven. It also embraces all beings high or low, without measure because the poor people, lowly people, evil people, ignorant people, are most in need of it. Because in them it has died out for lack of warmth or friendliness - this Mettã becomes with them like a weak stream running in a descrt.

This Mettā includes loving, unloving good and bad people.
Should we love foolish people - fools?
We should not hate a person just as a doctor does not hate a patient; but his ducy is to quell, to get rid of the disease the patient is suffering from, to take out anything that is wrong in that person, or we many say the disease that is afflicting the person. Therefore, it should include all beings without measure.

This Mettäa is entirly different from sensual lust which has passed as "Love" in the world to-day, which has also been admited and talked about as emotional love. This Mettáa is
much higher in fact it is the highest form of love. It is much higher than sentimental, sensual love.

## ASHIN THITTILA

## HAPPINESS

Happiness is a mental state which can be attained through the culture of the mind, and is therefore different in origin to physical sources such as wealth, fame, social position and popularity which are merely temporary sources of happiness.

These sources are not the real sources of happiness, the main thing is the mind; but only the mind which is controlled and cultured is the real source of happiness.

When people lose their fame or power they are in a state of anxiety, worry. It shows that fame or power is not the main source of happiness either, beacuse it can also be a source of worry and is subject to impermanence.

Happiness is a state, a mental state; which is agreeable to one's nature or which appeals to one's nature, satisfies one's nature, and it can be applied to such level as: material, or materialistic; emotional; intellectual; spiritual.

Nibbäna is a state of the highest happiness which is free from all suffering, old age, death,sickness, and the state of the highest happiness which is free from all troubles. worries or hardships.

Do you mean that if you reach Nibbāna you have nothing to do?

The Buddha himself repeated the six qualities of

Dhamma, one of which is sanditthika, i.e., immediate effect. If that is true why should we not attain happiness of a true nature? Nibbãna can be attained at any time, akãlika, there is not tomorrow, no next month, you can attain it according to your own effort and understanding. The purpose of life is growth, progress from ignorance to enlightenment and from unhappiness to happiness. The Buddha himself said that the purpose was for his enlightenment. One of the Greek philosophers said that he came to this world only for one purpose, that was to perfect himself. So this growth, this progress, is possible here and now. As we can develop our own muscles by constant exercise, so our mind can be developed; we can surely come towards perfection spiritually through the attainment of happiness and realization of Nibbäna, intellectually through the attainment of knowledge, emotionally through the control and good use of our emotions, and also through control of body, thereby attaining perfect health.

## ASHIN THITTILA

## PEACE

## (SANTI)

This is as true a law as the law of the struggle for life that violence leads violence, hate to hate.

These two factors govern life, the one of violence, the other of justice. Peace (santi) is for him who attains the equillibrium between pain and pleasure, violence and harmlessness.

Dhamma brings PEACE.
Adhamma brings violence.
We may not be able to quench the fires of destruction but each of us may make himself a heaven of peace. Only when, one by one, many at last become pacified through selfmaster, METTA and $K A R U N \bar{A}$, shall we be able to establish a world, or a nation, or even a group, in Peace.

Peace is a state of Mind.
If Peace is not in the hearts of men it is futile to try to enforce in the outer world!

Buddhism, respected Teaching, can be proud of the fact that never has a single drop of blood been shed in the name of Buddhism though it has spread throughout Asia. All those who know and understand Buddhism - respect the Teaching. If the Teaching of Buddhism will become still wider knownit will in itself lead to Peace cternal.

These precious words cannot be repeated often enough, particularly at the present tense hour and particularly to those who still do not know. This is the Teaching of Purity, the Teaching eternal and of all ages, the Teaching of the moral relationship between man and man. Only when this realization awakens in our hearts can there be true lasting Peace. And then we shall need no rules, no security or police bodies to enforce that cannot be enforced, but what can come only from the Heart.

As more and more people realize this Truth - and their number is probably already a thousand millions! - they create a Force of Light which is Peace.

Let there be Peace on earth and goodwill among Men always. Let us go, Brethren, and spread the realization of Samma Sati - this Right Attitude and Awakedness of Mind!
G.C. LOUNSBERY \& V. SHIBAYEV

## LORD BUDDHA TEACHES

## RAHULA HIS SON

Rāhula, when you come to want to do any deed of body, speech, or thought, you should reflect: Does it conduce to the harm of self, to the harm of others, to the harm of both? Is it wrong, productive of iil, ill in result? If you know that it does conduce to the harm of self or to the harm of others or to the harm of both and that it is wrong, then, Rāhula, a deed such as this should not, as far as are able, be done by you. You should back from it; you shold confess it and disclose it so as to come to restraint in the future. But should you know, upon reflection, that a deed of body, speech, or thought that you come to want to do does not conduce to the harm of self or to the harm of others or to the harm of both and that it is right, productive of good, good in result, then, Rahhula, a deed such as this is to be done by you. As a result you may go along in joy and delight training yourself day and night in states that are right.
(The Maha Bodhi Vol. 59, No. 4-5)

## PLEASURE AND PAIN

QUESTION : In this world, life is not all Dukkha, but a complex of Sukha and Dukkha (pleasure and pain). This means when we speak of Dukkha it is wrong to think that the world is all Dukkha all Suffering. Our life is a complex of Sukha and Dukkha. If it is all Dukkha life will become unbearable so much so that it will not be worth living at all. Being too pessimistic, the only course to follow is to commit suicide from the time of realisation of the entire Dukkha. The one Professor Mr. Roy went on to say that he fully concurred with the views of an idealist who holds "Life has no meaning without sense enjoyments just as a tree that originates from earth as its base must consume the same earth as fertilizer, so also man sprung up from five khandhas must enjoy the five sense-pleasures derive therefrom.
ANSWER : To explain this point, we realize that the questioner expects answer based on common sense, logic, contemplative reasoning and personal experience in our daily life rather than scriptural authorities which he cannot understand.

It is ture that life is a pendulum between the smiles and the tears as Lord Byron puts it. Undoubtedly, life is a complex of suffering and happiness but the amount of labour employed to gain happiness or pleasure is wholly incommensurate with what may be actually gained. That pleasure is itself transient on account of its fleeting sensations. It cannot be denied that as soon as the contact between the senses and the objects is stopped, the feeling or sensation ceases spontaneously. For more pleasurable sensation one has to repeat
the contact again and again like an electric generator producing light.

Man is daily in hard toil with the hope of living a luxurious and comfortable life. To him, a decent house may cost him a life's saving, the electronic goods may cost him more than a month's salary and a good shirt will cost him at least a day's wage leaving aside other expenses for the maintenance of his household. Thus a man living from hand to mouth will be better than a hireling who is deprived of all hopes for the bright future. All these refer to physical suffering to which a man is liable to encounter. Next we will consider the mental suffering which is more intense and frightful than the previous one.

The mental suffering may be classified under different categories namely associating with a person who is not loved, staying away from a person who is loved, not getting what is wanted, birth, old age, sickness and death followed by grief, despair, sorrow and lamentation. Buddhism points out that none can escape from these sufferings which are sorely due to the law of impernmanence. Thus it seems clear even to an ordinary person that the Dukkha is predominant for all sentient beings who are undergoing rebirths in endless rounds like a vortex of whirling.

According to Buddhism the inequalities that exist in the world are due to some extent, to heredity and environment and, to a greater extent, to a cause or causes (kamma) whith are not only present but proximate or remote past. Man himself is reponsible for his own happiness and misery. He creates
his own heaven and hell. He is master of his own destiny, child of his past and parent of his future.

U BA THAW

## ONE TRUTH OR FOUR TRUTHS

QUESTIONS : In the world phenomena, there must be only One Truth and not Four Noble Truths.

ANSWER : The world owes immense gratitude to Lord Buddha for making a full disclosure of the Four Noble Truths discovered by Him out of his personal experience, The enumeration is, as you all know short and simple.
in the world phenomena, Truth is one and Untruth is another. The word Truth is an abstract noun which comes from the word True an adjective those opposite is false. So the word falsehood or untruth runs counter to the truth therefore there can be only one truth instead of Four Truhs just as there can be only one Untruth or Falsehood. As it stands, the position is if the thing is true it cannot be false, and similarly if the thing is false it cannot be truc with no other alternattive.

On this question, the Pali word Sacca cannot be taken as an abstract noun like truth which is an English translation. Whatever it may be, whether an abstract noun or common noun, it must be considered under two aspects namely class distinction and numerical application.

This word Sacca or truth is a class by itseif but its numerical value is unlimited. For instance, take the case of a man, who is a class by himself as distinct from animal.

How can we say that there must be only one man in the world. Similarly there is fire as distinct from water as they are classes by themselves but we cannot say there must be only one fire in the world as its number is unlimited.

In the same way, the word Truth, though it is a class by itself as one unit, its number is unlimited. The word True is an adjective which can qualify any number such as true words, true deeds, true thoughts, true reasons, etc. Therefore it is perfectly right to say that there are Truths more than One. Furthermore, can it be wrong to say "there is another truth" that men are mortal, and to err is human. There is also another truth that all things are impermanent.

U BA THAW

> You, to whom the truths I have perceived have been made known by me, make them truly your own, practise them, meditate upon them, spread them abroad: in order that the pure religion may last long and be perpetuated for the good and the gain and the well-being of gods and men.

Mahāvagga, Vinaya Pitaka

## The Nine Inherent Dignities of BUDDHA

Whenever we pay respects to the Buddha and contemplate His Noble Dignities in our minds we fixe on these exalted qualities : -

Itipiso Bhagava : By this such Blessed One is : -

1. Arahami: Chaste and virtuous Personage who is attributed with the highest adoration.
2. Sammâ Sambuddho : Transcendental One who discerns the Four Noble Truths by Himself alone.
3. Vijjā Carana Sampanno : Enlightened One with insight and up-right conduct beyond compare.
4. Sugato : Blessed One who has gone along to the Noble Path and preaches all for the Absolute Peace.
5. Loka Vidū : Perfect One with intuitive and versatile knowledge that perceives all natures of universe in all aspects.
6. Anuttaro Purisa Dhamma Särathi: The Noble Guide with sublime wisdom that nurtures all beings to be tamed.
7. Satthā Dea Manussānami : Worthy One who deserves with the full reverences by all gods and human beings.
8. Buddho: Able One who realises the Ultimate Truths and also expounds them to all through His life.
9. Bhagavā: Supreme Lord who is endowed with the inherent dignities who is more respectful than others.

The Six Inherent Qualities of the Dhamma Bhagavatä Dhammo $=$ The Dhamma taught by the Exalted One is :-

1. Svakkhãto $=$ well-proclaimed
2. Sanditthiko $=$ to be self realized
3. Akäliko $\quad=$ immediately effective
4. Ehipassiko = inviting all to come and see
5. Opaneyyiko $=$ worthy to be achieved
6. Paccattamiveditabbo Viññūhi $=$ to be comprehended by the wise each for himself

## The Nine Inherent Qualities of the Samigha

Bhagavato Savakasanigho $=$ The Order of the Exalted One's Disciples : -

1. Suppatipanno $=$ is good of conduct
2. Ujuppatipanno $=$ is good of upright conduct
3. Nãaya ppatipanno $=$ is good of wise conduct
4. Sâmicippatippanno $=$ is of dutiful conduct

Yadidam cattāri purisayugani ațtha purisapuggalã esa bhagavato sãvakasanigho $=$ This Order of the Exalted One's Disciples that is, these four pairs of persons or the eight Individuals -
5. Ahuneyyo $=$ is worthy of offerings
6. Pāhuneyyo $=$ is worthy of hospitability
7. Dakkhineyyo $=$ is worthy of noble gifts
8. Añjalikaraniyo $=$ is worthy of reverential salutaion
9. Anuttaram puñnakkhettam lokassa $=$ is an incomparable field of merits for the world.

## BHADDANTA PANNA DIPA

## The Threefold Refuge <br> (Ti-sarana)

The Buddha, the Dhamma, and the Samigha, are called "The Three Jewels (ti-ratana). These "Three Jewels" form also "The Threefold Refuge" (ti-sarana) of the Buddhist, by which he professes his acceptance of them as the guides of his life and thought.

Ti-sarana means that which gives delight, pleasure, that which pleases. So we take them as our guides and refuges against ignorance, greed, hatred and ill-will.

Buddha is a peerless teacher of men and gods also attains the Wisdom and Compassion for man's weakness, Sorrow and Suffering. He embodies the universal and timeless ideal of man Perfected. He guides us to the path of deliverance. Having in mind an awareness of His own ceaseless effort, we go to the Buddha for refuge.

Dhamma teaches us dealing with the fundamental facts of life and with liberation attainable through man's own effort towards purification and insight. In following the Dhamma there are three stages : study, practice and realization.

The Dhamma-studying one sees the truth.

Only by realization of Nãma and Rāpa that all things will come into being and disintegrate within a second. In practising of the Dhamma in daily life we become peaceful and tranquil. So we go to the Dhamma for refuge.

The Samigha is the living stream through, which the Dhamma flows to us. The Samigha is the point at which the Buddha-Dhamma makes direct contact with humanity.

Not only has the Samigha preserved the Dhamma, but they also have the unique Spirit of the Noble-Teaching.

The task for Buddhists is to spread the pure BuddhaDhamma which is preached by the Samigha who devote their whole lives to study practice and spreading of the pure Dhammawhich is excellent in our Samsāra - so we go to the Samgha for refuge.

## The Five Precepts

( Pañsa Sila)

After the formula of the Threefold Refuge follows usually the acceptance of the Five Moral Precepts (Pansa Sîla). Their observance is th minimum standard needed to form the basis of decent life and of further progress towards Deliverance.

For this purpose you should choose a secluded spot and assuming a sitting on a lowly seat and imagining either the Buddha or a member of the holy order as occupying a higher seat in front, bow with clasped hands three times.

Adoration : You should then utter audibly or inaudibly threc times, thus : -

Buddham Pūjemi : I adore the Buddha
Dhammam Püjemi : I dore the Dhamma
Samigham Pūjemi : I adore the Samgha
Prayer : May I attain the divine wisdom, Magga $\tilde{N} a \bar{n} a$ (Knowledge of the Holy Path), Phala Nana (Awareness on the Holy Path) and Nibbaña.
(Three times)

Ahami - 1
Bhante - Oh lord :
Ti-saranena Saha - together with the three refuges
Pañca Sīlam - five-fold Precepts
Dhammani Yâcãmi - I crave for the law
Anuggaham katuã - as a merciful act
Silami detha - please give the Sila
Me - to me,
Bhante - Oh Lord !
(At the second and third repetition the words "Dutiyampi" (second) and "Tatiyampi" (third) are added before the start.)
Namo
Tassa - that
Bhagavato - He who had attained Supreme powers
Arahato - He who had uprooted all Kilesãs (evilthought) by root and branch

| Sammä Sam- | He who had discovered the |
| ---: | :--- |
| buddhassa - | Noble Truths by His |
|  | Sayambhuñana, (Enlightenment) |
|  | (three times) |

Buddham Saranam Gacchãmi : I take refuge in the Buddha

Dhammami Saranam Gacchãmi : I take refuge in the Dhamma

Sangham Sarañam Gacchãmi: I take refuge in the Samigha
(At the second and third repetition the words "Dutiyampi" and "Tatiyampi" are added before each sentence.)

1. Pãñãtipãtã : killing living beings

Veramani : in the avoidance of
Sikkhãpadam : the rule of conduct
Samãdiyami : I shall be vigilant
I observe the precept to abstain from attempting and killing living begins.
2. Adinnādãnã : stealing, taking thing not given
(Veramani Sikkhãpadam Samãdiyāmi)
I observe the precept to abstain from stealing, and trying to get one's wealth.
3. Kämesu micchãcārã : sexual misconduct
(Veramani Sikkhãpadamं Samädiyāmi)

I observe the precept to abstain from sexual misconduct and unlawful sexual indulgence in other's wife or husband. 4. Musãvãdã: false speeh, telling a lie (Veramani Sikkhãpadami Samãdiyàmi)

I observe the precept to abstain from telling a lie and speaking a filthy language to hurt the feeling of another.
5. Surāmeraya Majja ppamädatthânā : intoxicating drinks and drugs abusing
(Veramani Sikkhāpadami Samãdiyämi)
I observe the precept to abstain from intoxication and drugs abusing.

## The Eightfold Procepts

(Uposatha Atṭhanga Sīla)
It consists of eight elements (above five precepts add the additional three precepts) fulfilling the requisite, Sila which is generally observe by the yogis and other alike, on Sabbath day. These Silas are known as The Eight-fold Precepts.

One should observe them before entering on his practice of Bhãvanã or vipassanã meditaion.

Abrahmacariyã : indulge in sexual pleasures
(Veramani Sikkhãpadami Samãdiyāmi)
I observe the precept to abstain for indulging in sexual pleasures as well as one's owned wife or husband.
(This precept will be observed instead of Kamesu micchäcãrã No. 3 of The Five Precepts).
6. Vikãla Bojanã : partaking diet after twelve-noon (Veramani Sikkhäpadami Samãdiyāmi)
I observe the precept to abstain from partaking diet after twelve-noon to the dawn.
7. nacca, gîta, vãdita, visūka, dassana (dancing, singing, playing music, enjoying music and dancing of other's)

Mãlagandha, Vilepana darana, maṇdana, vibhüsanaṭthãnä (beautifying oneself using luxuries and cosmetics)
(Veramani Sikkhäpadam Samãdiyämi)
I observe the precept to abstain from enjoying music, dancing and beautifying by the use of cosmetics and luxuries.
8. Uccãsayana-mahäsayanã
(Using high and soft seats and beds)
Veramani Sikkhãpadam Samãdiyāmi
I observe the precept to abstain from using high and soft beds.

Then the Preceptor admonishes the novice to observe the precepts diligently and mindfully; and the novice pledges himself saying.
Ama-bhante : Thus it shall be.


#### Abstract

Five Unique Benefactors (Ananto Ananta Ngàr Par) 1. Buddha Guno Ananto : Gratitudes and dignities of Buddha are infinity. 2. Dhamma Guṇo Ananto : Gratitudes and dignities of doctrines are countless. 3. Samighat Guno Ananto : Gratitudes and dignities of monks have no dimit. 4. Mãtã Pitu Guṇo Ananto : Gratitudes and dignities of parents are beyond compare. 5. Acariya Guṇo Ananto : Gratitudes and dignities of teachers are limitless.

\section*{How To Fulfil Sila}

Doing meritorious deeds such as cleaning a pagoda or watering the holy Bo-tree, or serving one's teachers or parents, or even attending to the needs of your family ... all these will go into the credit side of your fulfillment of Sĩla. While doing these things one can still meditate. If you neglect any of these duties, can you say for certain that you have fulfilied Sila? If Sial is thus unfulfilled, can you acquire the happiness you look for? If there is no happiness, no peace, you cannot get Samähdi. Without Sämadhi; you cannot acquire Paññã (Wisdom).


"Now is all we have - we cannot control all time-Past, Present and Future - Man is limited to living a single day at a time. Life is like an endless, moving belt coming out of a slit in a great wall marked, "FUTURE", moving into an open space marked "PRESENT", and disappearing through a slit in another great wall marked "PAST". Try as we may, we cannot penetrate the wall marked "PAST" when out days have become yesterdays.

It is the same with that other great wall marked "FUTURE" full of tomorrows we may have. We can think about tomorrows, especially "GODS" Great Tomorrows. We can plan and train so that we might use them better when they arrive, but we cannot reach a single one until it appears through the great wall and becomes "Today".

We cannot touch either our yesterdays or our Tomorrows. But our big, job, our glorious opportunity, is to live Today. It is true that "he who neglects the present moment throws away all he has". We have the key to the door Today. Within are happiness, success and sweet fellowship. Today is the word written over the gates of heaven. Today well spent, will turn into eternity.

Buddha teaches us to number our days and wanted everyday to count. We must keep ourselves away from stain of $\sin$ just for Today. If we expect to live anytime richly, fruitfully, successfully, we shall have to Do It Now.

Do you think that Death will came today?
Everybody will probably answer;
"No, I don't think so and it will be impossible that Death come in an hour".

All are to be surprised at the suddenness of the coming of Death. The solemn fact is to be kept that the day of the Death will come suddenly, unexpectedly. Let no one feel that he is secure from the danger of being surprised. The great event is ncar at hand.

So it is time for us to work and learn how to live the Buddhist way successfully. Buddhism is not something else to carry, it carries you. It is not an extra weight to make your journey through life difficult and disagreeable but extra power to life, to bring you to your destination successfully.

Life, like the sea, has its waves of trials, but the BuddhaDhamma winds are strong enough to bring us through each wave successfully.

If you desire a full life, satisfying with no worries, no fears for yourself on your destiny, and even more wonderful after-life, one without end in the world to come, then follow the Noble Path of Buddha, and Do It Now.

Remember the three fierce, unyielding enemies namely, Greed (lobha), Anger (Dosa), and Delusion (Moha), which wage war on us. It is just like an angry devil let loose in this world, who is waging total war using every means at his command, and fighting persistently every man who visits his sophistries.

Ease and Self-Indulgence prevent us from ever closing the door to Temptation. The danger is not the working hours when our energies are fully occupied, but it is the leisuretime activity or off-duty hours that most often gets us into
trouble. If we permit "Ease and Self-Indulgence" to region, we remove from the mind its defence against the most deadly Temptation. Surely as a Buddhist, one must never permit such a condition to obtain.

The heart cry of man is for peace and happiness and assurance now, not in some far-off day. I believe that this exactly what the Buddha had in mind as the highest boon for the people, and what Buddhism offers days. The Buddha teaches us the only way to real life. Not only a service and living for others the only way to meet the obligations of citizenship in the world, but it is the only way to really live here and now.
"For never any where at any time did hatred cease by hatred. Always $\mathrm{T}^{\prime}$ is by love that hatred cease - only love" "Cease to de evil, learn to do good, purify your hearts." "The gift of Truth excels all other Gifts, The sweetness of Truth excels all other sweetness, The delight in truth excels all other delights, The Extinction of craving is the end of pain"

Now is the time for all good men. Don't think that you are either too young or too old to do great things : Thomas Jefferson, 33 years, drafted the Declaration of Independence.

Benjaman Franklin, 26 years, wrote poor Richards Almanac.

Charles Dickens,
24 years, began his pickwick papers and 25 years, Oliver Twist.

| Issac Newton, | 24 years, formulated The Latw of <br> Gravity. |
| :--- | :--- |
| Inmanuel Kant, | 74 years, wrote his finest philosophical <br> works. |
| Goethe, | 80 years, completed "Faust." <br> Tennyson, |
| Michel Angelo, years, wrote "Crossing the Bar." |  |
| Titian, | 87 years, completed his greatest work. <br> 98 years, painted the historic picture, |
|  | "Battle of Lepanto" |

May I say that it is the Buddha Dhamma which should be studied by one and all for a new insight into the realities of human nature. In Buddhism we have the cure for all mentalills that affect Mankind. It is the evil forces of Mind (Past and Present) that are responsible for the present state of affairs all over the world.

Now-a-days, there is dissatisfaction almost everywhere.
Dissatisfaction creates ill-feeling.
Ill-feeling creates Hatred.
Hatred creates Enmity.
Enmity creates war.
War creates Enemies.
Enemies creates War.
War creates Enemies and so on in a vicious circle.
Why? certainly, because there is lack of proper control over mind.

What is man? Man is after all mental forces personified.
What is matter? Matter is nothing but mental forces materialised, a result of the reaction of moral (Positive) and immoral (Negative) forces.

The Buddha said "The world is mind made" (Cittena Niyate loko)

Mind, therefore, predominates everything. Let us then study Mind and its peculiar characteristics and solve the problem that is now facing the world. And Do It To-day-Now and Here.

Condensed from "Do It Today" by U BA OHN The Light of Buddha Vol., IX No. 2 A SERMON

Monks, you would like to possess something that was permanent, stable, eternal, not liable to change; that would stand fast like unto the eternal. But can you see any such possession?

Neither do I.
You would like to have a grip of the notion of self, such that there would not arise grief, sorrow, suffering, lamentation, and despair. But can you see any such grip?

Neither do I.
You would like a foundation for views such that there would not arise grief, sorrow, suffering, lamentation, and despair. But can you see such foundation?

Neither do I.

Monks, if there were a self, would there be something of the nature of a self in me? And it there be something of the nature of a self, would there be a self in me? But if both self and anything of the nature of a self, even when actually present, are incomprehensible, is not this basic for view mere absolute folly. This one the world, this one of the self whom I shall afterwards, become - permanent, stable, eternal, not liable to change, that would stand fast like unto the eternal?

Then, if material shape is impermanent, and if that which is impermanent suffering, you cannot regard that which is impermanent, suffering and liable to change as: this is mine, 1 am this, this is my self. It is the same with feeling, perception, the construction, consciousness. From this it results that all consciousness, whether past, future, or present, subjective or objective, gross or subtle, mean or excellent near or far, must all be seen as : This is not mine, I am not this, this is not my self.

So seeing all these things, the instructed disciple of the Ariyans disregards material shapes, and the rest; by disregarding he is passionless; through passionlessness he is freed: in freedom, the knowledge comes to be: I am freed, and he has foreknowledge: Destroyed is binh, lived is the life of purity, done is what was to be done, there is no more of being such or such.
(The Maha Bodhi Volume 58 No. 4-5)

## TRUTH PURITY

"Abstaining from fish or flesh, nakedness, shaving of the head, matted hair, covering with ashes, wearing rough deer skins, attending the sacrificial fire, nor all the various penances in the world performed for immortality, neither incantations, oblations, sacrifices nor seasonal observance, purifies a person who has not overcome his doubt."
"He who lives with his senses guarded and conquered, and is established in the law, delights in uprightness and gentleness, who has gone beyond attachment and has overcome all sorrows; that wise man does not cling to what is seen and heard."

Sutta-Nipāta

## LOVE AND PEACE TO THE WORLD A DISCOURSE

## BY

## Venėrable Mohnyin Sayadaw

To you all, good people who want peace for your country and for the whole world, this sermon in brief is given :

Love begets love and hatred begets hatred. There is no fire more intense and consuming than the fire of hatred born of unrestrained passion, and there is no thirst more difficult to satisfy than the greed born of attachment. You, O wise people, have often seen that love alone brings enduring peace and not brute force.

Conquest by force never brings true peace to the conqueror because the conquered, whose smitten pride smarting form the wounds of defeat, will try to take revenge sooner or later.

Peace can be achieved only when selfishness is restrained. Selfishness is a terrible hindrance to the attainment of peace and happiness for it breeds conceit. vanity, pride, lust, greed, thirst for power and supremacy, anger, hatred and passion bringing in its train an endless chain of evils culminating in grief and disaster.

You have all seen that wars were fought with the utmost crueity and barbarity in complete disregard of humanity, love, and compassion for living beings. Destruction and desolation spread and untold miseries followed in the wake of recent wars. Such terrible weapons as the atomic bombs were used and every possible advantage was taken to commit wholesale slaughter and bloodshed. Peace however was not to be obtained at the end of these wars in which both the victors and the vanquished were losers in many respects.

The Buddha who points the way to eternal peace has said :
"Victory breeds more enmity and hatred. Defeat brings humiliation, frustration and all kinds of disharmony. If the cause of strife is removed there will be no more strife and enmity and thus peace of mind and body will be secured."

You should therefore strive to win peace by pouring out upon the trouble-ridden world an all-pervading love; love which is intense, far-reaching and beyond measure. All persons,
male and female residing either in hamlets or parishes, towns or cities, or in small countries or big countries should not entertain any feelings of hostility towards one another but should have kind thoughts both day and night for all beings wherever they may be. You should have boundless love for all creatures for it can bring about the well-being of all creatures.

Whoever is disposed to undertake this mission of radiating love-vibrations should have such attributes as Uprightness, Conscientiousness, Amenability to reason and discipline, Gentleness and Humility.

Having thus secured these attributes you should practise the virtue of LOVE by deed, word and thought.
(1) By deed - Promote another's happiness by giving personal assistance and by relieving distress and miseries or by giving alms, etc.
(2) By word - Speak gently and sweetly. Your words should be for the good and well - being of all creatures. By your words try to relieve distress and misery of all creatures.
(3) By thought - Focus your thoughts on the individuals or groups of persons or on all those living in hamlets or parishes or small countries or big countries, focus your thought on any one to whom you wish to extend your love and kindness, visualize them and then transmit kind thought - waves to them.

A certain period of the day should be set apart for this purpose and you should decide as to the number of times this love radiation should be done in a day. This can also be done by telling beads.

If you are doing this for an individual, do thus:Visualize the person and say thus, "May you be happy and peaceful. May you be free from trouble." Visualize the persons of both sexes and then repeat thus: "May you all be happy and peaceful. May you all be free from trouble." Repeat this many times.

If you are doing this for persons living in villages, towns, cities and countries, do thus : -

Think of the place or places to which you desire to send your kind thoughts and then visualize the persons of both sexes living in the place. Focus your thoughts on the persons and repeat : -
"May you all be happy and peaceful. May you be free from all troubles. May you all love one another and always entertain kind thoughts towards one another." Repeat this many times.

Practice this virtue of love with strong will and concentrated attention.

The main requirement in this process of effectively radiating love-vibrations is to try and secure a mental picture of the objective as if it were actually seen by your eyes and then to transmit the love thoughts when this necessary mental attitude is obtained.

Our doctrines say that love disarms the enemy or neutralises the weapons used against the transmitter of love. A hunter after game, it is said, hurled a spear at a cow which are feeding er calf whom she dearly loved. Such was the intensity

## Buddhism Hankbook

of a mother's love at the particular moment of feeding her offspring that the edge of the weapon curled up causing no injury to her who had this tremendous force called Love. Blessings To All Beings !

> Not only by mere morality nor again by much learning, nor even by gaining concentration, nor by lonely lodging, (thinking)" I enjoy the bliss of renunciation not resorted to by the worlding", (not with these) should you, O Bhikkhu, rest content without reaching the extinction of the corruptions.

DHAMMAPDA 271, 272

## COMPILER'S CONCLUSION

All Buddha-Dhamma are embodied in the voluminous Tipitaka, the Three-Baskets of Knowledge. The essence of Tipitaka is the 37 factors of Bodhipakkhiya Dhamma (the Requisites of Enlightenment). The essence of Bodhipakkhiya is the Noble Eight-Fold Path based on the Four Noble Truths. The Noble Eight-Fold Path is understood as the three Sikkhas (Threefold Practices) which are Sila (Morality), Samäadhi (Concentration) and Pañnä (Wisdom). The three Sikkhas mean Eko Dhammo or the one and the only Dhamma.

You can live with Buddha Dhamma in your daily routine and also practise the Buddhistic methods by following the basic points from this book : -

To get the embracingly viewing of the Dhamma for long, it you cannot stay and practise in the meditation centres, you ought to try twice daily at least about one hour eachonce in the morning and again before going to bed-like the following manner : -

Firstly, you should adore Buddha, Dhamma and Samigha and also the Five Benefactors by reciting or reverently bearing in mind the inherent dignities thereof and bow with clasped hands three times. By means of sitting in religious posture, you surely believe in and utter audibly or inaudibly, acceptance of the Five Precepts (Pânsa Sīla), vowing to obey these precepts by Three Kams (Physical, Verbal and Mental actions).

Then you should breathe steadily without wandering thoughts to calm down the mind for a moment. After that, you must recall or forecast and analyse your behaviours during the whole day which may be in accord or otherwise with the moral precepts.

And you acquire understanding perfectly that all are subject to the three characteristics (the sign of life), anicca, dukkha, and anatta and persevere to attain the atmosphere of the Right Concentration (Sammã Sämädhi).

By the exercise of insight (Vipassana) that resolves into the Four Satipatthannas which will be firmly established one by one, lastly you should keep note of air in and out as you breathe at the tip of nostril or the rise and fall of the abdomen. In this way you are ready to continue to practise the vipassana $\bar{a}$ meditation.

Everyday, in the routine way, we many also strive for gaining the awareness of the Noble Eight-Fold Path - especially Right thought - speech - action - livelihood and effort. Everytime our behaviours which can be based on the moral precepts (Sila), abstaining from lobha (greed), dosa (anger) and moha (ignorance), should obey the virtues of loving kindness (metta) and volition (cetana) in connection with all social afair every day.

Such living styles as such will bring peace and happiness and also render you easy to face all sufferings.

I hope that you may surely to ready to make a search for these living ways and knowledges from this book.

So, I compile the words of Buddha as a gist from the works by the Sayadaw Gyis and other honorable authors for all to understandard the essence of Buddha Teaching and to practice the Dhamma in the genuine Buddhistic way in a short time.

Some articles without referring the names of book and authors are collected and combined from the bibliography in appendix. I take, therefore, responsibility for the errors and incompleteness in this book if any.

May all be able to live happily in the Buddhistic ways.

SAR MAUNG TOH

## Languages in the Buddhism

The original Buddhist scriptures, called Tipitaka, were written in Pali language (one of the usage in ancient India). The Buddhism is an oriental religion which was quite unknown to Europe. The words of the Buddha have been translated into many Asian Languages and also European languages, especially English translations attempt to get the truth. The English language in the world of ideas is so impregnated with the Christian view of life that it has no equivalent ideas to the Buddhist ones.

## Key To Pronunciation of PĀLI

## The Vowels

$a$ - as "a" in, art, as " $u$ " in shut.
$\tilde{a}$ ~ as "a" in are and father, not as in way and take
$c$ - as " $c$ " in cue, not as in car.
$\boldsymbol{e} \quad$ - as "ay" in stake and may (long), not as "e" in morry. Short as "e" in met.
$\bar{N}$ - as "ñ" in the Spanish Word Señior.
$o \quad-\quad$ as "aw" in awe and hope (long)
th - as " $t$ " in art and not as "th" in then or thin.
$u$ - as "oo" in foot and put, not as "u" in but, or mule.
$\vec{u} \quad-\quad$ as " $\vec{u} "$ in boot and lunatic" having no accent, and not as "u" in cue or due.
$\bar{i} \quad$ - as "ee" in meet and pin (short)
$\bar{i} \quad$ - as "e" in he or she (long) and machine, not as in fine.
$c$ - as "ch" in chair, not as $K, S$, and " $c$ " in city and center.
$g$ - as in get, not as in general.
$b h$ - as in cab-horse
ch - as in "chh" in ranch-house
$d h-\quad$ as in handhole
$g h$ - as in bag-handle
$j h \quad$ - as "dgh" in sledge-hammer
$j \quad$ - as in joy
$m$ - The so-called "nasalizer" is usually pronounced as "ng" in sung, sing.
$s \quad-\quad$ as in this; not as in these
$\tilde{n}$ - as "ny" in canyon or as "gn" in Mignon
ph - as in haphazard; not as in photograph
th - as in hot-house, not as in thin and than.
$Y$ - as in Yes.
$t$, th, $d, d h$ are lingual sounds; in pronouncing, the tongue is to be pressed against the palate.

Double consonants : each of them is to be pronounced: e.g. "bb" as in Scrub-board", "tt" as in cat-tail.

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## Glossary

## A

abandning
abeyance

Abhidhamma
abiding
absorption
abstinence
(abstain)
forsake, give up, free from restraint.


suspension, temporary inactivity.

The "beyond-dhamma" Piṭaka of the Paḷi Canon. It is highly philosophical and contains an entries system of mindtraining.
permanent, enduring.

engrossment of mind
Ci:
refrain, self denial

abundant
abyss
accretion
accruing
acquiescence
adhamma
adherence
adherent
admonish
admonition
adore
adultery
agrarian
allay
altruism
(altruistic)
amenability
amity
amulet
anapana

Buddhism Hankbook
plentiful, wealthy solap:
infernal region, a very deep place. ァo्ฉp"
 come as normal profit or by natural right of:

unjust, unrightcous noog


remind $2 \infty$ ºtwi:uwp్ర
exhortation [్రై

intercourse with one who is married to someone else W్యొ?
of agricultural land
0006 Ģq
calm, diminish

unselfishness, habitually


friendly relationship

a charm to protect one against

breath, inspiration and expiration,

| annihilation | utter destruction of soul and body <br>  |
| :---: | :---: |
| antecedence | occurring before squtmsogismoycin |
| anticipate apotropaic |  with the power to ward off bad luck アฝథpయ゙mé: |
| apprehension | fear of the future, anxiety <br>  |
| arahat | The personal ideal of Theravada |
| (arahant) | Buddhism. One who reached the end of the Noble Four Paths and attained Nibbāna. The highest kind of Saint who is exempt from the further rebirth. งฉquó! |
| ariyan | One who has trod the right Path and garnered its fruit, sanctified, holy, saintly, noble person. s\&̊ors |
| ascetic | practising severe self-denial in bodily <br>  |
| aspiration | lofty hope, ambition <br>  |
| assevation | emphatic affirmation, oath <br>  |
| assail | attack violently ¢ీ, ¢\} |
| astound | overwhelm with astonishment <br>  |


|  | Buddhism Hankbook 168 |
| :---: | :---: |
| attest | witness, testify <br>  |
| audibly | able to be heard gosicsarn |
| Aukatha | submission for grant of exculpation <br>  |
| auspices | good omen, predicting success |
| (auspicious) |  |
| avert | turn away, prevent from happening <br>  |
| awakened | became aware 2 Gcounsu |
| B |  |
| bhante | sir, venerable sir (formal address to Bhikkhu) |
| Bodhi | Wisdom, Enlightenment, Awakening, Its human faculty is Buddhist intuition. |
| Bodhisatta | Buddha-to-be,. The ideal of the Mahāyäna, One whose life is dedicate to the service of mankind. A person who wishes to win full enlightenment. |
| benefaction | good deed. somes:d |
| benevolence |  |
| bespatter | abuse s20¢00¢प్రวข) |
| Bhagavā | Blessed One, Exalted One sif:oos Boom |
| bond | link interface strength $360020{ }^{\dagger} \dagger$ <br>  |

bondsman slave, one who stands surety. som:ogit'
boon
Brahma

Brahmin

Brethren

## C

calamity
calumny
cease
(cessation)
cetosika
celibacy
chant
chastity

false accusation ఖ్య:บюీ complete to an end, discontinue,
 psychic-factor, those ideas which are accompaniment of knowing soonsist of a person under a vow Gupoqionmmex



citta (cittam) mind, thought, consciousness. Boos


cite

climes
cling
cogitation
cohesion
combustion
compassionate
compendium
conceit
concept
concomitant
concord
condition
congenial
connote
contemplation
corporeal
consecrate

 2బ్ర్
deed thought acu:cu: $\%$ ภీ



comprehensive summary ঞm्गर्ट: ajơ cole: 헤요
over-high opinion of oneself
 an abstract or general idea $\gg \boldsymbol{n} \infty \boldsymbol{\infty}$


peaceful relationship, agreement
memomek:
state of being, posogrop :


imply in addition to meaning 308010 \%2:605ల్రీ
act of thinking deeply about

bodily Øix
ordain, make venerable, devote mogos


| consciousness | in full possession of one's senses, knowing aware 000 象 |
| :---: | :---: |
| contiguity | state of being in contact ¢ |
| continuum | continuous series of component parts |
|  | passing into one another |
|  |  |
| contravene |  <br>  |
| conviction | complete certainty, deep-rooted opinion, <br>  |
| convulsively |  |
| corruption |  |
|  | 6p:4 |
| crave | desire, intense yearning |
| (craving) |  |
| cramp | restricted in space, badly formed $\infty$ 心. |
| credulous |  |
| crumble | fall into pieces form |
| cudgel | think hard, defend strongly gitegisco $\alpha 00 \%$ |
|  | ¢ฝ: |
| cultivate |  |
| culprit | guilty person spgigipn |
| culminate | reach highest point, great development |
|  |  |
| curb |  |

D
decay
deceive
d roy
deify
deign
deity
delineate
deliverance
delude
delve
demise
denominator
denote
Dependent
Origination
deportment
desolation
grow weak, disintegrate through age.

mislead wilfully, delude.
 lure for trapping Glow regard as a god \$offi:muీg్ష condescend నినీธชయpజ్రీ
 describe, trace the outline of

liberation, rescue muీon $\mathcal{B}^{6} \mathcal{E}: 1$ గofatrone
 carry out exhaustive research GTGexpies
 giver of a name soop్రీc: mark out, indicate come into existence which rely on that of another variable

 cheerless, uninhabited 8iofsm:ธcy?


| diligence | steady effort, perseverance |
| :---: | :---: |
| disastrous |  606023 |
| discern |  బీక్రీఁున్రీ |
| discourse |  |
| disposition | temperament, usual frame of mind <br>  |
| disseminate |  |
| Ditthi | The idea of wrong view or false belief which is also co-present with loba. 8'g |
| divinity | a divine being, study of theology <br>  |
| doctrine | body of teaching, accepted belief <br>  |
| domain |  |
| don | put - on oosm |

## E

ecstasy
ego-centralism
efficacy
exaltation, enthusiasm in religious fervour ¿ั○ீ
selfishness spg్\%
power to produce moper
elaborate
highly developed, detailed or ornamented

eliminate
flourish
elucidate
emancipation
endow
endure
engender
Enlightenment
entity
ensnare
enthusiasm
envious (envy)
equanimity
excel
exempt
expiation
extinction
extravagent
extricate

explain mioglaీgీ:
 so可c:
bestow property, talent व्\}|

long lasting, bear patiently
 give rise to, cause बil:


being, existence, anything real in itself

catch in a trap cose $\left\{0{ }^{\circ}: 20{ }^{2}\right.$

roused by another's success, feeling ill


show unusual merit be superior to $i \mathfrak{i d}$
cmot: if pup్
release from duty
making amends for, paying penalty of


wasteful, excessive эァoô cosst


## F

fencer
firmament
fleeting
fletcher
flit
forsake
frivolous
fruit
fruition
frustration
futility

G
goal it means "Arahatta-phala" (fruition of Holiness)
grasping
greed

## H

hanker
hapless
swords man ob:0002:1
The sky smoć:méget
rapid, passing away oust

arrow-maker for:000:i
 give up, renounce q\&.yof. silly, unimportant eeququ eपुóecosmí result, reward, benefit omi:compo: fulfilment, full realization, achievement

 G్రీ
uselessness srajp: itit
 excessive desire to obtain cossos

uniucky $宀 \underset{\sim}{: c 5091}$
heedful
hereafter
heresy
heretical
hideous
hood
hurl
hypnotize

## I

idolatry
ignorance
illumine
imbue
imminent
(impending)
impinge
impulse

Buddhism Hankbook
carefull ogieicic.00:
in the future, after death osoofonot
erroneous religious belief

option contray to approved theory


soft garment covering head or neck ธวาc:ธ̊๐
throw forcefully ciço
dominated by will power and suggestion


unawareness, lack of knowledge soicon
light up, enlighten ロ桌:0c:
inspire, instil (idea) into

about to happen, threatening

come into contact $\varnothing$ ®
sudden strong urge to action mosis: \&of,
incommensurate
inclation
inclination
incomprehensiblen
inconceivable
incongruity
indulgence
(indulge)
inexistence
infelicity
infringement
inherent
instantaneously
interpolation
in toto
intuitive
involve
 coss1
magical chant or verbal formula olocol ugon -
 uncapable of being understood procu§


 act of yielding to the wishes, tolerance థoఁీฒన్నేనికీఱీర్రీ:

 c5030\%1
breaking the rule, disobey moll: cosocuynced:a
essentially belonging to be naturally implied
 corruption a text soguliwicico


instinctive knowledge

cause of become associated with


## J

## Jhäna

Trance, mental absorption op $\bar{\phi} 1$

## K

kalāpas
käma-räga
kilesa

## L

laity
lamentation
languid
linger
lokuttara
lot
lust
cell, moveropil
sensuous craving, sexual desire mopos clinging to the wordly and sexual

 expression of deep grief ©isp:
 delay, continue to live though suffering from disease $\operatorname{cou}$ ©n

supramundane sphere, mundane affairs of future life scoวmpøㅂ
fate or chance bestows, luck migos momit sexual desire, feel strong desire poos


## M

Manussatta bhavo It is very difficult to be born as a dullabho
malicious (malice) human being wicked intention wicked intention

mar
meekness
Muni
metaphysical
metaphoricaliy
monastic

N
nook
nurture

## 0

oblation
obligation
obnoxious
obstruct
omen
oppression
optimistic
damage, spoil, ruin



 scuconegrount
 ways of life for monks $\mathfrak{\sim u m}$
narrow corner sopsfogicops


solemn religious offering vonos$\}$ Goç whocesfer:
feeling of inner compulsion to act in specified way, moral or legal compulsion ~nం
unpleasant, harmful pols hinder, oppose
event indicating the future $880 \% 1$
 believing in cheerful hopefulness

oscillation
outcaste
(outcast)
outset

## P

paramount
parish
passion
penanaces
perceive (perception)
perish
permeate
perpetuate
pessimistic
phjilanthropic
pious (piety)
causing to swing to and fro, vary between
 person rejected by a social group (in India) $\cos 0$ 景Stit beginning, start 320 0
 area over which a single clergyman has authority, smallest local unit in civil or
 strong emotion, burst of anger $p<8 \circ$ os, c3l201



 prolong in definitely, never ending $3 \times(\hat{y}$

expecting misfortune soujof notivated by love or humanity soधp:som)

faithful in religious duties, devout monecq

|  | Buddhism Hankbook 181 |
| :---: | :---: |
| piosity |  |
| pliancy | being flexible, easily influenced <br>  |
| plunge | thrust deed into cause to enter suddenly into difficulties, unpleasant state ุุలో |
| poise | dignity, self possession, calmness osp్రీ. |
| preach | give a discourse on a religious subject 0) |
| precipitate |  <br>  |
| precursor | one who goes before, forerunner eq. $\mathrm{g}_{6}$ : |
| prerequisite | essential as prior condition |
|  |  |
| propound | explain |
| (expound) |  |
| promulgates | announce publicly memp: |
| provocation | behaviour meant to rouse another's anger or lust cslongicso |

## R

recluse
radiate
anchorite, one who lives alone qusp:mot

emit rays of light sesc bescou

| recalcitrant | resisting control, refusal <br>  |
| :---: | :---: |
| reciprocity | mutual cooperation and exchange <br>  |
| recite | repeat aloud from memory, narrate タoీఇీల్మీ |
| recurrence | happening again and several times <br>  |
| refraine | abstain, check oneself from acting, for <br>  |
| refuge | protection from danger or from distress <br>  |
| remorse | regret, pain caused by a sense of guilt -qァcos |
| renunciation | give up, cast off |
| (renounce) |  |
| restlessness | continually moving, fidgety ocmosegem ${ }^{(1)}$ |
|  | $\mathrm{j}^{\text {3\% }} \mathrm{g}$ |
| resentment |  |
| resort | use as means, have recourse to |
| restraint |  <br>  |
| retrospect |  |
| reverence | act with respect as holy مimwne |
| righteous | morally good self consciously and intolerantly virtuous $\varepsilon$ Egoç $q 6003$ |
|  |  |

## S

sacrament
sacred
sacred texts
sacriffices
sage
salient
sanctification
samigha （samigha）
Sanikhära

Sanskrit
sceptical
schism
scripture
scrupulous
 deedly revered or cherished soocimgos Gosem：
deeply cherished－riligious words ァวOnGq：oje：
act of giving up something valued for
 man of great wisdom uphqia conspicuous，prominent $\infty$ ¢ీp：0ำว make holy，purity from $\sin 23_{g}^{\circ} \omega \varepsilon_{1}$ The Buddhist monastic order
formationi，component things；arising and passing away，physical and mental phenomena 2 ิใด
ancient Hindu language がgacmon！ inclined to disbeliever or doubt

division caused by grave disagreement

sacred writing forming base on religion oxp：oys：ent
careful to act correctly，strictly bonest


| self－indulgence | act of gratifying one＇s desire |
| :---: | :---: |
|  |  |
| self－mortification |  |
| sensorium |  |
| sentient | capable of sense perception m |
|  | 203：3s®ecemos |
| sentiment | mental attitude determined by an emotion <br>  |
| serene | calm，clear，placid ⿴囗才 <br>  |
| sermon | religious or moral address csqp：6s02 $\phi$ ？ ［30） |
| shroud |  |
| Sikkhä | practice of moral uprightness，years in <br>  <br>  |
| similes | figure of speech in which one thing is <br>  |
| slacken | dull，inactive，become slower eolcof？ |
| slanderous | false report to injure anyone，calumny <br>  |
| slaughter | massacre，kill in large number，cruelly <br>  |
| sloth |  |


|  | Buddhism Hankbook 185 |
| :---: | :---: |
| smitten (smite) | strike powerfully, affect strongly |
|  |  |
| solemn | formal, impressive, dignified |
|  |  |
| speculative | theorecticial, not verified by fact |
|  |  |
| spell | incantation, $\sim$ mil |
|  |  |
| stainless | free from sin \%ecuorems:600 |
| state of woe | state of trouble, misfortune matuspi |
| steadfastness | firm, unchanging |
|  |  |
| stolidity | stupidly inpassive, showing no interest |
|  | cicictsors cou:00¢602x |
| stubborn | very hard to move, resisting strongly <br>  |
| stupa | a large mound usually covering a relic or relies of the Buddha |
|  |  |
| sublime |  |
| subsisting | remain alive or in existence have the <br>  |
| supramudane | above detached from this world, moving towards contact the true reality |
|  |  |
|  | cosmో\%\% |

## T

tangible
temperament
temptation
torpor
trance
transcendental
transient
(transience)
tremble
trepidation

## U

ultimate
unchasitity
unflinching
unison
unsubstantiality
that can be touched


urge to evil acts


condition of unawareness of external thigs
in which visions appear

\%\&:oc\&
beyond the sphere of knowledge

soon passing not lasting



ulmost, final




quality of being unconsiderable



## W

| waver |  |
| :---: | :---: |
| weal and woe |  |
| whence | from where, how is it that? <br>  |
| whirl | move rapidly opీcouek |
| worlding | one devoted to material things <br>  |
| worldly | materialistic, social coume |
| weather-worn |  |

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## Post-Buddhistic Hinduism

The various ways in which Buddhism influenced, modified, transformed and revitalised Hindu religion among all the philosophical Sutras of the Hindus, are admittedly postBuddhistic. The presupposition of the Indian philosophy in the doctrine of Karma and rebirth and other pre-Buddhistic system have attained fullest development from Buddhistic literature and been established on philosophical basis.

Dr.S.N.Dasgupta

## SHARING THE MERITS

I share the portion of my merits of alms-giving (dãna), morality (sîla), meditation (bhãvanã), etc. to all sentient beings. May they all share equally with me and rejoice on what they have duly acquired gains and happiness.

Idam me puñnam äsvakkhayam vahan hotu. May this action of merit be able to convey me towards the extinction of passion.

Idami me puñnàn Nibbãnassa paccayo hotu. May this action of my merit be the cause for the attainment of Nibbãna.

#  

BUDDHESM HANDBOOK


## 











 कор:








## @@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@(QQ(






## 

| $8^{6}$ | : Ln:pcte 119 |
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