

CHAPTER 8

BUDDHIST STUDIES

Doctoral Theses

064. ANANT
Shingon Philosophy in Modern Perspective : An Evaluation.
Supervisors : Dr. R. K. Rana and Dr. B. S. Rustagi
Th 16256

Abstract

Attempts to explore and elucidate the philosophy of Shingon sect and an all-comprehensive interpretation of Japanese Buddhism. It identifies and discusses the philosophical views on Shingon sect in modern perspective. The main argument for this is that the philosophical foundations of capability approach are based on a different view of life, world and human beings, marked from the Japanese philosophical tradition. For its realization, a specified aim of capability approach could be to provide a critical perspective and a theoretical insight through which Japanese philosophical Buddhist tradition could resurrect its core principles to make it advantageous for the society, especially, in regard to the circumstance in the Japanese society. To move forward to view the philosophy of the Shingon sect, it is necessary to understand the concept of Shingon sect as to how it reaches Japan from India.

Contents

1. Background of the Shingon sect. 2. Mahavairocana Buddha. 3. The three mysteries. 4. The ten stages of mind. 5. The mandala. 6. Shingon philosophy in modern perspective. 7. Conclusion. Bibliography and appendix.

065. IL JOONG (AN BYONG HEE)
Critical Study of Anapanasati : Based on the Pali Nikayas and their Commentaries.
Supervisor : Prof. Bhikshu Satyapala
Th 16247

Abstract

Attempts to discuss deeply the various aspects of the practice of Anapanasati from both the textual and practical perspectives. Presents a detail and comprehensive survey on Anapanasati based on the Pali texts, and to investigate the practical application of Anapanasati in the contemporary Theravada Buddhist traditions.

Contents

1. The importance of Anapanasati in the Pali texts. 2. The methods of Anapanasati in the Anapanasati-sutta. 3. The developed method of Anapanasati in the Visuddhimagga. 4. Application of Anapanasati in the contemporary Theravada traditions. Conclusion. Bibliography and appendix.

066. NGUYEN THANH MINH
Study of Cham Buddhist Art in Vietnam.
 Supervisors : Prof. K. T. S. Sarao and Prof. Anita Sharma
Th 16248

Abstract

Describes the historical places of the Champ culture of modern Quang Binh to Binh Thuan province, which constitute a landmark in the history of Champa. Although many scholars have commented on the different aspects of history of these places in various contexts, the picture emerging so far is not as satisfactory as it ought to have been. Presents authentic materials for the historical construction and critical appreciation of these places, which have a great influence in the culture of India.

Contents

1. Introduction. 2. Formation and development of Cham. 3. Sources of foundation and development. 4. Major trends of Cham architecture. 5. Motifs in Cham art. 6. Analysis of the ancient centers of Cham culture. 7. Conclusion. Bibliography.

067. NGUYEN THI KIM LOAN
Modern Relevance of the Concept of Sunyata as Depicted in the Prajnaparamita Sutras and the Pali Nikayas.
 Supervisors : Prof. Sanghasen Singh and Dr. S. K. Sinha
Th 16537

Abstract

Attempts to combine the concept of Sunyata both in the Pranjaparamita Sutras and Pali Nikayas in order to prove that both are not different but originally derived from the basic teachings of the Buddha himself and that it is relevant in the present day context as it was during the period of the profounder.

Contents

1. Introduction. 2. The Prajnaparamita literature and its analysis. 3. Origin and development of Pali Nikayas. 4. Analysis of the concept of Sunyata in the Prajnaparamita Sutras. 5. Analysis of Sunyata in the Pali Nikayas. 6. Typical theories of Sunyata as depicted in mahayana sutras and nagarjuna's madhyamakakarika. 7. Application of sunyata in daily life as depicted in the prajnaparamita and the Pali Nikaya. 8. Conclusion. Bibliography.

068. NGUYEN THI THANH HA
Gender Bias and Buddhist Attitude Towards Women : A Study of the Pali Jatakas.
 Supervisors : Prof. K. T. S. Sarao and Dr. Shalini Singhal
Th 16533

Abstract

The research is primarily confined to the reflection of Gender bias and Buddhist attitude towards Women in Pali Jatakas. For this reason, the Pali Tipitaka has been used as main sources for research. Besides Digha Nikaya (Long Sayings), Samyuttara Nikaya (Kindred Sayings), are also used. Various types of information from the Pali Jatakas has been analysed statistically.

Contents

1. General Introduction. 2. Gender Bias and religion. 3. Material Millieu of the Pali Jatakas. 4. The Nature and Status of women in Jatakas. 5. Buddhist attitude towards women in general. 6. Conclusion. Bibliography.

069. NGUYEN THI THE
Environmental Protection and Engaged Buddhism.
 Supervisors : Dr. I. N. Singh and Dr. P. K. Panda
Th 16253

Abstract

Describes the importance of "Environmental Protection" and "Engaged Buddhism" with the history of the development of Buddhism. Focuses on the following principle themes : A concise description of Buddhist concepts of environment consisting of natural environment and ethical environment. A universal overview of Buddhism together with world view, outlook on life, and interrelationship between humans and nature under the theory of Dependent Origination. An analysis of environmental protection as the Buddhist way of life focusing on global crises, Buddhism and environmental education, and the Noble Eightfold Path as a Buddhist way of life. Engaged Buddhism and with its foundation, engaged Buddhist movements and Buddhist views on building a peaceful world. Buddhism and Social Globalization, and the Role of Buddhism in the 21st century.

Contents

1. Introduction. 2. Buddhist concepts of environment. 3. A universal overview on Buddhism. 4. Environmental protection : A buddhist way of life. 5. Engaged buddhism. Conclusion, bibliography, glossary and index.

070. NGUYEN TRONG TRI
Origin and Development of Devotional Buddhism in China.
 Supervisor : Dr. R. K. Rana
Th 16246

Abstract

Studies the meaning and practice of devotion in the four Nikayas and to its comparision with devotion as delineated in the late Buddhist literature particularly in the Avatamsaka Sutra, Lotus Sutra and in the three Pure Land Sutras. These Sutras provide clear explanation to the nature of devotion in the Pure Land School and emphasize its role in the struggle for liberation. Also delineates the practice of Nien-Fo and describe its influence on the religious culture of China.

Contents

1. The elements of faith in early Buddhism. 2. Development and spread of devotional literature. 3. Development of the pure land school in China. 4. Meaning and practice of devotional Buddhism in China. 5. Nien-fo in daily life. Conclusion. Bibliography.

071. NHEM KIM TENG
Buddhist Values and Development of Cambodian Society : A Philosophical Study.
 Supervisors : Dr. I. N. Singh and Dr. P. K. Panda
Th 16538

Abstract

No form of Buddhism came so close to the total extinction as that in Cambodia during the late 1970s and given the recent histories of religious persecution in other regions of East and central Asia, that is saying quite a lot. Since that Nadir, Khmer Buddhism has gradually learned to adapt and prosper as socialist controls were first gradually relaxed and then finally disappeared. Accommodating spirit has been an intrinsic features of Cambodian Buddhism since its inception. The visible presence of the Sangha and its unique significance as the only institution able to operate effectively and with high levels of mass support throughout the whole of the country have ensures that almost all governments have felt the need to cultivate the Buddhist sector, whatever their political philosophy.

Contents

1. Introduction. 2. Combodian culture and civilization. 3. Buddhist values and cambodian literature. 4. Key buddhist values in cambodian society. 5. The influence of Buddhist values of social, economic and political system. 6. Cambodian modern thought in new century. 7. Conclusion. Bibliography.

072. OH, HOYOUN (YUJEONG)
Epistemological Study of Dzogchen Traditions in Tibetan Buddhism.
 Supervisor : Dr. Hira Paul Gangnegi
Th 16445

Abstract

There are several lineages and traditions of Dzogchen practice in Tibet. This thesis sought for the relation between Nyingmapa Dzogchen and other practices, especially Bonpo Dzogchen and Ch'an Buddhism : they have tried to be very competitive in terms of priority occupation among three of them, and therefore have been controversial among scholars. This work briefly investigates on whether both of them had influenced the origin of Dzogchen practice. Deals with in three phases : the

philosophical ground or view (zhi), ptah (lam) and fruition or result (des bu) of the Dzogchen practice with clarification to the several related issues.

Contents

1. Philosophical view of dzogchen (Great Perfection). 2. Heritages of nyingmapa (Lineages and Sungbum). 3. Nine vehicles (yana) in Nyingma tradition. 4. The main practice of dzogchen. 5. Buddha's bodies and five wisdoms. Conclusion. Bibliography and appendix.

073. PHAM PHUOC MAO
Critical Study of the Concept of Donation (Dana) as Reflected in the Tipitaka.
 Supervisor : Dr. Indra Narain Singh
Th 16532

Abstract

Concludes that donation is one of the most important moral concepts to be practiced for the ultimate happiness of all living beings and to establish a harmonious, calm, and serene society. It is because of this, that the doctrine of donation occupies a prominent place in the Buddhist doctrine.

Contents

1. General introduction. 2. The concept of donation (Dana) as reflected in Pali Nikaya. 3. The concept of Donation (Dana) as reflected in Mahayana buddhist sutras. 4. The concept and practice of donation (Dana) as reflected in the abhidharmakosa bhasyam and the millindapanha. 5. Donation (Dana) a practical method for cultivation of boddhistva in buddhism. 6. The application of donation (Dana) in daily life. 7. Conclusion. Bibliography.

074. PHAM PHUOC NHAN
Study of Buddhist Educational Philosophy in the Anguttara Nikaya.
 Supervisors : Dr. Indra Narian Singh and Dr. P. K. Panda
Th 16554

Abstract

Studies through the Anguttara Nikaya, the methodology of

teaching put to use by the Buddha in his field of teaching. The moral and self-discipline instruction of the Buddha are absolutely vital and helpful for the man of today. His teaching is the way of right and wise thinking and the mode of moral and humane behaviours. The master has shown the way. It is we who must track the path.

Contents

1. Introduction. 2. The system of Buddhist education. 3. The Social Education as Depicted in the Teaching of the Buddha. 4. The Content of Educational Philosophy in the Anguttara Nikaya. 5. Relation of the anguttara nikaya in the modern life. 6. Conclusion. Bibliography.

075. PHRA PHAITOON PUKKAE0
Study of the Social Aspects of Early Buddhist Philosophy.
 Supervisors : Dr. Subhra Barua Pavagdhi and Dr. Bachchan Kumar
Th 16539

Abstract

Concludes that an individual could be virtuous and righteous. He can attain self-control, self-confidence, self-sufficiency and finally, self-salvation. The aggregate of the individual becomes the society. The society of such individuals trained in these virtues will be society of mutual-understanding, mutual-aid, compassionate-living and peaceful co-existence. Buddhism is a religion founded for the development of human beings, by human beings and for human beings. If society has to survive and grow strong in our present world, it is imperative for us to work towards reinforcing the social structure with the desirable qualities preached by the Buddha. The Buddha has given guidelines for bringing about the fundamental development of human society through ethical practice. Such a development will foster social welfare, social harmony and social happiness as well.

Contents

1. Contemporary socio-political conditions. 2. Buddhist social philosophy and its relevance to modern society. 3. Buddhist philosophy of economics. 4. Buddhist political philosophy. 5. Buddhist educational philosophy. Conclusion. Bibliography.

076. PHRAMAHA ALI WONGLAKORN
Origin and Development of Buddhist Pilgrimage in India.
 Supervisor : Prof. K. T. S. Sarao
Th 16254

Abstract

Studies Buddhist pilgrimage from the evidence in the Tipitaka, the commentaries as well as from the studies related to the different types and characteristics of Buddhist pilgrimage. By studying and analyzing the origin and development of Buddhist pilgrimage. Understands in depth the issues involved in the development of the forms of traditions, customs and methods of pilgrimage from the past to the present enabling us to understand the practical merit of Buddhism.

Contents

1. Introduction. 2. History and development of Buddhist pilgrimage. 3. Merit-making in Buddhist pilgrimage. 4. Four holy places of Buddhist pilgrimage. 5. Buddhist pilgrimage in modern India. 6. Conclusion. Bibliography and appendices.

077. PHRAMAHA NANTAKORN KET-IN
Formation of Buddhist Culture During Sukhothai Period 1257 (B. E. 1800).
 Supervisor : Dr. Hira Paul Gangnegi
Th 16255

Abstract

Studies Buddhism which is the cultural identity and essence of the Thai society. Found that Thai state has been bound up with Buddhism for long time, particularly the First Kingdom of Thailand that was Sukhothai. According to historical and archaeological evidence three main institutions of Thailand, the Nation, the Religion and the Throne, emerged in the Sukhothai period. Furthermore, Sukhothai's administrative system and social institutions through its culture, tradition, language and literature came of age during the same period. Concludes that Buddhism has been bound up with the Thai nation since Sukhothai kingdom. It is the truly national heritage of the thais; it took a deep root in the Thai cultural life and Thai society. Even those Thais who are Buddhist merely by name benefit from, and are influenced by, Buddhism in one way or another. Their cycle of life turns around activities either directly or indirectly involved in Buddhism.

Contents

1. Buddhism prior to the Sukhothai kingdom. 2. Buddhism and kingship during Sukhothai. 3. Formation of Sukhothai Buddhist culture. 4. The important Buddhist rites and its activities during Sukhothai. 5. General influence of Buddhism on Sukhothai culture. 6. Conclusion. Bibliography and appendices.

078. PHRAMAHA SAIRUNG DAENGNAM
Theravada and Mahayana Buddhist Influence on Thai Culture.
 Supervisor : Dr. Hira Paul Gangnegi
Th 16252

Abstract

Studies the Theravada and Mahayana Buddhist influence on Thai culture. Since Buddhism was introduced to Thailand, it has been influencing Thai society. Historically speaking, the relationship between Buddhism and the Thai nation is very close. The history of Thailand can hardly be written without frequent reference to the history of Buddhism. The Thai people, their culture and civilization, have been influenced deeply by the development and spread of Buddhism. Ever since Buddhism came to Thailand during the 3rd century B. C., it has played a vital role in the daily life, culture, education and thought of the Thai people. Buddhism has exercised a profound influence on Thai arts, traditions, learning and the national character of the people. It has modeled their manner of thinking and acting.

Contents

1. Socio-Culture history of Thailand. 2. The advent of Buddhism and its impact on Thai society. 3. The structure of Theravada and Mahayana sangha in Thailand. 4. Theravada and mahayana buddhist influence on Thai culture. 5. Evaluation of Thai society in contemporary age. 6. Conclusion. Bibliography.

079. PRAPAT SRIKULKICH
Role of Thai Buddhist Missionaries in Modern Indian Buddhism.
 Supervisors : Prof. K. T. S. Sarao and Dr. Shalini Singhal
Th 16251

Abstract

Analyzes the origin, the nature, the scope, the process of evolution and the method adopted by the Thai Buddhist Missionaries of

their role as propagators in modern Indian Buddhism. The task of which is quiet challengng as they are faced with numerous obstacles, for from the very beginning, to start with, to come to work in foreign land as large and extensive as India and adjust oneself with all its diversities and complexities, like the extreme weather of India itself is a big challenge. Presents a comparative study of the results of the developmental works carried out in the past years as well as the possible future course of action the Thai Buddhist Missionaries in India can undertake.

Contents

1. Introduction : Methodology of the research. 2. Defining the concept of role. 3. Concept of missionaries, the route of Buddhism into Thailand, and the decline of Buddhism in India. 4. Review of literatures on the role of teaching Buddhist missionaries. 5. Origin of Thai Buddhist missionaries in India. 6. Analysis of the data, and interview. 7. Conclusion. Bibliography and appendix.

080. REV. NGUYEN PHUC THUAN
Legacy of Mahayana Towards the Decline of Buddhism in India.
 Supervisors : Prof. K. T. S. Sarao and Dr. Shalini Singhal
Th 16534

Abstract

Studies the origin and development of the Mahayana Buddhism and also studies the legacy and the decline of the Buddhism in India

Contents

1. Introduction. 2. Nature of Buddhism. 3. Nature of Mahayana. 4. Causes of decline of Buddhism in India. 5. Conclusion. Bibliography.

081. SANJAY KUMAR
Double Tragedy : A Reappraisal of the Decline of Buddhism in India.
 Supervisor : Dr. I. N. Singh
Th 16245

Abstract

Examines the claim of some scholars that ethical and moral decay that pervaded amongst the Buddhists was the root cause

of the decline of Buddhism in India. Suggests that prevalence of ethical degeneracy in certain segments of Buddhism in contemporary India could not be held accountable for the overall decline of Buddhism. Examines the claim of some scholars that penetration of tantricism into Buddhism was responsible for its decline in India. Appraises the claim of some scholars that divisions and disputes within Samgha contributed to the decline of Buddhism. As a sequel of advent of divergent schools within Buddhism and Mahayana sect's opening up gates to lay men, there was erosion of discipline in Samgha to some extent which also led to breeding of corrupt practices.

Contents

1. Introduction. 2. Moral and ethical degeneracy. 3. Tantricism. 4. Animosity of Brahmanism. 5. Division and disputes in Samgha. 6. Impact of Muslim invasions. 7. Inherent weaknesses. 8. Impact of Urban decay. 9. Conclusion. Bibliography.

082. SUPAKAN ANNOPKANJANA
Waiting for the Inevitable End of the Dhamma and Blaming it on Women. : A Critical Study of the Decline of Bhikkuni Samgha in Ancient India.
 Supervisors : Prof. K. T. S. Sarao and Prof. Anita Sharma
Th 16553

Abstract

The Order of Bhikkuni Samgha was found five years after the Buddha's Supreme Enlightenment. The Bhikkuni Samgha came into existence through the perseverance of Queen Mahapajapati Gotami, the stepmother of the Buddha, together with five hundred princesses from the Sakyan clan. The reason for the decline of the Bhikkuni Samgha in ancient India were probably caused by both interna and external factors. Women constituting the other half of the humanity must get the opportunity to develop themselves not only materialistically but also extra-materialistically in order to have spritual satisfaction. It would be conductive to a peaceful, just, equitable and sustaining global order which would serve the long-term interest of humanity.

Contents

1. Introduction. 2. Attitude of Indian Society towards women. 3. Cause for ordination as a Bhikkuni. 4. Position of the

Bhikkhunis after the passing away of the Buddha. 5. Causes for decline of the Bhikkuni Samgha in Ancient India. 6. Conclusion. Bibliography.

083. TRAN THI NHU THIEN
Filial-Piety and the Moral Criticism of Monastic Buddhism in China (From Later Han to T'ang Dynasty)
 Supervisor : Dr. R. K. Rana
Th 16249

Abstract

Highlights the controversy between Buddhism and Confucianism on the question of filial piety; the Confucian criticism of Buddhist monastic life; the difficulties Buddhists faced in the process of their missionary work and the methods they employed to resolve them.

Contents

1. Synthesis of Chinese and ancient Indian cultural traditions. 2. Chinese society, culture and religion at the time of the introduction of Buddhism. 3. Main points of moral criticism of monastic Buddhism in China. 4. The Buddhists' response to the criticism. 5. The way to perform filial-piety perfectly according to Buddhism. 6. Conclusion. Bibliography.

084. TRAN THI TUYET MAI
Buddhist Attitude Towards Human Problems and Responsibilities.
 Supervisor : Dr. I. N. Singh
Th 16250

Abstract

Introduces such concepts as the inseparability of body and mind, the oneness of life and its environment, and the potential state transcending existence and non existence. It elucidates life's essential nature, suggesting the way one can purify his own life, develop the wisdom needed to live a truly human existence and subsequently establish true independence. Only a revolution change in individual spiritual values which reaches all spheres of society will make world peace possible.

Contents

1. Introduction. 2. Buddhist concept of ethics towards human

life. 2. Man is aggregates (Pancakkhandha). 4. The concept of Buddhist towards environment. 5. The way goes to beyond worldly pleasures. 6. The path of ethical purification and modern society. 7. Conclusion. Bibliography.

085. TRUONG THI KIM CHI
Thought and Practice of Lin-Chi Chan in China : A Critical Analysis.
 Supervisor : Dr. R. K. Rana
Th 16535

Abstract

Elucidates all mysteries and misunderstandings surrounding Chan, to put Linji Chan back into its proper context and to maintain and development the intrinsic value and quintessence of Chan Buddhism, a critical investigation into thought and practice of Linji Chan.

Contents

1. Buddhist meditation in India. 2. Buddhist meditation in China. 3 . Lineage of linji chan in China. 4. Thought and practice of Linji chan. 5. Linji chan in modern world. Bibliography.

086. VO MONG DOC LAP
Buddhist Epistemology with Special Reference to Dinnaga and Dharmakirti.
 Supervisors : Dr. R. K. Rana and Dr. T. R. Sharma
Th 16536

Abstract

Conducts a historical survey of Buddhist epistemology with special reference to the epistemological explanations of Dinnaga and Dharmakirti. It investigates the ways in which the theory of knowledge is explained in different Buddhist schools of India.

Contents

1. Epistemology of theravada buddhism. 2. Epistemology of vaibhasika and sautrantika. 3. Epistemology of madhyamika and yogacara. 4. Dinnaga's system of epistemology. 5. Dharmakirti's system of epistemology. 6. Buddhist and western epistemology. Conclusion and biography.