

CHAPTER 6

BUDDHIST STUDIES

Doctoral Theses

01. BINH (Le Viet)
Critical Study of the End of Monastic Buddhism in India.
Supervisor : Dr. Indra Narain Singh
Th 22757

Abstract
(Not Verified)

The thesis consists of six chapters, including the introduction and conclusion. The introduction gives an overview of monastic Buddhism in India. It rose, developed and completely disappeared from India. Besides, this chapter introduces the background to the problem of decline of monastic Buddhism in India. The chapter also generally mentions the scope, source materials, and research methodology to be used in the research. The second chapter concerns to the account of the foundation of monastic Buddhism at the time of the Buddha. The third chapter deals with various accounts of monastic Buddhism from the demise of the Buddha till the early medieval period when the Muslim military invaded and occupied India. The main discussion of the fourth chapter is a survey of history of gradual decline of monastic Buddhism in different parts of India from the central India (Maddhyadeśa) extending to the northern parts, and from the western regions to the south India. The whole fifth chapter discusses the causes that lead to the end of monastic Buddhism in India. Three main factors are presented in details to explain why monastic Buddhism had to be wiped out from its homeland. First of all, One of the factors that led to the disappearance of monastic Buddhism in India was the shortcomings and problems within the Buddhist Saṃgha. The second factor is the role of Hinduism is alleged to have played the leading role in the process decline and disappearance of Buddhism, particularly monastic Buddhism in India. The third factor is foreign invasions, especially the Muslim invasions by Arabs and Turks. The conclusion sums up issues presented in previous chapters.

Contents

1. Introduction 2. Early monastic Buddhism in India 3. A Survey of monastic Buddhism upto Gupta period 4. Monastic Buddhism before and in early medieval period and its gradual decline 5. Causes of the disappearance of monastic Buddhism in India 6. Conclusion. Bibliography.

02. DOLMA (Tsering)
Appraisal of the Contribution of gTerma Tradition to the Dissemination of Buddhism in the Himalayas
Supervisor : Prof. H. P. Gangnegi
Th 23066

Abstract
(Not Verified)

Introduction: Buddha Shakyhamuni taught accordance with the spiritual inclination and mental disposition of sentient beings. His teaching is widely spread in India and many other countries. Purpose of Buddhism is to liberate ourselves from all the sufferings of samsara and to achieve the perfect bliss of ultimate enlightenment. Guru Padmasambhava is the founder of Buddhism in Tibet. The teachings were transmitted uninterruptedly from Samantabhadra to Vajrasattva down to the great master

Padmasambhava by means of mind indication and hearing or oral transmission, and how they were further transmitted by the gTer sTons to the doctrine holders. Objectives of the study: To provide an overview of gTerma tradition and to eradicate the misconceptions.. Chapterization: First chapter contains introduction of the Nyingma tradition of Tibetan buddhism, founded by Guru Padmasambhava. Second chapter deals with the authenticity of gTerma tradition. Third chapter contains the extensive explanation with regards to the gTerma tradition. Fourth chapter mainly consists of the concise life history of Guru Padmasambhava followed by selective biography of the treasure revealer, so called gTer sTon. Final chapter mainly deals with the contribution of gTerma tradition to the dissemination or spread of Buddhism in the Himalayas and the benefit of this tradition. Conclusion: In almost every religion there has been stories about miraculous appearance of sacred and material objects to sages and saints. Similarly , among revelatory tradition is the gTerma tradition of Tibetan Buddhism. The gTerma tradition is considered a fresh opportunity for the renewal of spiritual practices.

Contents

1. Introduction 2. The Authenticity of gTeram in Buddha's teaching 3. Extensive explanation regards the short transmission 4. A Concise life history of Guru Padmasambhava 5. According to the precise former prophecy regards the contribution of gTerma tradition to the spread of Buddhism in the Himalayas. Conclusion. Bibliography.

03. HYERAN LEE (Jinuk)

Critical Analysis of the Concept of Prajnaparamita as Revealed in the Vajracchedika Prajnaparamita Sutra and the Prajnaparamita Hrdaya.

Supervisors : Dr. Minni Jha Mishra and Prof. Bhikshu Satyapala

Th 22756

Abstract (Not Verified)

The Prajñāpāramitā Sūtras are considered as the early Mahāyāna Buddhist literatures. Among them, the Vajracchedikā Prajñāpāramitā Sūtra (the Vajracchedikā or the Diamond S3tra) and the Prajñāpāramitā H4daya (the H4daya or the Heart S3tra) are the most revered and influential Sūtras and the best-known and frequently recited Buddhist scriptures of the Mahāyāna Buddhists until the present. As revealed in the title of the Sūtras, the core thought of these Sūtras involves the concept of the Prajñāpāramitā. This thesis tries to survey the concept of the Prajñāpāramitā as revealed in these two Sūtras. The conclusion has attempted to condense all the chapters to understand the concept of the Prajñāpāramitā. Even though there is no exact definition of the concept of the Prajñāpāramitā as revealed in previous two Sūtras, the core meaning of the Prajñāpāramitā can be analogized as the way of comprehending the Ultimate Truth. The Perfection of Wisdom (the Prajñāpāramitā) prevents the darkness of ignorance from misconceiving the reality. That is the important role of the concept of the Prajñāpāramitā.

Contents

1. Introduction 2. The Origin and development of the concept of Prajnaparamita 2. The concept of Prajnaparamita in the Vajracchedika Prajnaparamita sutra 3. The concept of Prjnaparamita in the Prajnaparamita hrdaya 4. A critical approach to the concept of Prajnaparamita. Conclusion. Bibliography.

04. PANCHE (Shiv Prasad)

Critical Study of Karma and Rebirth (With Special Reference to the Dhammapada)

Supervisor : Prof. H. P. Gangnegi

Th 22759

Contents

1. Introduction 2. A Critical evaluation of the Dhammapada 3. Concept of Karma 4. Concept of rebirth 5. Concept of planes (realms) of existence. Conclusion. Bibliography.

05. सिंह (रजनीश कुमार)
तिपिटक साहित्य में वर्णित प्रमुख नदियाँ एवं उनका सांस्कृतिक महत्त्व
निर्देशक : प्रो. भिक्षु सत्यपाल
Th 23067

विषय सूची

1. तिपिटक साहित्य में वर्णित सोलह महाजनपदों का विवरण 2. तिपिटक साहित्य में वर्णित प्रमुख नदियाँ 3. जातक ग्रंथों में वर्णित नदियाँ 4. प्रमुख नदियों का सांस्कृतिक महत्त्व 5. द्वितीयक बौद्ध साहित्यिक स्रोतों में नदियाँ। निष्कर्ष । संदर्भ ग्रन्थ सूची। नक्शे तथा फोटो।

06. SINGH (Vishwajit)
Concept of Social Justice in Buddhism.
Supervisor : Dr. Shalini Singhal
Th 22760

Abstract (Verified)

In this thesis social background and growth of Buddhism in India and aspects of social justice in this religious Philosophy are discussed. The main constituents of social justice are freedom, equality, and fraternity, just distribution of wealth, equal opportunity and above all democracy. Buddhism was a social need of that time which took shape of religion with passage of time. The corrupt practices adopted by higher caste people and their atrocities on lower caste people created an atmosphere for rise of a new religion. Unequal caste system was prevalent in the entire society. The Buddha gave equal status of all caste people in Sanghas and opened the path of salvation for all. The Buddha emphasized upon one's action rather than his birth. At the time of Buddha, females were not in first-rate position. Buddha tried to improve their status and gave them equal religious and social status. Buddhist economics is concerned about human values rather than increasing production. Buddha advises to avoid luxury, preserve natural resources and expects from kings, administration and rich people to take care of needy people. The imprint of social ideas of Buddhism is clearly visible in the Gandhian philosophy. They, both, emphasized upon welfare of society and purity of mind. A Comparative study of traces of social justice in other important religions, i.e., Hinduism, Islam, Christianity, Sikhism and in Buddhism is made and it has been tried to explore essence of social justice and the circumstances of rise of these religions. The Reformatory nature of Buddhism that forces many to consider it a social movement rather than a religion is also elaborated. Though, the Buddha has been criticized by many for not speaking directly on social justice but the path the Buddha paved for salvation always had an embryonic idea of social justice.

Contents

1. General introduction 2. What is social justice 3. Need of Social justice in India 4. Caste system 5. Position of second sex 6. Buddhist economics 7. Social aspects in the thoughts of the Buddha and Gandhi in Indian background: A comparative study 8. A comparative study of traces of social justice in other important religions, Hinduism, Islam, Christianity, Sikhism and in Buddhism. 9. Buddhism: A religious movement or a social need. 10. Conclusion. Bibliography.

07. SOVANRATANA (Khy)

Contours of the Reconstruction of Buddhist Education in Cambodia after the Fall of the Khmer Rouge.

Supervisor : Prof. K. T. S. Sarao

Th 22758

Contents

1. Introduction 2. The Spread of Buddhism in Cambodia and the origins of monastic education 3. The dark age of monastic education after the abandonment of Angkor (1431), its revival during Udong period (1620-1863), and the formal Pali school under the French rule (1864-1953) 4. The post-independence reform of Buddhist education (1953-1970), its uncertainty and deterioration after the coup D'etat (1970-1975), and its destruction under the Khmer rouge regime (1975-1979) 5. The revival of Buddhist sangha after the fall of the Khmer rouge regime (1979) and the reconstruction of Buddhist institutions 6. The reconstruction of Buddhist education after the fall of the Khmer rouge (1979-2015), and its current situations 7. Education for social development in post-conflict Cambodia. Conclusion. Bibliography. Appendices.