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infroducing the Higher Teaching of the Buddha

# Buddha Abhidhamma Ultimate Science

Dr. Mehm Tin Mon

2004 Revised Edition

# Dr. Mehi Tin Mor

Mental Science or Ultimate Science

NATURAL SCIENCES investigate the basic principles and lease of nature because the physical phenomena that have been occurring for access building cannot make the nature of the mind and they fail to explain the mental phenomena that have enormous influence on physical phenomena.

Lord Buddha, with His power of omniscience, knew the true nature of the mind and correctly described the causal relations that govern mind and matter and thus can explain all psycho-physical phenomena in the world.

His ultimate teaching, known as *Abhidhamma*, describes in detail the natures of the ultimate realities that really exist in nature but are unknown to scientists. His method of verification is superior to scientific methods which depend on instruments. He used His divine-eye to penetrate the coverings that hide the trace nature of all things. He also taught others how to develop concentration and how to observe with their mind-eyes the true nature of all things and finally the four Noble Truths which can enlighten one to achieve one's liberation in all miseries for ever!

So Abhidhamma may be regarded as Mental Science of Ultimate Science de science of the ultimate truths.

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# Introducing the Higher Teaching of the Buddha: Buddha Abhidhamma Ultimate Science

by

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2004 REVISED EDITION

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#### BUDDHA ABHIDHAMMA Ultimate Science

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# FOREWORD

The prophecy that an able person would soon appear to contribute to the world of knowledge in the field of Buddhist Psycho-ethical-philosophy, which we commonly appreciate as Buddha Abhidhamma, has now come true.

The prophecy was made by my revered old teacher, Bhaddanta Nārada Mahāthera (Aggamahāpandita) who was well-known as the original Patthāna Master. He made the prophecy in 1952 while I was studying Yamaka and Patthāna Treatises under his guidance. He assigned me and my colleague translator, Professor Thein Nyunt, to translate his writings on *Abhidhamma*. The task was never fully accomplished as I was occupied with teaching at the Pāli and Abhidhamma Department of the University of Yangon and later transferred to the International Institute of Advanced Buddhistic Studies at Kaba-Aye as Head of Research Department.

Thereupon my disappointed old teacher, Bhaddanta Nārada Mahāthera, with full expectation, prophesied that pretty soon an able scholar will emerge to accomplish the noble task of presenting *Abhidhamma* in English to the world. So now appears a novel and authentic treatise entitled BUDDHA ABHIDHAMMA—*Ultimate Science* by Dr. Mehm Tin Mon.

Dr. Tin Mon is a man of science for he was trained in the University of Illinois, U.S.A. for his master degree and doctorate degree in chemistry and then he served his country for several years as

#### IV | THE ESSENCE OF BUDDHA ABHIDHAMMA

Professor of Chemistry. He is also a man of arts as he has written several illustrative books on education as well as on Buddhism and his books are widely read by the public. So his approach to *Abhidhamma* is very scientific as well as artistic.

Dr. Tin Mon has been conducting long courses as well as short intensive courses on *Abhidhamma* in many towns throughout Myamnar. His *Abhidhamma*-classes draw the attention of large crowds as his unique ability to compare *Abhidhamma* with science as well as with western philosophy makes the subject very interesting and stimulating.

He emphasized the fact that the teachings of Lord Buddha in *Abhidhamma* are very scientific and that Abhidhamma goes much deeper than natural sciences encompassing a much wider field. As I was trained at the Harvard Divinity School and Harvard Graduate School of Arts and Sciences three decades ago, and has engaged myself as a research scholar in the field of historical, philosophical and religious sciences for many years, I heartily agree with Dr. Tin Mon in regarding *Abhidhamma* as the Ultimate Science—the science of the Ultimate Truths.

Culture, Philosophy, History and many other common mundane subjects can be studied thoroughly through the media of natural and human sciences. But the divine elements in religious studies can be probed and realized only by means of Divine Science. However the ultimate supramundane things which are beyond divinity can be realized only through the Ultimate Science. So *Abhidhamma* or Ultimate Science surpasses all other historical, philosophical and religious sciences.

Philosophy is a noble science but it cannot be said to excel all other sciences because it does not embrace the whole universality of things in *Abhidhamma*. *Abhidhamma* analyses mind and matter in minute detail into ultimate realities and shows the way to eternal peace called Nibbāna. These ultimate realities are unknown to philosophy and all other sciences.

Dr. Tin Mon enlightens the readers extremely well with his BUDDHA ABHIDHAMMA—*Ultimate Science*. A reader can derive more benefit from this book in one week than from a life-time of pondering the philosophies of others.

This treatise is really a new version of the Compendium of Buddhist Philosophy after the design of the well-known book called THE ABHIDHAMMATHA SANGAHA—*The Compendium of Buddhist Philosophy* written by U Shwe Zan Aung and published by the London Pali Text Society in 1910. Dr. Tin Mon perfected and augmented it still further by the extraordinary quality of his intellect and all the superb patrimony of wisdom which he inherited from his predecessors.

As a matter of fact, I have studied the subject in conjunction with the Ultimate Science at the Department of History and Philosophy in Harvard University from the theological point of view. But I am more thoroughly convinced and lucidly enlightened in the conception and meaningfulness of the subject only now after I have read this new book presented by Dr. Tin Mon.

It is really a very hard task to write than to read such a profound work like this. May all scholars therefore unanimously and sincerely welcome this superb work on *Abhidhamma* and may *Abhidhamma* enlighten the whole world.

24 December 1994

Sao Htun Hmat Win M.A., A.M., S.R.F. (Harvard) MAHA SADDHAMMA JOTIKADHAJA Adviser to the Ministry of Religious Affairs, Union of Myanmar

#### Mental Science or Ultimate Science

NATURAL SCIENCES investigate the basic principles and laws of nature to explain the physical phenomena that have been occurring for aeons. But they cannot probe the nature of the mind and they fail to explain the mental phenomena that have enormous influence on physical phenomena.

Lord Buddha, with His power of omniscience, knew the true nature of the mind and correctly described the causal relations that govern mind and matter and thus can explain all psycho-physical phenomena in the world.

His ultimate teaching, known as *Abhidhamma*, describes in detail the natures of the ultimate realities that really exist in nature but are unknown to scientists. His method of verification is superior to scientific methods which depend on instruments. He used His divine-eye to penetrate the coverings that hide the true nature of all things. He also taught others how to develop concentration and how to observe with their mind-eyes the true nature of all things and finally the four Noble Truths which can enlighten one to achieve one's liberation from all miseries for ever!

So *Abhidhamma* may be regarded as Mental Science or Ultimate Science—the science of the ultimate truths.

#### The Age of Analysis

PHILOSOPHERS have now come to the age of analysis. But who can analyse mind and matter correctly and thoroughly as Lord Buddha has done more than 2500 years ago!

The correct analysis of mind and matter is the greatest achievement on earth and the discovery of the natural correlations between mind and matter is the most beneficial discovery ever achieved by man.

You will gain the greatest benefit if you strenuously study *Abhidhamma* which systematically describes the intrinsic natures of the ultimate comprising mind, matter and permanent peace (*Nibbāna*).

#### Mind Creates Miseries and Happiness

ALL MENTAL PHENOMENA have mind as their forerunner; they have mind as their chief; they are mind-made.

If one thinks, speaks or acts with an evil mind, misery follows him just as the wheel follows the hoofs of the ox that draws the cart.

If one thinks, speaks or acts with a pure mind, happiness follows him like his shadow that never leaves him

-Dhammapada, Verses 1&2

# CONTENTS

## FOREWORD

iii

# PREFACE

Buddha's Teachings	
he Significance of Abhidhamma	
Vhat is the Mind?	
An Intellectual Treat	
ssence of Buddha Abhidhamma	

# INTRODUCTION

A Fitting Introduction	9
Realities	10
The Four Paramathas	15
Nāma and Rūpa	16
Purpose of the Ultimate Analysis	17

# CHAPTER 1 CITTA (Consciousness)

Four Classes of Cittas	19
Kāmāvacara Cittas	20
Akusala Cittas	20
Lobha-mūla Cittas	21
Dosa-mūla Cittas	25
Moha-mūla Cittas	26
Taking Stock in a Day	27
Ahetuka Cittas	28
Akusala Vipāka Cittas	29
Ahetuka Kusala Vipäka Cittas	30
Ahetuka Kiriya Cittas	32
Kāma-sobhana Cittas	33
Mahā-kusala Cittas	34

Mahā-vipāka Cittas	
& Mahā-kiriya Cittas	37
Normal Cittas in a Person	38
Rūpāvacara Cittas	38
What is Jhāna?	39
Rūpāvacara Kusala Cittas	43
Rūpāvacara Vipāka Cittas	44
Rūpāvacara Kiriya Cittas	44
Arūpāvacara Cittas	44
Arūpā Jhānas	45
Arūpāvacara Kusala Cittas	47
Arūpāvacara Vipāka Cittas	47
Arūpāvacara Kiriya Cittas	48
Abhiññāṇa Cittas	48
Lokuttara Cittas	49
Lokuttara Kusala Cittas	50
Five Jhäna Sotäpatti Magga Cittas	51
Lokuttara Vipāka Cittas	52
Five Jhāna Arahatta Phala Cittas	53
Quick Review over Cittas	54

# CHAPTER 2 CETASIKAS (Mental Factors)

Characteristics of Cetasikas	59
Which is more Powerful	59
Classification of Cetasikas	60
Aññasamāna Cetasikas	61
Sabba-citta-sādhārana Cetasikas	61
Significance of Sabbacitta-Sadhārana	65
Pakiṇṇaka Cetasikas	66
Akusala Cetasikas	69
Sobhana Cetasikas	77

#### x | THE ESSENCE OF BUDDHA ABHIDHAMMA

77
84
85
87
87
88
89
89
kas
90
96
100

# CHAPTER 3

## PAKIŅŅAKA (Miscellaneous Section)

Vedanā Sangaha	103
Classification of Cittas according	
to Feeling	104
Hetu Sangaha	105
Classification of Cittas according	
to Roots	106
Kicca Sangaha	106
The Cittas performing the	
respective Functions	107
Thāna	109
Dvāra Sangaha	110
The Cittas in each Door	111
Alambana Sangaha	113
Cittas and Sense-objects	
according to Doors	114
Individual Cittas and Sense-obje	ects
114	
Vatthu Sangaha	116
Vatthu and Bhūmi	117
Viññāṇa-dhātu	118
Classification of Cittas	
according to Vatthu	118

# CHAPTER 4 VITHI (Cognitive Series)

Process of Consciousness	121
The Life-span of Citta	121
The Life-span of Rūpa	122
Six Types of Viñnāṇa	122
Six Types of Vīthi	123
Causes for the Arising of Vithi	124
Six Types of Visayappavatti	126
Vīthi Cittas & Vīthi-vinutti Cittas	126
Three Types of Identical Cittas	127
Maranāsanna Nimitta	128
Three Types of Bhavanga Citta	130
Cakkhu-dvāra Vīthis	131
Pañcadvāra-vīthis	140
The Simile of a Mango-fruit	140
Pañcadvāra-vīthi Cittas	141
The Object and the Vatthu	
taken by each Vīthi Citta	143
Mano-dvāra Vīthis	144
Kama-javana Mano-dvāra Vīthis	145
Kama-javana Vithi Cittas	147
Secondary Mano-dvāra Vīthis	147
Practical Verification	148
Appanā-javana Mano-dvāra Vīthis	149
Five Rūpāvacara Appanā Vīthis	150
Four Arūpāvacara Appanā Vīthis	152
Jhāna Samāpatti Vīthis	154
Abhiññā Appanā Vīthis	156
Magga Appanä Vithis	158
Phala-samāpatti Vīthis	160
Nirodha-samāpatti Vīthi	162
Vipāka Niyāma	164
Frequency of Kāma-javanas	164
Frequency of Appanā-javanas	165
Procedure of Tadālambaņa	166
Āgantuka Bhavanga	166
Bhūmi and Cittas	167
Puggala-bheda	167
Puggala and Cittas	167

# CHAPTER 5 VĪTHIMUT OR BHŪMI (Planes of Existence)

Vithi-mutta Cittas	171
Fourfold Catukkas	171
Four Planes of Existence	172
Situation of Bhūmis	173
Bhūmi and Persons	176
Four Modes of Rebirth	177
Person and Pațisandhi	177
Method of Naming Rūpa-planes	179
Four Modes of Conceiving	180
Life-spans of Beings	181
Destruction of the World	184
Four Kinds of Kamma	186
Kicca-kamma Catukka	188
Pākadānapariyāya-kamma Catukka	189
The Simile of a Cattle-shed	192
Pākakāla-kamma Catukka	193
Pākathāna-kamma Catukka	195
Kamma-dvāra & 3 Types of Kamma	196
Ten Akusala-kamma-pathas	197
Ten Kusala-kamma-pathas	198
Puñña-kiriya Vathu	198
Dvithetuka & Tihetuka Kusala Kamma	200
Ukkattha & Omaka Kusala Kamma	200
How Kammas Bear Results	201
Fourfold Advent of Death	206
Appearance of Kamma-related Objects	207
Maraņāsanna Vīthi	208
Rebirth Consciousness	210
Planes of Rebirth after Death	211

CHAPTER 6 RŪPA (Matter)

Introductory	213
What is Rūpa?	213
Rūpa-samuddesa	214

Four Mahābhūtas	215
24 Upādā-rūpas	217
Five Pasāda-rūpas	218
Seven Gocara-rūpas	218
Two Bhāva-rūpas	219
Hadaya vathus	219
Jivita-rūpa	219
Āhāra-rūpa (Oja)	220
Pariccheda-rūpa (Ākāsa-dhātu)	220
Two Viññatti-rūpas	220
Five Vikāra-rūpas	221
Four Lakkhaṇa-rūpas	221
Eighteen Nipphanna-rūpas	222
Ten Anipphanna-rūpas	223
Rūpa-vibhāga	223
Fire in Water and Water in Fire!	227
Rūpa-samuțțhāna	227
Types of Rūpa	230
Grouping of Material Qualities	231
Internal and External Kalāpas	234
Rūpa-pavattikkama	235
Material Phenomena at Death	236
Arising of Material Phenomena	
in Rūpa-planes	237
Summary of Material Phenomena	238
Practical Observations	238
Nibbäna	240
Three Modes of Nibbāna	242
More Definitions of Nibbāna	242

# CHAPTER 7

## SAMUCCAYA (Compendium of Ultimate Entities)

Introductory	245
Compendium of Categories	246
Akusala Sangaha	246
Four Āsavas	246
Four Oghas	247
Four Yogas	247

11

# xII 1 THE ESSENCE OF BUDDHA ABHIDHAMMA

Four Ganthas	248
Four Upādānas	240
Six Nivāraņas	249
Seven Anusayas	251
Ten Samyojanas	252
Ten Kilesās	253
1500 Kilesās	254
108 Modes of Tanhā	254
Missaka-sangaha	254
Six Hetus	256
	250
Seven Jhānangas Teuslau Magagues	257
Twelve Maggangas	257
Twenty-two-Indriyas Nine Balas	250 260
	260
Four Adhipatis Four Āhāras	261
	262
Bodhipakkhiya-sangaha	263
Four Satipațțhânas	265 265
Four Sammappadhānas	
Four Iddhipādas	266
Five Indriyas	266
Five Balas	267
Seven Bojjhangas	268
Eight Maggangas	268
Review of Bodhipakkhiya	270
Sabba Sangaha	270
Five Khandhas	270
Five Upādānakkhandhas	272
Reason for Classifications of	
Two Types of Khandha	273
Nibbāna is Khandha-vimutti	274
Twelve Āyatanas	274
Eighteen Dhätus	276
Four Ariya-saccas	278
The Essential Elements of Each	
Noble Truth and What the	
Truth Teaches	279

# CHAPTER 8

PACCAYA (Cause or Condition)

Introductory	281
Pațiccasamuppāda Method	282
Explanation of the Causal Relations	283
Avijjā-paccayā Sankhārā	283
Sankhāra-paccayā Vinnāņam	285
Viññāṇa-paccayā Nāma-rūpant	286
Nāma-rūpa-paccayā Saļāyatanam	287
Saļāyatana-paccayā Phasso	288
Phassa-paccayā Vedanā	288
Vedanā-paccayā Tanhā	289
Tanhā-paccayā Upādānam	290
Upādāna-paccayā Bhavo	292
Bhava-paccayā Jāti	293
Jāti-paccayā jarā-maranam soka	
parideva dukkha domanassa	
upāyāsā sambhavanti	294
Some Notable Aspects of the Laws	295
Twelve Factors	295
Three Periods	295
Twenty Modes	296
Four Abridgments	299
Three Connections	299
Three Rounds	299
Two Roots	300
The Cause of Avijjā	302
No Beginning in Samsära	303
Pațțhâna Method	304
The 24 Modes of Conditionality	305
The Property of Each Condition	305
Applications of 24 Conditions	314
Pațțhāna Pāļi	314
Summary of Causal Relations	337
Division of Nāma and Rūpa	341
Pa	342
Various Forms of Attha-paññatti	343
Six Names for Sadda-paññatti	344
Six Kinds of Sadda-pannatti	346

# CHAPTER 9

# KAMMAŢŢHĀNA (Subjects of Meditation)

Introductory	349
Bhāvanā (Meditation)	350
Samatha-bhāvanā	350
Vipassanā-bhāvanā	350
Kammațțhāna	350
Ten Kasiņas	351
Ten Asubhas	352
Ten Anussatis	354
A Brief Comment on Anussatis	356
Four Brahma-vihāras	358
Living in Sublime Abode	360
Āhare-pațikūla-saññā	362
Catu-dhātu-vavatthāna	362
Four Āruppas	364
Six Caritas	364
Kammațțhāna and Carita	365
Three Stages of Bhāvanā	366
Bhāvanā and Kammaţţhāna	367
Jhāna and Kammaṭṭhāna	368
Bhāvanā-Nimitta	369
Nimitta and Kammațțhāna	370
Practical Coupling of Bhāvanā	
with Nimitta	370
Towards the Second & Higher Jhānas	372
Towards Arūpa-Jhānas	374
Going Higher to Abhiññā	375
Vipassanā Kammaţţhāna	377
Sevenfold Visuddhi	377
Ti-lakkhana	378
Threefold Anupassanā	379
Ten Vipassanā-flāņas	380
Threefold Vimokkha	382
Threefold Vimokkha-mukha	383
The Seven Stages of the	
Path of Purification	384
Sīla-Visuddhi	385

Citta-visuddhi	386
Dițțhi-visuddhi	388
Kankhā-vitaraņa-visuddhi	389
Maggāmagga-nāņadassana-visu 395	ldhi
Upakkilesās	400
Pațipadā-ñāṇadassana-visuddhi	401
Nāṇadassana-visuddhi	409
Ariyās	411
Conclusion	416
ABOUT THE AUTHOR	419

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# PREFACE

### **BUDDHA'S TEACHINGS**

The teachings of Lord Buddha in the course of 45 years of His Buddhahood have been divided into three collections called *Tipițaka* in  $p\bar{a}li$ , meaning 'Three Baskets' literally.

The first collection is known as 'Sutta pițaka'. It is the conventional teaching (*Vohāra desanā*) in which Buddha used common vocabulary to explain His teachings. Practical aspects of tranquility meditation and insight-meditation are included in this collection.

The second collection is called 'Vinaya piţaka'. It is the authoritative teaching ( $\bar{A}n\bar{a}$ -desan $\bar{a}$ ) in which the Buddha used His authority over the monks to lay down rules and disciplines for them to follow. These disciplines embody the highest code of ethics and can surely purify one's action, speech and thought, thus making one noble and respectful.

The third collection is 'Abhidhamma pitaka'. It is the higher teaching of the Buddha. Here the Buddha employed abstract terms to describe the ultimate realties (*paramatthas*) in the Universe and Nibbāna which is the summum bonum and the highest goal of Buddhism.

So Abhidhamma may be regarded as the ultimate teaching (Paramattha desanā) of Lord Buddha.

#### 2 The Essence of Buddha Abhidhamma

The principles and the causal relations which the Buddha expounded in *Abhidhamma* are so natural, so logical and so beautiful that they can pin-point the root cause of miseries in the world and the ways to eradicate these miseries.

The most wonderful thing about the Buddha's teachings is that the teachings contain both theory and practice, and they clearly and exactly define the human values, the best moral code, the eternal peace and the Noble Eightfold Path leading to that peace. All these valuable teachings have been verified time and again by millions of Ariyas, i.e., noble persons who had trodden on the path, and can still be verified at any time at any place by any able person who will earnestly and steadfastly follow the path.

### The Significance of Abhidhamma

Sutta piţaka and Abhidhamma piţaka are collectively known as Dhamma—a  $p\bar{a}li$  word meaning 'the doctrine or the teaching' of the Buddha. The Dhamma is the doctrine that can salvage persons who abide by the Dhamma from falling into the four lower abodes ( $ap\bar{a}yas$ ) and that can purify the mind from defilements so as to achieve lasting peace and happiness.

The prefix '*Abhi*' is used in the sense of preponderant, great, excellent, sublime, distinct, marvelous, etc.

Abhidhamma pițaka is more preponderant, more sublime and more marvelous than Sutta pițaka in the sense that

i Abhidhamma piţaka contains more Dhamma groups (Dhammakkhandhas) than Sutta piţaka and Vinaya piţaka (Abhidhamma consists of 42,000 dhammakkhandhas whereas Sutta piţaka and Vinaya piţaka contain 21,000 dhammakkhandhas each).

I

- *ii* The Buddha used more numerous methods in expounding *Abhidhamma* than when He taught *Sutta Dhamma*; and
- *iii* In *Abhidhamma* the Buddha analysed mind and matter in minute detail in terms of the ultimate realities known as *'paramathas'*. These *paramatthas* will be explained in the Introduction chapter.

### What is the Mind?

Philosophers used to refer to 'mind and matter' as the two basic principles of the world. But they fail to come to a unanimous conclusion as to what the mind is.

Psychologists began their task by probing the nature of the mind. But, when they cannot specify and characterize the mind, they turn to the behavior of animals and men. Thus psychology becomes 'the study of behaviorism' rather than 'the science of the mind.'

Today's science possesses no instruments to detect the mind. So scientists tend to deny the existence of the mind and fondle the theory that the brain functions as the mind. This theory cannot explain the strange phenomena of telepathy, clairvoyance, extrasensory perception, psychokinesis, out-of-body experiments, life after death, etc., which cannot be denied by science to-day. Besides brain-research has revealed that, although the brain functions as a super-computer, it requires an external agent to run it just as ordinary computers need to be programmed by men. Isn't that external agent the mind?

Abhidhamma describes the mind as a combination of *citta* (consciousness) and *cetasikas* (mental factors or concomitants of the mind). There are 52 *cetasikas* or mental factors—some can

#### 4 The Essence of Buddha Abhidhamma

defile the mind, some can purify the mind and some are neutral. The total number of possible combinations between *citta* and *cetasikas* is 121.

These combinations account for the various states of the mind. They explain fully why the mind is sometimes bad and sometimes good, sometimes sad and sometimes happy, sometimes wicked and sometimes noble, etc.

In the practical aspects of His teaching, Lord Buddha described several ways for developing *samādhi* (concentration). When the unwholesome mental factors such as *lobha* (greed), *dosa* (anger), *uddhacca* (restlessness), *kukkucca* (remorse), *vicikicchā* (doubt), *thina-middha* (sloth and torpor) can be calmed down not to arise in the mind, then the mind is in unperturbed, peaceful and lucid state. This is the state of *upacāra-samādhi* (neighbourhood concentration or access concentration), meaning it is close to *jhāna* (absorption).

At the state of *upacāra-samādhi*, since the defilements are absent from the mind, one enjoys tranquility and peace unmatched by sensual pleasure. A higher bliss is enjoyed when one can raise the degree of concentration a little higher to *jhāna-samādhi*.

After developing four *rūpa-jhānas* (meditative absorption of fine-material sphere) and four *arūpa-jhānas* (absorption of immaterial sphere), one can go a step further to develop *abhiññā* (supernormal knowledge). There are five mundane (*lokiya*) supernormal powers: (1) divine powers (*iddhi-vidha*), (2) divine ear (*dibba sota*), (3) divine eye (*dibba-cakkhu*), (4) penetration of the minds of others (*ceto-pariya-fiāņa*) and (5) remembrance of former existences (*pubbe-nivāsānussati*).

These supernormal powers far surpass the powers of telepathy, clairvoyance, psychokinesis, etc. With *iddhi-vidha* 

#### PREFACE 5

*abhiññā* one can pass through walls and mountains without being obstructed, dive into the earth, walk over water and fly in the sky. With *dibba-cakkhu abhiññā* one can see the *apāya* (lower) abodes as well as the worlds of devas and brahmas and the beings being reborn in the thirty-one planes of existence according to their *kamma* (*karma* or action). With *ceto-pariya-ñāṇa*, one can see the minds of others and know their intentions.

The attainment of these supernormal powers is not, however, the goal of Buddhism. The penetrating power of the mind accompanied by *upacāra-samādhi* or *jhāna-samādhi* is utilised to observe the arising and the vanishing of *nāma* (mind and its concomitants) and *rūpa* (ultimate matter) in the body. These *nāma* and *rūpa* are invisible even under electronic microscopes, but they can be seen by the *samādhi*-mind!

By meditating on the three common characteristics of  $n\bar{a}ma$ and  $r\bar{u}pa$ —namely impermanence (*anicca*), suffering (*dukkha*) and not-self (*anatta*) and also on the causal relations between  $n\bar{a}ma$ and  $r\bar{u}pa$ , one is treading along the Noble Eightfold Path and will sooner or later attain the first *Magga* (Path) and *Phala* (Fruition). Then one becomes a stream winner (noble person) and is fully guaranteed never to be reborn in the lower abodes again.

The stream winner (sotapanna ariya) can enjoy the transcendental peace of Nibbāna whenever he chooses. If he continues with his vipassanā (insight) meditation he will realize the three higher Maggas and Phalas (Paths and Fruitions) in due course and become an arahat (perfect one) in this very life. Even if he does not continue with his vipassanā meditation, the sotāpanna will automatically become an arahat in no more than seven lives.

In the *arahat* all the defilements are completely uprooted and destroyed. Since these defilements are the real causes of all

#### 6 The Essence of Buddha Abhidhamma

miseries, their total destruction means complete happiness and eternal peace for the arahat.

Thus by purifying the mind from all defilements which cause miseries and debase a person, one can become an *arahat* who is among the noblest persons in the worlds of men and *devās* and who can enjoy the highest and lasting peace of *Nibbāna* for ever.

So to become an arahat is the correct goal for men and *devās*, and this highest goal in life is attainable only through the correct analysis and understanding of mind and matter as taught by Lord Buddha.

It should be emphasized here that whatever Buddha had taught us out of His omniscience and own experience can be tested and verified by any one with his own experience.

#### **An Intellectual Treat**

Abhidhamma deals with the realities that really exist in nature. It correctly and microscopically analyses both mind and matter which constitutes this complex machinery of man. It describes the six sense-doors in man, the six senses coming from outside and the arising of thought processes when the senses come into contact with the sense-doors.

Various mental states together with the causes of these mental states are vividly enumerated. Wholesome and unwholesome thoughts and their consequences are elaborated. Also the process of life and death and that of rebirth in various planes under the kammic force are clearly explained.

*Rūpa*, which comprises matter and energy, is subdivided and characterized to the ultimate states.

Both *nāma* (mind and its concomitants) and *rūpa* (matter and energy) are very short-lived. They arise and dissolve in the order

of a trillion (10<sup>12</sup>) times per second. So the view that consciousness flows like a stream as propounded by some modern psychologists like William James becomes extremely clear to one who understands *Abhidhamma*.

The law of Dependent Origination and the Law of Causal Relations are treated systematically and thoroughly in *Abhi-dhamma*. These laws find no parallel in any other philosophy.

Finally the four great Noble Truths, i.e. the Noble Truth of Suffering, the Noble Truth of the Cause of Suffering, the Noble Truth of the Cessation of Suffering and the Noble Truth of the Path leading to the Cessation of Suffering, clearly come to light as one goes through *Abhidhamma*. These Four Noble Truths are the ultimate truths that encompass all the causal relations in mundane as well as supramundane levels. those who can vividly see these Noble Truths with their *samādhi*-mind or wisdom-eye will become enlightened as noble persons.

## The Essence of Buddha Abhidhamma

Just as natural sciences investigate the natural laws that control natural processes, so also *Abhidhamma* illustrates the natural truths that govern natural processes. But the levels of treatment are different.

All natural sciences, such as physics, chemistry, biology, geology, geography, engineering, electronics and medical sciences, deal with matter and energy—the physical aspects of nature. Even psychology, which goes after behaviorism, cannot pin-point the mind and analyse it.

But it is the mind which leads the world and the life of everybody. All sciences and philosophies are produced by the mind, governed by the mind and children of the mind. So the mind is undoubtedly the most powerful agent in the world!

Abhidhamma pin-points the mind, analyses and characterizes the mind, describes the functions of the mind and puts the mind in its proper place. The true ability of every person lies in his mind. So nobody need look up to the sky and ask for help from some supernatural forces for the most powerful force lies within himself!

*Abhidhamma* also tells about matter in relation to the mind. It also describes *Nibbāna* (*Nirvana*) which is free from mind and matter. Natural sciences cannot turn a scoundrel to a noble man whereas *Abhidhamma* can. Scientists and philosophers cannot show the way to the cessation of suffering and to eternal peace whereas *Abhidhamma* can.

Scientists, philosophers, psychologists and every lover of truth will find *Abhidhamma* to be a special intellectual treat.

What knowledge is there in life which is more valuable than *Abhidhamma* which is the ultimate teaching of the Fully Enlightened One?

# INTRODUCTION

# A Fitting Introduction

The Abhidhamma piţaka consists of seven treatises—namely, Dhammasangani, Vibhanga, Dhātukathā, Puggalapaññatti, Kathāvatthu, Yamaka and Patthāna.

The subject matter of *Abhidhamma* is the four ultimate realities (*paramatthas*) and the causal relations between them. The treatment of the subject-matter is highly technical and remarkably systematic making use of purely philosophical terms true in the absolute sense.

If one can patiently study the treatises on *Abhidhamma*, one cannot but admire the profound wisdom and the penetrative insight of Lord Buddha. But it is not easy to study *Abhidhamma* on one's own efforts as one may easily get lost in the wilderness of abstract terms and strange methodology.

There is, however, a well-known treatise called ABHIDHAM-MATTHA SANGAHA, which is the most fitting introduction to *Abhidhamma*. This treatise, written by Venerable Anuruddha Thera, an Indian monk of Kañcipura (Kanjeevaram), summarizes all the important points of *Abhidhamma* very systematically.

The treatise, originally written in *Pāļi*, has been translated into several languages. In Myanmar the subject matter of this Treatise is included in the course of study for novices and monks,

and is also used as the course of *Abhidhamma* examinations held every year throughout Myanmar by the ministry of Religious Affairs.

The present book, entitled THE ESSENCE OF BUDDHA ABHIDHAMMA, further elaborates the subject-matter presented in 'Abhidhammattha sangaha' in a simple and systematic manner with certain collaboration with scientific views and practical aspects. It is written more or less in the form which is used by the author as lecture guides in conducting Abhidhamma short courses.

The courses prove to be very successful. So the reader will find this book to be thoroughly clarified and interesting to study the essential facts of *Abhidhamma*.

*Abhidhamma* is really the golden knowledge which will help one to discard wrong views and to acquire the right view for one's total liberation from all miseries.

#### Realities

There are two kinds of realities-apparent and ultimate.

Apparent reality is the ordinary conventional truth or the commonly accepted truth (*sammuti-sacca*). It is called *paññatti* in *Abhidhamma*.

**Ultimate reality** is the ultimate truth (*paramattha-sacca*). It is called *paramattha* in *Abhidhamma*.

In basic science we learn about the apparent depth of an object in water. The apparent depth is shallower than the real depth. It appears to be the true depth due to the deviation of light rays on passing from a denser medium (water) to a lighter medium (air). So if a fisherman throws a spear at a fish where he sees it under water, the spear will not hit the fish, because the fish is not really there.

In the same way paññattis or the apparent realities, though they

seem to exist, do not really exist. What are the *paññattis*? *Paññattis* are the names of living and non living; they also refer to the things and the persons themselves. Thus not only the names 'man, dog, table, house, etc.' are *paññattis* but the man, the dog, the table, the house, etc, are also *paññattis*.

It is apparent that 'names' are not the ultimate realities because a particular thing has been given different names in different languages. There is an interesting episode about giving names in Myanmar.

A lad by the name of Mr. Ba appeared for the matriculation examination. He failed in his first attempt. He appeared for the same examination again next year under the new name of Mr. Ba Hla. He failed again. In the third year he changed his name to Mr. Ba Hla Than and sat for the examination again. Again he didn't have a better luck. So to improve his luck he took the name of Mr. Ba Hla Than Tin in the fourth year. He failed in the examination again. Nevertheless he appeared for the examination again in the fifth year under the longer name of Mr. Ba Hla Than Tin Nyunt. Well, he passed the examination this time. So he was known as Mr. Ba Hla Than Tin Nyunt when he joined the university of Yangon.

The point is that, since names can be chosen at will to designate various things and persons, they cannot be ultimate realities. Yet we have to use these names in our everyday expressions and speeches to communicate with one another. Other people understand correctly what we mean and what we refer to. So these expressions and speeches with no intention of lying are called *samuti-sacca* or conventional truth.

Now according to *Abhidhamma*, not only the names but also the things and the persons the names refer to do not really exist. You may argue: "Why? We can see the table, the house, the man, the dog and we can also touch them and feel them. Why don't they exist?"

Well then—please show me the table. Isn't that wood that you are touching or pointing at? If you take out the pieces of wood from the table, does the table exist any more? It is similar with the house. If you pull down the four walls and take off the roof, the house will disappear.

What about the man and the dog? If you take each part such as hair, nails, skin, flesh, blood, bones, intestines, heart, liver, lungs, spleen, etc., in turn and ask the question: "Is this the man or the dog?" The answer is always 'No'. So the man and the dog do not really exist.

Again there is an interesting episode in the Buddhist chronicles between two wise persons—King Milinda and the arahat Ven. Nagasena.

The King asked, "By what name shall I know you, Sir?"

Ven Nagasena answered, "My companions call me Nagasena. But the name and the person whom the name refers to do not really exist."

The King commented, "If Nagasena and the person do not exist, to whom do people offer alms and who receive these offerings? Since you receive them, you really exist. Why did you tell a lie in spite of your higher nobility?"

Ven. Nagasena enquired, "Your Majesty, did you come to this monastery on foot or by chariot?"

The King replied, "I came by chariot."

Ven. Nagasena enquired further, "Well then, please show me your chariot? Is the horse the chariot? Is the wheel the chariot? Is the axle the chariot? Is the carriage the chariot?"

The King answered "No" to all these questions.

Ven. Nagasena remarked, "Is there a chariot beside the horse, the wheel, the axle, the carriage, etc.?"

The King again said "No".

Ven. Nagasena commented, "Your Majesty, you said you came here by chariot; yet you could not show me the chariot! Why did you tell a lie inspite of your high honor?"

The King consented, "There is no chariot beside the horse, the wheels, the axle and the carriage. Just a combination of these things has been named the chariot."

Ven. Nagasena remarked, "Very well, your Majesty, you should understand Nagasena as you understood the chariot."

The important point is that by *paramattha* or ultimate reality we mean something which cannot be changed into another thing or divided up into other things. It can neither be created nor destroyed by man. It really exists in nature and it holds on its characteristics till it perishes. It can stand the tests or the investigation by any method about its reality and real existence.

Philosophers and scientists have been searching for the ultimate realities that really exist in the universe. Philosophers could not agree on any ultimate reality—what was proposed by a well-known philosopher was disputed by another.

Scientists first regarded matter and energy as the two ultimate realities. Matter has been divided into 92 natural elements, which in turn have been divided into 92 kinds of natural atoms and their various isotopes. Now-a-days atoms are generally believed to be composed of protons, neutrons and electrons—the protons and the neutrons form the nucleus with the electrons revolving in orbits around the nucleus.

Although protons, neutrons and electrons may be regarded as the basic building blocks of atoms, they are not particles with

#### 14 The Essence of Buddha Abhidhamma

definite forms and shapes since they can be emitted from atoms as rays. It is more appropriate to regard them as bundles of energy just as sun light is composed of photons—the basic bundles of light energy.

Scientists have detected more than 80 subatomic particles from the breakup of atomic nuclei. All these particles may also be regarded as bundles of energy as matter and energy are interconvertible according to Albert Einsteir's equation: E=mc<sup>2</sup>, where E represents energy, m the mass of the matter and c the velocity of light.

Thus from the point of scientific view, man, dog, table, house, all living and non-living things are not ultimate realities since they are composed of electrons, protons, neutrons and energy. Furthermore, since all the sub-atomic particles may be regarded as bundles of energy, only energy may be taken as the ultimate reality in science.

In *Abhidhamma* there are four *paramatthas* or ultimate realities. They are *rūpa*, *citta*, *cetasika* and *Nibbāna*. In the analysis of *rūpa*, it is found to comprise the principles of matter and energy.

*Citta* is consciousness, and *cetasikas* are mental factors or mental concomitants. As *citta* and *cetasikas* can pick up the senses and are aware of the senses, they are collectively known as *nāma* (mind).

A person is made up of  $r\bar{u}pa$ , *citta* and *cetasikas*, or in other words just  $r\bar{u}pa$  and  $n\bar{a}ma$  (matter and mind). These are the ultimate realities whereas the person is just an apparent reality.

*Nibbāna*—the principle of cessation of suffering and of lasting peace—always exists in nature. The only drawback is that we do not realize it. It can be realized only by *magga-ñāṇa* and *phala-ñāṇa*, i.e., the wisdom eye accompanied by the Path and its Fruition.

The principles of *citta*, *cetasika* and *Nibbāna* are yet to be discovered by science. They are exactly specified and characterized in *Abhidhamma* and can be verified by *samatha-vipassanā bhāvanā*, i.e., tranquility and insight meditation.

# The Four Paramatthas

- i Citta—consciousness of the senses or awareness of an object. Citta, ceta, cittuppāda, mana, mano, viññāņa are used as synonymous terms in Abhidhamma. In casual speaking, the mind usually refers to citta or mano.
- ii Cetasika—mental factors or mental concomitants. Cetasikas arise and perish together with citta. They depend on citta for their arising and they have influence on citta. There are 52 kinds of cetasikas. What we usually call 'mind' is actually a combination of citta and cetasikas. Neither citta nor cetasikas can arise independently.
- *iii* Rūpa—corporeality or material quality.
  It may change form and colour on account of heat or cold.
  There are 28 kinds of *rūpa*.
- *iv* Nibbāna—extinction of defilement and suffering; absolute lasting peace.

The defilements of *citta* are greed, hatred, delusion, etc.; they are the root cause of suffering and of the continuity of life. Thus the absolute extinction of defilements means absolute deliverance from all future rebirth, old age, disease and death, from all suffering and misery. There is absolute lasting peace in *Nibbāna*. The Sanskrit word '*Nirvāna*' literally means 'freedom from craving'. "Extinction of greed, extinction of hatred, extinction of delusion; this is called *Nibbāna*." (*Samyutta Nikāya* 38.1)

#### 16 The Essence of Buddha Abhidhamma

Each of the above four *paramathas* may be scrutinized for their real existence. Science may dispute the existence of the mind because it cannot detect it. But the existence of *citta* which is consciousness of the senses in man and animals cannot be disputed by anyone.

The existence of *cetasikas* such as *lobha* (greed), *dosa* (anger), *māna* (conceit), *issā* (jealousy), *alobha* (non-attachment), *adosa* (goodwill), etc., in men and animals is also apparent. But it is important to see them as separate entities and not as parts of the mind or different mental states. The unwholesome *cetasikas* like *lobha*, *dosa*, *māna* and *issā* can be completely eliminated from the mind by means of insight meditation.

The existence of *rūpa* as matter and energy is easily seen. But *Nibbāna*, being supramundane, cannot be perceived by the ordinary mind, but it can be observed by *lokuttara* (supramundane) *cittas*.

It should be noted that all the *paramatthas*, in their ultimate sense, are formless and shapeless just as bundles of energy are formless and shapeless. They are invisible under the best microscope, but *cittas*, *cetasikas* and *rūpa* can be seen by the *samādhi*-eye. *Nibbāna* can be realized by the wisdom of the four paths. Each *paramattha* will be treated at length in the following chapters.

#### Nāma and Rūpa

Both *citta* and *cetasikas* are aware of the senses. They are always bent towards the senses in order to pick up the senses, and thus they are collectively called '*Nāma*'.

A man is made up of  $n\bar{a}ma$  and  $r\bar{u}pa$  (mind and body). Of the two,  $n\bar{a}ma$  is aware of the senses and  $r\bar{u}pa$  is not. So  $n\bar{a}ma$  is the leader and  $r\bar{u}pa$ , the follower. But in the senses sphere and the fine-material sphere,  $n\bar{a}ma$  needs the support of  $r\bar{u}pa$  for its arising.

*Nāma* is similar to a man with good eye-sight but no legs whereas *rūpa* is like a blind man with good legs. A man without legs and a blind man meet outside a village and they hear the announcement on loudspeaker that food is being distributed inside the village. They want to get food from the place. How can they go? Well, if the man with good eye-sight sits on the shoulders of the blind man, and the latter walks along the road as directed by the former, they will soon arrive at the desired place and enjoy food.

Nāma and rūpa work hand in hand like the two men above.

### The Purpose of the Ultimate Analysis

To see things as they really are is the cherished goal of all lovers of truth including philosophers and scientists. When one cannot see the true picture of things, one sees the distorted picture and maintains the wrong view about them.

One basic wrong view which has plagued men for aeons is *sakkāyadiţthi*. It is 'personality-belief', interpreting the aggregates of *rūpa* and *nāma* as an 'individual' or 'I' or '*atta*'.

Because of this *sakkāyaditthi*, everyone wants to be a very important person (VIP), wants to pile up possessions for the benefit of 'I' and behaves in a selfish way. In fact all sorts of troubles and miseries spring up from this wrong view.

Seeing others as a person, a man, a women, an individual, etc., is also *sakkāyadiţthi*. *Sakkāyadiţthi* gives rise to other wrong views which are uncountable in the world today.

The dreadful thing about *sakkayadițțhi* is that it can couple with bad *kamma* to throw one down to the lower abodes (*apāyas*) once and again. According to the Buddha's teachings, to get rid of *sakkāya-dițțhi* is most important and most urgent. It is as urgent as putting out the fire on one's head when one's head is on fire and as removing the spear and treating the wound on one's chest when the chest is impaled by a spear.

The study of *Abhidhamma* furnishes one with the right view that 'I' or 'atta' does not exist and what really exist in man are *citta*, *cetasikas* and  $r\bar{u}pa$ . Understanding the mental states can help one to control one's temperament and to avoid unwholesome mental states, thus reducing mental tension and curing many mental diseases.

When one understands that the volition (*cetanā*), that directs one's action, speech and thought, bear kammic properties which cause rebirth and shape the destiny of beings, one becomes mindful to avoid unwholesome volition.

Furthermore, when one understands the causal relations described in *Abhidhamma*, one can get rid of all wrong views and hold a correct understanding of what is going on in the world.

When one decides to follow the Noble Eightfold Path to free oneself from all miseries, one begins with the right view and develops *sīla* (morality), *samādhi* (concentration) and *pañña* (wisdom) step by step. In so doing one has to undertake *samathavipassanā* (tranquility and insight) meditation and try to observe how the *cittas*, *cetasikas* and *rūpas* are functioning, how they are being produced incessantly, how the causal relations really work and, in short, how all the phenomena described in *Abhidhamma* really take place.

So the ultimate analysis in *Abhidhamma* is not for the pleasure of reading nor for the sake of knowledge alone; it is also to be scrutinized by the *samādhi*-mind in order to develop insight wisdom leading to the path and its fruition (*magga* and *phala*).

# <sup>Chapter 1</sup> **CITTA** Consciousness

# FOUR CLASSES OF CITTAS

"Citta" is defined as 'consciousness of the senses' or 'awareness of an object'.

*Cittas* may be divided into four classes in accordance with the four planes (*bhūmi*) or spheres (*avacara*):

- 1 Kāmāvacara cittas consciousness mostly experienced in the sense sphere (kāma-loka)
- 2 *Rūpāvacara cittas* consciousness mostly experienced in the fine-material sphere (*rūpa-loka*)
- 3 Arūpāvacara cittas Consciousness mostly experienced in the immaterial sphere (arūpa-loka)
- 4 Lokuttara cittas consciousness experienced in the supramundane (transcendental) level

The above four classes of *cittas* may be called in short, *Kāma cittas*, *Rūpa cittas*, *Arūpa cittas* and *Lokuttara cittas*.

*Kāmāvacara cittas* are experienced not only in the sense-sphere but also in other spheres. The same thing is true with *rūpāvacara cittas* and *arūpāvacara cittas*.
The sense sphere refers to the four *apāya* abodes, the human abode and the six *deva* abodes. In all these abodes sensual pleasure is enjoyed.

The fine-material sphere refers to the sixteen planes populated by *rūpa-brahmas*, i.e. *brahmas* with forms or bodies.

The immaterial sphere refers to the four planes populated by *arūpa-brahmas*, i.e., *brahmas* without forms or bodies.

Brahmas are more powerful than devas. They enjoy greater peace and longer lives than devas.

### KĀMĀVACARA CITTAS

(Consciousness mostly experienced in the kāma-loka)

There are 54 kāmāvacara cittas which may be divided into three classes:

- 1 Akusala cittas (immoral consciousness) 12
- 2 Ahetuka cittas (rootless consciousness) 18
- 3 *Kāma-sobhaņa cittas* (beautiful consciousness in the sensesphere) – 24

The total number of  $k\bar{a}m\bar{a}vacara\ cittas$  is 12+18+24 = 54. They will be named and explained further below.

It is recommended that the reader or learner should become familiar with the Pāli names mentioned in this book. They are short and precise and will help one to understand the translations or the writings in other text-books or treaties on Buddhism.

### **AKUSALA CITTAS** (Immoral Consciousness)

'Akusala' means 'immoral'. People usually commit wicked and evil deeds with akusala cittas. So akusala cittas bear bad results.

The 12 akusala cittas may be further divided into three classes:

1 Lobha-mūla cittas (consciousness rooted in greed or attachment) – 8

- 2 Dosa-mūla cittas (consciousness rooted in hatred or illwill) – 2
- 3 Moha-mūla cittas (consciousness rooted in delusion or ignorance) – 2

# LOBHA-MÜLA CITTAS

The eight cittas rooted in lobha (greed) are given the following symbols in order to remember their names easily.

dițțhi-sam	dițțhi-vi	dițțhi-vi dițțhi-sam	
,+V₽∕	+ +		
a sa	a sa	a sa	a sa

The '+' sign denotes 'somanassa- sahagatam'

The '-' sign denotes 'upekkhā sahagatam'

What the other letters in the table refer to will be evident from the following names of the eight lobha-mūla cittas.

- <mark>કટુ લ્ય</mark>્સ અસ્વર્સ્ટ કહેન્ડ્સ અંગ્લ્સ્ટ કહેન્ડ્સ અગ્લ્સ્ટ્સ Somanassa-sahagatam ditthigata-sampayuttam 1 asaṅkhārikam ekaṁ
- Somanassa-sahagatam ditthigata-sampayuttam con 2 sasankhārikam ekam
- Somanassa-sahagatam ditthigata-vippayuttam 🖘 3 asankhārikam ekam
- Somanassa-sahagatam ditthigata-vippayuttam 6.50 4 sasankhārikam ekam
- Upekkhā-sahagatam diţthigata-sampayuttam 5 asankhārikam ekam
- Upekkhā-sahagatam diţthigata-sampayuttam 6 sasankhārikam ekam

- 7 Upekkhā-sahagatam diţţhigata-vippayuttta asankhārikam ekam
- 8 Upekkhā-sahagatam diţţhigata-vippayuttam sasankhārikam ekam.

### MEANINGS

somanassa	:	mentally pleasant feeling, joyful
sahagatam	:	together with, accompanied by
dițțhi	:	wrong view taking that kamma and its effect
		do not exist
sampayuttam	:	connected with, associated together
	:	disconnected with
	:	spontaneous, unprompted, automatic
sasaṅkhārikam	:	prompted by oneself or others, volitionally
		inactive
upekkhā	:	indifferent or neutral feeling
ekam	:	one

The eight lobha-mūla cittas may now be translated as follows.

- 1 One consciousness, unprompted, accompanied by joy, and connected with wrong view. Accounted with level by
- 2 One consciousness, prompted, accompanied by joy, and connected with wrong view.
- 3 One consciousness, unprompted, accompanied by joy, and disconnected with wrong view.
- 4 One consciousness, prompted, accompanied by joy, and disconnected with wrong view.
- 5 One consciousness, unprompted, accompanied by indifference and connected with wrong view.
- 6 One consciousness, prompted, accompanied by indifference and connected with wrong view.

- 7 One consciousness, unprompted, accompanied by indifference and disconnected with wrong view.
- 8 One consciousness, prompted, accompanied by indifference and disconnected with wrong view.

### **APPLICATIONS**

From the time we are awake in the morning till the time we fall asleep at night we are always in contact with five senses (visual object, sound, smell, taste, touch) and with our own thoughts. If the sense or the thought is good, we like it, we feel attached to it and we wish to enjoy it some more. At this time *lobha* (greed or attachment or desire) arises in our mind and *lobha-mūla cittas* will ensue.

If we also feel glad or joyful at the time, the *lobha-mūla cittas* will be *somanassa-sahagatam*. If we feel indifferent at the time, the *cittas* will be *upekkhā-sahagatam*. If we are not aware of the fact that *akusala cittas* are arising and they will bear bad results, then our *lobha-mūla cittas* will be *dițthigata-sampayuttam*. On the other hand, if we are aware that *akusala cittas* are arising and they will bear bad results, then our *lobha-mūla cittas* will be *dițthigata-sampayuttam*.

Moreover if we feel attached to the sense without being prompted by ourselves or others, then our *lobha-mūla cittas* will be *asaṅkhārikam*. If we feel attached to the sense only after being prompted by some one, then our *lobha-mūla cittas* will be *sasaṅkhārikam*. Asaṅkhārika citta is stronger than *sasaṅkhārika citta* and it arises spontaneously.

Now can you name the *citta* that is arising in a person listening to a pleasant song without giving any thought to *kamma* and its effect?

It is *lobha-mūla citta* with the name:

"Somanassa-sahagatam diţţhigata-sampayuttam asankhārika citta".

Now a man is stealing a handbag after much persuasion by himself because he is aware of the immoral *kamma* and its bad effect. What is his *citta*?

Again it is *lobha-mūla citta* because *lobha* (greed) is the cause of stealing. The name of the *citta* is

"Upekkhā-sahagatam diṭṭhigata-vippayuttam sasankhārika citta".

Other examples to illustrate the eight types of *lobha-mūla* cittas are given below.

- Type 1 A person is enjoying food and drinks without paying any attention to *kamma*.
- Type 2 A person after being persuaded by his companion, watches a movie joyfully without any attention to *kamma*.
- Type 3 A lady delightfully puts on a new dress, but she is aware that attachment to the dress gives rise to *lobha-mūla cittas*.
- Type 4 A girl is aware of *kamma* and its fruits, but she, in compliance with the request of her companions, listens to modern songs joyfully.
- Type 5 A boy is eating plain rice with salt with some attachment but without joy and knowledge of *kamma*.
- Type 6 A girl appreciates her new dress after being explained by her mother that the dress is beautiful. But she has neutral feeling and no knowledge of *kamma*.
- Type 7 Reasoning about *kamma*, you drink coffee with neutral feeling, but still you appreciate the taste.

Type 8 A lady has knowledge of *kamma*. But after much persuasion from a sales-woman, she reluctantly buys a new dress.

# **DOSA-MŪLA CITTAS**

There are only two types of *cittas* rooted in *dosa* (hatred or illwill). The symbols and the names are as follows.

patigha-sam sa

- 1 Domanassa-sahagatam patigha-sampayuttam asankhārikam ekam
- 2 Domanassa-sahagatam patigha-sampayuttam sasankhārikam ekam

### **MEANINGS AND APPLICATIONS**

Domanassa :mentally painful feeling, displeasurePatigha :dosa—hatred, illwill, resentmentSo the meanings of the two dosa-mūla cittas are:

- 1 One consciousness, unprompted, accompanied by displeasure, and connected with illwill.
- 2 One consciousness, prompted, accompanied by displeasure, and connected with illwill.

Whenever we feel angry or displeased or sad or depressed, dosa-mūla cittas will arise. And whenever it arises, it is accompanied by illwill and mentally painful feeling. If it arises spontaneously without being prompted by anyone, it is asankhārika. If it arises slowly after much prompting from oneself or others, it is sasankhārika.

Now a mother is worrying about her daughter. What *citta* will be arising in the mother?

It is *dosa-mūla citta* with the name:

Domanassa-sahagatam patigha-sampayuttam asankhārika citta.

A father explained to his son that the son had been cheated.

The son became sad. What type of *citta* would the son have?

It is domanassa-sahagatam patigha sampayuttam sasankhārika dosa-mūla citta.

#### **MOHA-MŪLA CITTAS**

Again there are two types of *cittas* rooted in *moha* (ignorance or delusion). Their symbols and names are as follows.

vici-sam uddhac-sam

- 1 Upekkhā-sahagatam vicikicchā-sampayuttam ekam
- 2 Upekkhā-sahagatam uddhacca-sampayuttam ekam

#### MEANINGS AND APPLICATIONS

vicikicchā : sceptical doubt about the Buddha, the Dhamma, the Samgha and the Training

uddhacca : restlessness

The meanings of the two moha-mūla cittas are:

1 One consciousness, accompanied by indifference, and connected with sceptical doubt.

2 One consciousness, accompanied by indifference, and connected with restlessness.

As these two *cittas* are of equal strength, neither one being more spontaneous than the other, they are not differentiated by *asaṅkhārika* and *sasaṅkhārika*.

A person who is having doubt about *kamma* and its effect will have a *moha-mūla citta* by the name:

Upekkhā-sahagatam vicikicchā-sampayutta citta.

A person is listening to a lecture, but he does not understand a word because his mind is restless. What is his *citta*?

It is a moha-mūla-citta. The name is upekkhā-sahagatam uddhacca-sampayutta citta.

## TAKING STOCK IN A DAY

Although immoral *cittas* number only twelve in types, they occur much more frequently than moral *cittas* in a person every day. This is because the mind is under the influence of *lobha*, *dosa* and *moha* most of the time. These three immoral *cetasikas* are known as *akusala-mūla*, i.e., originators of immorality.

Because of *moha* and *lobha*, we want to enjoy pleasure all the time, and during this enjoyment, *lobha-mūla cittas* will be arising at the rate of many billions per second. At the time we are dressing with pleasure, at the time we are enjoying food and drinks, at the time we are listening to music and watching TV programs, at the time we are reading novels, at the time we are thinking of our earnings and possessions, *lobha-mūla cittas* will be arising by many billions.

When we are not pleased with the senses or the scenes we encounter, *dosa-mūla cittas* will be arising by billions again. Sometimes when the senses are not appealing, we feel indifferent

and distracted in mind. *Moha-mūla cittas* will arise during this time.

So if we take stock of moral *cittas* and immoral *cittas* in a day, immoral *cittas* will out-number the moral *cittas* by many million times. Since the immoral *cittas* leave seeds of unwhole-some *kamma* which will bring about unfavourable results and unhappy destiny or rebirth, it is unwise to let the mind take its course freely.

When we can differentiate the moral *cittas* from the immoral *cittas*, we can control them towards our own benefits.

#### AHETUKA CITTAS (Rootless Consciousness)

Hetu	:	mūla: cause or root-condition
Akusala-hetu	:	unwholesome roots (lobha, dosa, moha)
Kusala-hetu	:	wholesome roots (alobha, adosa, amoha)

Consciousness without concomitant root-conditions is known as *ahetuka citta* whereas consciousness with concomitant root-conditions is called *sahetuka citta*.

There are 18 *ahetuka cittas*. They may be classified into three groups as follows:

- 1 Akusala-vipāka cittas unwholesome resultant cittas that arise as the inevitable results of akusala cittas – 7
- 2 Ahetuka kusala vipāka cittas wholesome and rootless resultant cittas that arise as the inevitable results of kusala cittas – 8
- 3 Ahetuka kiriya cittas rootless functional consciousness – 3

Note: Vipāka : kamma-result Kiriya : kriya: functional *Vipāka citta* and *kiriya citta* are kammically neutral *cittas* that are kammically ineffective, i.e., they produce no kammic result.

### **AKUSALA VIPĀKA CITTAS**

The seven *akusala vipāka cittas* are given the following symbols and names.

cak		ghā		kā		tī
	-	-	-	^	-	-
	so		ji		sam	

- 1 Upekkhā-sahagatam cakkhuviññāņam Kahural fedingeye-consciousness accompanied by indifference
- 2 Upekkhā-sahagatam sotavinnānam ear-consciousness accompanied by indifference
- 3 Upekkhā-sahagatam ghānaviññānam nose-consciousness accompanied by indifference
- 4 *Upekkhā-sahagatam jivhāviānānam* tongue-consciousness accompanied by indifference
- 5 Dukkha-sahagatam kāyaviññānam pain body-consciousness accompanied by painful feeling
- 6 Upekkhā-sahagatam sampaticchana-cittam receptive consciousness accompanied by indifference
- 7 Upekkhā-sahagatam santīraņa-cittam investigating-consciousness accompanied by indifference

Of the seven *cittas* mentioned above, the first five are known as *pañca-viññana*, i.e. five *cittas* that are conscious of the five senses.

The last two, i.e., *sampațichana-citta* and *santīraņa-citta*, represent two connecting stages in the process of cognition (awareness of an object).

For example, when a visual object appears in the eye, a series of consciousness has to arise and dissolve in order to see the object. First *pañca-dvārāvajjana* (five-door advertence) adverts the consciousness towards the object. Then *cakkhu-viññāṇa* (eyeconsciousness) makes the sense-impression. Then *sampațichana* (receptive consciousness) receives the sense-impression. Then *santīraṇa* (investigating consciousness) investigates the senseimpression. Then *voțțappana* (determining consciousness) also known as *mano-dvārāvajjana* (mind-door advertence) determines the sense-impression whether it is good or bad. We are aware of the object roughly at this stage.

Similarly, when an audible voice strikes the eardrum, a series of consciousness, i.e., *pañca-dvārāvajjana*, *sotaviññāṇa*, *sampaţichana*, *santāraṇa*, *mano-dvārāvajjana*, etc., has to arise and dissolve before we can hear the voice.

Thus sampațichana-citta, santāraņa citta together with pañca dvārāvajjana citta and mano-dvārāvajjana citta are essential for cognition of the senses at the five sense-doors (eye, ear, nose, tongue and body).

## AHETUKA KUSALA VIPĀKA CITTAS

This class comprises eight *cittas* whose symbols and names are similar to those of *akusala-vipāka cittas* we have just described above.

cak		ghā		kä		tī		
-	-	-	-	v	-	-	+	
	SO		ji		sam		tī	

1	Upekkhā-sahagatam	cakkhuviññāṇaṁ
	eye-consciousness	accompanied by indifference

- 2 Upekkhā-sahagatam sotavinnānam ear-consciousness accompanied by indifference
- 3 Upekkhā-sahagatam ghānaviññāṇam nose-consciousness accompanied by indifference
- 4 Upekkhā-sahagatam jivhāviññāņam tongue-consciousness accompanied by indifference
- 5 Sukkha-sahagatam käyaviññänam body-consciousness accompanied by pleasant feeling
- 6 *Upekkhā-sahagatam sampatichana-cittam* receptive consciousness accompanied by indifference
- 7 Upekkhā-sahagatam santīraņa-cittam investigating-consciousness accompanied by indifference
- 8 Somanassa-sahagatam santīrana cittam investigating-consciousness accompanied by joy

According to *Abhidhamma*, one is in contact with disagreeable senses on account of one's own past *akusala-kamma* (unwholesome deed) and at these instances *akusala vipāka cittas* will arise in the cognition process.

On the other hand one is in contact with agreeable senses on account of one's own past *kusala-kamma* (wholesome deed), and at these instances *kusala-vipāka cittas* will arise in the cognition processes.

Therefore there are a pair of *cakkhuviññāņa* (eye-consciousness), a pair of *sotaviññāṇa* (ear-consciousness), a pair of *ghānaviññāṇa* (nose-consciousness), a pair of *jivhā-viññāṇa* (tongueconsciousness) and a pair of *kāyaviññāṇa* (body-consciousness). These five pairs together are called *'dvipañcaviññāṇa'*.

There are of course two sampațichana cittas and three santīraņa cittas.

All the akusala-vipāka cittas and ahetuka kusala vipāka cittas, being comparatively weak as they are not aware of the senses as good or bad yet, are accompanied by neutral feeling; the exceptions are that the two body kāyaviññāņa cittas are accompanied by either painful or pleasant feeling and somanassa-santīraņa citta, which arises when the sense is excellent, is accompanied by joy.

# AHETUKA KIRIYA CITTAS

The three *ahetuka kiriya cittas* are given the following symbols and names.

pañcadvā	manodvā	hasi
-	-	t

- 1 Upekkhā-sahagatam pañcadvārāvajjana-cittam five-door adverting consciousness accompanied by indifference
- 2 Upekkhā-sahagatam manodvārāvajjana-cittam mind-door adverting consciousness accompanied by indifference
- 3 Somanassa-sahagatam hasituppāda-cittam smile-producing consciousness accompanied by joy

The functions of the two *avajjana-cittas*, i.e., No. 1 and No. 2 above, in the processes of cognition have been described above. If the sense-object appears at one of the five sense-doors, it is *paāca-dvārāvajjana* which adverts consciousness towards the sense. *Paāca-dvārāvajjana citta* works like a wave-length selector

of a radio. Because of it, we can take note of the senses one after one.

When the sense or thought-object appears at the mind-door, it is *mano-dvārāvajjana* which adverts consciousness towards the sense.

*Hasituppāda-citta* can arise only in Buddha and *arahats* when they smile. Note that it is accompanied by joy whereas the two *avajjana cittas* are accompanied by neutral feeling.

man anno

# KÄMA-SOBHAŅA CITTAS

(Beautiful Consciousness of the Sense Sphere)

There are 24 kāma-sobhaņa cittas. They are divided into three classes:

- 1 *Mahā-kusala cittas* great moral consciousness – 8
- 2 Mahā-vipāka cittas great resultant consciousness – 8
- 3 *Mahā-kiriya cittas* great functional consciousness – 8

Here 'mahā' – 'great' means 'greater in number'. Mahā-kusala citta is also known as kāmāvacara-kusala citta. As there are 8 kāmāvacara-kusala cittas, 5 rūpāvacara-kusala cittas, 4 arūpāvacarakusala cittas and 4 lokuttara (supramundane) kusala cittas, the number of kāmāvacara-kusala cittas is greatest. The same is true for mahā-vipāka cittas (also known as kāmāvacara-vipāka cittas) and mahā-kiriya cittas (kāmāvacara-kiriya cittas). 'Sobhaṇa – beautiful' implies that sobhaṇa cittas yield good qualities and they are connected with wholesome roots such as alobha (generosity), adosa (goodwill) and amoha (knowledge).

Mahā-kusala cittas arise when ordinary worldlings (puthujjanas) and noble persons with the exception of arahats perform meritorious deeds such as dāna (alms-giving), sīla (morality) and bhāvanā (meditation).

Mahā-vipāka cittas are the kamma-results of mahā-kusala cittas of past lives. They function as pațisandhi-citta (rebirth consciousness), bhavanga-citta (subconsciousness or life-continuing consciousness) and cuti-citta (death consciousness) in human beings and devas in their present lives.

Mahā-kiriya cittas arise in arahats when they perform wholesome deeds. Arahats have no attachment to anything. They expect no rewards from their wholesome deeds. So their kiriya-cittas are just functional and will not bear any kamma-results in future lives. Arahats do not have any future life.

#### MAHĀ-KUSALA CITTAS

The eight *mahā-kusala cittas* are designated with symbols and names which resemble those of the eight *lobha-mūla cittas*.

ñaņasam		ñaņavi		ñaṇasam		ñaņavi	
+	+	+	+	-	-	-	-
a	sa	a	sa	а	sa	a	sa

- 1 Somanassa-sahagatam ñāṇa-sampayuttam asankhārikam ekam
- 2 Somanassa-sahagatam fiāņa-sampayuttam sasarikhārikam ekam
- 3 Somanassa-sahagatam nāna-vippayuttam asankhārikam ekam
- 4 Somanassa-sahagatam fiāņa-vippayuttam sasankhārikam ekam

- 5 Upekkhā-sahagatam ñāṇa-sampayuttam asankhārikam ekam
- 6 Upekkhā-sahagatam nāna-sampayuttam sasankhārikam ekam
- 7 Upekkhā-sahagatam nāņa-vippayuttam asankhārikam ekam
- 8 Upekkhā-sahagatam nāņa-vippayuttam sasankhārikam ekam

### MEANINGS

The above eight *cittas* can be translated in the same way as we have translated the eight *lobha-mūla cittas*; the only change necessary is to replace '*ditthi* – wrong view' with '*nāna* – knowl-edge or insight'. This knowledge basically means the knowledge of knowing the existence of *kamma* and *kamma*-result. So now we go:

- 1 One consciousness, unprompted, accompanied by joy, and associated with knowledge.
- 2 One consciousness, prompted, accompanied by joy, and associated with knowledge.
- 3 One consciousness, unprompted, accompanied by joy, and dissociated with knowledge.
- 4 One consciousness, prompted, accompanied by joy, and dissociated with knowledge.
- 5 One consciousness, unprompted, accompanied by indifference, and associated with knowledge.
- 6 One consciousness, prompted, accompanied by indifference, and associated with knowledge.
- 7 One consciousness, unprompted, accompanied by indifference, and dissociated with knowledge.

8 One consciousness, unprompted, accompanied by indifference, and dissociated with knowledge.

### APPLICATIONS

There are only two types of *cittas* which bear *kamma*-seeds and will give rise to *kamma*-results. They are *akusala cittas* and *kusala cittas*. Thus if we can control our mind to be free from the influence of *lobha* (greed), *dosa* (hatred) and *moha* (delusion), we will have *kusala cittas*.

When we give alms, we have non-attachment (*alobha*) to the alms and goodwill (*adosa*) for the welfare of the person who receives the alms. Moreover, if we also have knowledge (*amoha*) of *kamma* and *kamma*-result at the time of giving, we have all three wholesome roots to accompany our *cittas*. Wholesome roots will always give rise to *sobhaṇa cittas*.

If we offer alms without being prompted by anyone and if we also feel glad at the time of offering, the kusala citta will be somanassa-sahagatam ñāṇa-sampayuttam asaṅkhārika mahā-kusala citta.

If young children, without knowledge of kamma and kammaresult pay homage joyfully to a monk or a Buddha's image after being prompted by their parents, somanassa-sahagatam ñāṇavippayuttam sasankhārika mahā-kusala citta will arise.

The eight types of *kusala cittas* may be illustrated further by the following examples.

- Type 1 A lady with the knowledge of *kamma* and with joy offers flowers to a pagoda on her own accord.
- Type 2 A girl, after being persuaded by her companion, goes to listen to a Dhamma talk with joy and with the knowledge of *kamma*.

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- Type 3 A boy spontaneously gives some money to a beggar with joy but without the knowledge of *kamma*.
- Type 4 A man, after being requested by the headmaster to donate some money to the school, donates one hundred dollars joyfully without knowing *kamma* and its result.
- Type 5 A girl sweeps the floor with neutral feeling but knows it is a wholesome thing to do.
- Type 6 A man, prompted by a monk, chop wood with neutral feeling but knowing it to be a meritorious deed.
- Type 7 A woman reads a Dhamma book on her own accord without understanding the meaning and without knowing *kamma* and its result.
- Type 8 A girl, prompted by her mother, washes her parents' clothes without joy and without thinking about *kamma* and *kamma*-result.

#### MAHÄ-VIPÄKA CITTAS & MAHÄ-KIRIYA CITTAS

The eight *mahā-vipāka cittas* as well as the eight *mahā-kiriya cittas* are named in the same way as the eight *mahā-kusala cittas*. When one wishes to differentiate between the three classes of *cittas*, one may say like this:

- 1 somanassa-sahagatam ñāṇa-sampayuttam asankhārika mahā-kusala citta
- 2 somanassa-sahagatan nāņa-sampayuttan asankhārika mahā-vipāka citta
- 3 somanassa-sahagatam ñāņa-sampayuttam asankhārika mahā-kiriya citta

Generally it may be said that the first *mahā-kusala citta* gives result to the first *mahā-vipāka citta*, and the second *mahā-kusala citta* to the second *mahā-vipāka citta*, etc.

Conditions for the arising of the *mahā-kiriya cittas* in *arahats* are the same as those described for *mahā-kusala cittas*.

#### **NORMAL CITTAS IN A PERSON**

Although all the 54 types of kāmāvacara cittas can arise in persons in the human abode, hasituppāda citta and the eight mahā-kiriya cittas can occur only in arahats. So only 45 types of kāmāvacara cittas arise in ordinary persons who are not arahats.

A person may further acquire 5 *rūpāvacara-kusala cittas* (*rūpa-jhānas*) and 4 *arūpāvacara-kusala cittas* (*arūpa-jhānas*) if he is able to by undertaking *samatha-bhāvanā* (tranquillity meditation).

## **RŪPĀVACARA CITTAS**

(Consciousness mostly experienced in Rūpa-loka)

There are 15 *rūpāvacara cittas* which are divided into three classes in the same way as the *kāmāvacara-sobhaṇa cittas* are equally divided into *kusala, vipāka* and *kiriya cittas*.

- 1 Rūpāvacara kusala cittas 5 rūpa-jhāna moral consciousness
- 2 Rūpāvacara vipāka cittas 5 rūpa-jhāna resultant consciousness
- 3 Rūpāvacara kiriya cittas 5 rūpa-jhāna functional consciousness

A person, with *nāna-sampayutta* rebirth consciousness and who is not yet an *arahat*, may develop the five *rūpāvacara kusala cittas* one after another by undertaking the *samatha-bhāvanā* such as meditating on *kasina* or on respiration. *Rūpāvacara vipāka cittas* are the *kamma* resultants of *rūpāvacara kusala cittas*. They are the rebirth-consciousness of *rūpa-brahmas*. A person, who has acquired the first *rūpāvacara kusala citta* and maintains it till his death, will be reborn in the first *rūpa-jhāna* level of *rūpa-loka* with the first *rūpāvacara vipāka citta* as his rebirth-consciousness.

Arahats, by undertaking samatha bhāvanā, may develop the five rūpāvacara-kiriya cittas one after another. Note that kiriya cittas arise instead of kusala cittas in arahats.

Hence *rūpāvacara-kusala cittas* and *rūpāvacara kiriya cittas* are experienced in the sense sphere as well as in the fine-material sphere whereas *rūpāvacara-vipāka cittas* are experienced only in the fine material sphere.

#### WHAT IS JHĀNA?

*Jhāna* is a state of wilful concentration or absorption on an object. It is a combination of factors of absorption (*jhānaṅga*). These factors number five in total. They are:

- 1 *Vitakka* Initial application that directs the mind towards the object
- 2 Vicāra Sustained application that examines the object again and again
- 3 *Pīti* Joy or pleasurable interest in the object
- 4 Vedanā Feeling, sensation (two kinds of vedanā that occur in jhāna are:
  - a sukha pleasant or agreeable feeling, bliss
  - b upekkhā neutral feeling, equanimity)
- 5 *Ekaggatā* One-pointedness, concentration (*samādhi*).

*Vitakka, vicāra, pīti, sukha* or *upekkhā,* and *ekaggatā* are *cetasikas* that can influence the mind to be fixed on an object. They can be

developed and strengthened by *samatha-bhāvanā* which is actually a form of mental training.

Our mind is normally not tranquil or calm. It is constantly agitated by **five hindrances** (*nīvaraņas*); namely, sensuous desire (*kāmacchanda*), illwill (*vyāpāda*), sloth and torpor (*thina-middha*), restlessness and remorse (*uddhacca-kukkucca*) and sceptical doubt (*vicikicchā*).

Sensuous desire influences the mind to be wandering about sensuous objects which it has enjoyed before. Illwill agitates the mind by taking notice of disagreeable things. Sloth and torpor, restlessness and remorse, and sceptical doubt blind the mental vision and disturb the concentration.

Lord Buddha compared sensuous desire with water mixed with manifold colours, illwill with boiling water, sloth and torpor with water covered with mosses, restlessness and remorse with agitated water whipped by the wind, sceptical doubt with turbid and muddy water. Just as in such water one cannot perceive one's own reflection, so in the presence of these five hindrances, one cannot clearly see one's own benefit, nor that of others, nor that of both.

These hindrances can be overcome and temporarily dismissed by tranquillity-meditation (*samatha-bhāvanā*). We may choose *paţhavī-kasiņa* (earth-circle) as an object of meditation. A tray of about one span and four fingers (about one foot) in diameter is filled evenly with dawn-coloured clay or earth. This object is placed on a suitable stand so that one can look at it comfortably.

Sitting at ease two and a half cubits (3.75 ft) away from the earth-circle, one concentrates on it, saying mentally, "*pathavī*, *pathavī*" or "earth, earth..." The hypnotic circle that one is seeing is known as *parikamma-nimitta* (preparatory image).

Now the five factors of *jhāna* are being developed slowly. The initial application (*vitakka*) directs the mind towards the object (earth-circle); it temporarily inhibits sloth and torpor. Sustained application (*vicāra*) sustains the mind on the object by examining the object again and again; it temporarily inhibits sceptical doubt (*vicikicchā*).

*Pīti* develops joy or pleasurable interest in the object; it temporarily inhibits illwill. *Pīti* is also a precursor of *sukha* (pleasant feeling). *Pīti* creates an interest in the subject while *sukha* enables one to enjoy the object. *Sukha* holds the mind to stay longer on the object by its bliss; it temporarily drives away restlessness and remorse.

*Ekaggatā* gathers the *citta* and its concomitants on the object to reach the state of one-pointedness; it temporarily inhibits sensual desire.

When the hindrances subside temporarily, the mind does not wander away from the object as frequently as before and a weak degree of concentration is attained. At this stage one can see the earth-circle with closed eyes as one has seen it with open eyes. This visualised image is called *uggaha-nimitta* (acquired image).

Now one meditates on this acquired image with closed eyes, saying mentally "pathavī, pathavī" as before. When one reaches a higher degree of concentration, the image suddenly changes its colour and appearance. It becomes many times brighter and is as smooth as the surface of a mirror. The change is like taking a mirror out of its rough leather case. This new image is also known as pațibhāga-nimitta (counter-image).

The difference between the two images is very distinct. *Uggaha-nimitta* is an exact mental replica of the original object;

it contains all the defects present in the original object. *Pațibhāga-nimitta* is free from all defects; it is very bright and smooth. The latter may not possess a definite form or colour – "It is just a mode of appearance, and is born of perception."

As soon as the *pațibhāga-nimitta* arises, the concentration (*samādhi*) reaches a state known as upacāra-*samādhi*, i.e., neighbourhood (or access) concentration. At this stage the five *jhāna* factors become distinct and strong; *pīti* and *sukha* are so predominant that the meditator experiences ecstatic joy and bliss which he has never experienced before.

He now let the *pațibhāga-nimitta* spread endlessly in all directions by his will power, and meditates "*pațhavī*, *pațhavī*" as before. Eventually he gains *jhāna-samādhi* or *appanā-samādhi* (meditative concentration). At this stage, he can enjoy the calmness, serenity, joy and bliss of the *jhāna* again and again as much as he wishes. If he practices well, he can remain in absorption or trance for an hour, two hours, a day, two days or up to seven days. During this absorption, there is a complete, though temporary, suspension of fivefold sense-activity and of the five hindrances. The state of consciousness is, however, fully alert and lucid.

Those, who want to enjoy ecstatic bliss greater than sensual pleasure, should undertake tranquillity-meditation. There are some meditation centers in Myanmar, like International Buddha Sāsana Centres, where proper and systematic guidance is available for developing concentration up to the *jhāna* level.

In the first *jhāna*, all the five *jhāna*-factors are present. Then by meditating on the *paṭibhāga-nimitta* of *pathavī-kasiņa* further and eliminating the lower *jhāna*- factors one by one, a person can attain the higher *jhānas*. He attains the second *jhāna* when *vitakka*  is eliminated, the third *jhāna* when *vicāra* is further eliminated, the fourth *jhāna* when *pīti* is also eliminated, and finally the fifth *jhāna* when *sukha* is replaced by *upekkhā*.

# **R**ŪPĀVACARA KUSALA CITTAS

(Fine-material sphere Moral Consciousness)

The five *rūpāvacara kusala cittas* are designated by the following symbols and names.

tak	cā	pī	su/up	ek
+	+	+	+	
pa	du	ta	са	pañ

- 1 Vitakka, vicāra, pīti, sukh'ekaggatā sahitam pathamajjhāna kusala-cittam
- 2 Vicāra, pīti, sukh'ekaggatā sahitam dutiyajjhāna kusala-cittam
- 3 Pīti, sukh'ekaggatā sahitam tatiyajjhāna kusala-cittam
- 4 Sukh'ekaggatā sahitam catutthajjhāna kusala-cittam
- 5 Upekkh'ekaggatā sahitam pañcamajjhana kusala-cittam.

### MEANINGS

- 1 First *jhāna* moral consciousness together with initial application, sustained application, joy, bliss and one-pointedness.
- 2 Second *jhāna* moral consciousness together with sustained application, joy, bliss and one-pointedness.
- 3 Third *jhāna* moral consciousness together with joy, bliss and one-pointedness.
- 4 Fourth *jhāna* moral consciousness together with bliss and one-pointedness.

5 Fifth *jhāna* moral consciousness together with equanimity and one-pointedness.

Note that the first four *cittas* bear '+' symbols because they contain '*sukha*' which is the same as '*somanassa*'. The fifth *citta* bears a '-' symbol because it contains '*upekkhā*'.

# RÚPĀVACARA VIPĀKA CITTAS

(Fine-material Sphere Resultant Consciousness)

The five *rūpāvacara vipāka cittas* are designated by the same symbols and similar names as the five *rūpāvacara kusala cittas*.

tak	cā	pī	su/up	ek
+	+	+	+	-
pa	du	ta	са	pañ

In naming the *rūpāvacara vipāka cittas*, just change 'kusala' (moral) in the names of the *rūpāvacara kusala cittas* into 'vipāka' (resultant).

#### **RŪPĀVACARA KIRIYA CITTAS**

(Fine-material sphere Functional consciousness)

The five *rūpāvacara kiriya cittas* are again designated by the same symbols and similar names as the five *rūpāvacara kusala cittas*. Here '*kusala*' (moral) should be changed to '*kiriya*' (functional).

#### ARŪPĀVACARA CITTAS

(Consciousness mostly experienced in Arūpa-loka)

There are 12 arūpāvacara cittas which are equally divided into three groups of kusala, vipāka and kiriya cittas.

- 1 Arūpāvacara kusala cittas 4 arūpa-jhāna (moral consciousness)
- 2 Arūpāvacara vipāka cittas 4 arūpa-jhāna (resultant consciousness)
- 3 Arūpāvacara kiriya cittas 4 arūpa-jhāna (functional consciousness)

The four *arūpāvacara kusala cittas* may be acquired by persons who are not yet *arahats* whereas the four *arūpāvacara kiriya cittas* can arise only in *arahats*. These two types of *arūpāvacara cittas* are experienced in the sense sphere as well as in the immaterial sphere.

The four *arūpāvacara vipāka cittas* are experienced in the immaterial-sphere only. They are the *kamma*-resultants of *arūpāvacara kusala cittas*. A person who acquires *arūpa-jhāna* and maintains it till his death will be reborn in the immaterial sphere.

#### **ARŪPA JHĀNAS**

The person who has developed the five  $r\bar{u}pa$ - $jh\bar{a}nas$  may go up the ladder of concentration to  $ar\bar{u}pa$ - $jh\bar{a}nas$ . In doing so he uses the concentration associated with fifth  $r\bar{u}pa$ - $jh\bar{a}na$  as his base.

Also he has to reason about the unsatisfactoriness of the physical body and the troubles it develops on account of heat and cold, insect-bites, hunger and thirst, diseases, old age and death.

When he feels detached from the physical body and *rūpa*, he first develops the fifth *jhāna* by meditating on the *paţibhāga-nimitta* of *paţhavī-kasiņa*. He then comes out from the fifth *jhāna* and, though the *paţibhāga-nimitta* exists in his vision, he neglects it and tries to concentrate on the infinite space (*ākāsa*) beyond it and meditates "*ākāsa*, *ākāsa*" repeatedly.

When his mild attachment (*nikanti*) for the *pațibhāga-nimitta* disappears, the *nimitta* also suddenly disappears unfolding endless

space. Concentrating his mindfulness on this endless space, he goes on meditating " $\bar{A}k\bar{a}sa$ ,  $\bar{a}k\bar{a}sa$ " till he reaches the first ar $\bar{u}pa$ jhāna. The jhāna is called  $\bar{a}k\bar{a}s\bar{a}na\bar{n}c\bar{a}yatana$  kusala citta because it focuses on  $\bar{a}k\bar{a}sa$ .

He then continues his meditation by concentrating his mindfulness on the *ākāsānañcāyatana kusala citta*; meditating 'viññāṇa, viññāṇa' repeatedly till he reaches the second *arūpa-jhāna*. This *jhāna* is called viññāṇancāyatana kusala citta.

To develop the third *arūpa-jhāna* he focuses his attention not on the *ākāsānañcāyatana kusala citta* but on nothingness, meditating "Nathi Kiñci" (there is nothing whatsoever) repeatedly till he reaches the *jhāna*. This *jhāna* is called *ākiñcaññāyatana kusala citta* - *'akiñcañña'* also means 'nothingness'.

By taking the third *arūpa-jhāna* consciousness as the object of meditation, he can further develop the fourth *arūpa-jhāna*. This *jhāna* is called *nevasaññā-nāsaññāyatana kusala citta*. *Nevasaññānāsaññāyatana* literally means that "perception neither exists nor does not exist". It refers to the fact that the fourth *arūpa-jhāna* consciousness is so subtle and refined that one cannot definitely say whether there is a consciousness or not. Consciousness is no longer noticeable at the state of this *jhāna*.

All the four *arūpa-jhānas* belong to the category of the fifth *jhāna* because they are based on the fifth *rūpa-jhāna*. They all have only two *jhāna*-factors, namely *upekkhā* and *ekaggatā*.

It should be noted that the five *rūpa-jhānas* differ from one another in the number of *jhāna*-factors whereas the four *arūpa-jhānas* differ from one another in the objects of meditation.

# ARŪPĀVĀCARA KUSALA CITTAS

(Immaterial Sphere Moral Consciousness)

The four *arūpāvacara kusala cittas* are designed by the following symbols and names.



- 1 Upekkh' ekaggatā sahitam ākāsānancāyatana-kusala-cittam
- 2 Upekkh' ekaggatā sahitam viñnāņancāyatana-kusala-cittam
- 3 Upekkh' ekaggatā sahitam ākiñcaññāyatana-kusala-cittam
- 4 Upekkh' ekaggatā sahitam n'eva-saññā-n'saññāyatanakusala-cittam

#### MEANINGS

- 1 *Ākāsānañcāyatana* moral consciousness together with equanimity and one-pointedness.
- 2 *Viññāṇañcāyatana* moral consciousness together with equanimity and one-pointedness.
- 3 *Ākiñcaññāyatana* moral consciousness together with equanimity and one-pointedness.
- 4 N'evasaññā n'saññāyatana moral consciousness together with equanimity and one-pointedness.

# **ARŪPĀVACARA VIPĀKA CITTAS**

(Immaterial Sphere Resultant Consciousness)

The four *arūpāvacara vipāka cittas* are designated by the same symbols as the four *arūpāvacara kusala cittas*. The names are also similar, the only change necessary is to put '*vipāka*' (resultant) in place of '*kusala*' (moral).

#### **ARŪPĀVACARA KIRIYA CITTAS**

(Immaterial Sphere Functional Consciousness)

Again the symbols are the same and the names are similar, the only change necessary is to put 'kiriya' (functional) in place of 'kusala' (moral).

#### **ABHIÑÑÃNA CITTAS** (Supernormal Consciousness)

A person who attains five *rūpavacara kusala cittas* and four *arūpavacara kusala cittas* in *pathavī-kasiņa* meditation can easily develop these nine *jhāna cittas* in the meditation of other nine *kasiņas*. Then he can practise in 14 ways on these ten *kasiņas* and nine *jhānas* to make his mind very skillful and powerful. He can then develop five mundane supernormal powers based on the fifth *rūpāvacara* kusala citta.

An arahat who attains five *rūpāvacara kiriya cittas* and four *arūpāvacara kiriya cittas* in *pathavī-kasiņa* meditation can also develop these nine *jhānas* in the meditation of other nine *kasiņas*. By practising in the same way on these ten kasinas and nine *jhānas*, he can also develop five mundane supernormal powers based on the fifth *rūpavacara kiriya citta*.

Thus the fifth *rūpavacara kusala citta* is called the *kusala abhiññana citta*, and the fifth *rūpavacara kiriya citta* is called the *kiriya abhiññāṇa citta* when they are associated with supernormal knowledge.

#### LOKUTTARA CITTAS

(Supramundane Consciousness)

Lokuttara cittas may be acquired by vipassanā (insight) meditation. There are two ways of getting to the path-consciousness (magga- $\hat{n}a\bar{n}a$ ). They are:

- 1 Vipassanā-yānika taking insight meditation as the vehicle,
- Samatha-yānika taking tranquility meditation as the vehicle.

A person may first develop the neighbourhood concentration (*upacāra-samādhī*) by tranquility meditation (*samatha bhāvanā*) and then proceed to insight meditation (*vipassanā bhāvanā*). Here the person is using '*upacāra-samādhi*' as the base of his wisdom-eye for looking into the ultimate *nāma* and *rūpa* and their common characteristics of impermanence (*anicca*), suffering (*dukkha*) and not-self (*anatta*). This person, if successful to the end, will acquire the 4 Paths and the 4 Fruitions. So in this route there are only 8 supramundane *cittas*, namely, the four *lokuttara kusala cittas* (supramundane moral consciousness) and the four *lokuttara vipāka cittas* (supramundane resultant consciousness).

Now in the second route, a person first develops a *jhāna-samādhi* (meditative concentration) by tranquility meditation and uses this concentration as the base of his wisdom-eye in insight meditation. If he uses the first *jhāna-samādhi* as his base, his first path-consciousness is also accompanied by the first *jhāna-samādhi*; so it is known as the first *jhāna sotāpatti* path-consciousness.

Similarly for a person who uses the second *jhāna-samādhi* as his base for insight meditation, his first path-consciousness is known as the second *jhāna sotāpatti* path-consciousness. In the same-way for persons who use the third *jhāna-samādhi*, the fourth *jhāna-samādhi* and the fifth *jhāna-samādhi*, respectively, as the base for their insight meditation, their first path-consciousness will be known as the third *jhāna sotāpatti* path-consciousness, the fourth *jhāna sotāpatti* path-consciousness and the fifth *jhāna sotāpatti* path-consciousness, respectively.

So there are 5 *sotāpatti* path-consciousness. In other words we are multiplying *sotāpatti* path-consciousness with 5 *rūpāvacara jhānas*. In the same way there are 5 *sakadāgāmi* path-consciousness, 5 *anāgāmi* path-consciousness and 5 *arahatta* path-consciousness.

Thus the total number of path-consciousness is 20.

As the fruition immediately follows the path without any lapse in time, there are also 20 fruition-consciousness.

Thus in the *samatha-yānika* route there are altogether 40 types of supramundane consciousness.

# LOKUTTARA KUSALA CITTAS

(Supramundane Moral Consciousness)

Basically there are four *lokuttara kusala cittas* as acquired in the *vipassanā-yānika* route. They are:

- 1 Sotāpatti-magga-cittam
- 2 Sakadāgāmi-magga-cittam
- 3 Anāgāmi-magga-cittam
- 4 Arahatta-magga-cittam

# MEANINGS

- 1 Sotāpatti path-consciousness (consciousness belonging to the path of stream-entry)
- 2 Sakadāgāmi path-consciousness (consciousness belonging to the path of once-returning)

- 3 Anāgāmi path-consciousness (consciousness belonging to the path of never-returning)
- 4 Arahatta path-consciousness (consciousness belonging to the path of arahantship)

Since each of these four basic path-consciousness can associate with five *rūpāvacara jhānas* in turn, there are 20 *jhāna* path consciousness which are realized in *samatha-yānika* route.

# FIVE JHĀNA SOTĀPATTI MAGGA CITTAS

tak	cā	pī	su/up	ek
+	+	+	+	-
pa	du	ta	са	pañ

- Vitakka, vicāra, pīti, sukh'ekaggatā sahitam pathamajjhāna sotāpatti-magga cittam.
- 2 Vicāra, pīti sukh'ekaggatā sahitam dutayajjhāna-magga cittam.
- 3 Pīti, sukh'ekaggatā sahittam tatiyajjhāna sotāpatti-magga cittam.
- 4 Sukh'ekaggatā sahitam catutthajjhāna sotāpatti-magga cittam.
- 5 Upekkh'ekaggatā sahitam pañcamajjhāna sotāpatti-magga cittam.

### MEANINGS

1 The first *jhāna sotāpatti* path-consciousness together with initial application, sustained application, joy, bliss and one-pointedness.

- 2 The second *jhāna sotāpatti* path-consciousness together with sustained application, joy, bliss and one-pointedness.
- 3 The third *jhāna sotāpatti* path-consciousness together with joy, bliss and one-pointedness.
- 4 The fourth *jhāna sotāpatti* path-consciousness together with bliss and one-pointedness.
- 5 The fifth *jhāna sotāpatti* path-consciousness together with equanimity and one-pointedness.

The five *sakadāgāmi* path-consciousness, the five *anāgāmi* path-consciousness and the five *arahatta* path-consciousness are named similarly.

# LOKUTTARA VIPĀKA CITTAS

(Supramundane Resultant Consciousness)

Basically here are four *lokuttara vipāka cittas* as the fruitions of the four *lokuttara kusala cittas*. These four types of supramundane resultant consciousness are realized in the *vipassanā-yānika* route.

- 1 Sotāpatti-phala-cittam
- 2 Sakadāgāmi-phala-cittam
- 3 Anāgāmi-phala-cittam
- 4 Arahatta-phala-cittam

### MEANINGS

- 1 Sotāpatti fruit-consciousness (consciousness belonging to the fruition of stream-entry)
- 2 Sakadāgāmi fruit-consciousness (consciousness belonging to the fruition of oncereturning)

- 3 Anāgāmi fruit-consciousness (consciousness belonging to the fruition of neverreturning)
- 4 *Arahatta* fruit-consciousness (consciousness belonging to the fruition of arahatship)

Again each of these four basic fruit-consciousness can associate with five  $r\bar{u}p\bar{a}vacara$  jhānas in turn, giving rise to 20 fruit-consciousness in all. These are realized in samatha-yānika route.

The names of five *jhāna arahatta* fruit-consciousness are described below as examples.

# FIVE JHÄNA ARAHATTA PHALA CITTAS

tak	cā	pĩ	su/up	ek
+	+	+	+	-
ра	du	ta	ca	pañ

- 1 Vitakka, vicāra, pīti, sukh'ekaggatā sahitam pathmajjhāna arahatta-phala cittam
- 2 Vicāra, pīti, sukh'ekaggatā sahitam dutiyajjhāna arahattaphala cittam
- 3 Pīti, sukh'ekaggatā sahitam tatiyajjhāna arahatta-phala cittam
- 4 Sukh'ekaggatā sahitam catutthajjhāna arahatta-phala cittam
- 5 Upekkh'ekaggatā sahitam pañcamajjhāna arahatta-phala cittam

# MEANINGS

- 1 The first *jhāna arahatta* fruit-consciousness together with initial application, sustained application, joy, bliss and one-pointedness.
- 2 The second *jhāna arahatta* fruit-consciousness together with sustained application, joy, bliss and one-pointedness.
- 3 The third *jhāna arahatta* fruit-consciousness together with joy, bliss and one-pointedness.
- 4 The fourth *jhāna arahatta* fruit-consciousness together with bliss and one-pointedness.
- 5 The fifth *jhāna arahatta* fruit-consciousness together with equanimity and one-pointedness.

# QUICK REVIEW OVER CITTAS

A reader or learner should use Chart No. 1 entitled *The Complete Chart on Cittas* which is attached at the end of this book.

- Akusala cittas 12 They are 8 lobha-mūla cittas, 2 dosa-mūla cittas and 2 mohamūla cittas.
- 2 Ahetuka cittas 18
   They comprise 7 akusala vipāka cittas, 8 ahetuka kusala vipāka cittas and 3 ahetuka kiriya cittas.
- 3 Kāma-sobhaņa cittas 24 They are divided into 8 mahā-kusala cittas, 8 mahā-vipāka cittas and 8 mahā-kiriya cittas.
- Kāmāvacara cittas or kāma cittas 54
   They comprise 12 akusala cittas, 18 ahetuka cittas and 24
   kāma-sobhaņa cittas.
- 5 Mahaggata cittas 27
   The 15 rūpāvacara cittas and the 12 arūpāvacara cittas are collectively known as mahaggata cittas.

'Mahaggata' literally means 'grown great', i.e., developed, exalted or supernormal. Mahaggata citta is the state of 'developed consciousness' attained in the fine-material and the immaterial absorptions. Mahaggata cittas are more developed or more exalted than kāma-cittas.

6 Lokiya cittas – 81

The 54 kāmāvacara cittas and the 27 mahaggata cittas are collectively known as 81 lokiya cittas.

*Lokiya* — mundane or associated with the three spheres of existence – namely, the *kāma*-sphere, the *rūpa*-sphere, and the *arūpa*-sphere (the sense sphere, the fine-material sphere and the immaterial sphere).

7 Lokuttara cittas – 8 or 40

The 4 magga-cittas (path-consciousness) and the 4 phalacittas (fruit-consciousness) constitute 8 lokuttara cittas. When they are multiplied by 5 rūpāvacara jhānas, we get 40 lokuttara cittas.

Lokuttara – supramundane or beyond the three spheres of existence. The 8 lokuttara cittas together with Nibbāna constitute the '9 supramundane dhammas' (navalokuttara-dhamma).

- 8 Total number of cittas 89 or 121
  The 81 lokiya cittas together with 8 lokuttara cittas (vipassanā-yānika way) make up 89 cittas in all.
  Or if we combine 81 lokiya cittas with 40 lokuttara cittas (samatha-yānika way) we get 121 cittas in all.
- 9. Asobbhana cittas 30

They comprise 12 akusala cittas and 18 ahetuka cittas. The akusala cittas are not 'beautiful' (sobhana) because they are associated with evil roots – namely lobha (greed), dosa (hatred) and moha (delusion).
The ahetuka cittas are regarded as 'not beautiful' (asobhaṇa) because they are not associated with wholesome roots, namely alobha (generosity), adosa (goodwill) and amoha (wisdom).

10 Sobhana cittas – 59 or 91

If we subtract 30 asobhana from 89 cittas, we obtain 59 sobhana cittas. Or, if we subtract 30 asobhana cittas from 121 cittas, we get 91 sobhana cittas. Sobhana cittas are associated with wholesome roots.

11 Jhāna cittas – 67

The 27 mahaggata cittas are known as the lokiya jhāna cittas. Combining these with the 40 lokuttara jhāna cittas we get 67 jhāna cittas.

Among these, there are 11 first *jhāna cittas*, 11 second *jhāna cittas*, 11 third *jhāna cittas*, 11 fourth *jhāna cittas*, and 23 fifth *jhāna cittas*. These can be easily counted form the Chart No. 1. Note that there are 3 first *jhāna cittas* in the *mahaggata cittas* and 8 first *jhāna cittas* in *lokuttara cittas*; together they make up 11 first *jhāna cittas*. The second, the third and the fourth *jhāna cittas* are counted in the same way. In counting the fifth *jhāna cittas*, all the 12 *arūpāvacara cittas* are included in the count – thus we get 11+12 = 23 fifth *jhāna cittas*.

12 Division according to jāti (birth) The cittas are divided into 4 classes according to jāti – viz., akusala, kusala, vipāka and kiriya cittas. By looking at Chart No. 1, we can divide the 54 kāmā-vacara cittas into 12 akusala cittas, 8 kusala cittas, 23 vipāka cittas and 11 kiriya cittas. The 23 vipāka cittas are collectively known as kāma-vipāka cittas, and the kiriya cittas are known as kāma-kiriya cittas. Furthermore the 27 mahaggata cittas can be divided into 9 kusala cittas, 9 vipāka cittas and 9 kiriya cittas. These groups of cittas are also referred to as 9 mahaggata kusala cittas, 9 mahaggata vipāka cittas and 9 mahaggata kiriya cittas. The 81 lokiya cittas can be divided into 12 akusala cittas, 17 kusala cittas, 32 vipāka cittas and 20 kiriya cittas. The latter groups of cittas, being lokiya, are respectively known as 17 lokiya kusala cittas, 32 lokiya vipāka cittas and 20 lokiya kiriya cittas, respectively.

Now the 89 *cittas* (brief total) can be divided into 12 *akusala cittas*, 21 *kusala cittas*, 36 *vipāka cittas* and 20 *kiriya cittas*. The 121 *cittas* (broad total) can be divided into 12 *akusala cittas*, 37 *kusala cittas*, 52 *vipāka cittas* and 20 *kiriya cittas*.

13 Division according to Vedanā (feeling)

There are five types of *vedanā* which are designated by separate symbols in Chart No. 1 as:

i	Somanassa (+) –	joy, mental pleasure or mentally
		agreeable feeling,
ii	Domanassa (*) –	mental displeasure or mentally
		disagreeable feeling,
iii	Sukha (v) –	physical happiness
iv	Dukkha (^) –	physical pain
v	Upekkhā (–) –	indifference or neutral feeling.

In Chart No. 1 we shall notice that the 8 lokuttara cittas (i.e., 4 maggas and 4 phalas) are designated by the dual symbol  $\pm$ , indicating that they may be associated with either somanassa or upekkhā. The 40 lokuttara cittas can be, however, differentiated by vedanā. We can make a table (see Table 1.1) for dividing separate groups of cittas according to vedanā. In the 54 kāmāvacara cittas, there are 18 somanassa, 2 domanassa, 32 upekkhā, 1 sukha and 1 dukkha cittas. In the 81 lokiya cittas, there are 30 somanassa, 2 domanassa, 47 upekkhā, 1 sukha and 1 dukkha cittas. Finally in the 121 total cittas, there are 62 somanassa, 2 domanassa, 55 upekkhā, 1 sukha and 1 dukkha cittas.

#### Table 1.1

**Classification of Cittas according to Feeling** 

Name of citta	Somanassa	Domanassa	Upekkiā	Sukkha	Dukkia	Total
Akusala	4	2	6	-	-	12
Ahetuka	2	-	14	1	1	18
Kāma sobhaŢa	12	-	12	-	_	24
Kāma citta	18	2	32	1	1	54
Mahaggata	12	-	15	-	-	27
Lokiya	30	2	47	1	1	81
Lokuttara	32	-	8	-	–	40
Total citta	62	2	55	1	1	121

# Chapter 2 CETASIKAS Mental Factors

### **CHARACTERISTICS OF CETASIKAS**

*Cetasikas* are mental factors or mental concomitants that arise and perish together with *citta*, depend on *citta* for their arising and influence the mind to be bad, good or neutral as they arise.

A cetasika has the following four characteristic properties:

- i It arises together with citta (consciousness).
- ii It perishes together with citta.
- iii It takes the same object (arammana) which citta takes.
- iv It shares a common physical base (vatthu) with citta.

### WHICH IS MORE POWERFUL?

When we say that the mind is the most powerful agent in the world and it leads the world, it is not the performance of *citta* alone, but the performance of *citta* and *cetasikas* together that makes the mind most powerful.

Now which is more powerful—*citta* or *cetasikas*? *Citta* is no doubt the leader of the group, but *cetasikas* influence the *citta* and direct the *citta* to perform actions, speeches and thoughts either morally or immorally. These actions, speeches and thoughts change the world every day and their kammic forces will create new worlds in the future.

To decide which of the two—*citta* or *cetasikas*—is more powerful, let us consider two similes.

#### 60 | THE ESSENCE OF BUDDHA ABHIDHAMMA

- 1 In a family the father is the leader, but the mother has complete influence on the father, and he does what she asks him to do. Now who is more important—father or mother?
- 2 In a saw-mill an elephant moves logs as directed by its rider. The elephant cannot work alone, neither does the rider. The elephant has strength to move the logs; the rider cannot move the logs, but he can command the elephant to work. Who is more important—the elephant or the rider?

It may be noticed that both the father and the mother in simile (1) and both the elephant and the rider in simile (2) are indispensable. So aren't they equally important?

*Citta* is like the elephant and *cetasikas* are analogous to the rider. No *citta* exists apart from its concomitants and no *cetasikas* exist apart from *citta*. They function together. They are our true strength and ability. The more we can develop them, the more powerful shall we grow.

	Aññasamāna (13)	1 Sabba-citta sāddhāraņa (7) 2 Pakiņņaka (6)				
Cetasikas	Akusala (14)	1 Moha-catukka (4) 2 Lobha-tri (3) 3 Dosa-catukka (4) 4 End-tri (3)				
(52)	Sobhana (25)	1 Sobhaṇa sādhāraṇa (19) 2 Virati (3) 3 Appamaññā (2) 4 Paññindriya (1)				

#### **CLASSIFICATION OF CETASIKAS**

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There are 52 *cetasikas* in all. They are first divided into three classes as follows.

- Aññasamāna cetasikas general mental concomitants – 13
- 2 Akusala cetasikas immoral mental concomitants – 14
- 3 Sobhana cetasikas beautiful mental concomitants - 25

# AÑÑASAMĀNA CETASIKAS

(General Mental Concomitants)

The 13 aññasamāna cetasikas can associate both with sobhana and asobhana cittas. They are neutral and they enhance the properties of the cetasikas with which they associate.

They are again divided into two sub-groups.

- 1 Sabbacitta-sādhāraņa Essentials which associate with all cittas – 7
- Pakiņņaka
  Particulars which selectively associate with some sobhaņa as well as with some asobhaņa cittas 6

# SABBACITTA-SÄDHÄRAŅA CETASIKAS

(Essentials or Primary Ones - 7) UNIVERSAU

Sabba - all; sādhāraņa - associate with

The 7 sabbacitta-sādhāraņas associate collectively with all cittas. Consciousness of an object by citta is accomplished with the help of these cetasikas.

- 1 Phassa Contact or mental impression
- 2 Vedanā Feeling or sensation

#### 62 | THE ESSENCE OF BUDDHA ABHIDHAMMA

- 3 Saññā perception
- 4 Cetanā volition or intention
- 5 Ekaggatā one-pointedness, concentration (samādhi)
- 6 Jīvitindriya vitality or psychic life
- 7 Manasikāra attention or advertence

#### 1 Phassa

*Phassa* furnishes the contact between the sense object, the sense organ and the *citta*. For example, the contact between visual object, visual organ (eye) and eye-consciousness (*cakkhu-viñfiāņa*) is accompanied by *phassa*. Without *phassa*, there will be no sense-impression and consequently no cognition.

#### 2 Vedanā

*Vedanā* enjoys the taste of the sense-object. It is like a king who enjoys a delicious dish.

Feeling is very important to worldly people. People are struggling day and night for the enjoyment of sensual pleasure which is nothing but pleasant feeling.

In the cause-effect relations of the Law of Dependent Origination (*pațicca-samuppada*), contact is the condition for the arising of feelings, and feeling is the condition for the arising of craving (*taṇhā*).

The whole group of feelings—past, present, future, one's own and external—is designated as *vedanakkhandha*, one of the five groups of existence.

#### 3 Saññā

Saññā takes note of the sense-objects as to colour, form, shape, name, etc. It functions as memory. It is saññā that enables one to recognize an object that has once been perceived by the mind

through the senses. Without  $sa\bar{n}n\bar{a}$ , we would not remember our names, our parents, our wives and children, our houses, etc. So it would be impossible to live in the community.

The whole group of perceptions—past, present, future, one's own and external—is designated as *saññakkhandha*, which is also one of the five groups of existence.

#### 4 Cetanā

*Cetanā* co-ordinates the mental states associated with itself on the object of consciousness like a chief disciple, or like a farm owner who fulfils his duties and regulates the work of others as well. *Cetanā* fulfils its function and regulates the functions of other mental concomitants associated with it.

*Cetanā* acts on its concomitants, acts in getting the object, and acts on accomplishing the task; thus it determines action.

According to Anguttara Nikāya (vi, 13), Buddha remarked: "Volition is action (kamma), thus I say, O monks; for as soon as volition arises, one does the action, be it by body, speech or mind."

So cetanā plays an important role in all actions—it determines whether an action is moral or immoral. It is the most significant cetasika in mundane (lokiya) consciousness whereas  $pa\bar{n}\bar{n}\bar{a}$ (wisdom) is the most important cetasika in the supramundane (lokuttara) consciousness.

Excluding vedanā and sannā, all the remaining fifty cetasikas, with cetanā as the foremost, is designated as sankhārakkhandha (formation-group), which is also one of the five groups of existence.

#### 5 Ekaggatā

*Ekaggatā* focuses the *citta* and its concomitants on one object. It prevents its adjuncts from dissipation and fixes them on the one

object. It is similar to water that binds together several substances to form one concrete mass. It is like a firmly fixed pillar that cannot be shaken by the storm.

*Ekaggatā* is one of the five *jhāna* factors. When developed and cultivated by meditation, it is known as *samādhi*. It is the seed of all attentive, selected, focused or concentrated consciousness.

#### 6 Jīvitindriya

Jīvitindriya is a combination of 2 terms:

*Jīvita* + *indriya* = life + controlling faculty.

It is called *jīvita* because it sustains its concomitants. It is called *indriya* because it controls its concomitants.

Just as lotuses are sustained by water, and an infant by a nurse, so are mental concomitants sustained by *jīvitindriya*.

Although *cetanā* determines the activities of all mental concomitants, it is *jīvitindriya* that infuses life into *cetanā* and other concomitants.

#### 7 Manasikāra

Manasikāra is the mind's first 'confrontation with an object' and 'directs the associated mental concomitants to the object'. It is, therefore, the prominent factor in the two avajjana-cittas—namely, pañcadvārāvajjana-citta and mano-dvārāvajjana-citta, i.e., advertence at the five sense-doors and advertence at the mind-door. These two states of consciousness, breaking through the life-continuum (bhavaṅga), form the first stage in the cognition process.

As the rudder of a ship directs her to her destination, so *manasikāra* directs the *citta* and its concomitants towards the sense object. Without *manasikāra*, the mind is like a rudderless ship and it cannot be aware of an object. We have a saying in Myanmar

that runs like this: "If we are not attentive, we shall not see a cave."

In a more general sense, manasikāra appears frequently in the suttas as yoniso-manasikāra (wise-attention or wise-reflection) and ayoniso-manasikāra (unwise-attention or unwise-reflection).

Wise-attention leads to moral consciousness whereas unwise-attention leads to immoral consciousness.

### SIGNIFICANCE OF SABBACITTA-SÄDHÄRANA

As described above, all the 7 essential *cetasikas* perform important tasks and they are essential for the awareness of an object by the mind. *Manasikāra* first confronts with the object and directs the *citta* and the mental concomitants associated with it towards the object.

*Cetanā* acts on the *citta* and the mental concomitants associated with it to perform their respective duties efficiently until the task of getting or knowing the object is completed.

*Phassa* let the *citta* and its mental concomitants be in contact with the sense-object. *Vedanā* enjoys the taste of sensation which arises from the contact (*phassa*). *Saīītā* takes note of the object and helps to recognize the object.

*Ekaggatā* focuses the *citta* and its concomitants on the object; it binds the mental concomitants with *citta* together to be at a state of one-pointedness on the object—a condition which is also essential for the awareness of the object.

*Jīvitindriya* sustains the vitality of the *citta* and the mental concomitants so that they will remain alive and active to their full life. Otherwise, they will perish before the task of getting or knowing the object is completed.

#### PAKIŅŅAKA CETASIKAS

(Particulars – 6)

These six *cetasikas* may associate both with *sobhana* and *asobhana cittas*, but not with all of them. They associate only with those *cittas* with which they should associate.

- 1 Vitakka initial application or thought conception
- 2 Vicāra sustained application or discursive thinking
- 3 Adhimokkha decision or determination
- 4 Vīriya effort or energy or exertion

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- 5 Pīti rapture or interest
- 6 Chanda wish, desire or will

#### 1 Vitakka

*Vitakka* applies the *citta* and its concomitants onto the sense-object. As the king's favorite courtier introduces someone to the king, likewise *vitakka* introduces the *citta* and its concomitants to the object.

As explained above, *manasikāra* directs the *citta* and its concomitants to the object whereas *vitakka* applies them onto the object.

Vitakka, manasikāra and cetanā may be differentiated further by comparing them with different persons in a boat racing to a flag. Manasikāra is like the rudder – controller of the boat, vitakka like the rowers in the hull of the boat, and cetanā like the foremost rower who not only rows the boat himself but also urges others to row to their best and then plugs the winning flag when the boat gets to the destination.

As *vitakka* applies the *citta* and its concomitants to various objects leading to various thought processes, it is also known as thought conception.

Vitakka is one of the five *jhāna*-factors. It inhibits sloth and torpor (*thina-middha*). When it is developed and cultivated, it becomes the foremost factor of the first *jhāna*. It is also the second factor known as 'sammā-saṅkappa' (right-thought) in the Noble Eightfold Path.

### 2 Vicāra

*Vicāra* sustains the *citta* and its concomitants on the object by letting them examine the object again and again. Like *vitakka*, it is a *jhāna* factor. It inhibits *vicikicchā* (doubt).

Vitakka is the forerunner of vicāra. The two should be distinguished thus: like the flapping of a bird about to fly is vitakka, like its planning movements in the sky is vicāra; like the beating of a drum or bell is vitakka, like its reverberation is vicāra.

#### 3 Adhimokkha

Adhimokka makes the decision with respect to the sense-object. It is like a judge who decides a case. It is also compared to a firm pillar owing to its unwavering state in making the decision. It is opposed to *vicikicchā*—doubt or indecision.

#### 4 Vīriya

 $V\bar{i}riya$  is more or less equivalent to effort, energy, exertion, virility, manliness or heroism. It may be defined as the state of being energetic or courageous.

It has the characteristic of supporting, upholding or sustaining its concomitants. As a leaning old house, supported by new pillars, may not fall, so also concomitants, supported by *vīriya*, will not give way.

Just as a strong reinforcement would help an army to hold on instead of retreating, even so *vīriya* upholds or uplifts its concomitants. *Vīriya* is regarded as a spiritual faculty (*indriya*) because it controls and overcomes idleness. It is also one of the five powers (*bala*) because it cannot be shaken by its opposite idleness. It also serves as one of the four means of accomplishing one's ends (*iddhipāda*).

According to Atthasālini, *vīriya* should be regarded as the root of all achievements.

#### 5 Pīti

*Pīti* is generally translated as rapture, joy, happiness, interest or enthusiasm. It is related to *pāmojja* (gladness) and to *sukha* (pleasant feeling), but it is not a feeling or sensation, and hence it does not belong to the feeling-group (*vedanakkhandha*). *Pīti* is the precursor of *sukha*. Like the sight of a pond to a weary traveller is pīti. Like drinking water and bathing there is *sukha*.

Creating a joyful interest in the object is the characteristic of *pīti*. *Pīti* is a *jhāna*-factor. It inhibits *vyāpāda* (illwill or aversion).

There are five stages of *pīti*;

- i *Khuddaka pīti* the thrill of joy that causes the flesh to creep
- ii *Khaņika pīti* instantaneous joy like a flash of lightening
- iii Okkantikā pīti
  the flood of joy like the breakers on a seashore
- iv Ubbegā pīti up-lifting joy which may lift one to float in the air

v Phāranā pīti

suffusing joy which pervades the whole body like a full blown bladder or like a lump of cotton moistened in oil or like a flood overflowing creeks and ponds.

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#### 6 Chanda

*Chanda* has been translated as 'conation, intention, wish, desire or will' by several authors. The chief characteristic of *chanda* is 'the wish to do'. It is like the stretching of the hand to grasp an object.

Also 'a desire for something' without any attachment to the thing is *chanda*. *Chanda* is an ethically neutral psychological term. It should be differentiated from immoral *lobha* which is 'a desire with attachment'.

In *kāmacchanda* (sensuous desire) and *chanda-rāga* (lustfuldesire), *chanda* is coupled with *lobha*; these two compound words actually represent *lobha*.

Every action begins with *chanda*. For example, the act of standing up begins with the wish (*chanda*) to stand up. It is evident that the journey of a thousand miles begins with the first step, and that first step is *chanda*. We cannot go without the wish to go, and we cannot get to a place without the wish to be there.

When intensified, *chanda* becomes 'will' and leads to success as 'there is a way if there is a will'. So, like *vīriya*, *chanda* is included in the four means of accomplishing one's ends (*iddhipāda*).

#### **AKUSALA CETASIKAS**

(Immoral Mental Concomitants)

There are 14 *cetasikas* which are ethically immoral. They may be divided into four sub-groups as follows.

- Moha-catukka akusala-sādhāraņa 4
  A group of four cetasikas headed by moha
  - 1 Moha avijjā delusion, ignorance, dullness
  - 2 Ahirika lack of moral shame, impudence

#### 70 | THE ESSENCE OF BUDDHA ABHIDHAMMA

- 3 Anottappa lack of moral dread, recklessness
- 4 Uddhacca unrest, restlessness, distraction.
- 2 Lobha-tri papañca-dhamma 3
  - A group of three cetasikas headed by lobha
  - 5 Lobha rāga –taņhā greed, attachment, sensuous desire
  - 6 Ditthi wrong view, evil opinion
  - 7 Māna conceit, pride
- 3 Dosa-catukka hateful ones 4
  A group of four cetasikas headed by dosa
  - 8 Dosa -pațigha hatred, anger, aversion
  - 9 Issa envy, jealousy
  - 10 Macchariya avarice, stinginess, selfishness
  - 11 Kukkucca worry, scruples, remorse
- 4 End-tri dull and wavering ones 3 The last three immoral *cetasikas* 
  - 12 Thina sloth
  - 13 Middha torpor
  - 14 Vicikiccchā sceptical doubt, perplexity.

#### 1 Moha

Moha is the ignorance of the true nature of sense-objects. Living and non-living things are made up of *nāma* and *rūpa* (mind and matter) which are endowed with the four common characteristics of *anicca* (impermanence), *dukkha* (suffering), *anatta* (non-self) and *asubha* (loathsomeness).

As moha veils our mental eyes and shields us from seeing the true nature of things, we cannot see the extremely-rapid and incessant arising and dissolving of  $n\bar{a}ma$  and  $r\bar{u}pa$  and the consequent four characteristics mentioned above. When we cannot see the true nature of things, we get confused and take the opposite characteristics to be true. So we see things as *nicca* (permanent), *sukha* (pleasant), *atta* (self or person) and *subha* (beautiful).

On account of this wrong vision of *moha*, a chain of undesirable consequences including sufferings and miseries arise one after another. Thus *moha* is like the director of a movie-film; it directs everything but we are not aware of it as we cannot see the director on the movie-screen. It is indeed the primary root of all evils and sufferings in the world.

Moha is the leader of all the immoral *cetasikas*. Moha and its three compatriots (*ahirika*, *anottappa* and *uddhacca*) associate with all immoral consciousness. So they are known as 'akusala-sādhāraṇa'.

Because *moha* is opposed to insight or wisdom, it is known as '*avijjā*'. *Moha* clouds our knowledge with regard to *kamma* and its consequences and the four Noble Truths.

# 2 Ahirika

*Ahirika* urges a person not to be ashamed of committing immoral actions, speeches and thoughts.

In *Puggala-paññatti* (para.59) it is stated thus: 'Not to be ashamed of evil or unwholesome things: this is called lack of moral shame. As a village-pig does not feel loathsome in eating night-soil, so *ahirika* does not feel loathsome in committing evil deeds.'

# 3 Anottappa

Anottappa urges a person not be afraid of committing immoral actions, speeches and thoughts.

In *Puggala-paññatti* (para. 60) it is stated: 'Not to dread what one should dread, not to be afraid of evil, unwholesome things; this is called lack of moral dread."

Anottappa is compared to a moth that is singed by fire. The moth, being unaware of the consequences, gets attracted by fire and plunges into the fire. In the same way anottappa, being unaware of the consequences, gets attracted by evil, unwholesome things and plunges into evil deeds.

It is mentioned in *Anguttara Nikāya* (ii, 6): "There are two sinister things, namely lack of moral shame and moral dread, etc." It should be noted that the recklessness due to *ahirika* and *anottappa* arises as a consequence of *moha* which clouds the mind and blinds the eye from seeing the results of evil deeds (*kamma*).

#### 4 Uddhacca

*Uddhacca* is the restless state of the mind which is compared to the disturbed state of a heap of ashes when hit with a stone.

As we cannot see our face in boiling water, a restless mind will not see the consequences of evil deeds. *Uddhacca* is also a follower of *moha* which makes the mind confused and let distraction (*uddhacca*) arise consequently.

#### 5 Lobha

Lobha is a strong desire for sensuous objects or *jhāna* happiness. It will never give up this intrinsic nature of desiring however much one may possess. Even the whole wealth on earth cannot satisfy the desire of *lobha*. It is always on the look-out for something new. Thus one cannot be truly happy if one cannot eliminate *lobha*.

The second nature of *lobha* is attachment or clinging to sensuous objects or to *jhāna* and *jhāna* happiness. This nature of

attachment is compared with the sticky nature of monkeycatching glue. This glue is prepared by heating several kinds of sticky gum available in the forest to form a sticky paste.

The monkey-catcher applies this sticky mass of gum on the trunks of several trees. When sunrays fall on the gum, spectra of various colours appear. A monkey, being curious, touches the gum with one paw which becomes firmly attached to the gum. In struggling to pull out this paw, the monkey pushes the tree with the other paw and also kicks the tree with both legs. So both paws and both legs are stuck to the gum.

Then the monkey tries to pull itself out by pushing the tree with its head. So the head is also stuck to the gum. The monkeycatcher may now come out from his hiding place and catches or kills the monkey easily.

Remember that worldly people are being attached firmly by *lobha* to sense-objects as well as to their possessions. They cannot renounce the world and their worldly possessions including wives or husbands, sons and daughters. So they are being caught up by old age, disease and death life after life.

Lobha, together with its two great followers, i.e., dițțhi (wrong view) and māna (conceit), is responsible for extending the life cycle or the round of rebirth that is known as samsāra. On account of this fact, lobha, dițțhi and māna are collectively called 'papañca dhamma'.

### 6 Dițțhi

*Dițțhi* is usually translated as view, belief, opinion, etc. *Sammādițțhi* means right view and *micchā-dițțhi* means wrong view. Here, as an immoral *cetasika*, *dițțhi* is used in the sense of wrong view. It has been explained above that *moha* clouds the mind and blinds the eye not to see things as they really are. It makes one see things as *nicca* (permanent), *sukha* (pleasant), *atta* (self or person) and *subha* (beautiful). Because of this wrong vision, *lobha* clings or attaches to this 'self or person' and *ditthi* takes the wrong view that 'self' and 'person' really exist.

The most basic and universal wrong view is the 'personalitybelief' (*sakkāya-diţţhi*) or 'ego-illusion' (*atta-diţţhi*). *Sakkāya-diţţhi* believes that this combination of mind and body is 'I', 'you', 'he', 'she', 'man', 'woman', 'person', etc. *Atta-diţţhi* believes in the existence of an '*atta* or soul' or 'ego' or 'life-entity' in the body.

From this *sakkāya-diţţhi* or *atta-diţţhi* as well as from the ignorance due to *moha* there spring up thousands of wrong views. *Sakkāya-diţţhi* is one of the ten fetters binding to existence. It is eliminated only on reaching the path of stream-winning (*sotāpattimagga*).

#### 7 Māna

*Māna* (conceit), like *dițțhi*, is also a by-product of *moha* and *lobha*. *Moha* gives the wrong vision that 'persons' exist and that they are permanent, pleasant and beautiful. So *lobha* clings to these persons, especially the one represented by oneself.

• Māna looks on this self-person as—I am the best, I know most, I have no equals in the world'.

This conceit or pride is of three kinds: the equality-conceit ( $m\bar{a}na$ ), the inferiority-conceit ( $om\bar{a}na$ ) and the superiority-conceit ( $atim\bar{a}na$ ) As the saying goes: 'pride will have a fall', pride or conceit is not a virtue to be proud of.

*Māna* is one of the ten fetters binding to existence. It vanishes completely only at the attainment of arahatship.

### 8 Dosa

*Dosa* is translated as 'hatred, anger or aversion.' It is the most destructive element in the world. It is more frightful than the atomic weapon. Of course, when someone pulls the trigger on the atomic weapon, he does so under the influence of *dosa*.

Normally, when one encounters with a desirable sense-object, clinging or attachment (*lobha*) arises, and when one encounters with an undesirable object, anger or aversion arises. The anger (*dosa*) destroys one first before it destroys others.

Not only inflated *dosa* as the one present in an angry person but also depressed *dosa* as the one felt by a sad or depressed person are destructive. According to Abhidhamma the one who retaliates an insult is more foolish than the one who starts the insult.

#### 9 Issā

*Issā* has the characteristic of envying others' success and prosperity. As such it is objective, i.e., it looks not to oneself but to others.

#### 10 Macchariya

*Macchariya* has the characteristic of concealing one's property. It does not appreciate to share one's property or special privilege with others. It takes the form of stinginess when one is reluctant to give money for charity.

As mentioned in Anguttara Nikāya (ix, 49), there are five kinds of stinginess with respect to dwelling place, families, gain, recognition and knowledge.

Contrary to *issā*, *macchariya* is subjective. *Issā* and *macchariya* make one unhappy without any inducement from others. One shall feel immediately happy if one can drive them away from one's mind.

#### 11 Kukkucca

*Kukkucca* has the characteristic of grieving over the evil that is done and the good that is not done.

As it is useless to cry over spilt milk, it is of no use to repent or feel sorry about wrong doings.

Issā, macchariya and kukkucca are three companions of dosa. They arise separately because their lines of reasoning are different, but when one of them arises, it is always accompanied by dosa.

#### 12 Thina

*Thina* is the shrinking state of the mind like a cock's feather before fire. When one is idle due to lack of *vīriya* (effort), one is under the influence of *thina*. It is the sickness of *citta*.

#### 13 Middha

*Middha* is the morbid state of mental concomitants. When one feels inactive or inert, one is being influenced by *middha*. It is the sickness of *cetasikas*.

Both *thina* and *middha* are opposed to *vīriya*. Where there are *thina* and *middha*, there is no *vīriya*.

#### 14 Vicikicchā

*Vicikicchā* is sceptical doubt about the Buddha, the Dhamma, the Samgha, the Training; about things in past lives and future lives; about the Law of Causal Relations; and finally about the four Noble Truths.

*Vicikicchā* is one of the five Hindrances and is also included in the ten Fetters to existence. It disappears completely and for ever at Stream-entry.

# SOBHAŅA CETASIKAS

(Beautiful Mental Concomitants)

There are 25 *sobhana cetasikas* which may be divided into 4 subgroups for convenience.

- 1 Sobhana sādhārana 19 those which associate with all sobhana cittas.
- 2 Virati 3
  those connected with abstinence from immoral actions, speeches and livelihood.
- 3 Appamaññā -2 those connected with 'Boundless states'.
- 4 Paññindriya 1
  that connected with wisdom or insight.

# SOBHANA-SĀDHĀRAŅA CETASIKAS

(Beautiful Ones – 19)

These 19 mental concomitants associate with all beautiful consciousness collectively.

- 1 Saddhā faith, confidence
- 2 Sati mindfulness, attentiveness
- 3 Hirī moral shame
- 4 Ottappa moral dread
- 5 Alobha non-attachment, greedlessness, generosity
- 6 Adosa hatelessness, goodwill, forbearance, lovingkindness
- 7 Tatramajjhattatā equanimity, mental balance
- 8 Kāya-passaddhi tranquillity of mental concomitants
- 9 Citta-passaddhi tranquillity of consciousness
- 10 Kāya-lahutā agility or lightness of mental concomitants
- 11 Citta-lahutā agility or lightness of consciousness

- 12 Kāya-mudutā elasticity of mental concomitants
- 13 Citta-mudutā elasticity of consciousness
- 14 Kāya-kammaññatā adaptability of mental concomitants
- 15 Citta-kammaññatā adaptability of consciousness
- 16 Kāya-paguñnatā proficiency of mental concomitants
- 17 Citta-pagaññatā proficiency of consciousness
- 18 Kāyujjukatā uprightness of mental concomitants
- 19 Cittujjukatā uprightness of consciousness.

#### 1 Saddhā

Saddhā is well-established confidence or faith in the Three Jewels (*ti-ratana*); namely, the Buddha, the Dhamma and the Samgha.

When a Buddhist takes refuge in the Three Jewels, his faith should be reasoned and rooted in understanding, and he is asked to investigate or test the object of his faith. A Buddhist's faith is not in conflict with the spirit of enquiry; any doubt about dubious things is allowed and inquiry into them is encouraged.

Saddhā is compared to the unique emerald of the universal monarch. This emerald, when placed in warm dirty water, causes all the dirt to subside and all the heat to escape, thus leaving a cool and purified water. In the same way when saddhā associates with the *citta*, all the defilements such as *lobha*, *dosa*, *moha* disappear with the result that the mind becomes cool and clear.

Saddhā is also compared with the hand which can grab jewels if one is lucky enough to be on a mountain full of jewels. Actually one is more fortunate to be in contact with Buddha's teachings  $(s\bar{a}san\bar{a})$  than to be on the mountain of jewels, because one with saddhā can acquire a lot of merit which is more precious than jewels. As a man without hands cannot grab jewels, so a man without saddhā cannot acquire good merit. As moha is the leader of the immoral cetasikas, so saddhā is the leader of sobhaṇa cetasikas. It is the most precious treasure and also one of the five spiritual faculties (*indriya*) as well as one of the five spiritual powers (*bala*).

#### 2 Sati

Sati is mindful of things that are taking place. Its chief characteristic is 'not floating away'; i.e., not to let things go unnoticed. When one is not mindful enough, one does not remember what one sees or hears; it is like empty pots and pumpkins floating away on the water current.

One can recall past events with *sati*, and *sati* can be developed. When it is highly developed, one acquires the power of remembering past births. So *sati* can function as memory.

Buddha reminded His disciples every day not to forget wholesome deeds and to be always mindful to fulfill one's pledge to strive for the liberation from all miseries.

If one is mindful at the six sense-doors to note what one observes just as 'seeing, seeing' or 'hearing, hearing', etc., one can stop defilements from entering the mind. In this sense *sati* is compared to a gate-keeper who stops thieves and robbers from entering the city.

Sati is also a member of the five spiritual faculties as well as a member of the five spiritual powers. It is also one of the seven factors of Enlightenment (*bojjhanga*) and the seventh link of the noble Eightfold Path.

#### 3 Hirī

*Hirī* makes a man recoil with moral shame from committing immoral deeds. A person, who has *hirī*, recoils from evil just as a cock's feather shrinks in front of fire.

"To be ashamed of what one ought to be ashamed, to be ashamed of performing evil and unwholesome things: this is called moral shame." (*Puggala-paññatti*, para. 79)

*Hirī* opposes *ahirika* which would commit any evil without the least computction.

#### 4 Ottappa

Ottappa is moral dread or fear to do evil, because it is aware of the manifold evil consequences.

As *hirī* is different from ordinary shyness, *ottappa* is different from ordinary fear of an individual. A Buddhist is not expected to be afraid of any individual, even a God, for Buddhism is not based on the fear of the unknown.

"To be in dread of what one ought to be in dread, to be in dread of performing evil and unwholesome things: this is called moral dread." (*Puggala-paññatti*, para. 80)

Ottappa opposes anottappa and can drive away the latter. Hirī arises with respect to oneself whereas ottappa arises with respect to others. Suppose there is an iron rod, one end of which is heated till red-hot and the other end smeared with filth. The filthy end one would not touch owing to disgust, and the red hot end one would not touch due to dread. Hirī is compared to the former instance and ottappa to the latter instance.

*Hirī* and *ottappa* differentiates man from beast not to indulge in immoral acts such as sexual relations between mother and son or between father and daughter even at the time of very low civilization. So *hirī* and *ottappa* are known as *Lokapāla Dhamma*, i.e. the Guardian of the Worlds.

#### 5 Alobha

Non-attachment to sense-objects and greedlessness is the chief

characteristic of *alobha*. As water drops run off a lotus leaf without adhering to it, *alobha* runs off sensuous objects without adhering to them. In this sense *alobha* is like an arahat who has no *lobha* at all. When one is not attached to one's possession, one can give away money and things in charity. Here *alobha* manifests itself in the form of generosity.

Alobha is opposed to lobha and it can overcome lobha. it is one of the three roots of goods. It is a positive virtue involving active altruism.

#### 6 Adosa

Adosa is opposed to dosa and it can overcome dosa. It is not mere absence of hatred or aversion, but is a positive virtue.

Dosa has the characteristic of roughness and cruelty whereas mildness and forgiveness is the chief characteristic of *adosa*. Dosa is like an enemy whereas *adosa* is like an agreeable good friend. *Adosa* is also reflected as goodwill for its nature of kindness and helpfulness.

When *adosa* turns its attention to living beings wishing them to be happy, it is known as *mettā*, i.e. loving-kindness.

Adosa is also one of the three roots of good.

### 7 Tatramajjhattatā

The chief characteristic of *tatramajjhattatā* is impartial view of objects, i.e., 'keeping in the middle of all things'.

It is compared to a charioteer who drives two horses to run at equal pace. It also acts like the chairman of a meeting giving equal chance to its associates to act. It balances the *citta* and the mental concomitants to function together at equal pace, preventing any excessiveness or deficiency.

In the sense of equanimity, it is mostly known as upekkhā.

This *upekkhā* is the state in the middle between *karunā* (compassion) and *muditā* (sympathetic joy). It is this *upekkhā* (i.e., *tatramajjhattatā*) which is raised to the dignity of a *bojjhanga*, one of the seven factors of Enlightenment. It is different from hedonic *upekkhā* which is indifferent feeling.

### 8 & 9 Kāya-passaddhi and Citta-passaddhi

Here 'kāya' does not mean 'body'; it refers to the 'group' of mental concomitants.

Passaddhi is tranquillity, calmness, quietude or serenity.

So kāya-passaddhi is tranquillity of mental concomitants whereas *citta-passaddhi* is tranquillity of citta or consciousness.

From *passaddhi* to *ujjukatā* there are 6 pairs of *cetasikas* which go by *kāya* and *citta*. The reason they were described in pair by the Buddha is that they occur together and together they oppose their opponents.

In the case of *saddhā*, *sati*, *hirī*, etc., they are described as singles because individually they can oppose their opponents.

By *citta-passaddhi*, only *citta* is tranquil. By *kāya-passaddhi*, not only are the mental concomitants tranquil, but also the body is tranquil due to the diffusion of wholesome *cittaja-rūpa*, which is mind-produced corporeality.

*Passaddhi* has the chief characteristic of suppressing or allaying of feverishness of passions. It serves as the cool shade of a tree to a person affected by the sun's heat,

Passaddhi is opposed to kukkucca (worry). When highly developed it becomes a factor of Enlightenment (bojjhanga).

### 10 & 11 Kāya-lahutā and Citta-lahutā

Lahutā is lightness or buoyancy or agility. Suppressing the heaviness of the mental concomitants is the chief characteristic

of  $k\bar{a}ya$ -lahut $\bar{a}$ , suppressing the heaviness of the *citta* is the chief characteristic of *citta*-lahut $\bar{a}$ . It is the laying down of a heavy burden.

*Kāya-lahutā* and *citta-lahutā* are opposed to *thina* and *middha* (sloth and torpor) which cause heaviness and rigidity in mental concomitants and consciousness.

# 12 & 13 Kāya-Mudutā and Citta-Mudutā

These two *cetasikas* refer to the elasticity of mental concomitants and the elasticity of consciousness, respectively. They remove the stiffness in mind caused by immoral *cetasikas* such as *ditthi* (false view) and *māna* (conceit).

*Mudutā* is compared to a skin that is pliable because it has been well moulded by applying oil, water, etc. *Mudutā* is opposed to false view and conceit.

# 14 & 15 Kāya-kammaññatā and Citta-kammaññatā

These two *cetasikas* refer to the adaptability of mental concomitants and consciousness and the goodness in carrying out their duty.

Their chief characteristic is the suppression of unserviceableness or unworkableness of *citta* and its concomitants.

It is stated in *Atthasālini* that these two *cetasikas* produce serenity (*pasāda*) in propitious things, and are adaptable like pure gold for beneficial works.

# 16 & 17 Kāya-pāguññatā and Citta-pāguññatā

They refer to the proficiency or skillfulness of mental concomitants and consciousness in doing their work. Their chief characteristic is the suppression of sickness in the mental concomitants and in the consciousness.

# 18 & 19 Kāyujjukatā and Cittujjukatā

They refer to the uprightness or straightness in the mental concomitants and in the consciousness, respectively. Thus they are opposed to crookedness, deception and craftiness due to illusion or deceit ( $m\bar{a}y\bar{a}$ ) and treachery ( $s\bar{a}theyya$ ).

The 19 beautiful concomitants mentioned above become prominent in people who regularly perform the act of almsgiving, morality and meditation. As they associate together in all sobhaṇa cittas, they are known as sobhaṇa-sādhāraṇa cetasikas.

### **VIRATI CETASIKAS**

(Abstinences – 3)

The three *virati-cetasikas* are known as the *sīla maggangas* (morality components of the Path). They constitute the *sīla-sikkhā* (morality-training) which is the foundation of the noble Eightfold Path. They are:

- 1 Sammā-vācā right speech
- 2 Sammā-kammanta right action
- 3 Sammā-ajīva right livelihood

#### 1 Sammā-vācā

The right speech is fourfold, i.e., abstaining from:

- 1 Musavādā lying
- 2 Pisunavācā slandering
- 3 Pharusavācā harsh speech
- 4 Samphappalāpa frivolous talk

When one comes face to face with the situation to commit one of the above four false speeches, and one abstains from saying it, then one acquires  $samm\bar{a}$ - $v\bar{a}c\bar{a}$  at the instant of abstinence.

# 2 Sammā-kammanta

The right action here means the bodily action which is abstinence from:

- 1 Pānātipātā killing
- 2 Adinnādānā stealing
- 3 Kāmesu-micchācārā sexual misconduct

Again when one is in the situation about to commit one of the above immoral actions, and one abstains from committing it, then one acquires *sammā-kammanta* at the moment of abstinence.

# 3 Sammā-ājīva

The right livelihood means abstaining from a livelihood that brings harm to other beings, such as trading in arms, living beings, intoxicating drinks and poison as well as slaughtering, fishing, soldiering, deceit, treachery, soothsaying, trickery, etc.

# APPAMAÑÑĂ CETASIKAS

(Illimitable – 2)

- 1 Karunā compassion
- 2 Muditā sympathetic joy

There are four illimitable or boundless states. To mention them in the order they are usually practised, they are *mettā* (loving-kindness), *karunā* (compassion), *muditā* (sympathetic joy) and *upekkhā* (equanimity).

It has been described above that *mettā* is included in *adosa*, and *upekkhā* in *tatramajjhattatā*. So only the remaining two are described here.

In practising any one of the four illimitables, we may concentrate our attention on a single person or on all the living beings in the whole world. So they are named 'illimitable'.

#### 86 | THE ESSENCE OF BUDDHA ABHIDHAMMA

In practising loving-kindness, we meditate: "May all be happy." In cultivating compassion, we meditate: "May all be free from miseries." For exercising *muditā*, we rejoice on the prosperity of beings and meditate: "May their gain be with them for a long time". In practising *upekkhā*, we maintain a balanced mind and meditate: "All beings are as they are conditioned by their *kamma*".

Anyone who is pervading the whole world with lovingkindness, compassion, sympathetic joy or equanimity is said to be living in the 'sublime abode' or '*brahma* abode'. So the four illimitables are also known as *brahma-vihāra*, i.e., sublime modes of living.

*Mettā* is the sincere wish for the good and welfare of all. It discards illwill which is its direct enemy. Its indirect enemy is affection (*pema*). Benevolent attitude is its chief characteristic.

Karunā makes the hearts of the good quiver when others are afflicted with sorrow. The wish to remove the sufferings of others is its chief characteristic. It discards cruelty or wickedness (himsa) which is its direct enemy. Its indirect enemy is grief (domanassa).

*Muditā* is not mere sympathy but appreciative joy. Its chief characteristic is to rejoice in others' prosperity. Its direct enemy is jealousy (*issā*) and its indirect enemy is exultation (*pahāsa*). It discards dislike (*arati*).

*Upekkhā* views living beings impartially, i.e., neither with attachment nor with aversion. It is the balanced state of mind. Its direct enemy is passion ( $r\bar{a}ga$ ), and its indirect enemy is unintelligent indifference. Impartial attitude is its chief characteristic.

# PAÑÑINDRIYA

Pañña is wisdom or insight, and indriva is the controlling faculty.

Paññindriya has the control over the understanding of things as they really are, i.e., in the light of anicca (impermanence), dukkha (suffering) and anatta (not-self). Because it overcomes ignorance, it is called amoha (non-delusion or wisdom). Because it can remove the veil of moha from clouding man's mental eyes and throws away the darkness cast by moha (avijjā), it is called vijjā (higher knowledge).

Paññindriya is normally called 'paññā cetasika'. In abhidhamma, paññā, ñāṇa and amoha are synonyms. Amoha is one of the three moral roots. As one of the four means of accomplishing one's ends (iddhipāda), paññā takes the name of vimamsa (analytical wisdom).

When purified and cultivated by samādhi, paññā assumes the powerful role of abhiññā (supernormal knowledge). When highly developed, paññā becomes a factor of enlightenment (bojjhanga) under the name of dhamma-vicaya (investigation of the truth), and also a component of the Noble Eightfold Path under the name of sammā-dițțhi (right view). The culmination of paññā is the omniscience of Buddha.

# ASSOCIATION OF EACH CETASIKA WITH DIFFERENT CITTAS

In general we can say that:

- 1 The 7 sabbacitta-sādhāraņas (Essentials) associate with all cittas.
- 2 The 6 pakinnakas (Particulars) associate with certain sobhana and asobhana cittas.
- 3 The 14 akusala cetasikas (immoral) associate only with immoral cittas.

- 4 The 4 akusala sādhāraņas are linked with all immoral cittas.
- 5 The 19 sobhana sādhāraņas are linked with all sobhaņa cittas.
- 6 The remaining 6 sobhana cetasikas (beautiful ones) associate only with sobhana cittas.

For a detailed survey of the combination of each *cetasika* with different *cittas*, the chart on *Sampayoga* method (i.e., Chart No. 2 at the back of this book) should be consulted. The readings of the chart go as follows.

### UNION OF AÑÑASAMĀNA CETASIKAS

- 1 The 7 sabbacitta-sādhāraņas associate with all cittas.
- 2 Vitakka associates with 55 cittas comprising 44 kāma-cittas (the 10 dvipañca-viññāņas being excepted) and 11 firstjhāna cittas.
- 3 Vicāra associates with 66 cittas comprising 44 kama-cittas (the 10 dvipañca-viññāṇas being excepted), 11 first-jhāna cittas and 11 second-jhāna cittas.
- 4 Adhimokkha associates with 78 cittas in brief or 110 cittas in broad total with the exception of 10 dvipañca-viññāṇas and vicikicchā-sampayutta citta.
- 5 Vīriya associates with 73 cittas in brief or 105 cittas in broad total with the exception of 10 dvipañca-viññāṇas, 2 sampațicchana cittas, 3 santiraṇa cittas and 1 pañcadvārāvajjna citta.
- 6 Pīti associates with 51 somanassa-sahagata cittas comprising 4 lobha-mūla somanassa cittas, 1 somanassa-santiraņa citta, 1 hasituppāda citta, 12 kāma sobhaņa somanassa cittas, 11 first-jhāna cittas, 11 second-jhāna cittas and 11 third-jhāna cittas.

7 Chanda associates with 69 cittas in brief or 101 cittas in

broad total with the exception of 2 moha mūla cittas and 18 ahetuka cittas.

# UNION OF AKUSALA CETASIKAS

- 1 The 4 akusala sādhāraņas—namely, moha, ahirika, anottappa and uddhacca—associate with all the 12 akusala cittas.
- 2 Lobha associates with 8 lobha-mūla cittas. Diţţhi associates with 4 diţţhigata-sampayutta cittas. Māna associates with 4 diţţhigata-vippayutta cittas.
- 3 Dosa, issā, macchariya and kukkucca are associated with 2 dosa-mūla cittas.
- 4 *Thina* and *middha* are associated with 5 *akusala sasankhārika cittas*.
- 5 Vicikicchā associates with moha-mūla vicikicchā-sampayutta citta.

# UNION OF SOBHAŅA CETASIKAS

- 1 The 19 sobhaņa-sādhāraņa cetasikas associate with all the sobhaņa cittas numbering 59 in brief and 91 in broad total.
- 2 The 3 virati cetasikas, namely, sammā-vācā, sammā-kammanta and sammā-ājīva, associate intermittently and individually with 8 mahākusala cittas and unfailingly and unitedly with 8 lokuttara cittas.
- 3 The 2 appamaññā-cetasikas namely, karunā and muditāassociate intermittently and individually with 28 cittas comprising 8 mahākusala cittas, 8 mahākiriya cittas and 12 mahaggata cittas excluding 15 fifth-jhāna cittas.
- 4 Paññindriya, i.e., paññā-cetasika, associates with 47 cittas that comprise 12 kāma-sobhaņa ñāņa-sampayutta cittas, 27 mahaggata cittas and 8 lokuttara cittas.

# DIFFERENT COMBINATIONS OF CETASIKAS WITH DIFFERENT CITTAS

The reader is advised to consult the Cetasika Chart on *Sangaha* method (i.e., Chart No. 3 at the back of the book). The readings of the chart are described below.

### **CONCOMITANTS OF AKUSALA CITTAS**

The name of each *citta* in Pāli should be consulted before enumerating the concomitants associated with the particular *citta*.

If the citta is somanassa-sahagatam, all the 13 annasamana cetasikas will associate with the citta. If the citta is upekkhāsahagatam or domanassa-sahagatam, pīti must be excepted from the 13 annānas.

- 1 The first lobha-mūla asankhārika citta is associated with 19 cetasikas, namely, 13 aññasamāna cetasikas, 4 akusala sādhāraņa cetasikas, lobha and diţţhi.
- 2 The second lobha-mūla asankhārika citta is associated with 19 cetasikas, namely, 13 annāsamāna cetasikas, 4 akusala sādhāraņa cetasikas, lobha and māna.
- 3 The third lobha-mūla asankhārika citta is associated with 18 cetasikas, namely, 12 aññasamāna cetasikas (pīti being excepted), 4 akusala-sādhāraņa cetasikas, lobha and diţţhi.
- 4 The fourth lobha-mūla asankhārika citta is associated with 18 cetasikas, namely, 12 aññasamāna cetasikas (pīti being excepted), 4 akusala-sādhāraņa cetasikas, lobha and māna.

Note that the 4 lobha-mūla sasankhārika-cittas are associated with the same cetasikas as the corresponding asankhārika cittas plus thina and middha.

- 5 The first lobha-mūla sasankhārika citta is associated with 21 cetasikas, namely, 13 aññasamāna cetasikas, 4 akusalasādhāraņa cetasikas, lobha, dițthi, thina and middha.
- 6 The second lobha-mūla sasankhārika citta is associated with 21 cetasikas, namely, 13 aññasamāna cetasikas, 4 akusalasādhāraņa cetasikas, lobha, māna, thina, and middha.
- 7 The third lobha-mūla sasankhārika citta is associated with 20 cetasikas, namely, 12 aññasamāna cetasikas (pīti being excepted), 4 akusala-sādhāraņa cetasikas, lobha, diţţhi, thina and middha.
- 8 The fourth lobha-mūla sasankhārika citta is associated with 20 cetasikas, namely, 12 anīnasamāna cetasikas (pīti being excepted), 4 akusala-sādhāraņa cetasikas, lobha, māna, thina and middha.
- 9 The dosa-mūla asañkhārika citta is associated with 20 cetasikas namely, 12 aññasamāna cetasikas (pīti being excepted), 4 akusala-sādhāraņa cetasikas and 4 dosa-catukka cetasikas.
- 10 The dosa-mūla sasankhārika citta is associated with 22 cetasikas, namely, 12 aññasamāna cetasikas (pīti being excepted), 4 akusala-sādhāraņa cetasikas and 4 dosa-catukka cetasikas, thina and middha.
- 11 The moha-mūla vicikicchā-sampayutta citta is associated with 15 cetasikas, namely, 10 aññasamāna cetasikas (adhimokkha, pīti and chanda being excepted), 4 akusala sādhāraņa cetasikas and vicikicchā.
- 12 The moha-mūla uddhacca-sampayutta citta is associated with 15 cetasikas, namely, 11 aññasamāna cetasikas (pīti and chanda being excepted) and 4 akusala-sādhāraņa cetasikas.
# CONCOMITANTS OF AHETUKA CITTAS

- 1 The 10 dvipañca-viññāņa cittas are associated with only 7 sabbacitta-sādhāraņa cetasikas.
- 2 The somanassa-santiraņa citta is associated with 11 aññasamāna-cetasikas (vīriya and chanda being excepted).
- 3 The manodvārāvajjana-citta is associated with 11 aññasamāna cetasikas, (pīti and chanda being excepted).
- 4 The hasituppāda citta is associated with 12 aññasamāna cetasikas (chanda being excepted).
- 5 The pañcadvārāvajjana-citta, the 2 sampațicchana cittas and the 2 upekkhā-santiraņa cittas are each associated with 10 aññasamāna cetasikas (vīriya, pīti and chanda being excepted).

## **CONCOMITANTS OF MAHĀKUSALA CITTAS**

- 1 The first pair of mahākusala cittas is each associated with 38 cetasikas, namely, 13 aññasamāna cetasikas and 25 sobhaņa cetasikas.
- 2 The second pair of *mahākusala cittas* is each associated with 37 *cetasikas*, namely, 13 *aññasamāna cetasikas* and 24 *sobhaņa cetasikas* (*paññā* being excepted)
- 3 The third pair of *mahākusala cittas* is each associated with 37 *cetasikas*, namely, 12 *aññasamāna cetasikas* (*pīti* being excepted) and 25 *sobhaņa cetasikas*.
- 4 The fourth pair of mahākusala cittas is each associated with 36 cetasikas, namely, 12 aññasamāna cetasikas (pīti being excepted) and 24 sobhaņa cetasikas (paññā being excepted).

Note that *thina* and *middha*, being immoral *cetasikas*, do not associate with *sasankhārika sobhaņa cittas*. Thus the concomitants

associated with the *asaṅkhārika* and the *sasaṅkhārika* in each pair are the same; the difference in intensity of the two *cittas* is due to the difference in strength of the two *cetanās*.

# CONCOMITANTS OF MAHĀVIPĀKA CITTAS

The *vipāka-cittas*, being the resultants of past *kamma*, do not perform any meritorious deed. Thus they are not associated with the 3 *virati cetasikas* and the 2 *appamaññā cetasikas* as these *cetasikas* give rise to meritorious deeds.

- The first pair of mahā-vipāka cittas is each associated with 33 cetasikas, namely, 13 aññasamāna cetasikas and 20 sobhaņa cetasikas (viratis and appamaññās being excepted).
- The second pair of mahā-vipāka cittas is each associated with 32 cetasikas, namely, 13 aññasamāna cetasikas and 19 sobhaņa sādhāraņa cetasikas.
- 3 The third pair of mahā-vipāka cittas is each associated with 32 cetasikas, namely, 12 aññasamāna cetasikas (pīti being excepted) and 20 sobhaņa cetasikas (viratis and appamaññās being excepted).
- 4 The fourth pair of mahā-vipāka cittas is each associated with 31 cetasikas, namely, 12 aññasamāna cetasikas (pīti being excepted) and 19 sobhaņa-sādhāraņa cetasikas.

# CONCOMITANTS OF MAHĀKIRIYA CITTAS

The three virati cetasikas, being kusala-dhamma, do not associate with mahākiriya cittas which are avyākata-dhammas (avyākata – kammically neutral).

The two appamaññā cetasikas, however, associate with mahākiriya cittas, because arahats meditate on karunā and muditā.

#### 94 | THE ESSENCE OF BUDDHA ABHIDHAMMA

- 1 The first pair of *mahākiriya cittas* are each associated with 35 cetasikas, namely, 13 aññasamāna cetasikas and 22 sobhaņa-cetasikas (viratis being excepted).
- 2 The second pair of *mahākiriya cittas* are each associated with 34 *cetasikas*, namely, 13 *aññasamāna cetasikas* and 21 *sobhaņa-cetasikas* (*viratis* and *paññā* being excepted).
- 3 The third pair of mahākiriya cittas are each associated with 34 cetasikas, namely, 12 aññasamāna cetasikas (pīti being excepted) and 22 sobhaņa-cetasikas (viratis being excepted).
- 4 The fourth pair of *mahākiriya cittas* are each associated with 33 *cetasikas*, namely, 12 *aññasamāna cetasikas* (*pīti* being excepted) and 21 *sobhaņa-cetasikas* (*viratis* and *paññā* being excepted).

### **CONCOMITANTS OF MAHAGGATA CITTAS**

In enumerating the *cetasikas* which associate with *mahaggata cittas*, the *jhāna* factors must be taken into consideration: *vitakka* is eliminated starting from the second *jhāna*, *vicāra* from the third *jhāna*, and *pīti* from the fourth *jhāna*. In the fifth *jhāna*, by substituting *upekkhā* for *sukha*, there is no change in the number of *cetasikas*, because both *upekkhā* and *sukha* represent *vedanā cetasika*.

Furthermore the three *virati cetasikas* do not associate with *mahaggata cittas*, because these *cittas* concentrate on *patibhāganimita* of *kasiņa*, etc., and as such they cannot take the objects connected with the three *viratis*.

*Karunā* and *muditā* may associate with the first to the fourth *jhānas*, because these *jhānas* can be developed by meditating on *karunā* or *muditā*. In the fifth *jhāna* the concentration is on *upekkhā*, so both *karunā* and *muditā* should be eliminated.

1 1

- 1 The 3 first-*jhāna mahaggata cittas* are each associated with 35 cetasikas, namely, 13 aññasamāna cetasikas and 22 sobhaņa cetasikas (viratis being excepted).
- 2 The 3 second-*jhāna mahaggata cittas* are each associated with 34 *cetasikas*, namely, 12 *aññasamāna cetasikas* (*vitakka* being excepted) and 22 *sobhaņa cetasikas* (*viratis* being excepted).
- 3 The 3 third-jhāna mahaggata cittas are each associated with 33 cetasikas – namely, 11 aññasamāna cetasikas (vitakka and vicāra being excepted) and 22 sobhaņa cetasikas (viratis being excepted).
- 4 The 3 fourth-*jhāna mahaggata cittas* are each associated with 32 *cetasikas*, namely, 10 *aññasamāna cetasikas* (vitakka, vicāra and pīti being excepted) and 22 sobhaņa cetasikas (viratis being excepted).
- 5 The 15 fifth-*jhāna mahaggata cittas* are each associated with 30 *cetasikas*, namely, 10 *aññasamāna cetasikas* (vitakka, vicāra and pīti being excepted) and 20 sobhaņa cetasikas (viratis and appamaññās being excepted).

# CONCOMITANTS OF LOKUTTARA CITTAS

The 40 *lokuttara cittas* are also *jhāna cittas*; so the *jhāna*-factors should be eliminated as mentioned above.

The three *virati cetasikas*, being factors of the noble Eightfold Path, associate collectively with all the *lokuttara cittas*.

The two appamaññā cetasikas, however, do not associate with lokuttara cittas which concentrate on Nibbāna and as such cannot take the objects connected with karunā and muditā.

1 The 8 first-*jhāna lokuttara cittas* are each associated with 36 cetasikas, namely, 13 aññasamāna cetasikas and 23 sobhaņa cetasikas (appamaññās being excepted).

#### 96 | THE ESSENCE OF BUDDHA ABHIDHAMMA

- 2 The 8 second-jhāna lokuttara cittas are each associated with 35 cetasikas, namely, 12 aññasamāna cetasikas (vitakka being excepted) and 23 sobhaņa cetasikas (appamaññās being excepted).
- 3 The 8 third-jhāna lokuttara cittas are each associated with 34 cetasikas – namely, 11 aññasamāna cetasikas (vitakka and vicāra being excepted) and 23 sobhaņa cetasikas (appamaññās being excepted).
- 4 The 8 fourth-*jhāna lokuttara cittas* are each associated with 33 cetasikas, namely, 10 aññasamāna cetasikas (vitakka, vicāra and pīti being excepted) and 23 sobhaņa cetasikas (appamaññās being excepted).
- 5 The 8 fifth-jhāna lokuttara cittas are also each associated with 33 cetasikas, namely, 10 añfiasamāna cetasikas (vitakka, vicāra and pīti being excepted) and 23 sobhaņa cetasikas (appamafīfiās being excepted).

# NIYATA-YOGĪS AND ANIYATA-YOGĪS

Of the 52 *cetasikas*, 41 are called *niyata-yogīs* (fixed *cetasikas*) and the remaining 11 are called *aniyata-yogīs* (unfixed *cetasikas*).

*Niyata-yogīs* invariably associate with the *cittas* with which they are known to associate. *Aniyata-yogīs* do not always associate with the *cittas* they are known to associate; they arise only when they should.

The 11 aniyata-yogī cetasikas are: issā, macchariya, kukkucca, māna, thina, middha, three viratis and two appamanīnās. The ways they associate with cittas will be described below.

1 Though it is mentioned in Chart No. 3 that *issā*, macchariya and kukkucca associate with the two dosa-mūla cittas, they do not arise whenever dosa-mūla citta arises. Issā arises only when one envies others' success or prosperity; otherwise it does not. When issā arises, macchariya and kukkucca do not arise. Macchariya arises only when one conceals one's property or when one feels stingy; otherwise it does not. When macchariya arises, issā and kukkucca do not arise. Kukkucca arises only when one is grieving over the evil that is done or over the good that is not done; otherwise it does not. When kukkucca arises issā and macchariya do not arise. So issā, macchariya and kukkucca do not arise simultaneously; they arise separately and only when the conditions are met with. This way of association by cetasikas is known as nānā-kadāci.

- 2 Although *māna* is said to associate with the four *lobha-mūla dițțhigata-vipayutta cittas*, it arises only when one thinks highly of oneself or having a low opinion of others. It does not arise when one is having no conceit.
- 3 Although *thina* and *middha* are said to associate with the five *akusala-sasankhārika cittas*, they associate with these *cittas* only when these *cittas* and their concomitants are dull, inert and morbid; otherwise they do not arise.
- 4 The three virati cetasikas, namely, sammā-vācā, sammākammanta and sammā-ājīva, also arise in the nānā-kadāci way. Sammā-vācā arises only when one is abstaining from false speech; otherwise it does not. Sammā-kammanta arises only when one is abstaining from wrong action; otherwise it does not. Sammā-ājīva arises only when one is abstaining from false livelihood; otherwise it does not.
- 5 The two *appamaññā cetasikas*, namely, *karunā* and *muditā*, also arise in the *nānā-kadāci* way. *Karunā* arises only when

one is having compassion for someone; otherwise it does not. *Muditā* arises only when one is rejoicing over someone's success or prosperity; otherwise it does not.

### APPLICATIONS

1 A man is angry because the food served by his wife is not good. What is the type of this man's *citta* and what are the *cetasikas* that associate with that *citta*?

Since the man is angry, he is having dosa-mūla citta. The name of this citta is "Domananassa-sahagatam patighasampayuttam asankhārika citta".

The cetasikas that associate with this cittas are 12 aññasamāna cetasikas (pīti being excepted), 4 akusalasādhāraņa cetasikas and dosa. Issā, macchariya and kukkucca do not associate with this citta.

2 One feels bad because another person gets a better job than oneself. What is the type of this *citta* and what are its concomitants?

The name of the *citta* is the same as above. But now one is envying another's success, so *issā* will also associate with the *citta* in addition to 17 *cetasikas* mentioned above.

3 One feels uneasy because one does not want to share one's office with a new comer. What is the type of this *citta* and what are the *cetasikas* that associate with the *citta*?

Again the citta is "domanassa-sahagatam paṭigha sampayuttam asaṅkkhārika dosa-mūla citta".

The cetasikas that associate with this citta are 12 aññasamāna cetasikas (pīti being excepted), 4 akusala-sādhāraņa cetasikas, dosa and macchariya (total – 18) 4 A lady is paying homage to a pagoda with joy and with knowledge of *kamma*. What are her *citta* and the concomitants associated with it?

Her citta is 'somanassa-sahagatam näna-sampayuttam asankhārika mahākusala citta'.

The cetasikas associated with the citta are 13 aññasamāna cetasikas, 19 sobhaņa-sādhāraņa cetasikas and paññindriya (Viratis and appamanññās do not associate with this citta).

5 A little girl unwillingly admits to her mother that she has taken 5 kyats from the mother's purse; she has no joy and no knowledge of *kamma* at that instant. What are her *citta* and the *cetasikas* associated with it?

The girl's citta is "upekkhā-sahagatam ñāṇa-vipayuttam sasankhārika mahākusala citta".

The cetasikas are 12 aññasamāna cetasikas (pīti being excepted) 19 sobhaņa-sādhāraņa cetasikas and sammā-vācā (total – 32).

6 On knowing *kamma* and its result, a fisherman stops fishing for his livelihood, though reluctantly. What are his *citta* and the concomitants?

His citta is 'upekkhā-sahagatam ñāņa-sampayuttam sasankhārika mahākusala citta'.

The cetasikas are 12 aññasamāna cetasikas (pīti being excepted), 19 sobhaņa-sādhāraņa cetasikas, paññindriya and sammā-ājīva (total – 33).

7 A child feels pity for a dog which has been hit by a car. The child has no joy and no knowledge of *kamma* at the time.

So the child's citta is 'upekkhā-sahagatam nāņa-vippayuttam asankhārika mahākusala citta'. The cetasikas associated with the citta are 12 aññasamāna cetasikas (pīti being excepted), 19 sobhaņasādhāraņa cetasikas and karunā (total - 32).

8 A father gladly congratulates his son for the son's success in the examination. The father does not think of *kamma* and its result at that instant.

So the father's citta is 'somanassa-sahagatam nānavippayuttam asankhārika mahākusala citta.'

The cetasikas are 13 aññasamāna cetasikas, 19 sobhaņasādhāraņa cetasikas and muditā (total – 33).

9 A man is being absorbed in the fourth *jhāna* by meditating on the *pațibhāga-nimitta* of *pathavī kasina*. What are the names of the *citta* and the concomitants associated with the *citta*? The *citta* is '*rūpāvacara* fourth-*jhāna kusalacitta*.' It may be also called '*sukh'ekaggatā sahitam catutthajjhāna kusala citta*'.

The cetasikas associated with the citta are 10 aññasamāna cetasikas (vitakka, vicāra and pīti being excepted), 19 sobhaņa-sādhāraņa cetasikas and paññindriya (total – 30).

10 What are the *cetasikas* that associate with the *sotāpattiphala citta* which is accompanied by the first *jhāna*?

The cetasikas are 13 aññasamāna cetasikas, 19 sobhaņasādhāraņa cetasikas, 3 virati cetasikas and paññindriya (total – 36).

#### DOING THE IMPOSSIBLE

In *Abhidhamma*, the Buddha has analysed the mind to its ultimate components called *citta* and *cetasikas*. These components are the ultimate realities known as *paramatthas*. They are so subtle that

they have no form and shape and thus they cannot be seen even under the most powerful electronic microscope.

We now know that *citta* is an ultimate entity with the characteristic of awareness of an object. The 52 *cetasikas* are also different ultimate entities with different characteristics. By the various but systematic combinations of *cetasikas* with *citta*, 89 types of consciousness in brief or 121 types of consciousness in broad total come into existence.

The original *citta* is like a glass of pure water. When a drop of red ink is added to the water, the whole glass of water becomes red. When a drop of black ink is added, the whole mass of water becomes black. In the same way when the *citta* is associated with immoral *cetasikas*, the whole mass – i.e. the mind – becomes immoral and ugly. When the *citta* is associated with beautiful *cetasikas*, the mind becomes beautiful and wholesome.

Now the combination of *cittas* and *cetasikas* arise and dissolve at a tremendous speed—more than one thousand billion times per eye-wink as stated in the *Abhidhamma* commentary. How can one know the components of these rapidly changing combinations?

For illustration, let us take a cup of water from a river. Would it be possible to differentiate the water drops from different rivulets and streams that have flown into the river? This job would be much easier compared to the analysis of the invisible and rapidly changing combinations of *cittas* and *cetasikas*.

So the Buddha has done the impossible in the ultimate analysis of the mind. Now, it may be asked: "What is the purpose of this analysis?"

It is done for the sake of seeing things as they truly are in the ultimate sense. If one can see the functions of these ultimate 102 | THE ESSENCE OF BUDDHA ABHIDHAMMA

things, one can understand that there is no self nor soul nor person, and thus can discard the false view of 'personality-belief' (*sakkāya-dițțhi*). If he proceeds on the Noble Path he will soon realize *Nibbāna*.

Now another question: "Can these combinations of *cittas* and *cetasikas* be seen and differentiated as they dissolve as soon as they arise?" The answer is "yes". How can we see?

We have to develop our concentration (*samādhi*) first. When accompanied by *upacāra samādhi* or *jhāna samādhi*, the inner mind (*mano-viñīnāņa*) can see the combinations of *cittas* and *cetasikas* and analyse them.

The methods of analysis are described in the Buddhist cannons such as *Samyutta Nikāya* (2, 12), *Samādhi Sutta, Visuddhi Magga* (2, 222), *Bodhipakkhiya Dīpanī* and *Kammaţhan Kyangyi* by the Ledi Sayadaw of Myanmar, etc. These methods are being practised successfully in certain meditation centers in Myanmar such as International Buddha Sāsana Centres (Pa-auk Tawya Meditation Centres).

So Abhidhamma knowledge is neither speculative knowledge nor higher knowledge for knowledge sake. Abhidhamma knowledge is to be learned, digested and practised for the sake of enlightenment and liberation from all miseries.

# Chapter 3 **PAKIŅŅAKA** Miscellaneous Section

We have seen that *citta* and 52 *cetasikas* are 53 different ultimate entities with different but definite characteristics. Their classifications according to feeling, roots, function, doors, objects and bases will be dealt with in this chapter.

The title of this chapter 'Pakinnaka' means 'Miscellaneous or Mixed'. We shall also see the inter-relations between  $n\bar{a}ma$  and  $r\bar{u}pa$  (mind and matter) in this chapter.

## VEDANĀ SAŅGAHA

'Sangaha' means 'summary'. Here *cittas* and *cetasikas* will be compiled briefly in accordance with feeling (*vedanā*).

First, feeling is classified in two ways.

- A Classification according to sense objects:
- 1 Sukha vedanā pleasant feeling experienced when in contact with agreeable objects.
- 2 *Dukkha vedanā* painful feeling experienced when in contact with disagreeable objects.
- 3 *Upekkhā vedanā* indifferent feeling or neutral feeling which is neither pleasurable nor painful. It is experienced when in contact with neither agreeable nor disagreeable objects.

#### 104 | THE ESSENCE OF BUDDHA ABHIDHAMMA

- B Classification according to Indriya (Faculty):
- 1 Somanassa vedanā pleasant feeling in mind
- 2 Domanassa vedanā painful feeling in mind
- 3 Sukha vedanā pleasant feeling in body
- 4 Dukkha vedanā painful feeling in body
- 5 Upekkhā vedanā indifferent or neutral feeling

In classification (A) *sukha* implies pleasant feeling either in mind or in body while *dukkha* implies painful feeling either in mind or in body.

In classification (B) *sukha* is divided into *somanassa* and *sukha* whereas *dukkha* is divided into *domanassa* and *dukkha*. So it should be noted that the feelings in the mind and the feelings in the body are different and that a person can be happy even if his body is in pain.

## **CLASSIFICATION OF CITTAS ACCORDING TO FEELING**

In the Chart of Cittas, *cittas* are designated with five kinds of symbols according to the five types of feeling. And in Table 1.1 (page 58) we have already classified the *cittas* in accordance with the five types of feeling.

By looking at the table, the following statements can be made.

- 1 Sukha vedanā is associated with only one citta namely, ahetuka kusala-vipāka sukha-sahagatam kāya-viñīnāņa citta.
- 2 Dukkha vedanā is also associated with only one citta namely, akusala-vipāka dukkha-sahagatam kāya-viņīnāņa citta.
- 3 Domanassa vedanā is associated with two dosa-mūla cittas.
- Somanassa vedanā is associated with 62 cittas namely, 18 kāma-somanassa cittas, 12 mahaggata somanassa cittas and 32 lokuttara somanassa cittas.

5 Upekkhā vedanā is associated with 55 cittas – namely, 32 kāma-upekkhā cittas, 15 mahaggata upekkhā cittas and 8 lokuttara upekkhā cittas.

#### Note:

The above classification of *cittas* may be assumed to include the classification of *cetasikas* according to feeling as well. The reason is that the *cetasikas* that associate with the *sukhasahagatam citta* will also be associated with *sukha vedanã*, the *cetasikas* that associate with the *dukkha-sahagatam citta* will also be associated with *dukkha vedanã*, the *cetasikas* that associate with the *domanassa citta* will also be associated with *domanassa vedanã*, and so on.

### HETU SANGAHA

Here *cittas* and *cetasikas* will be compiled briefly according to *hetu* (roots).

There are 6 types of hetu or roots:

- 1 Akusala hetu (3) lobha, dosa, moha
- 2 Kusala hetu (3) alobha, adosa, amoha
- 3 Avyākata hetu (3) alobha, adosa, amoha

Akusala hetu are the roots that associate with akusala cittas. Kusala hetu are the roots which associate with kusala cittas. Avyākata hetu are the roots which associate with vipāka cittas and kiriya cittas. The avyākata roots are the same as the kusala roots.

'Avyākata' means 'indeterminate' i.e., neither determined as kammically 'wholesome' nor as 'unwholesome'. Vipāka cittas and kiriya cittas together with their concomitants are termed as avyākata, because they are kammically neutral.

## CLASSIFICATIONS OF CITTAS ACCORDING TO ROOTS

- 1 Ahetuka cittas cittas without roots (18). They are 7 akusala-vipāka cittas, 8 ahetuka-kusala-vipāka cittas and 3 ahetuka-kiriya cittas.
- 2 Sahetuka cittas cittas with roots (71). These cittas are further divided as follows:
  - a Ekahetuka cittas cittas with one root (1). They are the 2 moha-mūla cittas which have only moha as root.
  - b Dvihetuka cittas cittas with two roots (22). They are
    8 lobha-mūla cittas containing lobha and moha as roots,
    2 dosa-mūla cittas containing dosa and moha as roots and 12 kāma-sobhana ñāņa-vipayutta cittas containing alobha and adosa as roots.
  - c Tihetuka cittas cittas with three roots (47). They are 12 kāma-sobhaņa ñāņa-sampayutta cittas, 27 mahaggata cittas and 8 lokuttara cittas. These cittas have alobha, adosa and amoha as roots.

#### Note:

The *cetasikas* associated with the respective *cittas* will belong to the same class as the *cittas*. Readers may refer to the Chart on Hetuka (Chart No. 4.1) attached at the back for a quick review of the classification based on *hetu*.

### **KICCA SANGAHA**

Here *cittas* and *cetasikas* will be compiled briefly according to their functions (*kicca*).

There are 14 kinds of functions performed by various *cittas*. It is remarkable to note that every *citta* performs at least one type of function.

- 1 *Pațisandhi-kicca* rebirth function or linking the past life with the present life
- 2 *Bhavanga-kicca* life-continuum or to continue the formation of life-stream incessantly till death
- 3 *Avajjana-kicca* apprehending or to advert consciousness towards the object
- 4 Dassana-kicca seeing the object
- 5 Savana-kicca hearing the sound
- 6 Ghāyana-kicca smelling the object
- 7 *Sāyana-kicca* tasting the object
- 8 Phusana-kicca touching the object
- 9 Sampaticchana-kicca receiving the object
- 10 Santirana-kicca investigating the object
- 11 Votthapana-kicca determining the object
- 12 Javana-kicca apperceiving or enjoying the taste of the object
- 13 Tadālambaņa-kicca registering or to continue enjoying the taste of the object
- 14 Cuti-kicca death function

### THE CITTAS PERFORMING THE RESPECTIVE FUNCTIONS

Please refer to Chart No. 4.2 at the back for a quick view of the *cittas* performing their respective functions.

1 There are 19 cittas which perform rebirth function. They are 2 upekkhā-santiraņa cittas, 8 mahā-vipāka cittas and 9 mahaggata-vipāka cittas.

These cittas are known as 'rebirth consciousness' (patisandhi-cittas) while they perform rebirth function.

2 There are 19 *cittas* which perform life-continuum process. They are the same as the 19 *pațisandhi-cittas*. They are known as *bhavanga-cittas* (sub-consciousness) while they perform the life-continuum process.

- 3 There are 2 cittas which perform the avajjana-kicca. They are pañca-dvārāvajjana citta and mano-dvārāvajjana citta.
- 4 There are 2 *cittas* which perform the seeing function. They are *dvi-cakkhuviññāna cittas*.
- 5 There are 2 *cittas* which perform the hearing function. The are *dvi-sotaviñňāņa cittas*.
- 6 There are 2 *cittas* which perform the smelling function. They are *dvi-ghānaviññāṇa cittas*.
- 7 There are 2 *cittas* which perform the tasting function. They are *dvi-jivhāviānāņa cittas*.
- 8 There are 2 *cittas* which perform the touching function. They are *dvi-kāyaviññāņa cittas*.
- 9 There are 2 *cittas* which perform the receiving function. They are *dvi-sampațicchana cittas*.
- 10 There are 3 *cittas* which perform the investigation function. They are the three *santirana cittas*.
- 11 There is 1 *citta* which performs the *voțthapana-kicca* (determining function). It is *mano-dvārāvajjana citta*.
- 12 There are 55 cittas which perform the javana-kicca. They are 12 akusala cittas, 21 kusala cittas, 4 phala-ñāṇa cittas and 18 kiriya cittas ( the two avajjana-cittas being excepted). These cittas can easily be remembered by the phrase: 'ku-ku-kri-phala'.

Kāma-javana cittas (29) — 12 akusala cittas + 8 mahākusala cittas + 8 mahā-kiriya cittas + 1 hasittupāda cittas.

Appana-javana cittas (26) — 9 mahaggata kusala cittas + 9 mahaggata kiriya cittas + 4 magga-ñāņa cittas + 4 phalañāņa cittas.

- 13 There are 11 cittas which perform tadālambana-kicca (registering function). They are 3 santiraņa cittas and 8 mahā-vipāka cittas.
- 14 There are 19 cittas which perform cuti-kicca (death function). They are 2 upekkhā-santiraņa cittas, 8 mahāvipāka cittas and 9 mahaggata-vipāka cittas.

### For Cross-examination

- There are 68 cittas which perform a single function each. They are 10 dvi-pañcaviññāna cittas, 3 manodhātu cittas and 55 javana-cittas. Manodhātu cittas consist of pañcadvārāvajjana citta and 2 sampațicchana cittas.
- 2 There are 2 cittas which perform two functions. They are somanassa-santiraņa citta and mano-dvārāvajjana citta.
- 3 There are 9 *cittas* which perform three functions. They are the 9 *mahaggata-vipāka cittas* that perform *pațisandhi-, bhavanga-* and *cuti-kiccas*.
- 4 There are 8 cittas which perform 4 functions. They are the 8 mahāvipāka-cittas that perform paţisandhi-, bhavanga-, cuti-, and tadālambaņa-kiccas.
- 5 There are 2 cittas which perform 5 functions. They are the 2 upekkhā-santiraņa cittas that perform paţisandhi-, bhavanga-, cuti-, santiraņa- and tadālambaņa-kiccas.

# ŢHĀNA

'*Thāna*' means 'functioning place'. As we need a place or office to carry out a particular job, so *cittas* need places to perform their functions. It is the body-substance of each *citta* which serves as the place of performing its function.

The 'body-substance of each *citta*' refers to the *citta* itself. So the place of function of each *citta* is the same as the *citta*. There are 10 *thānas* because 5 related functions (i.e., 5 senseimpressions) are performed in turn in a single *thāna* called *'pañcaviñnāna thāna'*.

The ten thanas are:

- 1 Pațisandhi-țhāna 19 pațisandhi cittas
- 2 Bhavanga-thāna 19 bhavanga cittas
- 3 Avajjana-thāna 2 avajjana cittas
- 4 Pañca-viññāna-țhāna 10 dvi-pañcaviññāņa cittas
- 5 Sampaticchana-thāna 2 sampaticchana cittas
- 6 Santiraņa-ţhāna 3 santiraņa cittas
- 7 Votthapana-thāna mano-dvārāvajjana cittas
- 8 Javana-thāna 55 javana cittas
- 9 Tadālambaņa-thāna 11 tadālambaņa cittas
- 10 Cuti-țhāna 19 cuti cittas

# DVĀRA SAŅGAHA

Here *cittas* and *cetasikas* will be compiled briefly based on the six sense-doors.

'Dvāra' means 'door'. There are six doors in our body through which outside senses can enter.

- 1 Cakkhu-dvāra eye-door (cakkhu-pasāda)
- 2 Sota-dvāra ear-door (sota-pasāda)
- 3 Ghāna-dvāra nose-door (ghāna-pasāda)
- 4 Jivhā-dvāra tongue-door (jivhā-pasāda)
- 5 Kāya-dvāra body-door (kāya-pasāda)
- 6 Mano-dvāra mind-door (19 bhavanga-cittas)

#### Note:

The names in brackets described the essential element of each door. '*Pasāda*' is 'sensitive corporeality' at which the sense impression takes place.

http://www.dhammadownload.com

The first five *dvāras* are *rūpa-dvāras* whereas the sixth door is a *nāma-dvāra*.

### THE CITTAS IN EACH DOOR

a a i

1

Readers may refer to Chart No. 4.3 at the back for a quick overview.

Forty-six cittas arise at the eye-door:		
а	pañca-dvārāvajjana (apprehending)	1
b	cakkhu-viññāṇa (seeing)	2
с	sampațicchana (receiving)	2
d	santiraņa (investigating)	3
е	voțțhapana or	
	mano-dvārāvajjana (determing)	1
f	kāma-javana (apperceiving)	29
g	tadālambaņa (registering)	8
		<del></del>
	Total	46

#### Note:

Of the 11 tadālambaņa cittas, 3 santiraņas are already counted in 1(d). So only the 8 mahāvipāka cittas are counted in 1(g).

- 2 Forty-six cittas arise at the ear-door. The cittas are as in (1)—just change cakkhu-viññāņa to sota-viññāņa.
- 3 Forty-six cittas arise at the nose-door. The cittas are as in (1)—ghāna-viñňāņa is substituted for cakkhu-viñňāņa.
- Forty-six cittas arise at the tongue-door.
   The cittas are as in (1)—jivhā-viññāņa is substituted for cakkhu-viññāņa.

5	Forty-six cittas arise at the body-door.
	The cittas are as in (1)—kāya-viññāṇa is substituted for
	cakkhu-viññāṇa.

- 6 Sixty-seven *cittas* arise at the mind door:
  - amano-dvārāvajjana<br/>(Apprehending and determining)1bkāma-javana (apperceiving)55ctadālambaṇa (registering)11

Total 67

#### Notes:

- 1 The total number of cittas that arise at the five pañcadvāras or rūpa-dvāras is 54, namely, pañca-dvārāvajjana 1, dvi-pañca-viññāņa 10, sampaţicchana 2, santiraņa 3, voţtapana or mano-dvārāvajjana 1, kāma-javana 29 and tadālambaņa 8. These are the 54 kāmāvacara cittas.
- 2 The *cittas* that can arise at the five doors are *pañcadvārāvajjana* and 2 *sampaţicchana cittas*, these 3 *cittas* being collectively known as *mano-dhātu* (mind-elements).
- 3 The cittas that always arise at the 6 doors are somanassasantiraņa, mano-dvārāvajjana and 29 kāma-javana cittas (total - 31).
- 4 The *cittas* that sometimes arise at the 6 doors and sometimes do not arise at the 6 doors are 2 *upekkhāsantiraņa cittas* and 8 *mahā-vipāka cittas* (total – 10).
- 5 The cittas that always arise without a door are 9 mahaggata-vipāka cittas.
- 6 The 19 pațisandhi-cittas, the 19 bhavanga-cittas and the 19 cuti-cittas are called dvāravimutti (i.e., door-freed) because:

- i they do not arise in any of the sense doors such as eye-door, etc.,
- ii *bhavanga cittas* themselves serve as the mind-door, and
- iii they exist without receiving any new external object pertaining to the present life.

### ALAMBANA SANGAHA

كأدهر

Alambana or ārammana means sense-object. Cittas and cetasikas will be compiled briefly here in accordance with the six sense-objects.

- 1 Rūpa-rammaņa visible object (rūpa or vaņņa)
- 2 Saddā-rammaņa sound (sadda)
- 3 Gandhā-rammaņa smell (gandha)
- 4 Rasā-rammaņa taste (rasa)
- 5 Phoțthabbā-rammaņa tangible object (pathavī, vayo and tejo)
- 6 Dhammā-rammaņa mind-object.

The mind-object is sixfold: (i) 5 pasāda rūpas (sensitive parts of organs), (ii) 16 sukhuma rūpas (subtle matter), (iii) 89 cittas (consciousness), (iv) 52 cetasikas (mental concomitants), (v) Nibbāna and (vi) concepts such as kasiņa nimitta. The mind-object cannot arise at the five pañca-dvāras, but it can arise in the mind door.

#### Note:

The names in brackets for the first five senses are the essential elements of the senses. For the mind-object, the sixfold objects mentioned above are the essential elements.

### CITTAS AND SENSE-OBJECTS ACCORDING TO DOORS

- 1 The 46 *cittas* that arise at the eye-door are known as *cakkhu-dvārika cittas;* they are aware of the present visible object only.
- 2 The 46 *cittas* that arise at the ear-door are known as *sotadvārika cittas*; they are aware of the present sound only.
- 3 The 46 *cittas* that arise at the nose-door are known as *ghāna-dvārika cittas*; they are aware of the present smell only.
- 4 The 46 *cittas* that arise at the tongue-door are known as *jivhā-dvārika cittas*; they are aware of the present taste only.
- 5 The 46 *cittas* that arise at the body-door are known as *kāya-dvārika cittas*; they are aware of the present tangible object only.
- 6 The 67 *cittas* that arise at the mind-door are known as *mano-dvārika cittas*, they are aware of all the six sense-objects, which may be present, past, future or independent of time.

### INDIVIDUAL CITTAS AND SENSE-OBJECTS

Please refer to chart no. 5.1 at the back of this book for a quick review.

 Cakkhu-viññāņa-dvi are aware of the present visible object only.
 Sota-viññāņa-dvi are aware of present sound only.
 Ghāna-viññāņa-dvi are aware of present smell only.
 Jivhā-viññāņa-dvi are aware of present taste only.
 Kāya-viññāņa-dvi are aware of present tangible object only.

- 2. The 3 mano-dhātu (panca-dvārāvajjana and sampaţichannadvi) are aware of the above five senses pertaining to the present.
- 3 The 11 tadālambaņa and hasituppāda are aware of six kāmaobjects comprising 54 kāma-cittas, 52 kāma-cetasikas and 28 types of rūpa.
- 4 The 12 akusala cittas, the 4 ñāṇa-vipayutta mahā-kusala cittas and the 4 ñāṇa-vipayutta mahā-kiriya cittas are aware of six lokiya (mundane) sense-objects comprising 81 lokiya cittas, 52 lokiya cetasikas, 28 types of rūpa and concepts.
- 5 The 4 *ñāṇasampayutta mahā-kusala cittas* and *rūpa-kusala abhiññāṇa* are aware of all six sense-objects except *arahatta magga* and *phala*. These objects comprises 87 *cittas* (*arahatta magga* and *phala* being excepted), 52 *cetasikas* associated with the 87 *cittas*, 28 types of *rūpa*, concepts and *Nibbāna*.
- 6 The 4 *nānasampayutta mahā-kiriya cittas, kiriya abhinīnāna* and *mano-dvārāvajjana citta* are aware of all the six senseobjects comprising 89 *cittas,* 52 *cetasikas,* 28 types of *rūpa,* concepts and *Nibbāna.*
- 7 The 15 *rūpavacara cittas*, with the exception of *abhiññāņadvi*, have concepts as their objects.
- 8 The 3 *ākāsānañcāyatana cittas* and the 3 *ākincaññāyatana cittas* have *ākāsa* (infinite space) and *ākincañña* (nothingness) respectively as their objects.
- 9 The 3 viññānañcāyatana cittas and the 3 neva-saññānāsaññāyatana cittas have ākāsānañcāyatana kusala/kiriya citta and ākincaññāyatana kusala/kiriya citta respectively as their objects.
- 10 The 8 lokuttara cittas have Nibbāna as their object.

11 The 19 paţisandhi-cittas, the 19 bhavanga-cittas and the 19 cuti-cittas have maranāsafifia-nimitta as their object. This nimitta may be in the form of 'kamma', 'sign of kamma' or 'sign of destiny'.

# VATTHU SANGAHA

'*Vatthu*' means 'physical base' depending on which the various *cittas* and the associated *cetasikas* arise. There are six such physical bases.

- 1 Cakkhu-vatthu cakkhu-pasāda (eye sense-organ)
- 2 Sota-vatthu sota-pasāda (ear sense-organ)
- 3 Ghāna-vatthu ghāna-pasāda (nose sense-organ)
- 4 Jivhā-vatthu jivhā-pasāda (tongue sense-organ)
- 5 Kāya-vatthu kāya-pasāda (body sense-organ)
- 6 Hadaya-vatthu physical base that exist in the blood of the heart (heart-base)

Thus the first five physical bases are the five sense-organs whereas the sixth is the heart-base.

There is a simile of 'striking a match'. The match is the striking element, the rough surface of the match-box is the receiving element, and the flame is the resultant element. Now the flame does not exist anywhere before striking the match. When the conditions for its arising are fulfilled, the flame arises.

In the same way the visible object is the striking element, the sense-organ is the receiving element, and the eye-consciousness is the resultant element. The eye-consciousness does not exist before or after the contact between the visible object and the sense-organ; it arises just at the time of contact. Now the eye-organ, i.e., *cakkhu-pasāda*, is the door through which the visible object enters the mind. So *cakkhu-pasāda* is called *cakkhu-dvāra*, i.e., the eye-door.

Then the eye-consciousness together with its seven concomitants arise at the point of contact, i.e., on *cakkhu-pasāda* depending on *cakkhu-pasāda* as the physical base. Thus *cakkhu-pasāda* is also known as *cakkhu-vatthu*.

The same thing is true for the other four sense-organs or pasāda rūpas.

### VATTHU AND BHŪMI

'Bhūmi' means 'plane of existence'.

- 1 In the eleven *kāma*-planes, i.e., the sense-sphere, all the six bases (*vatthu*) exist.
- In the fine-material sphere (*rūpa-loka*) only three physical bases, namely, *cakkhu-vatthu*, *sota-vatthu* and *hadaya-vatthu* exist. During the *samatha-bhavanā* (tranquillity-meditation), to enter the *rūpa jhāna*, the meditator has to eliminate the enjoyment of sensual pleasure by controlling his mind not to wander around sense objects. So when the *jhāna-kusala kamma* conditions him to be reborn in the *rūpa-loka*, he is not endowed with *ghāna-vatthu*, *jivhā-vatthu* and *kāya-vatthu* as no enjoyment of sensual pleasure exists there. Brahmas are happy with *jhāna-sukha*. However, they need eyes to see the Buddha, ears to listen to the Dhamma and *hadaya-vatthu* for the arising of *mano-viññāņa cittas* and the associated concomitants.
- 3 In the immaterial sphere (arūpa-loka) no vatthus exist because no corporeality exists there – again due to the meditation power of samatha-bhāvanā to enter arūpa-jhānas.

#### 118 The Essence of Buddha Abhidhamma



## VIÑÑÂŅA-DHĀTU

'Viñfiāņa' means 'citta' (consciousness) whereas 'dhātu' means 'element' or that which carries its own characteristic mark. The cittas as dhātu or elements, are divided into 7 classes.

- Cakkhu-viññāņa-dhātu 2 eye-consciousness
   They depend on cakkhu-vatthu for their arising.
- Sota-viññāṇa-dhātu 2 ear-consciousness
   They depend on sota-vatthu for their arising.
- 3 Ghāna-viññāna-dhātu 2 nose-consciousness They depend on ghana-vatthu for their arising.
- 4 Jivhā-viññāṇa-dhātu 2 tongue-consciousness They depend on *jivhā-vatthu* for their arising.
- Kāya-viññāṇa-dhātu 2 body-consciousness
  Kāya-viññāṇa-dhātu 2 body-consciousness
  They depend on kāya-vatthu for their arising
  Mano-dhātu Pañca-dvārāvajjana and sampaṭicchanadvi
  They depend on hadaya-vatthu for their arising.
  Mano-viññāṇa-dhātu the remaining 76 cittas
  They depend on hadaya-vatthu for their arising.

# CLASSIFICATION OF CITTAS ACCORDING TO VATTHU

Please refer to Chart No. 5.2 at the back of this book for a quick review.

- 1 There are 10 cittas which always depend on pañcavatthu (cakkhu-vatthu, sota-vatthu, ghāna-vatthu, jivhā-vatthu, kāyavatthu) for their arising. They are dvi-pañca-viññāna – i.e., the ten sense-impressions.
- 2 There are 33 cittas which always depend on hadaya-vatthu for their arising. They are 2 dosa-mūla cittas, 3 mano-dhātu cittas, 3 santiraņa cittas, hasituppāda cittas, 8 mahā-vipāka cittas, 15 rūpāvacara cittas and 1 sotāpatti-magga citta.

3 There are 42 cittas which sometimes depend on vatthu and sometimes do not depend on vatthu for their arising. They are 10 akusala cittas (2 dosa-mūla cittas being excepted), 8 mahā-kusala cittas, 8 mahā-kiriya cittas, 4 arūpāvacara kusala cittas, 4 arūpāvacara kiriya cittas, 7 lokuttara cittas (sotāpatti-magga being excepted) and manodvārāvajjana citta.

These *cittas* depend on *vatthu* when they arise in the material spheres ( $k\bar{a}ma$ -planes and  $r\bar{u}pa$ -planes), and they do not depend on *vatthu* when they arise in the immaterial sphere ( $ar\bar{u}pa$ -planes).

4 There are 4 *cittas* which never depend on *vatthu* for their arising. They are 4 *arūpāvacara vipāka cittas* which arise only in the *arūpa*-planes.

Note:

There are 46 *cittas* (as mentioned in no. 3 and 4 above) which arise in the *arūpa*-planes.

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# <sup>Chapter 4</sup> **VĪTHI** Cognitive Series

#### **PROCESS OF CONSCIOUSNESS**

'*Vīthi*' means a chain of consciousness or cognitive series that arises when a sense object appears at one of the sense-doors in order to be aware of the object.)

As the road passes one village after another without skipping any nor changing the order of the villages, so also the *cittas* (consciousness) arise one after another in the order they should according to the law of *cittas* (*citta-niyāma*).

### THE LIFE-SPAN OF CITTA

*Cittas* arise and dissolve in a person at a tremendous rate of more than a thousand billion  $(10^{12})$  times per eye-wink, and there are about 250 eye-winks in a second. So the life-span of a *citta* (consciousness) is less than one-thousand billionth of a second.

The life-span or duration of a *citta* is measured by three short instants of the distinct features in the arising and passing away of a *citta*. These are:

- 1. Uppāda the genetic instant
- 2. Thīti the existing instant
- 3. Bhanga the dissolving instant

These three short instants (*khaṇas*) are said to be equal to one moment of consciousness or conscious-moment (*cittakkhaṇa*).

So the life-time of a *citta* is equal to the three short instants of arising, existing and dissolving of the *citta* or it is equal to one conscious-moment or one *cittakkhana*. One *cittakkhana* is better represented by 'one conscious-moment' rather than 'a thoughtmoment' which is coined by some translators.

The duration of one *cittakkhana* (i.e., one conscious-moment) will be hard to be verified by science. But we ourselves know from experience that it is possible within one single second to dream of innumerable things and events.

#### THE LIFE-SPAN OF RUPA

The life-span of  $r\bar{u}pa$  or corporeality is 17 times longer than that of *citta*. So we can say that the life-span of  $r\bar{u}pa$  is equal to 17 *cittakkhaṇas* or 17 conscious-moments or 17 x 3 = 51 short instants as there are 3 short instants in a moment of consciousness.

Thus  $r\bar{u}pa$  also arises and dissolves at a tremendous rate of more than 58 billion times per second. The difference between *citta* and  $r\bar{u}pa$  is that *citta* arises one after another whereas  $r\bar{u}pa$ arises by thousands of units at a small instant and it goes on arising incessantly at every small instant. Therefore  $r\bar{u}pa$  may be piled up to large masses which are visible to the naked eye whereas the fleeting stream of consciousness is invisible to the naked eye.

### SIX TYPES OF VIÑÑÁŅA

*Viññāņa cittas* (consciousness) may be classified as follows according to the six sense-doors and the six physical-bases (*vatthu*):

- 1 Cakkhu-viññāna 2 eye-consciousness
- 2 Sota-viññāņa 2 ear-consciousness

 $\sum_{i=1}^{n} (x_{i}, y_{i})$ 

- 3 Ghāna-viñnāna 2 nose-consciousness
- 4 Jivhā-viññāņa 2 tongue-consciousness
- 5 Kāya-viññāņa 2 body-consciousness
- 6 Mano-viññāņa 79 mind-consciousness

Please note that eye-consciousness arises at the eye-door depending on the eye-base (*vatthu*) and so on. The mind-consciousness arises at the mind-door depending on the *hadaya-vatthu* in the heart.

The first five *viññāṇas* comprise 2 sense-impressions each whereas *mano-viññāṇa* comprises 79 types of consciousness.

# SIX TYPES OF VĪTHI

*Vīthi* or the cognitive series of consciousness is also divided into six classes which may be named according to either the six sense-doors or the six types of *viññāņa* as follows:

- Cakkhu-dvāra-vīthi = cakkhu-viññāṇa-vīthi
   It is the cognitive series of consciousness connected with the eye-door or with the eye-consciousness.
- 2 Sota-dvāra-vīthi = sota-viñnāņa-vīthi
   It is the cognitive series of consciousness connected with the ear-door or with the ear-consciousness.
- 3 Ghāna-dvāra-vīthi = Ghāna-viññāņa-vīthi It is the cognitive series of consciousness connected with the nose-door or with the nose-consciousness.
- Jivhā-dvāra-vīthi = Jivhā-viññāņa-vīthi
   It is the cognitive series of consciousness connected with the tongue-door or with the tongue-consciousness.
- 5 Kāya-dvāra-vīthi = Kāya-viññāņa-vīthi
   It is the cognitive series of consciousness connected with the body-door or with the body-consciousness.

6 Mano-dvāra-vīthi = Mano-viññāņa-vīthi It is the cognitive series of consciousness connected with the mind-door or with the mind-consciousness.

# THE CAUSES FOR THE ARISING OF VITHI

- 1 Four conditions must meet for the arising of *cakkhu-dvāravīthi*. These are:
  - i Cakkhu-pasāda (eye-door) must be good,
  - ii Rūpā-rammaņa (visible-object) must be present,
  - iii Aloka (light) must be present, and
  - iv Manasikāra (attention) must be present.
- 2 Four conditions must meet for the arising of *sota-dvāravīthi*. They are:
  - i Sota-pasāda (ear-door) must be good,
  - ii Saddā-rammaņa (sound) must be present,
  - iii *Ākāsa* (space) for the passing of sound must be present,
  - iv Manasikāra (attention) must be present.
- 3 Four conditions must meet for the arising of *ghāna-dvāravīthi*. They are:
  - i Ghāna-pasāda (nose-door) must be good,
  - ii Gandhā-rammaņa (smell) must be present,
  - iii Vāyo (air-element that carries smell) must be present,
  - iv Manasikāra (attention) must be present.
- 4 Four conditions must meet for the arising of *jivhā-dvāravīthi*. They are:
  - i Jivhā-pasāda (tongue-door) must be good.
  - ii Rasā-rammaņa (taste) must be present,
  - iii Āpo (liquid-element such as saliva) must be present,

- iv Manasikāra (attention) must be present.
- 5 Four conditions must meet for the arising of *kāya-dvāravīthi*. They are:
  - i Kāya-pasāda (body-door) must be good,
  - ii Phoțțhabbā-rammaņa (touch) must be present,
  - iii *Thaddha-pathavī* (firm solid element) must be present for transmittance of the touch,
  - iv Manasikāra (attention) must be present.
- 6 Four conditions must meet for the arising of *mano-dvāravīthi*. They are:
  - i Mano-dvāra (mind-door) must be present,
  - ii Dhammā-rammaņa (mind-object) must be present,
  - iii Hadaya-vatthu (heart-base) must be present,
  - iv Manasikāra (attention) must be present.

#### Note:

Of the four causes which are required for the arising of each type of *vīthi*, the first three more or less parallel the requirements known by science. The fourth cause, i.e., *manasikāra*, is unknown in science. But many instances may be quoted that this cause is indispensable for the awareness of a sense-object.

For illustration, a mother with a young baby has to get up several times every night to nurse her baby. After losing sleep for several nights, she may, sometimes, fall so soundly asleep that even a loud thunder that shakes the house may not awake her. Yet, if her baby cries very softly, she will be immediately awake. This illustrates how important *manasikāra* is.

### SIX TYPES OF VISAYAPPAVATTI

'Visayappavatti' means 'the presentation of sense-objects at the sense-doors'. There are six types of visayappavatti – four at the five sense-doors and two at the mind-door.

- a *Visayappavatti at Pañca-dvāras* (Presentation of sense-objects at the five sense-doors)
  - Atimahantā-rammaņa
     5 sense-objects with very great intensity causing a very long cognitive series of consciousness to arise.
  - 2 Mahantā-rammaņa
     5 sense-objects with great intensity causing a long cognitive series of consciousness to rise.
  - 3 Parittā-rammaņa
    5 sense-objects with slight intensity causing a short cognitive series of consciousness to arise.
  - 4 Atiparittā-rammaņa
    5 sense-objects with very slight intensity causing no cognitive series to arise.
- b Visayappavatti at Mano-dvāra
  - 1 *Vibhūtā-rammaņa* clear presentation of sense objects.
  - 2 Avibhūtā-rammaņa obscure presentation of sense objects.

# **VĪTHI-CITTAS AND VĪTHI-VIMUTTI CITTAS**

(Vīthi-consciousness and Vīthi-freed consciousness)

Those *cittas* which participate in the cognitive series of consciousness are called *vīthi-cittas*.

Those *cittas* which do not participate in the cognitive series of consciousness are called *vīthi-vimutti cittas*.

The 19 cittas namely, 2 upekkhā-santiraņa cittas, 8 mahā-vipāka cittas and 9 mahaggata-vipāka cittas, are not involved in the cognitive series while they are performing rebirth-function, life-continuum function or death-function. So they are known as vīthi-vimutti cittas, i.e., the number of vīthi-freed consciousness is 19 (that these 19 cittas are dvāra-vimutti, i.e., door-freed, has been mentioned in Chapter III.).

Of the above 19 cittas, the 2 upekkhā-santiraņa cittas are involved in the cognitive series when they perform the investigating function or the registering function, and 8 mahāvipāka cittas take part in the cognitive series when they perform the registering function. So these 10 cittas must be included in counting  $v\bar{t}hi$ -cittas. Since only the 9 mahaggata-vipāka cittas are totally free from the cognitive series, the total number of  $v\bar{t}hi$ cittas is 89–9 = 80.

#### THREE TYPES OF IDENTICAL CITTAS

The life of a living being begins with a rebirth consciousness (*pațisandhi-citta*). After the dissolution of this consciousness, *bhavanga cittas* (life-continuum) arise and dissolve continuously till death performing the function of life-continuum.

The last *bhavanga-citta* is known as death consciousness (*cuti-citta*), because it performs death-function.

For a living being, these three *cittas*, namely, the *pațisandhicitta*, the *bhavanga-citta* and the *cuti-citta* are the same in *jāti* (birth), in concomitants and in the sense-object they take. For normal human beings, one of the 8 *mahā-vipāka cittas* functions as *pațisandhi-citta*, *bhavanga-citta* and *cuti-citta*. These three *cittas* are identical in a person, because they are the resultants of the same 'kamma' associated with a kusala citta. If the kusala cittas is
'somanassa-sahagatam nāna-sampayuttam asankhārika mahā-kusala citta', then 'somanassa-sahagatam nāna-sampayuttam asankhārika mahā-vipāka citta will function as pațisandhi-citta, bhavanga-citta and cuti-citta.

The sense-object that these *cittas* take is the *maranāsanna-nimitta* which appeared just before death in the immediate past life. The *nimitta* is in the form of *'kamma'*, *'sign* of *kamma'* or *'sign* of destiny'. These phenomena will be explained further below.

## **MARAŅĀSANNA NIMITTA**

#### (Kamma-related Objects at the Dying Moments)

In the present life a person will be alive as long as the *kusala-kamma* (wholesome deed), which has given him rebirth in this life, keeps on supporting him, i.e., keeps on producing *bhavanga cittas* (life continuum) as *kamma*-resultant.

Just before that supporting *kamma* fades out, of the many *kusala-kammas* and *akusala-kammas* which compete with one another to have the chance of bearing *kamma*-resultant, one *kamma* will emerge as the winner.

This successful *kamma* may appear in the life-continuum (mind-door) of the person as *kamma*-object. When this happens the person may recollect the good or bad action which he has performed in the past in connection with the successful *kamma*. The moral or immoral consciousness, experienced at that particular moment, arises now as a fresh consciousness.

In other words, it is a recurring of the consciousness which one has experienced in performing the action.

At times it may be a sign or symbol associated with the successful *kamma* that appears at one of the sense-doors. It may be one of the five physical objects viewed through one of the five

doors as a present object, or viewed through the mind-door as a past object. This past or present object associated with the successful *kamma* is called *'kamma-nimitta'* or *'sign* of *kamma'*.

For example, let us suppose that a person listens to the Dhamma at his dying moment and this good *kamma* becomes the successful *kamma* to bear *kamma*-resultant for the next life. In this case, the present audible Dhamma words grasped through the ear becomes the '*kamma-nimitta*'.

In another case, let us suppose that a dying teacher sees through his mental eye (*mano-viññāṇa*) the students he has taught. This is also 'kamma-nimitta' in the form of a past object which appears at the mind-door.

Or say, in another case, a dying butcher hears the groans of the cattle he has killed. This past audible object is also '*kammanimitta*' presented to him through the mind-door.

At times some symbol of the place in which he is to be reborn according to the successful *kamma* may appear at the mind-door.

For example, celestial beings or celestial mansions, etc., may appear to the dying person if he is to be reborn in one of the celestial abodes, or miserable people in hell or hellhounds, etc., may appear to him if he is to be reborn in hell. These objects related to the place of rebirth are known as 'gati-nimitta' or 'sign of destiny'.

Thus, when a person is dying, one of the three types of maranāsanna-nimitta, namely, 'kamma', 'kamma-nimitta' or 'gatinimitta', will always appear at one of the six sense-doors. The person will die soon after and will be reborn in the next life. Then his pațisandhi-citta, bhavanga-citta and cuti-citta in the new life will all grasp the maranāsanna-nimitta of the past life.

## THREE TYPES OF BHAVANGA CITTAS

In the present life the *bhavanga cittas* take the *maranāsanna-nimitta* of the immediate past life as their object. As this object is not the new external object that appears in one of the sense doors in the present life that gives rise to a cognitive series of consciousness, we are not aware of it. So when we are asleep or when we do not know anything, these *bhavanga-cittas* will be arising and dissolving at a tremendous speed of more than a thousand billion  $(10^{12})$  times per eye-wink.

Now suppose that a sense-object appears at one of the sensedoors. It is necessary to know this new object so that we can react to it as the need arises. In order to turn the stream of consciousness towards this new object, the stream of *bhavangacittas* must be arrested or cut off first.

The *bhavanga*-stream cannot be arrested suddenly as soon as the new sense object appears in one of the sense-doors. As a man, running very fast, cannot stop suddenly at a point and at least a few steps must be allowed before he comes to rest, so also two *bhavanga-cittas* must pass after the appearance of the sense-object before the *bhavanga*-stream can be arrested.

These two *bhavanga-cittas*, in trying to give away the old *maranāsanna-nimitta* and take the new sense-object, vibrate somewhat from their normal situation. So they are known as vibrating life-continuum (*bhavanga-calāna*). But, as the *bhavanga-stream* is arrested or cut off after the second *bhavanga-calāna*, this *citta* is renamed as *bhavangupaccheda*.

Now the five physical sense-objects do not appear or become distinct at the sense-doors as soon as they are in contact with the sense-doors. Even the object of very great intensity (atimahantā-rammaṇa) takes one conscious-moment (cittakkhaṇa) to develop itself into prominence so as to appear at the sensedoor.

So one *bhavanga-citta* must pass from the time of contact of the sense-object with the sense-door to the time the object appears at the door. This *citta* is called *atīta-bhavanga* (past life-continuum).

When the sense object is of great intensity (mahantārammaṇa), 2 or 3 bhavaṅga-cittas must pass by from the time of contact of the sense-object with the sense-door to the time the object appears at the door. These 2 or 3 bhavaṅga-cittas are also called atīta-bhavaṅga.

Thus we have 3 kinds of bhavanga-cittas:

- 1 Atītā-bhavanga those bhavanga-cittas which pass by from the time the sense-object strikes the sense-door to the time the object appears at the door.
- 2 *Bhavanga-calāna* vibrating *bhavanga* which arises when the sense object appears at the door.
- 3 Bhavangupaccheda arresting bhavanga that follows the bhavanga-calāna. After this, the bhavanga-stream is cut off and vīthi-citta starts arising.

# CAKKHU-DVĀRA VĪTHIS

(Cognitive Series at the Eye-door)

# 1 THE OCCURRENCE OF ATIMAHANTĂ-RAMMAŅA VĪTHI

When a visible object of very great intensity strikes the eye-door, *atimahantā-rammaņa vīthi* arises. The cognitive series may be represented by the following symbols:



#### **EXPLANATION**

Bha: *bhavanga* – life-continuum

At first there is a stream of *bhavanga cittas* (lifecontinuum) (the small circles represent three small instants that make up a *cittakkhana*).

- Ti: atīta-bhavanga past bhavanga
  At the arising, instant of this citta, the visible object
  and the cakkhu-pasāda arise simultaneously. This is the
  arising instant (uppāda) of rūpārammaņa (visible object).
- Na: bhavanga-calāna vibrating life-continuum At the arising instant of this citta, rūpā-rammaņa appears (becomes distinct) at cakkhu-pasāda (eye-door) Note that atimahantārammaņa takes one cittakkhaņa for its full development after uppāda.
- Da: bhavangupaccheda arresting life-continuum Bhavanga-stream is cut off after the dissolution of this citta.
- Pa: pañca-dvārāvajjana five-door-adverting consciousness It is always the first citta in the cognitive series of pañcadvāra vīthis. It adverts the consciousness stream towards the sense-door.
- Ca: cakkhu-viññāna eye consciousness It sees the visible object. It makes the sense impression

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and transmits the impression to the next consciousness before it dissolves.

Sam: *sampaticchana* – receiving consciousness It receives the visible object together with the sense impression and relays them to the next consciousness.

- Na: santiraņa investigating consciousness It investigates the object and the impression.
- Vo: voțțhapana (mano-dvārāvajjana) determining consciousness

It determines whether the object is good or bad.

- Ja: javana impulsive consciousness enjoying the taste of the sense object
   One of the 29 kāma-javana cittas, as conditioned by manasikāra and voļthapana, arises mostly seven times, i.e., it runs for seven conscious moments.
- Da: tadālambaņa registering consciousness
  - It immediately follows *javana* and runs for two conscious moments enjoying the taste of the senseobject. At the dissolving instant of the second *tadālambaņa citta*, the visible object and the *cakkhupasāda* dissolve together because their life-time of 17 conscious moments is now complete.
- Bha: *bhavanga* life-continuum Since the visible object no longer exists, the cognitive series ends and the consciousness stream sinks into life-continuum (subconsciousness).

Note:

The atimahantā-rammaņa vīthi is also known as "tadālambaņavāra vīthi" as it terminates with tadālambaņa-citta.

# 2 THE OCCURRENCE OF MAHANTA-RAMMANA VITHI

When a visible object of fairly great intensity strikes the eyedoor, two *mahantā-rammaṇa vīthis* may arise. The cognitive series may be represented as follows.



## **EXPLANATION**

A In the first mahantā-rammaņa vīthi the sense-object and the cakkhu-pasāda (eye-door) arise (uppāda) together at the arising instant of the first atīta bhavanga. The sense-object takes two consciousness moments (Ti-Ti) for its full development and it becomes distinct at the mind-door at the arising-instant of bhavanga-calāna (Na).

Then the life-continuum (*bhavanga*) vibrates for 2 conscious moments (Na-Da) and becomes arrested or cut off at the dissolving instant of *bhavangu-paccheda* (Da). Then the cognitive series proceeds as follows:

Pa: *Pañca-dvārāvajjana* – five-door-adverting consciousness It adverts the consciousness-stream towards the senseobject.

#### Ca: Cakkhu-viññāņa – eye-consciousness

It sees the object and makes the sense-impression.

Sam: sampațicchana - receiving consciousness

It receives the object together with the sense impression.

- Na: Santiraņa investigating consciousness It investigates the object and the impression.
- Vo: Votthapana determining consciousness It determines whether the object is good or bad.
- Javana impulsive consciousness
  One of the 29 kāma-javana cittas arises seven times enjoying the taste of the sense-object.

So far 16 conscious-moments have elapsed since the genesis of the sense-object at the eye-door, and only one conscious-moment is left before the object dissolves. So two *tadālambaņa cittas* (registering consciousness) can no longer arise. (*Tadālambaņa arises* only in *ati-mahantā-rammaṇa*). One *bhavaṅga citta* arise instead, and the sense-object and the *cakkhu-pasāda*, which have arisen together, dissolve together at the dissolving instant of that *bhavaṅga citta*. After that the life-continuum flows on as usual.

B In the second mahantā-rammaņa vīthi, the intensity of the sense-object is a little weaker than the intensity of the object in (1). So after the genesis of the sense-object at the eyedoor, three atīta-bhavanga cittas pass by before the object becomes well developed and distinct at the eyedoor. Then the life-continuum vibrates and becomes arrested (Na-Da). After that the cognitive series proceeds as in (1), i.e., in the order of pañca-dvārāvajjana, cakkhu-viññāna, sampaticchana, santiraņa, voţthapana and seven javanas. At the dissolving instant of the seventh javana the object and the cakkhu-pasāda (eye-door) also dissolve. So the cognitive series terminates and life-continuum proceeds as usual.

Thus there are two *mahantā-rammaņa vīthis* which end with *javana-citta*; they are known as *javana-vāra vīthis*.

3 THE OCCURRENCE OF PARITTĀ-RAMMAŅA VĪTHI When a visible object of slight intensity strikes the eye-door, parittā-rammana vīthi arises. The cognitive series may be represented as follows.





#### **EXPLANATION**

a In the first parittā-rammaņa vīthi, the sense object and the cakkhu-pasāda (eye-door) arise together at the arising instant of the first atīta-bhavaṅga. The sense-object takes 4 conscious moments for its full development and it becomes distinct at the arising instant of bhavaṅga-calāna (Na). The life-continuum (bhavaṅga-stream) vibrates twice and becomes arrested (Na-Da). Then the cognitive series proceeds in the order of pañca-dvārāvajjana, cakkhu-viñīnāṇa, sampațicchana, santiraṇa and voțțhapana. At this point, 11 conscious moments have elapsed since the genesis of the sense-object and the object can last for only 6 more conscious-moments.

In normal situations, the *javana* usually occurs for 7 conscious-moments and if there is no enough time, it does not occur at all. In other words, as the object is not distinct and not known precisely, no *javana* arises to enjoy the taste of the object.

So two more *voțțhapana cittas* arise in place of *javana* to determine two more times whether the object is good or bad. After that the conscious-stream sinks into life-continuum. The sense-object and the eye-door dissolve at the dissolving instant of the fourth *bhavanga*, and life-continuum flows on as usual after that.

b-f In the next five successive *vīthis*, *atīta-bhavanga* (Ti) is increased one by one as the object becomes weaker and weaker, and accordingly the *cittas* in the rear have to be cut off one by one as the total conscious-moments cannot exceed the life-span (i.e., 17 conscious – moments) of the senseobject. Thus at the sixth *vīthi*, the cognitive series terminates after to *voţthapana cittas*.

The number of *voțțhapana cittas* cannot be reduced further as there must be at least two *voțțhapana cittas* in functioning in the place of *javana*. So there are 6 *parittārammaņa vīthis* which all end with *voțțhapana*; they are known as *voțțhapana-vāra vīthis*. As there are no *javanas* in these *vīthis*, there is no enjoyment of the taste of the senseobject. The object is not precisely known—it seems to be known very roughly. These *vīthis* occur in babies whose *cakkhu-pasāda* is weak; so, even when the sense-object is of great intensity, its appearance is not distinct.

## 4. THE OCCURRENCE OF ATIPARITTĀ-RAMMAŅA-VĪTHI

When a visible object of very slight intensity strikes the eye-door, the object takes 10 to 15 conscious-moments for its full development. Even then, the intensity of the object is so slight that it causes the life-continuum to only vibrate twice without becoming arrested. So no *vīthi-cittas* arise, and the object is not known at all. However, the following six *vīthi*-forms can be written to represent the *ati-parittā-rammaņa vīthis*.

#### A "Ti-Ti-Ti-Ti-Ti-Ti-Ti-Ti-Ti-Na-Na-Bha-Bha-

		Bha-Bha-Bha"
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Ϋ́	1	$\mathbf{v}$

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VITHI - Cognitive Series | 139

R "Ti-Ti-Ti-Ti-Ti-Ti-Ti-Ti-Ti-Ti-Na-Na-Bha-Bha-Bha-Bha"... oòo "Ti-Ti-Ti-Ti-Ti-Ti-Ti-Ti-Ti-Ti-Na-Na-Bha-С Bha-Bha" n "Ti-Ti-Ti-Ti-Ti-Ti-Ti-Ti-Ti-Ti-Ti-Ai-Na-Na-Bha-Bha"... E "Ti-Ti-Ti-Ti-Ti-Ti-Ti-Ti-Ti-Ti-Ti-Na-Na-Bha"... F Na" Bha... 000

#### **EXPLANATION**

As usual the sense-object and the *cakkhu-pasāda* (mind-door) arise together at the arising instant of the first *atīta-bhavaṅga*. The senseobject, being of very slight intensity, takes 10 to 15 conscious moments for its full development. When it is well developed, it appears at the mind-door. But, being very weak, it can cause the life-continuum only to vibrate twice without breaking the stream of the life-continuum. Thus, after two *bhavaṅga-calāna cittas*, only *bhavaṅga-cittas* keep on flowing. The sense-object and the *cakkhu*- pasāda (mind-door) will dissolve together at the end of 17 conscious-moments after their genesis.

The object is not known at all as no *vīthi-cittas* arise. Because these *vīthis* are deprived of *vīthi-cittas*, they are known as *"mogha-vāra-vīthis"* (futile cognitive series).

# 75 PAÑCADVÄRA-VĪTHIS

In the process of cognition at the eye-door, there are:

- 1 one tadarammaņa-vāra vīthi for atimahantā-rammaņa,
- 2 two javana-vāra vīthis for mahantā-rammaņa,
- 3 six voțthapana-vāra vīthis for parittā-rammaņa,
- 4 six mogha-vāra vīthis for atiparittā-rammaņa,

All together there are  $15 v\bar{v}this$  at the eye-door. Similarly, there are  $15 v\bar{v}this$  each at the ear-door, at the nose-door, at the tonguedoor and at the body-door. Thus the total number of *pañca-dvāra-vithis* at the five doors is  $15 \times 5 = 75$ .

In writing the *vīthi*-forms and explaining the forms for the ear-door, *sota-viñiñāņa* (So) should be inserted in place of *cakkhuviññāṇa*, and 'sound' and '*sota-pasāda*' should replace 'visibleobject' and '*cakkhu-pasāda*', respectively. Similar proper changes should be made for the remaining three doors.

## THE SIMILE OF A MANGO-FRUIT

The *atimahantā-rammaņa* may be compared with the falling of a mango-fruit. Suppose a weary traveler is asleep at the foot of a mango-tree. This state of being asleep is analogous to the quiet flow of life-continuum in *atimahantā-rammaņa*.

Now a ripe mango-fruit drops to the ground near the traveler. This event is similar to the striking of a visible object of very great intensity at the eye-door.

The sound of the mango-fruit striking the ground awakens the traveler and causes him to raise his head. This event is similar to the appearance of the visible object at the eye-door causing the life-continuum to vibrate twice and become arrested.

The traveler opens his eyes and looks around to enquire what causes the sound. This conduct is similar to the *paficadvāra-vajjana* adverting the consciousness-stream towards the sense-object.

The traveler sees the mango-fruit. This is analogous to the eye-consciousness seeing the object. The man picks up the mango-fruit. This is similar to the *sampaticchana* receiving the visible object.

The man then inspects the mango-fruit whether it is suitable for eating. This is similar to the *santīraņa* investigating the senseobject.

The man decides that the mango-fruit is good and edible. This is similar to the *votthapana* deciding that the sense-object is good.

Being hungry, the man bites the mango-fruit seven times eating and enjoying the taste. This is similar to the occurrence of seven *javana-cittas* enjoying the taste of the sense-object.

Then the man gathers the remnants of the fruit and the juice sticking on the teeth with his tongue and swallows twice. This is similar to the two *tadālambaņa cittas* following *javanas* and enjoying the taste of the sense-object.

Then the man lies down and falls asleep. This is similar to *bhavanga cittas* sinking into life-continuum.

# **PAÑCADVĀRA-VĪTHI CITTAS**

If we examine the *pañcadvāra vīthis*, we shall notice that seven types of consciousness participate in the *vīthis*. The seven types of consciousness are:

"Pañca-dvārāvajjana, pañca-vinnana, sampațicchana, santīraņa, voțțhapana, javana and tadālambaņa".

The numbers of *cittas* that participate in the longest *vīthi*: i.e., the *atimahantā-rammaņa vīthi*, are:

a	pañca-dvārāvajjana	1
b	pañca-viññāṇa	1
с	sampaticchana	1
d	santīraņa	1
е	voțțhapana	1
f	javanas	7
g	tadālambaņas	2
	total	

The total number of *cittas* that can participate in the *pañcadvāra vīthis* are:

а	pañca-dvārāvajjana citta	1	
b	pañca-viññāṇa cittas	-	
	(10 sense-impressions)	10	for five doors
с	sampațicchana cittas	2	
d	santīraņa cittas	3	
е	voțțhapana citta		
	(mano-dvārāvajjana)	1	
f	kāma-javana cittas	29	
g	tadālambaņa cittas	8	
	total	54	

These are the 54 kāmāvacara cittas. If we count the cittas for a single door, e.g. eye-door, we get two cakkhu-viññāņa cittas instead of 10 pañca-viññāņa cittas in (b); so the total number of

1

*cittas* is 46. This agrees with the number shown on page 111 of Chapter III. Note that *bhavanga cittas* are not included in *vīthi cittas*.

## THE OBJECT AND THE VATTHU TAKEN BY EACH VITHI-CITTA

All the pañcadvāra-vīthi cittas grasp the present sense-object that exists at the sense-door. The pañca-viññāņa cittas are borne by pañca-vatthus, i.e. cakkhu-viññāṇa cittas are borne by cakkhu-vatthus, sota-viññāṇa cittas are borne by sota-vatthus, etc., while the manoviññāṇa cittas are borne by hadaya-vatthus.

For illustration, all the *cakkhu-dvāra-vīthi-cittas* of *atimahantārammaņa* grasp the visible object that appears at the eye-door at the arising instant of *bhavaṅga-calāna* and dissolves at the dissolving instant of the second *tadālambaṇa citta*.

The two cakkhu-viññāṇa cittas are borne by the cakkhu-vatthu (cakkhu-pasāda) which has arisen together with the visual object at the arising instant of the atīta-bhavanga. This vatthu, which has the same life-span as the visual object, is called, "majjhimāyukavatthu'. Those vatthus, which have arisen earlier than the visual object and thus will dissolve earlier than the visual object, are known as "mandāyuka-vatthus". Those vatthus, which arise later than the visual object and thus will dissolve later than the visual object, are known as "amandāyuka-vatthus".

All the remaining pañca-dvāra-vīthi cittas are mano-viññāņa cittas; they are individually and respectively borne by the hadayavatthu which has arisen along with the preceding citta, i.e. the hadaya-vatthu which has lasted for one conscious-moment. For example, pañcadvārāvajjana is borne by the hadaya-vatthu which has arisen along with bhavanga-calāna; sampațicchana is borne by the hadaya-vatthu which has arisen along with cakkhu-viñnāṇa, santīraņa is borne by the hadaya-vatthu which has arisen along with sampațicchana, and so on.

	Kāmajavana-vāra vīthi	1. Tadālambaņa-vāra vīthi 2. Javana-vāra vīthi 3. Voṭṭhapana-vāra vīthi 4. Mogha-vāra vīthi
		Lokī-appanā vīthi
Mano-dvāra vīthi	Appanājavana-vāra vīthi	1. Rupāvacara appanā vīthi 2. Arupāvacara appanā vīthi 3. Abhiññā appanā vīthi
		Lokuttara-appanā vīthi
		1. Magga vīthi 2. Phala-samāpatti vīthi 3. Nirodha-samāpatti vīthi

# MANO-DVÁRA VĪTHI

When one of the six senses enters the avenue of the minddoor, manodvāra vīthi ensues. Manodvāra vīthi may first be divided into two classes.

- 1 *Kāmajavana-vāra vīthi*—here one of the 29 *kāma-javana cittas* takes the function of *javana*, i.e., enjoying the taste of the sense-object.
- 2 *Appanājavana-vāra vīthi* here one of the 26 *appanā-javana cittas* takes the function of *javana*.

*Kāmajavana-vāra vīthi* may further be divided into four types as described in the above scheme whereas *appanā-javana-vāra vīthi* 

may be subdivided into two types—namely, *lokī-appanā vīthi* and *lokuttara appanā vīthi*. All these *vīthis* will be explained below.

# KĀMA-JAVANA MANO-DVĀRA VĪTHIS

- 1. Ativibhūta-rammaņa vīthi (Tadālambaņa-vāra vīthi) "Na-Da-Ma-Ja-Ja-Ja-Ja-Ja-Ja-Ja-Dā-Dā"-Bha-
- 2. Vibhūtā-rammaņa vīthi (Javana-vāra vīthi) "Na-Da-Ma-Ja-Ja-Ja-Ja-Ja-Ja"-Bha-Bha-
- 3. Avibhūtā-rammaņa vīthi (Voţţhapana-vāra vīthi) "Na-Da-Ma-Ma-Ma"-Bha-Bha-
- Atiavibhūtā-rammaņa vīthi (Mogha-vāra vīthi) "Na-Na"-Bha-Bha-Bha-

## **EXPLANATION**

One of the six sense-objects which may be present, past, future or time-freed, must enter the avenue of the mind-door to initiate the *kāma-javana mano-dvāra vīthis*.

1 When the sense-object is of very great intensity, the lifecontinuum vibrates twice and becomes arrested (Na-Da) on the appearance of the sense-object at the minddoor. Then mano-dvāra-vajjana (Ma) adverts the consciousness-stream towards the sense-object, observes the object and decides whether it is good or bad.

In accordance with this decision, one of the 29 kāmajavana cittas performs the javana function for seven conscious moments enjoying the taste of the sense-object. Then two tadālambaņa cittas follow suit enjoying the taste of the sense-object further. After that, bhavanga cittas sink into life-continuum. This vīthi is known as "ativibhūtā-rammaņa vīthi" or tadālambaņa-vāra vīthi as it terminates with tadālambaņa citta.

- 2 When the sense-object is of fairly great intensity, the cognitive series occurs as above but terminates with *javana citta* without *tadālambaṇa*. This *vīthi* is known as *"vibhūtā-rammaṇa vīthi"* or *"javana-vāra vīthi"*.
- 3 In the "avibhūtā-rammaņa vīthi", the sense-object is of slight intensity and its appearance at the mind-door is not clear as in the above two cases. Thus after the lifecontinuum is arrested, mano-dvārāvajjana citta occurs three times trying to observe and decide the sense-object. But the object is not precisely known and consequently no javana cittas occur to enjoy the taste of the sense object. After mano-dvārāvajjana, bhavanga citta sinks into lifecontinuum.

This vīthi is known as "voțțhapana-vāra vīthi" as it terminates with voțțhapana citta.

4 In the *atiavibhūtā-rammaņa vīthi*, the sense-object is of very slight intensity. It can only cause the life-continuum to vibrate twice without becoming arrested. So no *vīthi cittas* occur and the sense-object is not known.

This *vīthi* is called "mogha-vāra vīthi" as it is deprived of *vīthi cittas*.

Notes:

- 1 The mind-door (*mano-dvāra*) is not a physical door; one of the 19 *bhavaṅga-cittas* is functioning as the mind-door in a person.
- 2 All the six sense-objects which may be past, present, future or time-freed, can appear at the mind-door.

- 3 As the mind-object such as *cittas*, *cetasikas*, *kasiņa-nimittas* or *Nibbāna* itself may appear at the mind-door, no *atītabhavanga* need occur; the object appears at the mind-door as soon as it strikes the door.
- 4 The objects that appear at the mind-door should not be differentiated as atimahantā-rammaņa or mahantā-rammaņa; they should be differentiated as vibhūtā-rammaņa (clear object) or avibhūtā-rammaņa (obscure object).

# KĀMA-JAVANA-MANO-DVĀRA-VĪTHI CITTAS

In mano-dvāra vīthis there are only 3 types of consciousness namely, "avajjana, javana and tadālambaņa".

The numbers of cittas in the longest mano-dvāra vīthi are: 1 mano-dvārāvajjana citta, 7 javana cittas and 2 tadālambaņa cittas, totaling 10 in all.

The number of *cittas* that can participate in *mano-dvāra vīthis* are: 1 *mano-dvārāvajjana citta*, 29 *kāma-javana cittas* and 11 *tadā-lambaņa cittas*, totaling 41 in all.

# SECONDARY MANO-DVĀRA VĪTHIS

When one of the six sense-objects enters the avenue of the minddoor directly, we get primary *mano-dvāra vīthis* as described above. But there are secondary *mano-dvāra vīthis* which follow each and everyone of the *pañca-dvāra vīthi*.

In a *pañca-dvāra vīthi*, the sense-impression is processed only to the extent to be known roughly whether it is good or bad. The form, the shape, the detailed features and the name of the object are not known yet.

Thus, after a *pañca-dvāra vīthi*, a *mano-dvāra vīthi* quickly follows it retaking the sense-object of the *pañca-dvāra vīthi* as a past object.

Then the second *mano-dvāra vīthi* follows suit observing the new image and the old impression together.

Then the third *mano-dvāra vīthi* quickly follows again observing the form and the shape of the sense-object.

Then the fourth *mano-dvāra vīthi* follows considering the name associated with the object. If necessary many *mano-dvāra vīthis* quickly occur in succession considering the features of the object in detail and also the time and the place connected with the object if he has encountered it before.

Only after these many secondary *mano-dvāra vīthis*, does one know the object together with form, shape, name and other details.

Considering the fact that *cittas* can occur at a tremendous rate of more than a thousand billion times per eye-wink and a *mano-dvāra vīthi* contains only about 10 *vīthi cittas*, more than a billion *vīthis* can occur in a fraction of a second. So we can know the objects we see or hear almost instantly and we even think that we see and hear simultaneously.

## PRACTICAL VERIFICATION

That *pañca-dvāra vīthis* and *mano-dvāra vīthis* are occurring at a tremendous rate incessantly in a person can be verified by the person himself. As *cittas* are invisible even under the best microscope, an instrument more powerful than the latest electronic microscope will be necessary to observe the *cittas*. This instrument is none other than the mind itself accompanied by *upacāra-samādhi* (neighbourhood or access-concentration) or better by *jhāna-samādhi* (meditative absorption).

I have interviewed many meditators in International Buddha Sāsana Centres (Pa-auk Tawya Meditation Centres) in Myanmar where *samatha* and *vipassanā-bhāvanā* (tranquillity and insight meditation) are properly taught according to the instructions given in Buddhist canons.

Here meditators are required to develop concentration first. After they attain the required concentration, they are taught to meditate on *rūpa* (corporeality) analysing it in detail into 27 kinds in a person so as to see the ultimate realities with regards to *rūpa*.

Then meditators are taught to meditate on *nāma* (consciousness and its concomitants). They have to focus their attention on each physical base (*vatthu*) in turn, observe a sense-object striking the base and notice the cognitive series of consciousness that arise in *pañca-dvāras* (five doors) as well as in the mind door.

They can see the *vīthi-cittas* occurring exactly as described in the book, and later on can also differentiate the various *cetasikas* associated with each *citta*. The results are very satisfactory. If the reader has some doubt, he or she is invited to come and meditate in International Buddha Sāsana Centres at any time convenient to him or her.

# APPANĀ-JAVANA MANO-DVĀRA VĪTHIS

In tranquillity and insight-meditations, *appanā-javana mano-dvāra vīthis* arise when *jhāna* or *magga* is realized. In these *vīthis*, one of the 26 *appanā-javana cittas* takes part in the *javana*-function.

rūpāvacara kusala cittas	5
arūpāvacara kusala cittas	4
mahaggata kiriya cittas	9
lokuttara cittas	8
appanā-javana cittas	26

If a person, who is not yet an *arahat*, practices tranquillity meditation, he may attain 5 *rūpāvacara kusala jhānas* and 4 *arūpāvacara kusala jhānas*, which are collectively called "9 *mahaggata kusala cittas*". If an arahat undertakes tranquillity meditation, he may attain 5 *rūpāvacara kiriya jhānas* and 4 *arūpāvacara kiriya jhānas* which are collectively called "9 *mahaggata kiriya cittas*."

If a person, endowed with three roots—namely, *alobha*, *adosa* and *amoha*—undertakes insight-meditation properly and strenuously, he may attain the four *maggas* and the four *phalas* (the four paths and their fruitions) which are known as the 8 *lokuttara cittas*.

# FIVE RŪPĀVACARA APPANĀ VĪTHIS

(Manda-paññā) Na-Da- "Ma-Pa-U-Nu-Go-Jha" -Bha-Bha-(Tikkha-paññā) Na-Da- "Ma-U-Nu-Go-Jha" -Bha-Bha

1 When the *pațibhāga-nimitta* of *kasiņa* appears at the minddoor, the life-continuum vibrates twice and becomes arrested (Na-Da). Then *mano-dvārāvajjana* (Ma) adverts the consciousness-stream towards the *pațibhāga-nimitta*, observes and decides the sense-object whether it is good or bad.

Then one of the two somanassa-sahagatam nānasampayuttam mahā-kusala cittas performs the upacārasamādhi javana-function four times in the persons of slow or dull wisdom (manda-pañnā) under the names of

Pa:	parikamma:	preparation of <i>jhāna,</i>
U:	upacāra:	proximity of <i>jhāna,</i>
Nu:	anuloma:	adaptation or connection between
		parikamma and jhāna; it acts as a
		bridge harmonising the lower cittas
		with the higher cittas.

# Go: *gotrabhu*: the *citta* that cuts the *kāma*-lineage to form the exalted or *mahaggata*-lineage.

These four *cittas* are known as *upacāra-samādhi javanas*. In the case of a person of quick or bright wisdom (*tikkha-paññā*), *parikamma* (Pa) is excluded.

Immediately after *gotrabhu*, *rūpāvacara kusala* first*jhāna citta* arises just once as *appanā-javana*. After the dissolution of this first-*jhāna citta*, *bhavaṅga*-stream flows on as usual.

- 2 The second *rūpāvacara-appanā vīthi* arises as above allowing *rūpāvacara kusala* second-*jhāna citta* to function as *appanā-javana* just once.
- 3 The third *rūpāvacara-appanā vīthi* also arises as in (1) allowing *rūpāvacara kusala* third-*jhāna citta* to function as *appanā-javana* just once.
- 4 The fourth *rūpāvacara-appanā vīthi* again arises as in (1) allowing *rūpāvacara kusala* fourth-*jhāna citta* to function as *appanā-javana* just once.
- 5 The fifth *rūpāvacara-appanā vīthi* arises as in (1), but instead of one of the two somanassa-sahagatam nāna-sampayuttam mahākusala cittas, one of the two upekkhā-sahagatam nāna-sampayuttam mahākusala cittas performs the upacārasamādhi javana function four or three times and rūpāvacara kusala fifth jhāna citta arises just once to function as appanā-javana.

#### Notes:

1 When one is meditating on *kasina*, either *somanassa* or *upekkhā mahākusala citta* will perform the *javana* function.

- 2 When one enters the meditative absorption, the *upacāra-samādhi javanas* and the *jhāna-javana* must agree in feeling (*vedanā*). Since the first four *jhānas* are accompanied by *sukha* (pleasant feeling) they are regarded as *somanassa cittas*. So, in these cases, the *upacāra-samādhi javanas* must be *somanassa-sahagatam*. In the case of the fifth *jhāna*, it is *upekkhā-sahagatam*, so the *upacāra-samādhi javanas* must be also *upekkhā-sahagatam*.
- 3 A moral javana (kusala citta) is followed by a moral javana.

## FOUR ARŪPĀVACARA APPANĀ VĪTHIS

(Manda-paññā) Na-Da- "Ma-Pa-U-Nu-Go-Jha" -Bha-Bha-(Tikkha-paññā) Na-Da- "Ma-U-Nu-Go-Jha" -Bha-Bha-

These  $v\bar{v}this$  are the same in form as  $r\bar{u}p\bar{a}vacara appan\bar{a} v\bar{v}this$ . But  $ar\bar{u}p\bar{a}vacara jh\bar{a}nas$  are higher than  $r\bar{u}p\bar{a}vacara jh\bar{a}nas$  in the degree of concentration, tranquillity and sublimity. One has to use the fifth  $jh\bar{a}na$  as the base to step higher to  $ar\bar{u}p\bar{a}vacara jh\bar{a}na$  and also has to concentrate on an object which is not associated with  $r\bar{u}pa$ .

In practice, one has to develop the fifth *jhāna* first by meditation on the *pațibhāga-nimitta* of *kasiņa*. Then he comes out of the ecstatic absorption, ignores the *pațibhāga-nimitta* which is associated with  $r\bar{u}pa$  (*kasiņa* in this case), concentrates on the infinite space ( $\bar{a}k\bar{a}sa$ ) that exists beyond the *pațibhāga nimitta*, and meditates: " $\bar{A}k\bar{a}sa$ ,  $\bar{a}k\bar{a}sa$ ". When the subtle attachment to the *pațibhāga-nimitta* is eliminated, the *nimitta* disappears suddenly unfolding infinite space. He meditates on: " $\bar{A}k\bar{a}sa$ ,  $\bar{a}k\bar{a}sa$ ", and when the degree of concentration is high enough, the *appanā*  $v\bar{v}thi$  will come into effect.

- 1 When the object of infinite space (ākāsa) appears at the mind-door, the bhavanga-stream vibrates twice and becomes arrested (Na-Da). The mind-door consciousness, i.e. mano-dvārāvajjana, observes the object and decides whether it is good or bad. Then one of the two upekkhā-sahagatam nāna-sampayuttam mahā-kusala cittas functions as parikamma (Pa), upacāra (U), anuloma (Nu) and gotrabhu (Go) in a person of slow wisdom (manda-pañnā), or as upacāra, anuloma and gotrabhu in a person of quick wisdom (tikkha-pañnā). Then ākāsānañcāyatana-kusala citta arises once as appanā-javana and bhavanga cittas sink into life-continuum.
- 2 In going up the ladder to the second *arūpāvacara jhāna*, the meditator meditates on the *ākāsānañcāyatana-kusala citta*. When the degree of concentration is high enough, the second *arūpāvacara-appanā vīthi* will ensue.

The object that appears at the mind-door is ākāsānañcāyatana-kusala citta which causes the cognitive series of bhavanga-calāna, bhavangu-paccheda, mano-dvārāvajjana, parikamma (omit in tikkha-paññā person), upacāra, anuloma, gotrabhu and viññānañcāyatana kusala citta as appanā-javana to arise. Life-continuum then flows on as usual.

- 3 In the case of the third arūpāvacara jhāna, the object that appears at the mind-door is nothingness which results from the omission of ākāsānañcāyatana-kusala citta. The cognitive series of consciousness arise as before terminating with ākincaññāyatana kusala citta as appanā-javana.
- 4 In going up to the fourth *arūpāvacara jhāna*, the meditator concentrates on the *āki ficafifiāyatana kusala citta* as the object of meditation. On realizing the fourth *arūpāvacara*

jhāna, this object of āki ñcañnāyatana kusala citta appears at the mind-door causing the cognitive series of consciousness to arise as before. In this case neva-sañnān'āsañnāyatana kusala citta arises once as appanā-javana and then bhavanga cittas sink into life-continuum.

#### Note:

The reader should review the description of "arūpa jhānas" on pages 47-48 as an aid to the study of the arūpāvacara appanā vīthis.

# JHĀNA SAMĀPATTI VĪTHIS

'Samāpatti' means 'attainment'. A person, who has attained the *rūpāvacara jhāna*, may enter the meditative absorption corresponding to that *jhāna* whenever he wishes. If he practices well, he may attain the ecstatic trance instantly and remain in the trance for one hour, two hours, three hours, etc., up to seven days. During this trance, the *jhāna citta* occurs repeatedly and spontaneously focusing the attention on the *pațibhāga-nimitta* of *kasina*. So he will not hear any sound nor know any other sense-object during the trance.

A person, who attains all the *rūpāvacara* and the *arūpāvacara jhānas*, may enter the meditative absorption corresponding to any *jhāna*. But he must enter the first *jhāna* first; then, by eliminating *vitakka*, he enters the second *jhāna*; then, by eliminating *vicāra*, he enters the third *jhāna*, and so on.

The *jhāna-samāpatti vīthi* runs as follows: (*Manda-paññā*) Na-Da- "Ma-Pa-U-Nu-Go-Jha-Jha-Jha- many times" -Bha... (*Tikkha-paññā*) Na-Da- "Ma-U-Nu-Go-Jha-Jha-Jha- many times" -Bha-

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## 1 For attainment of *rūpāvacara jhāna*:

The *paţibhāga-nimitta* of *kasiņa* appears at the mind-door causing the life-continuum to vibrate twice and become arrested (Na-Da). Then *mano-dvārāvajjana* observes the *paţibhāga-nimitta* and decides whether it is good or bad. Then one of the two *somanassa-sahagatam ñāṇasampayuttam* mahākusala cittas (take upekkhā-sahagatam to enter the fifth *jhāna*) functions as *parikamma* (omit for *tikkha-paññā* person), upacāra, anuloma and gotrabhu. Then *rūpāvacara kusala* first *jhāna* (or second, third, fourth or fifth *jhāna*) citta functions many times as *appanā-javana*. When the ecstatic absorption is over, *bhavanga cittas* sink into life-continuum.

2 For attainment of arūpāvacara jhāna:

The infinite space (ākāsa) unfolded by the disappearance of the paţibhāga-nimitta (take the corresponding object for the higher arūpāvacara jhāna) enters the avenue of the mind-door causing the life-continuum to vibrate twice and become arrested. Then mano-dvārāvajjana observes the infinite space and decides whether it is good or bad. Then one of the two upekkhā-sahagatam nānasampayuttam mahākusala cittas functions as parikamma (omit for tikkha-pañnā person), upacāra, anuloma and gotrabhu. Then ākāsānanīcāyatana-kusala citta (or higher arūpāvacara kusala citta) functions many times as appanā-javana. When the meditative absorption is over, bhavanga cittas sink into life-continuum.

## ABHIÑÑÂ APPANĀ VĪTHIS

Those who have attained all the *rūpāvacara jhānas* and all the *arūpāvacara jhānas* may practice further according to the instruc-

tions given in *Visuddhimagga* or other Buddhist canons to attain the five *lokiya abhiññās* (mundane supernormal knowledge). These supernormal powers are attainable through the utmost perfection in mental concentration, and they are related to the higher knowledge associated with the fifth *rūpāvacara jhāna*. What are they?

1 Iddhi-vidha Abhiññāna

Various divine powers, such as being one he becomes manifold, and having become manifold he again becomes one. Without being obstructed he passes through walls and mountains, just as if through the air. In the earth he dives and rises again, just as if in the water. He walks on water without sinking, just as if on the earth. Cross-legged he floats through the air, just as a winged bird.

2 Dibba-sota Abhiññāņa

Divine ear that can hear sounds both heavenly and human, far and near.

3 Dibba-cakkhu Abhiññāņa

Divine eye that can see objects both heavenly and human, far and near, hidden or exposed. It can see beings in the *apāya* (lower) abodes as well as in the celestial abodes. It sees beings vanishing and reappearing, low and noble ones, beautiful and ugly ones. It sees how beings are reappearing according to their deeds (*kamma*).

4 Paracitta-vijjānana Abhiññāņa or Ceto-pariya-ñāņa The ability to know others' minds in may ways or to penetrate the minds of others.

5 Pubbe-nivāsānussati Abhiññāņa

The ability to remember manifold former existences, such as one birth, two, three, four or five births... one

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hundred thousand births; to remember many formations and dissolution of worlds; " there I was, such name I had... and vanishing from there I entered somewhere else into existence...and vanishing from there I again reappeared here."

The *abhiānā vīthi* is of the form: Na-Da- "Ma-Pa-U-Nu-Go-Bhiā" -Bha...

Suppose a person, who has attained the mundane supernormal powers, wants to become manifold. He meditates on the *pathavī-kasiņa* and develops the *rūpāvacara kusala* fifth *jhāna* for a few moments. Then he comes out of the *jhāna* absorption and, having arrested his life-continuum, makes a will: "Let there be 1000 identical but separate forms of myself."

He has complete confidence in his will. The *nimitta*-forms appear at his mind-door causing the life-continuum to vibrate twice and become arrested. The *mano-dvārāvajjana* observes the *nimitta*-forms and decide whether the visual object is good or bad. Then one of the two *upekkhā-sahagatam ñāṇa-sampayuttam mahākusala cittas* functions as *parikamma, upacāra, anuloma* and *gotrabhu*. Then observing the 1000 *nimitta*-forms, the *rūpāvacara kusala* fifth-*jhāna* arises once functioning as *abhiññā-javana*. Then, *bhavanga citta* follows up and the person comes out of the *jhāna*. As soon as *abhiññāṇa javana* occurs, the 1000 *nimitta*-forms come into existence.

Other mundane supernormal powers are brought into play in a similar way.

## MAGGA APPANĀ VĪTHIS

Those, who undertake insight-meditation, meditate on the three characteristics of existence (*ti-lakkhaṇa*) namely, impermanence

(anicca), suffering or misery (dukkha) and not-self (anatta). After developing ten insight-knowledges (vipassanā-ñāṇas), the realization of the Path and its Fruition (magga and phala) follows up. There are four levels of magga and phala. The magga-appanā vīthis run as follows.

(Manda-paññā) Na-Da- "Ma-Pa-U-Nu-Go-Mag-Pha-Pha"-Bha-(Tikkha-paññā) Na-Da- "Ma-U-Nu-Go-Mag-Pha-Pha-Pha"-Bha-Bha-

When one of the three characteristics of existence enters 1 the avenue of the mind-door of a *puthuijana* (worldling or one who is bound by all ten fetters), the life-continuum vibrates twice and becomes arrested (Na-Da). Then, observing and considering the characteristics of existence, mano-dvārāvajjana (Ma) arises once. Then one of the four nana-sampayuttam maha-kusala cittas, observing the characteristics of existence, functions three times as parikamma (Pa), upacāra (U), anuloma (Nu), and then, observing Nibbāna, functions once more as gotrabhu (Go). Then sotāpatti-magga javana arises once observing Nibbāna. Then, without any lapse in time, the fruition of the magga, i.e., sotāpatti-phala citta, functions twice as appanā-javana. Then bhavanga cittas sink into lifecontinuum and the person comes out of magga-vithis. (If the person is of tikkha-paññā, parikamma is omitted and phala-javana occurs three times.)

Note:

In the above *magga-vīthi*, *parikamma*, *upacāra*, *anuloma* and *gotrabhu* signify the following things:

Pa:	parikamma:	preparation of magga,
U:	upacāra:	proximity of magga,
Nu:	anuloma:	adaptation or connection; it harmonies the
		lower cittas with the upper cittas,
Go:	gotrabhu	the citta that cuts the puthujjana-lineage to
		form the <i>ariya</i> -lineage ( <i>ariya</i> – holy).

Once a person becomes an *ariya*, he is never reverted back to a *puthujjana* again. Thus *gotrabhu* has to cut the *puthujjana*-lineage only once. So in later *magga*- and *phala-vīthis*, Vo – *vodāna* (meaning purification) is inserted in place of Go – *gotrabhu*.

2 To realize the second magga and phala, the sotāpanna or sotapan (stream-winner who has realized the first magga and phala) has to meditate on the three characteristics of existence again. When the second magga-vīthi arises, it runs as above—the only changes necessary are: 'vodāna' in place of 'gotrabhu', 'sakadāgāmi-magga' in place of 'sotāpatti-magga' and 'sakadāgāmi-phala' in place of 'sotāpatti-phala'.

After this second magga-vīthi, the person becomes a sakadāgāmī or sakadāgam (once-returner, i.e. he will return to the kāma-abodes just once).

3 If the sakadāgam undertakes insight-meditation further, he may develop the third magga-vīthi which runs as the second magga-vīthi—just change 'sakadāgāmi' into 'anāgāmī'.

The person now becomes an *anāgāmī* or *anāgam* (non-returner, i.e., he will not be reborn in the *kāma*-abodes again).

4 If the anāgam undertakes insight-meditation further, he may develop the fourth magga-vīthi. This vīthi again runs as before—just change 'anāgāmi' into 'arahatta'. The person now becomes an arahant (the perfect one).

# PHALA-SAMĀPATTI VĪTHIS

There are four noble individuals (ariya-puggala): the streamwinner (sotāpanna), the once-returner (sakadāgāmi), the nonreturner (anāgāmī) and the perfect one (arahat).

Each noble individual may enter the meditative absorption corresponding to the fruition of the path he has attained. By doing so, he is enjoying the peace of Nibbāna, and during this absorption *phala-samāpatti vīthis* occur as follows.

(Manda-paññā) Na-Da- "Ma-Pa-U-Nu-Vo-Pha-Pha- many times" -Bha-(Tikkha-paññā) Na-Da- "Ma-U-Nu-Vo-Pha-Pha- many times" -Bha-

In developing the *phala-samāpatti vīthis*, the noble individuals have to meditate on the three characteristics of existence until the *phala-samāpatti vīthi* arises.

1 When one of the three characteristics of existence enters the avenue of the mind-door of a sotāpanna, the lifecontinuum vibrates twice as bhavanga-calāna and bhavangupaccheda and becomes arrested. The manodvārāvajjana considers the object and decides whether it is good or bad. Then one of the four nāṇa-sampayuttam mahā-kusala cittas, observing the ti-lakkhaṇa object, functions three times as parikamma (omit in tikkha-pañnā person), upacāra and anuloma, and, observing Nibbāna, functions once as vodāna. After that sotāpatti-phala citta, observing Nibbāna, functions as appanā-javana many times as long as the person wishes up to seven days. Then bhavanga cittas sink into life-continuum and the person arises from phala-samāpatti.

- 2 When one of the three characteristics of existence enters the avenue of the mind-door of a sakadāgāmī, the lifecontinuum vibrates twice as bhavanga-calāna and bhavangupaccheda and becomes arrested. The mano-dvārāvajjana considers the object and decides whether it is good or bad. Then one of the four *ñāna-sampayuttam mahā-kusala cittas*, observing the *ti-lakkhana* object, functions three times as parikamma (omit in *tikkha-paññā* person), upacāra and anuloma, and, observing Nibbāna, functions once as vodāna. After that sakadāgāmi-phala citta, observing Nibbāna, functions as appanā-javana many times as long as the person wishes up to seven days. Then bhavanga cittas sink into life-continuum and the person arises from phala-samāpatti.
- When one of the three characteristics of existence enters the avenue of the mind-door of anāgāmī, the life-continuum vibrates twice as bhavanga-calāna and bhavangupaccheda and becomes arrested. The mano-dvārāvajjana considers the object and decides whether it is good or bad. Then one of the four ñāṇa-sampayuttam mahā-kusala cittas, observing the ti-lakkhaṇa object, functions three times as parikamma (omit in tikkha-paññā person), upacāra and anuloma, and, observing Nibbāna, functions once as vodāna. After that anāgāmi-phala citta, observing Nibbāna, functions as appanā-javana many times as long as the person wishes up to seven days. Then bhavanga cittas sink into life-continuum and the person arises from phalasamāpatti.
- 4. When one of the three characteristics of existence enters the avenue of the mind-door of an *arahant*, the life-

continuum vibrates twice as *bhavanga-calāna* and *bhavangupaccheda* and becomes arrested. The *mano-dvārāvajjana* considers the object and decides whether it is good or bad. Then one of the four *nāna-sampayuttam* mahā-kusala cittas, observing the *ti-lakkhana* object, functions three times as *parikamma* (omit in *tikkha-pañnā* person), *upacāra* and *anuloma*, and, observing *Nibbāna*, functions once as *vodāna*. After that *arahatta-phala citta*, observing *Nibbāna*, functions as *appanā-javana* many times as long as the person wishes up to seven days. Then *bhavanga cittas* sink into life-continuum and the person arises from *phala-samāpatti*.

# NIRODHA-SAMĀPATTI VĪTHI

'Nirodha-samāpatti' means 'attainment of extinction'. This vīthi is developed to suspend temporarily all consciousness and mental activity, following immediately upon the semi-conscious state called 'sphere of neither-perception-nor-non-perception' (*neva-saññā-n'āsaññā-yatana jhāna*).

Only an *anāgāmī* or *arahant* who has mastered all the nine absorption (*jhānas*) is able to develop the *nirodha-samāpatti vīthi*. The procedure for developing the *nirodha-samāpatti vīthi* is as follows.

First of all the person enters the *rūpāvacara* first-*jhāna*, comes out of it and meditates on the *jhāna* components as to their characteristics of impermanence, suffering and non-self. He repeats this procedure with the *rūpāvacara* second-, third-, fourth- and fifth*jhānas*, and then also with the *arūpāvacara* first-, second- and third*jhānas*.

Then he makes four resolutions (adhitthana).

1

- 1 May I remain in *nirodha-samāpatti* for one hour, two hours..., one day, two days..., or seven days (provided the period does not exceed his life-span which he can know).
- 2 May my body, the things I am using and the building I am living be not harmed nor destroyed by any means (he can demarcate the area as much as he likes).
- 3 May I come out of the *nirodha-samāpatti* as soon as Lord Buddha wishes to see me (this is at the time when the Buddha is alive).
- 4 May I come out of the *nirodha-samāpatti* as soon as the congregation of monks wishes my presence (this is done out of respect for the congregation of monks).

Now the person develops the *arūpāvacara* fourth-*jhāna* and soon after the occurrence of *neva-saññā-n'āsaññā-yatana citta* as *appanā-javana* for two conscious moments, the stream of consciousness is cut off—no *cittas*, *cetasikas* and *cittaja-rūpa* (corporeality formed by *citta*) arise any more.

The person will remain in this state of extinction of consciousness, its concomitants and *cittaja-rūpa* till the end of the period he has resolved to remain in *nirodha-samāpatti*. Though he does not breathe, eat, drink or know anything, he is still alive. When he comes out of the *nirodha-samāpatti*, *anāgāmi-phala citta* arises once as *appanā-javana* if he is an *anāgāmī*, or *arahatta-phala* citta arises once as *appanā-javana* if he is an *arahant*. Then *bhavaṅga cittas* sink into life-continuum.

# VIPĀKA NIYĀMA

'Niyāma' means 'law'. As vipāka cittas are the resultants of kammas (actions), they arise in vīthis regularly according to the kammas
just as the image appears in the mirror in accordance with the person in front of the mirror.

Now one comes across unpleasant objects such as a decaying carcass, night-soil, etc., on account of *akusala kamma* (unwhole-some action). So at such moments, *akusala vipāka cittas*—namely, *cakkhu-viññāṇa*, *sampațicchana*, *santīraṇa* and *tadālambaṇa* arise in the *vīthi*.

When one comes across fairly good objects, kusala vipāka cittas—namely, cakkhu-viññāņa, sampaţicchana, upekkhā-santīraņa and upekkhā-tadālambaņa arise in vīthis. When the object is every good, somanassa-santīraņa and somanassa-tadālambaņa arise instead of the upekkhā-ones.

Kusala and akusala-javanas do not occur regularly as vipāka cittas. Yoniso-manasikāra (wise reflection) leads to the arising of kusala-javanas whereas ayoniso-manasikāra (unwise reflection) gives rise to akusala-javanas.

#### FREQUENCY OF KĀMA-JAVANAS

Normally *kāma-javana* arises seven times in a *vīthi*. But in young babies and unconscious person, the *hadaya-vatthu* is weak and, accordingly, *kāma-javana* arises six or five times in a *vīthi*.

In maranāsanna vīthi, which occurs at the time of dying, kāmajavana occurs only five times.

In paccavekkhaņa-vīthis (retrospective cognitive process), the person is examining the *jhāna*-factors very rapidly and so *kāma-javana* occurs only four or five times per vīthi.

In upacāra-samādhi javana, kāma-javana occurs four times as parikamma, upacāra, anuloma and gotrabhu in persons of slow knowledge, or three times as upacāra, anuloma and gotrabhu in persons of quick knowledge.

1 1

#### FREQUENCY OF APPANA-JAVANAS

In all the *rūpāvacara-jhāna* and *arūpāvacara-jhāna vīthis*, the corresponding *appanā-javana* occurs only once in a person who attains that *jhāna* for the first time. In order to enter the ecstatic absorption corresponding to that *jhāna*, he can develop *jhāna-samāpatti vīthi* in which *appanā-javana* occurs repeatedly many times.

In abhiññā appanā-vīthis, the rūpāvacara kusala fifth-javana arises once functioning as abhiññā-javana. In an arahant, the rūpāvacara kiriya fifth-jhāna arises once as abhiññā-javana.

In magga appanā-vīthis, the corresponding magga-javana arises only once followed by either two phala-cittas as appanā-javanas in a person of slow wisdom or three phala-cittas as appanā-javana in a person of quick wisdom.

In phala-samāpatti vīthis, the corresponding phala-citta occurs many times without break functioning as appanā-javanas.

In nirodha-samāpatti vīthi, nevasaññā-n'āsaññā-yatana citta arises twice just before the extinction of consciousness and all mental activity. During the nirodha-samāpatti, cittas as well as cetasikas and cittaja-rūpa are extinct; so no javana exists. In coming out of the nirodha-samāpatti anāgāmī-phala citta occurs once as appanā-javana in an anāgāmī or arahatta-phala citta occurs once as appanā-javana in an arahant.

As a regular procedure of *javana*, immediately after a *somanassa* (pleasant) *kāma-javana*, a *somanassa appanā-javana* should be expected, and after a *kāma-javana*, accompanied by equanimity, an *appanā-javana*, accompanied by equanimity, is to be expected.

## PROCEDURE OF TADĂLAMBAŅA

Tadālambaņa (retention) occurs only in kāma-persons when they are observing kāma-sense objects with kāma-javana-vāra vīthis.

Generally upekkhā-javana or domanassa-javana is followed by upekkhā-tadālambaņa whereas somanassa-javana is followed by somanassa-tadālambaņa. In practice the following procedure is observed.

- 1 After 4 mahā-kiriya upekkhā-javanas and 2 domanassajavanas, 4 mahā-vipāka upekkhā-tadālambaņas and 2 santīraņa-upekkhā tadālambaņas may arise.
- 2 After 4 mahā-kiriya somanassa-javanas and hasituppādajavana, 4 mahā-vipāka somanassa-tadālambaņas and one somanassa-santīraņa tadālambaņa may arise.
- 3 After the remaining 10 *akusala-javanas* and 8 *mahā-kusala javanas*, all the 11 *tadālambaņas* may arise.

#### **ĀGANTUKA BHAVANGA**

For a person whose rebirth-consciousness is a *somanassa-citta*, his life-continuum must also be a *somanassa-bhavanga* for life. The rebirth-consciousness and the *bhavanga citta* of a person must agree in *bhūmi*, *citta*, *sampayutta-dhamma* (concomitants), *vedanā* and *sankhāra*.

When that person is angry, his domanassa-javanas cannot be followed by somanassa-tadālambaņa and somanassa-bhavanga because domanassa-vedanā opposes somanassa-vedanā just like fire opposing water. But according to his rebirth-consciousness, somanassa-tadālambaņa and somanassa-bhavanga must arise.

In this difficult situation, upekkhā-santīraņa arises once as an āgantuka-bhāvanā (āgantuka means 'guest' or 'stranger') performing bhavanga-function and not the santīraņa-function.

The upekkhā-vedanā can be matched with both domanassavedanā and somanassa vedanā. The āgantuka-bhavanga cannot perceive the sense-object which is observed by the domanassa*javana*; it perceives a *kāma*-object which has been observed several times in the past.

### **BHŪMI AND CITTAS**

'Bhūmi' means 'plane of existence'. In kāma-plane, 80 cittas with the exception of 9 mahaggata-cittas may participate in vīthis. The 9 mahaggata-cittas function as rebirth-consciousness, life-continuum and death-consciousness in the respective brahma-planes.

In rūpa-planes, 2 ghāna-viññāṇa cittas, 2 jivhā-viññāṇa-cittas, 2 kāya-viññāṇa-cittas, 8 mahā-vipāka cittas, 2 domanassa-cittas and 4 arūpa-vipāka cittas, totaling 20 in all, do not arise. So the remaining 69 cittas, may arise in rūpa-planes. Of these 69 cittas, the five rūpavipāka cittas do not take part in vīthis; thus only the remaining 64 cittas will participate in vīthis.

In *arūpa*-planes, the 42 *cittas* which may or may not depend on *hadaya-vatthu* for their arising as mentioned in the '*Pakinnaka* Section' (Chapter 3) together with 4 *arūpa-vipāka cittas*, totaling 46 in all, may arise. Of the 46 *cittas*, the 4 *arūpa-vipāka cittas* do not take part in *vīthis*; thus only the remaining 42 *cittas* will participate in *vīthis*.

#### **PUGGALA-BHEDA**

#### (Classification of Individuals)

'Puggala' means 'person' or 'individual'. There are 4 types of *puthujjana* (worldlings) and 8 type of *ariya-puggala* (noble individuals).

#### Puthujjana

- 1 Duggati-ahetuka-puggala
- 2 Sugati-ahetuka-puggala

#### 168 | THE ESSENCE OF BUDDHA ABHIDHAMMA

- 3 Dvi-hetuka-puggala
- 4 Ti-hetuka puggala

#### Ariya-puggala

#### a Maggațțha

- 5 Sotāpatti-maggattha
- 6 Sakadāgāmi-maggattha
- 7 Anāgāmi-maggațțha
- 8 Arahatta-maggattha

#### b Phalattha

- 9 Sotāpatti-phalațțha
- 10 Sakadāgāmi-phalaţţha
- 11 Anāgāmi-phalațțha
- 12 Arahatta-phalattha

'Duggati' means 'woeful course of existence' while 'sugati' means 'happy course of existence'.

'Duggati-ahetuka-puggala' refers to persons in apāya, i.e. the four 'lower worlds,' namely, the animal world, the ghost-world, the demon-world and hell (*niraya*).

'Sugati-ahetuka-puggala' refers to persons who are retarded, blind or deaf by birth in the human-world and the *catumahārājikadeva* abode.

'Dvi-hetuka-puggala' refers to human beings and devas who are born with *ñāṇa-vippayutta mahā-vipāka cittas* which lacks wisdom. These persons cannot attain *jhānas* and *maggas* in the present life however much do they try. They may, however, become '*ti-hetuka-puggala*' in the next life as the result of their meditation efforts in the present life, and then attain *jhānas* and *maggas* easily if they will meditate again. '*Ti-hetuka-puggala*' refers to human beings and *devas* who are born with *ñāṇa-sampayutta mahāvipāka cittas* which contain wisdom. These persons may attain all the *jhānas* and all the *maggas* if they strenuously undertake tranquillity – and insight-meditations.

The four *maggattha*-persons and the four *phalattha*-persons are *ti-hetuka-puggala*. The *maggattha* persons last for just one conscious moment while they are realizing the corresponding *magga-ñāṇas*. After the *magga-ñāṇas*, they become *phalattha*-persons.

## **PUGGALA AND CITTAS**

The *cittas* that can arise in various persons in different abodes are tabulated below.

Puggala	Kāma-bhūmi		Rūpa-bhūmi	Arūpa-bhūmi
Duggati- ahetuka	Akusala cittas Ahetuka cittas	12	Nil	Nil
	(hasituppāda excepted)	17		
	Mahākusala cittas 🕠	8		
	total	37		
Sugati- ahetuka	Akusala cittas Ahetuka cittas	12		
and	(hasituppāda excepted)	17		
Dwi-hetuka	Mahākusala Mahāvipāka	8	Nil	Nil
	กิลิทุล-vippayutta	4		
	total	41		

Continued in Chart No. 10 attached at the back of this book.

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# Chapter 5 **VĪTHIMUT or BHŪMI** Planes of Existence

# **VĪTHIMUTTA CITTAS**

In the previous chapter the functions of *vīthi-cittas* have been described. Now in this chapter, we shall deal with the functions of 19 *vīthimutta cittas*, i.e. process-freed consciousness.

The 19 vīthimutta-cittas include 2 upekkhā-santīraņa cittas, 8 mahā-vipāka cittas and 9 mahaggata-vipāka cittas.

These *cittas* function as rebirth-consciousness for all living beings to be reborn in appropriate planes of existence; then they function as life-continuum for the whole existence of each living being and finally as death-consciousness of the being.

As the planes of existence are involved in describing the functions of these *vīthimutta-cittas*, this chapter is entitled as *"Bhūmi"* as well as *"Vīthimut"*.

#### FOURFOLD CATUKKAS

'*Catukka*' means 'a group of four'. The fourfold *catukkas* that will be dealt with in this chapter are:

- 1 Bhūmi-catukka four planes of existence,
- 2 Pațisandhi-catukka four modes of rebirth,
- 3 Kamma-catukka four kinds of action, and
- 4 Maraņuppatti-catukka fourfold advent of death.

#### FOUR PLANES OF EXISTENCE

The plane of existence (*bhūmi*) is the place where living-beings come into existence, go around for a living, and finally die.

The four planes of existence are:

- 1 Apāya-bhūmi or kāmaduggati-bhūmi the plane of misery,
- 2 Kāmasugati-bhūmi sensuous blissful plane,
- 3 Rūpa-bhūmi plane of fine material, and
- 4 Arūpa-bhūmi plane of non-material.

# 1 APĀYA-BHŪMI

Among these, the apāya-bhūmi is again fourfold, namely,

- i niraya (hell) or woeful state,
- ii tiracchāna (animal kingdom),
- iii peta world (unhappy ghosts)
- iv the host of asuras (demons)

Apāya – devoid of happiness; kāmaduggati – enjoy sense pleasures but miseries abound.

#### 2 KAMASUGATI (sense-pleasures abound)

The *kāmasugati-bhūmi* consists of the human realm and 6 *deva*planes, making 7 planes in all.

# 3 RŪPA-BHŪMI

*Rūpa-bhūmi* consists of 3 first-*jhāna* planes, 3 second-*jhāna* planes, 3 third-*jhāna* planes and 7 fourth-*jhāna* planes, totalling 16 planes altogether.

# 4 ARŪPA-BHŪMI

Arūpa-bhūmi is fourfold, namely,

i Ākāsānañcāyatana-bhūmi – the realm of infinite space,

- ii Viññānañcāyatana-bhūmi the realm of infinite consciousness,
- iii Ākiācaāā atana-bhūmi the realm of nothingness, and
- iv N'evasaññā-n'āsaññāyatana-bhūmi the realm of neither perception nor non-perception.

Counting all the separate planes, we get 4 *apāya* planes, 7 *kāmasugati*-planes, 16 *rūpa*-planes and 4 *arūpa*-planes, making 31 planes in all.

### SITUATION OF BHUMIS

- 1 The human realm, the animal realm, the *peta* realm and the *asura* realm exist on the surface of the earth. These realms are not separated, but the beings move about in their own worlds.
- 2 *Niraya* represents several woeful states where beings atone for their evil *kamma*. They are not eternal hells. Upon the exhaustion of the evil *kamma*, beings may be reborn in good states as the result of their past good actions.

There are 8 major nirayas or narakas which exist below the surface of the earth. Their names, in order of distance from the surface of the earth, are Sañjīva, Kāļasutta, Saṅghāta, Roruva, Mahāroruva, Tāpana, Mahātāpana and Avīci.

(The reader may refer the  $Bh\bar{u}mi$ -chart attached at the back of this book. The chart also mentions the distances between planes in *yojana* which is about 8 miles.)

Each major *niraya* has the form of a square. On each side of the square there are again four minor

nirayas namely, sewage swamp, field of hot ash, forest of thorny threes and hot river with canes.

Thus there are 16 minor *nirayas* on the four sides of a major *niraya* and 128 minor *nirayas* for the eight major *nirayas*.

- 3 The Six Sensuous Celestial Planes (*deva*-planes) are situated above the ground and high up in the sky.
- i Catumahārājikā The lowest of the heavenly realms where the four guardian deities reside with their followers. Some lower beings of this plane have their dwellings on earth.
- Tāvatimsā The realm of 33 gods and their followers. Sakka, the king of the gods, reside in this celestial plane.
- iii Yāmā The realm of the Yāmā gods.
- iv Tusitā The heaven of delight.
- v Nimmänarati The heaven of the gods who rejoice in their own creations.
- vi *Paranimmita-vasavatī* The heaven of the gods who bring under their sway things created by others.

These six celestial planes are temporary blissful abodes where beings live happily enjoying sensual pleasures as the results of their good *kammas*.

Superior to these sensuous planes are the *Brahma* realms where beings delight in *jhāna*-bliss achieved by their *rūpāvacara*- and *arūpāvacara-kusala kammas*.

4 The 16 Planes of Fine Material (*Rūpa-bhūmi*) are situated much higher than the 6 Sensuous Blissful Planes.

- The 3 planes of first *jhāna* are: Brahma-parisajjā – The realm of Brahma's retinue, Brahma-purohitā – The realm of Brahma's ministers. Mahā-brahmā – The realm of great Brahmas.
- ii The 3 planes of second *jhāna* are:
  *Parittābhā* The heaven of minor lustre,
  *Appamānābhā* The heaven of infinite lustre,
  *Abhassarā* The heaven of radiant gods.
- iii The 3 planes of third *jhāna* are:
  Paritta-subhā The heaven of the gods of minor aura
  Appamāna-subhā The heaven of the gods of infinite aura,
  Subhā-kiņhā The heaven of the gods full of steady

aura.

iv The 7 planes of fourth *jhāna* are:

*Vehapphala* – The heaven of the gods of great rewards, *Asañīnā-satta* – The heaven of *Brahmas* with just *rūpa* and no *nāma*,

Suddhāvāsā – The heaven of pure abodes – only anāgāmīs and arahats are found in these abodes. Suddhāvāsā is made up of 5 planes:

Avihā – The durable heaven,

*Ātappā* – The serene heaven,

Sudassā – The beautiful heaven,

Sudassī - The clear-sighted heaven,

Akanițtha – The supreme heaven.

5 The 4 Planes of Non-Materials (*Arūpa-bhūmi*) are situated high above the planes of fine material. The names of the 4 *Arūpa*-planes have been mentioned above.

#### **BHŪMI AND PERSONS**

Twelve types of persons (*puggala*) have been mentioned just before the conclusion of chapter IV. We shall now place these persons in the various planes of existence to which they belong.

- 1 In the four *apāya* abodes, only the *duggati-ahetuka* person is found.
- 2 In the human realm and *catumahārājika* realm, eleven types of persons with the exception of the *duggati-ahetuka* person are present.
- 3 In the five higher sensuous blissful planes, ten types of persons with the exception of the *duggati-ahetuka* person and the *sugati-ahetuka* person are present.
- 4 In the ten *rūpa-brahma* planes with the exception of *asaññāsatta* and five *suddhāvāsas*, one *tihetuka-puthujjana* person and eight *ariya* persons are present.
- 5 In the *asaññāsatta* heaven, only one *sugati-ahetuka* person who is born with *jīvita rūpa* only is present.
- 6 In the five suddhāvāsa heavens, anāgāmi-phalațțha person, arahatta-maggațțha person and arahatta-phalațțha person are present. The anāgāmīs, who attained the fourth jhāna in the human realm, are born here after their expiration in the human realm. In due course they attain the arahatship in the suddhāvāsa heavens.
- 7 In the four arūpa-planes, seven ariya persons (with the exception of sotāpatti-maggaţţha person) and one tihetuka-puthujjana person are present. Sotāpatti-magga is not attainable in these planes. Sotāpanna persons, who attain arūpa-jhāna in the human realm, may be reborn in arūpa-planes and they may attain higher maggas and phalas in due course.

#### FOUR MODES OF REBIRTH (Patisandhi-catukka)

- 1 Apāya-pațisandhi (woeful rebirth) Akusala-vipāka upekkhā santīraņa ahetuka citta
- 2 Kāma-sugati pațisandhi (Sensuous blissful rebirth)
  - a Kāma-sugati ahetuka-pațisandhi = kusala-vipāka santīraņa ahetuka-citta.
  - b Kāma-sugati sahetuka-paţisandhi = 8 mahā-vipāka cittas.
- Rūpa-pațisandhi (rebirth in Rūpa-planes) –
  5 Rūpāvacara-vipāka cittas + jīvita-navaka-kalāpa rūpapaţisandhi.
- 4 Arūpa-pațisandhi (rebirth in the Arūpa planes) 4 Arūpāvacara-vipāka cittas.

Notes:

- a One apāya-paţisandhi, one kāma-sugati ahetuka-paţisandhi and 8 kāmasugati sahetuka paţisandhis together make up 10 kāma-paţisandhis.
- b Five rūpāvacara-vipāka cittas and jīvita-navaka-kalāpa rūpapațisandhi together make up 6 rūpa-pațisandhis.
- c Ten kāma-paţisandhis, 6 rūpa-paţisandhis and 4 arūpapaţisandhis together make up 20 types of paţisandhi (rebirth).

The number of *pațisandhi* exceeds the number of rebirthconsciousness by one, because there is one *rūpa-pațisandhi*.

#### PERSON AND PATISANDHI

 The four apāya-persons in niriya, tiracchāna, peta and asura planes are born with akusala-vipāka upekkhā santīraņa ahetuka citta.

This *citta* is the resultant of immoral *kamma*. It becomes the relinking (rebirth-consciousness) at the

moment of descent into the woeful state. Then it lapses into life-continuum (*bhavanga*) and finally it becomes the death-consciousness and is cut off.

- 2 In the human realm and *catumahārājika* realm, degraded human beings such as those who are blind, deaf, dumb, retarded or deformed by birth, and degraded earthbound deities (*devas*) are born with *kusala-vipāka upekkhā santīrana ahetuka citta*.
- 3 In all the seven sensuous blissful planes, normal human beings and deities (*devas*) are born with any one of the eight *mahāvipāka cittas*. Thus the eight great resultants act as the relinking (rebirth-consciousness), the life-continuum and the death consciousness everywhere in the blissful sense-sphere.

Among humans and deities, dvi-hetuka persons are born with four mahāvipāka ñāņavippayutta cittas whereas ti-hetuka persons are born with four mahāvipāka ñāņasampayutta cittas.

- 4 Among the *rūpa-brahmas*:
- i. the brahmas of the 3 first-jhāna planes are born with the rūpāvacara first-jhāna vipāka citta,
- ii the brahmas of the 3 second-jhāna planes are born with either the rūpāvacara second-jhāna vipāka citta or the rūpāvacara third-jhāna citta,
- iii the *brahmas* of the 3 third-*jhāna* planes are born with the *rūpāvacara* fourth-*jhāna citta*,
- iv the brahmas of the fourth-jhāna planes, with the exception of asaññāsatta brahmas, are born with the rūpāvacara fifth-jhāna citta, and

 Asaññāsatta brahmas are born with jīvita-navaka-kalāpa rūpa.

5 Ākāsānañcāyatana-brahmas are born with ākāsānañcāyatana-vipāka citta, Viññānañcāyatana-brahmas are born with viññānañcāyatana-vipāka citta, Ākiñcaññāyatana-brahmas are born with ākiñcaññāyatanavipāka citta, and N'evasaññā-n'āsaññāyatana-brahmas are born with n'evasaññā-n'āsaññāyatana-vipāka citta.

## THE METHOD OF NAMING RUPA-PLANES

The reason for some disagreement in the names of the  $r\bar{u}pa$ planes and the rebirth consciousness of *brahmas* is that there are two ways of counting  $r\bar{u}pa$ -jhānas.

For persons of slow wisdom, after attaining the first *rūpāvacara jhāna*, they have to eliminate the *jhāna* factors one by one in going up to the higher *jhānas*. Thus, for this type of person, there are five *rūpāvacara jhānas*.

For persons of quick wisdom, after attaining the first *jhāna*, they eliminate *vitakka* and *vicāra* together in going to the second *jhāna*. Thus their second *jhāna* is equivalent to the third *jhāna* of the slow-wisdom people, and their fourth *jhāna* is equivalent to the fifth *jhāna* of the slow-wisdom people.

So there are only four *rūpāvacara jhānas* for quick-wisdom people.

In practice, as is observed in International Buddha Sāsana Centres (Pa-auk Meditation Centres), almost all people eliminate vitakka and vicāra together. Hence the method of counting rūpāvacara jhānas up to the fourth level is the more common one, and consequently the *jhāna*-planes are named according to this method.

In the *Bhūmi* Chart (i.e. Chart No. 5.1 attached at the back of this book), the rebirth-consciousness is described according to the five *rūpāvacara-jhāna* method whereas the *Rūpa*-planes are described according to the four *rūpāvacara-jhāna* method.

The two methods of counting  $r\bar{u}p\bar{a}vacara$  jhānas, together with the names of the  $r\bar{u}pa$ -planes, are illustrated in Table 5.1.

TABLE 5.1Dual Method of Counting Rūpāvacara Jhānas

Jhāna factor	Five-jhāna	Four <i>-jhāna</i>	Name of <i>Rapa-</i>
	method	method	plane
tak, ca, pi, su ekaggata ca, pi, su, ek pi, su, ek su, ek up, ek	first <i>jhāna</i> second <i>jhāna</i> third <i>jhāna</i> fourth <i>jhāna</i> fifth <i>jhāna</i>	first <i>jhāna</i>  second <i>jhāna</i> third <i>jhāna</i> fourth <i>jhāna</i>	first <i>jhāna</i> — second <i>jhāna</i> third <i>jhāna</i> fourth <i>jhāna</i>

#### FOUR MODES OF CONCEIVING

- 1 Andaja-patisandhi conceiving in egg shell
- 2 Jalābuja-pațisandhi conceiving in the womb
- 3 Sathsedaja-pațisandhi conceiving in the hollow or a tree-trunk, in a fruit, in a flower, in marsh, in stagnant water, in corpses and carcasses, etc., like flies and mosquitoes.
- 4 Opapātika-pațisandhi rebirth in the form of a fully

grown-up person about 16 years of age as if jumping out of no where.

Note:

*Aṇḍaja-paṭisandhi* and *jalābuja-paṭisandhi* are also collectively known as *gabbhaseyaka-paṭisandhi*.

## **APPLICATIONS**

- 1 Woeful persons in *niraya* are born by the way of *opapātika-paţisandhi* only.
- 2 Petas and asuras are born by either jalābuja-paţisandhi or opapātika-paţisandhi.
- 3 Animals are born by all the four modes of conceiving.
- 4 Human beings are first born by *opapātika-paţisandhi* at the beginning of the world, and later by either *jalābuja-paţisandhi* or *samsedaja-paţisandhi*.
- 5 Earth-bound *devas* are born by either *jalābuja-paţisandhi* or *opapātika-paţisandhi*.
- 6 Celestial devas and brahmas are born by opapätikapațisandhi only.

#### LIFE-SPANS OF BEINGS

1 Woeful persons in the four *apāya* abodes do not have fixed life-spans. They suffer in woeful states in accordance with their *kammas*. Their age-limit differs according to their evil deeds. Some are short-lived and some are long-lived.

During the Buddha's time the monk Tissa, on expiring, became a flea for seven days in the new robe, which was offered to him by his sister and which he was attached to at the time of expiring. Again, Mallika, the queen of King Kosala, had to suffer in a woeful state only for seven days due to an immoral deed, and then she was reborn in the sensuous blissful plane for her good deed. On the other hand, Devadatta is destined to suffer for an aeon in *niraya* for his serious bad *kamma* of causing a schism in the Order of Brotherhood.

2 The human beings also do not have fixed life-span; the age-limit rises from ten years to uncountable years (*asankheyya*) and then falls to ten years again.

The interim period, when the age-limit of human beings rises from ten to uncountable years and then falls to ten again, is known as an *antara-kappa*. In other words, an *antara-kappa* is measured by the time required by the pendulum of the life-term of generations to swing from a ten-year-term to an *asarikheyya*-term and back again to the ten-year-term.

Sixty-four such antara-kappas equal one asankheyyakappa, literally an incalculable cycle. An asankheyya-kappa exceeds the time required to exhaust a big box a yojana each in length, breadth, and height, filled with mustard seeds, by throwing away a seed once in every hundred years. An asankheyya-kappa may be taken as an aeon.

Four asankheyya-kappas equal one mahā-kappa, literally a great cycle. One mahā-kappa is also known as a world-cycle.

3 The earth-bound deities and degraded *asuras* both belong to the *catumahārājikā* plane. They do not have fixed life-spans.

# 4 *Devas* and *brahmas* in celestial planes have fixed lifespans.

TABLE 5.2		
Spans of Celestial Devas		

Deva-plane	Respective deva-year	Human year
Catumahārājikā	500	9,000,000
Tāvatimsā	1000	36,000,000
Yämä	<b>20</b> 00	144,000,000
Tusitā	4000	576,000,000
Nimmānarati	8000	2,314,000,000
Paranimmita Vasavatī	16000	9,216,000,000

#### Notes:

- A celestial day in upper *Catumahārājikā* is equal to 50 human years; a celestial day in *Tāvatimsā* is equal to 100 human years; a celestial-day in *Yāmā* is equal to 200 human years; and so on. Thirty celestial days make a month and 12 months make a year.
- ii As we go up from a lower plane to a higher plane, the life-term is doubled and the length of the celestial day is also doubled. So the time in human years is increased by four times. This is the key to remember the lifespans of different *deva*-planes – double the celestial years and multiply the human years by 4 as one goes up the ladder.

iii Lord Buddha preached Abhidhamma-desanā in Tāvatimsā for three months at a stretch without stopping. No human beings would be able to listen to that long sermon without break. But a period of 90 days on earth is just 3.6 minutes in Tāvatimsā. So the gods have no trouble to listen to Lord Buddha.

#### **DESTRUCTION OF THE WORLD**

According to the Buddhist Canons, there are infinite numbers of worlds and no world is permanent. Our own earth will come to an end one day. This is somewhat co-related to the observations through the most powerful telescope that old stars are being burnt out and new stars are being formed.

The world may be destroyed by fire, water or wind. When it is destroyed by fire, all the world up to the 3 first-*jhāna* planes will be burnt out. After being destroyed seven times consecutively by fire, the world will be destroyed by water on the eighth time when all the world up to the 3 second-*jhāna* planes will be destroyed.

After being destroyed in regular cycles 7 times by fire and one time by water, the world will be destroyed by wind on the 64th time when all the world up to the 3 third-*jhāna* planes will be destroyed.

Usually Lokapāla-devas (guardian-deities of the world) inform the people in advance about the coming destruction of the world. So the people, out of fright, perform good deeds and undertake samatha (tranquillity) meditation to attain the higher *jhānas* in order to be reborn in higher celestial planes so as to escape the calamity.

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# TABLE 5.3 Life-spans of Brahmas

Brahma-Plane	Name of plane	Life span
First-jhāna	Brahma-parisajjā	1/3 asankheyya-kappa
3 planes	Brahma-purohitä	1/2 asaṅkheyya-kappa
	Mahā-brahmā	1 asaṅkheyya-kappa
Second-jhāna	Parittābhā	2 world-cycles
3 planes	Appamänäbhä	4 world-cycles
	Abhassarā	8 world-cycles
Third-jhāna	Paritta-subhā	16 world-cycles
3 planes	Appamäna-subhä	32 world-cycles
	Subha-kiņhā	64 world-cycles
Fourth-jhäna	Vehapphalā	500 world-cycles
7 planes	Asaññāsatta	500 world-cycles
	Avihā	1000 world-cycles
	Ātappā	2000 world-cycles
	Sudassā	4000 world-cycles
	Sudassī	8000 world-cycles
	Akanițțha	16000 world-cycles
Arūpāvacara	Ākāsānañcāyatana	20000 world-cycles
4 planes	Viññānancāyatana	40000 world-cycles
	Akiñcaññāyatana	60000 world-cycles
	N'evasaññā- nāsaññāyatana	84000 world-cycles

#### FOUR KINDS OF KAMMA (KAMMA-CATUKKA)

*Kamma*, Sanskrit *karma*, literally means volitional action or deed. As a rule good actions bear good results and bad actions bear bad results.

Now action may be performed by bodily movement ( $k\bar{a}ya$ ), by words of mouth ( $vac\bar{i}$ ), or by thought (*mano*). But the body and the mouth cannot move on their own accord; they have to be moved by the mind (*citta*) through *cittaja-rūpa*.

Again *citta* is just the awareness of a sense-object; it does not give the order or direction to perform an action on its own accord. It is the volition (*cetanā*) which directs the *citta* and its concomitants to perform the action. So *cetanā* is responsible for carrying out an action.

Thus, strictly speaking, *kamma* means all moral and immoral volition (*cetanā*). The volition having the root in ignorance (*moha*), greed or attachment (*lobha*) or anger (*dosa*) is evil. The volition, which is accompanied by generosity (*alobha*), good-will (*adosa*) and wisdom ( $pa\bar{n}n\bar{n}a$ ), is wholesome.

In other words, the *cetanā* present in the 12 *akusala cittas* are immoral *kammas* whereas the *cetanā* present in 8 *mahā-kusala cittas*, 5 *rūpāvacara-kusala cittas* and 4 *arūpāvacara-kusala cittas* are moral *kammas*.

Now *cetanā* and its concomitants (i.e. *citta* and *cetasikas* other than *cetanā*) perish after performing their respective purposes. But before they perish, they leave their kammic property in the *citta*-stream. This kammic property is the potential *kamma* which will produce its due effect in some proper time, and the effect will fall on the doer himself.

It is somewhat analogous to Newton's third law of motion in physics. The law states: "To every action, there is an equal and opposite reaction". Thus a person, who performs a good or bad action, should expect an equal and opposite reaction either in this life or in some future life.

Furthermore, that opposite reaction may come many times as the *kamma* has been multiplied to more than a billionfold by the property of *citta*. How? As mentioned earlier, *cittas* can occur at the rate of more than a trillion times per eye wink. So many billion *cittas* accompanied by the volition of killing a mosquito will arise in striking the mosquito. These many billion *cittas* together with the volition of killing will deposit manybillion *kamma* seeds in the *citta*-stream.

As a vegetable seed gives rise to a new plant of the same kind of tree which gives the seed, so also a *kamma* seed will produce a new being in a plane appropriate to the original *kamma*. An immoral *kamma* will give rebirth in a woeful plane whereas a moral *kamma* will give rebirth in a blissful plane.

Just as many-billion immoral *kammas* are produced in a single act of killing a mosquito, so in performing a wholesome deed, such as giving charity, many billion moral *kammas* are produced.

Thus the number of moral as well as immoral *kammas* accumulated in this life as well as in uncountable past lives are so numerous that it cannot be handled by a super-computer. Yet all these *kammas* are in the *citta* stream of each individual following him wherever he emerges in a new life.

Just as every object is accompanied by a shadow, even so every kamma is accompanied by its due effect. Kamma is action and vipāka (fruit or result) is its reaction. It is the cause and the effect. Like a seed is kamma, like a plant is vipāka. As we sow, so we reap either in this life or in a future life. What we reap today is what we have sown either in the present or in the past. *Kamma* is a law in itself, and it operates in its own field without any intervention of an external ruling agency. Inherent in *kamma* is the potentiality of producing its due effect. *Kamma* is the cause; *vipāka* is the effect. The cause produces the effect; the effect explains the cause. The law of cause and effect rules everywhere.

Though we cannot know the individual *kammas* in a person, we can classify the *kammas* into several types as described by the Buddha, and predict when, where and how each type will bear its result.

#### Α ΚΙССА-КАММА САТИККА

With respect to function, there are four kinds of kamma:

1 Janaka-kamma

Reproductive *kamma* which produces mental aggregates and material aggregates at the moment of conception as well as throughout the life-time of the individual;

2 Upatthambhaka-kamma

Supportive *kamma* which supports the *janaka-kamma* as well as the effect of the *janaka-kamma* throughout the life-time of the individual;

- 3 Upapīļaka-kamma Obstructive kamma which weakens, interrupts or retards the fruition of the janaka kamma;
- 4 Upaghātaka-kamma

Destructive kamma which not only cuts off the effect of the *janaka kamma* but also destroys the *janaka kamma* and produce its own effect. In other words, the person dies abruptly and is reborn in accordance with the *upaghātaka-kamma*. As an example of the operation of the above four kammas, the case of Devadatta may be cited. His good janaka-kamma conditioned him to be born in a royal family. His continued comforts and prosperity were due to the action of the janakakamma as well as the supportive kamma. The obstructive kamma came into play when he was excommunicated from the Samgha and subject to much humiliation. Then his serious immoral kamma causing a schism in the Samgha operated as the destructive kamma which sent him down to the avīci hell.

## B PÄKADĀNAPARIYĀYA-KAMMA CATUKKA

With respect to the priority in bearing results, there are four kinds of *kamma*:

1 Garuka-kamma

Weighty *kamma* which is so strong that no other *kamma* can stop its function in the next life. In other words, it certainly produces its results in the next life.

Bad weighty kammas are pañcānantariya kamma, namely, (i) creating a schism in the Samgha, (ii) wounding a Buddha, (iii) murdering an arahat, (iv) matricide, and, (v) parricide. Niyata-micchādiţthi (permanent false view) is also termed as one of the weighty kammas.

On the other hand, 5 rūpāvacara-kusala kammas and 4 arūpāvacara-kusala kammas are good weighty kammas. Lokuttara-magga is also a weighty force for it closes the doors of the four apāya abodes for ever.

2 Asaññā-kamma

Proximate *kamma* that is performed or remembered just before death.

3 Āciņņa-kamma

Habitual *kamma* which is performed regularly, or it may be a *kamma* which is performed once and is recollected and remembered all the time.

4 Kaţattā-kamma Unspecified kamma which is done once and soon forgotten.

Now if we have any *garuka-kamma*, it will produce its result when we die and condition our next life.

If we do not have any garuka-kamma, which is often the case, then we must rely on asaññā-kamma to condition our next life. To get a good asaññā-kamma, sons and daughters or relatives and friends should arrange wholesome deeds such as offering robes to monks or listening to Dhamma-preaching for the person on his or her death-bed. The dying person should also be reminded of his past good deeds.

A good example is Venerable Sona's father in Ceylon. The father made a living by hunting. When he was too old to go hunting, he became a monk in his son's monastery. Soon he fell ill and had a vision that hell hounds were coming up the hill to bite him. He was frightened, and so he asked his son to drive away the hounds.

His son, who was an *arahat*, knew that his father was having a *gati-nimitta* to be cast away in *niraya*. He asked his disciples to gather flowers quickly and spread them all over the pagoda in the monastery. Then they carried his father together with his bed to the pagoda. Venerable Sona reminded his father to pay homage to the pagoda and to rejoice in the offering of flowers on his behalf.

The old monk calmed down, paid respect to the pagoda

and was delighted in seeing the flowers being offered to the pagoda on his behalf. At that moment, his *gati-nimitta* changed. He told his son, "Your beautiful step-mothers from celestial abode come to take me along". The son was satisfied with the result of his efforts.

This is a very good way of repaying the gratitude we owe to our parents.

To be sure to get a good *asaññā-kamma*, however, we should develop an *āciņņa-kamma* while we are alive. The best *āciņņakamma* is tranquillity-meditation or insight-meditation which can be performed all the time. When it becomes habitual, it will be remembered and practised near the time of death.

King Dutthagamani of Ceylon was in the habit of giving alms to monks before he took his meals. Once his brother rose against him and drove him into the forest. While hiding in the forest, he asked his attendant whether they had anything to eat. His attendant replied that he had brought a bowl of royal meal.

The king divided the meal into four portions – one portion is for him, one for the attendant, one for the horse and one for offering. He then asked the attendant to invite monks or recluses to come and collect his offering.

Of course they could see no one around. But on the king's insistence, the attendant invited aloud. Lo! A reverend monk came moving in the air. The monk was an *arahat* with the knowledge of *abhiññā*. The king was so delighted that he offered not only the fourth portion of the meal but also his portion. The attendant followed suit and offered his share. On looking at the horse, it nodded indicating that it wanted to offer its share as well.

#### 192 | THE ESSENCE OF BUDDHA ABHIDHAMMA

The king was in ecstasy for some time and then felt hungry again. Knowing that the *arahat* could hear him with his divine ear (*dibba-sota*), he made a wish to send him any remnant of the meal. The *arahat* sent him the begging-bowl which came flying in the air. The king took the bowl and found it full of food. The food can be multiplied by *iddhi-vidha-abhiññā* (supernormal power). The king, the attendant and the horse could eat to their full.

Later the king regained power and donated a tremendous amount of his wealth to Buddha-sāsanā (Buddhist religion) for building the great *thūpa* called *Mahā-cetiya*, many monasteries and other religious buildings. He had all his good deeds recorded. When he was on his death-bed, he listened to the records, which were read to him. On coming to the item of offering a meal to the *arahat* in the forest, he asked the reader to stop the reading. He was in great joy and, remembering that deed, he died. This good *kamma* gave him rebirth in *Tusitā* realm.

Cunda, a butcher, made a living by slaughtering pigs cruelly for more than fifty years. When the time was up, the fire from *niraya* came up and burnt him making him squeal like a pig for seven days. He was in *niraya* as soon as he died. Thus *āciņņakamma* becomes *asaññā-kamma* and produces its result.

#### THE SIMILE OF A CATTLE-SHED

Suppose that many cattle are kept in a big shed for the night. In the morning the door of the shed is opened to let the cattle go out to the pasture. Now which one will come out first?

All the cattle want to get out as soon as possible. If there is a leader among them whom everyone respects, this one will walk majestically to the door and come out first. This one is like a *garuka-kamma* which is uncontested to bear its result in the next life.

Now, if there is no leader, the one nearest to the door may come out first. This is similar to the *āssanna-kamma* bearing its fruit in the next life.

Sometimes a vigilant one, which has regularly noticed the time when the shed is opened, may walk to the door just before it is opened and come out first when the door is opened. This is like the *āciņņa-kamma* producing its result in the next life.

Sometimes an unexpected frail one, by being pushed by stronger ones, may come out of the shed first. This is similar to the case when an unexpected *kaţaţţā-kamma* has the chance to condition the next life.

Queen Mallika led a righteous life, but she remembered a lie, which she had told King Kosala long ago, at her death moment. So this had *kaṭaṭṭā-kamma* cast her down to a woeful state for seven days.

# C PĀKAKĀLA-KAMMA CATUKKA

With respect to the time of taking effect there are four kinds of *kamma*:

- 1 Ditthadhammavedanīya-kamma Immediately effective kamma which bears fruits in the present life; warma
- 2 Upapajjapedanīya-kamma Subsequently effective kamma which bears fruits in the next (second) life;
- 3 Aparāpariyavedanīya-kamma with bears fruits from

the third life till the last life when the person realizes *Nibbāna*;

4 *Ahosi-kamma* Defunct *kamma* which no longer bears fruits.

In studying  $v\bar{i}this$ , we notice that mahā-kusala citta or akusala citta functions seven times as javana in normal situations. The cetanā (volition) associated with the first javana is named diţţhadhammavedanīya-kamma which will produce its result in this very life. If it does not operate in this life, it becomes defunct.

Devadatta and Cunda were burnt by *niraya* fire in their present lives. Poor Kākavaliya couple, after offering boiled rice to Venerable Sariputta, became very rich in seven days.

Of the seven *javanas*, the first *javana* is the weakest. The strongest is the seventh-*javana*. The *cetanā* associated with this *javana* is called *upapajjavedaniya-kamma*. It produces its result in the next (second) life. If it does not operate in the second birth, it too becomes defunct or ineffective (*ahosi*).

The five intermediate *javanas* are strong, and the *cetanās* associated with them are known as *aparāpīriya-vedanīya-kamma*. As millions of *vīthis* occur in an act of wholesome or unwholesome deed, there will arise many millions of this type of *kamma* during the action. So this *kamma* will operate indefinitely from the third birth till the last one when the individual attains *Nibbāna*. No one, not even Buddhas and *arahats*, is exempt from this class of *kamma*.

So for every action we have performed we should expect the consequences not only in this life but in indefinite lives in the future in the course of our wanderings in Samsāra. So be careful!

#### **D PĀĶAŢHĀŅA-KAMMA CATUKKA**

With respect to the place where the kammic effect takes place, *kamma* is divided into four classes:

- 1 Akusala kamma Immoral action which produces its effect in the four apāya abodes.
- 2 Kāmāvaçara-kusala kamma Moral action in the sense-sphere that produces its effect in the seven sensuous blissful realms (kāmaloka);
- Rūpāvacara-kusala kamma
  Moral action in the fine-material sphere that produces its effect in the sixteen rūpa-realms (rūpaloka);
- Arūpāvacara-kusaļa kamma
  Moral action in the non-material sphere that produces its effect in the four arūpa-realms (arūpaloka).

#### Notes:

- i In essence, it should be noted that:
- a Akusala-kamma 12 cetanās associated with 12 akusala cittas.
- b Kāmāvacara-kusala kamma –
  8 cetanās accompanied with 8 mahā-kusala cittas,
- c Rūpāvacara-kusala kamma –
  5 cetanās accompanied with 5 rūpāvacara kusala cittas.
- d Arūpāvacara-kusala kamma 4 cetanās accompanied with 4 arūpāvacara kusala cittas.
- The kammic effect is of two kinds vipāka-nāmakkhandha and kaţaţţa-rūpa.
- a Vipāka-nāmakkhandha vipāka citta and its concomitants

b Kaţaţţā-rūpa – kammaja-rūpa and utuja-rūpa. Kammajarūpa is corporeality produced by kamma and Utujarūpa is corporeality produced by temperature.

Furthermore the kammic effect occurs at *pațisandhi-kāla* (i.e. the arising moment of *pațisandhi citta*) as well as at *pavatti-kāla* (i.e. from the existing moment of *pațisandhi-citta* till death).

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## KAMMA-DVĀRA AND THREE TYPES OF KAMMA

The place where *kamma* occurs or the means by which *kamma* arises is called *kamma-dvāra*. There are three *kamma-dvāras*.

- 1 Kāya-dvāra Special bodily movement called kāyaviñňatți where bodily action (kāya-kamma) occurs.
- 2 Vacī-dvāra Speech-producing movement of the mouth called vacivinīnātti where verbal action (vacīkamma) arises.
- 3 Mano-dvāra

All *cittas* where mental action (*mano-kamma*) arises. In accordance with three *kamma-dvāras*, there are three types of *kamma*.

1 Kāya-kamma

Bodily action generally performed by special bodily movement called *kāyaviññatti*.

2 Vacī-kamma

Verbal action generally performed by special movement of the mouth called *vacīviñīnatti*.

3 Mano-kamma

Mental action performed by the mind through thinking, plotting, meditating, etc.

# TEN AKUSALA KAMMA-PATHAS

'*Kamma-patha*' means 'course of action'. It is the name for a group of 10 kinds of either unwholesome or wholesome actions. The unwholesome actions may be divided into three groups in accordance with three types of *kamma*.

1 Akusala-kāya-kamma

There are 3 unwholesome bodily actions:

- 1 Pānātipātā killing any living being,
- 2 Adinnādānā stealing or taking other's property unlawfully,
- 3 *Kameşu-micchāçārā* sexual misconduct such as unlawful sexual intercourse.
- 2 Akusala-vacī-kamma

There are 4 unwholesome verbal actions:

- 4 Musāvādā lying,
- 5 Pişunavācā slandering,
- 6 Pharusavācā rude or harsh speech,
- 7 Samphappalāpa vain talk or foolish babble.
- 3 Akusala-mano-kamma

There are 3 unwholesome mental actions:

- 8 Abhijjhā covetousness, <sup>v</sup> <sup>o</sup>
- 9 Vyāpāda ill-will or<sup>, 3</sup>
- 10 Micchādițthi wrong view

The ten unwholesome actions are also called "ten *ducaritas*", meaning "evil conduct".

Of the ten, killing, harsh speech and illwill are accomplished by *dosa-mūla cittas*. Sexual misconduct, covetousness and wrong view are accomplished by *lobha-mūla cittas*. Stealing, lying, slandering and vain talk may be accomplished by either *lobha-mūla* or *dosa-mūla cittas*. 198 | THE ESSENCE OF BUDDHA ABHIDHAMMA

# TEN KUSALA-KAMMA-PATHAS

These are ten wholesome actions also known as "ten *sucaritas*", meaning "ten types of good conduct'. They are also divided into three groups in accordance with three types of *kamma*.

- 1 Kusala-kāya-kamma There are three wholesome bodily actions:
  - 1 Pānātipātā-virati avoidance of killing,
  - 2 Adinnādānā-virați avoidance of stealing
  - 3 Kamesu-micchācārā-virati avoidance of sexual misconduct.
- 2 Kusala-vacī-kamma

There are four wholesome verbal actions:

- 4 Musāvādā-virati avoidance of lying,
- 5 Pisunavācā-virati avoidance of slandering,
- 6 Pharusavācā-virati avoidance of harsh speech,
- 7 Samphappalāpa-virati avoidance of vain talk.

In other words, one should make use of true speech, concilliatory speech, mild speech and wise speech.

3 Kusala-mano-kamma

There are three wholesome mental actions:

- 8 Anabhijjhā absence of covetousness (unselfishness),
- 9 Avyāpāda good-will
- 10 Sammā-dițțhi right view.

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# PUÑÑA-KIRIYA VAT,THU (Bases of Meritorious Action)

If one likes to accumulate wholesome *kamma* in this life, there are ten bases of meritorious actions which produce good effect and which should be done by all means.

1 Dāna - giving charity or generosity

- 2 *Sīla* morality; observing five precepts, eight precepts, ten precepts, etc.
- 3 Bhāvanā meditation, both tranquility and insight
- 4 Appaçāyaņa reverence to elders and holy persons
- 5 Veyāvacca service in wholesome deeds
- 6 Pattidāna transference of merit
- 7 Pattānumodana rejoicing in others' merit
- 8 Dhamma-savana listening to the Doctrine
- 9 Dhamma-desanā expounding the Doctrine
- 10 Ditthijjukamma straightening one's right view

The above ten *puñña-kiriya-vatthus* can be classified into three groups:

- 1 Dāna group Dāna, Pattidāna, Pattānumodana
- 2 Sīla group Sīla, Appaçāyaņa, Veyāvacca
- 3 Bhāvanā group Bhāvanā, Dhamma-savana, Dhammadesanā, Diţţhijjukamma.

*Dițțhijjukamma* may also be included in all the three groups, because one will perform *dāna*, *sīla* and *bhāvanā* only if one has the right view about *kamma* and its effect.

The *dāna* group represents *alobha* (generosity), and opposes *lobha* (attachment) and *macchariya* (stinginess). It is compared to the legs.

The *sīla* group represents *adosa* (good-will) and opposes *issa* (jealousy) and *dosa* (anger). It is compared to the body.

The *bhāvanā* group represents *amoha* (wisdom) and opposes *moha* (ignorance). It is compared to the head.

To have a complete set of legs, body and head, one must perform all the three groups of *puñña-kiriya-vatthu*.

The ten puñña-kiriya-vatthus are performed with 8 mahā-
kusala cittas unless one attains *jhāna* or *magga* in meditation. So they generally give rise to *kāmāvacara-kusala kamma*.

*Rūpāvacara-kusala kamma* and *arūpāvacara-kusala kamma* are purely mental actions and they belong to the *bhāvanā* group.

# DVIHETUKA AND TIHETUKA KUSALA KAMMA

If one performs a wholesome deed with the knowledge of kamma and its effect, i.e. kammassakata-ñāṇa, then ñāṇa-sampayutta mahā-kusala cittas arise. The cetanā associated with these cittas are accompanied by three good roots, namely, alobha, adosa and amoha. So tihetuka-kusala kamma is acquired.

Better still, if during the action of moral deeds, one can develop *vipassanā-ñāṇa* by reasoning that everything is impermanent, unsatisfactory and not-self. The *kusala-kamma* acquired is again accompanied by three good roots.

On the other hand, if one performs a wholesome deed without any knowledge of kamma and its effect or without vipassanā-fiāņa, he is doing it with fiāṇa-vippayutta mahā-kusala cittas. Thus his cetanā will be accompanied by two good roots namely, alobha and adosa. So he acquired only dvihetuka-kusala kamma.

### UKKATTHA AND OMAKA KUSALA KAMMA

*Ukkattha* means 'best or supreme' whereas 'omaka' means 'inferior'.

If one can develop *kusala cittas* before and after a moral action, then the moral *cetanā*, which is *kamma* acquired during the action, will be surrounded by good *cetanā* and consequently its potentiality will be enhanced. Thus this type of *kamma* is called *ukkaţtha kamma*.

To acquire this type of *kamma*, one should think of the moral action in advance and feel glad for having the chance to do it. Again, after performing the action, one should be full of joy thinking about the good aspects of the action.

On the other hand, if one feels idle or reluctant or jealous or stingy before a moral action such as giving charity, and becomes repentant after the moral action, then the moral *cetanā* will be surrounded by *akusala cetanās* and consequently its potentiality will be decreased. The *kusala kamma* acquired in this case is called *omaka kamma*.

#### HOW KAMMAS BEAR RESULTS

The reader should refer to Chart No. 7 with this title attached at the back of this book. The four types of *kamma* are mentioned in the first column. Only *vipāka-cittas* are described in the chart as the direct resultants of these *kammas*. It should be understood that these *vipāka-cittas* will be accompanied by the respective *cetasikas* which arise along with the *cittas*.

A vipāka citta together with its concomitant-cetasikas furnishes vipāka-nāmakkhandha, i.e., the four resultant nāmagroups. Kamma also produces kammaja-rūpa at every short instant (small khaṇa) incessantly, and based on this kammajarūpa, utuja-rūpa also arises.

The four *nāma*-groups (*nāmakkhanadhas*) and the corporeality group (*rūpakkhandha*) together form the five groups of existence (five *khandhas*) which make up an individual.

#### 1 EFFECTS OF AKUSALA KAMMAS

The 11 akusala cetanā, the weak cetanā associated with uddhaccasampayutța citta being excepted, at pațisandhi-kāla produce akusala-vipāka upekkhā-santīraņa citta which forms the apāya patisandhi in the four apāya abodes.

All the 12 akusala cetanā, at pavatti-kāla, produce 7 akusala vipāka cittas in the 11 kāma-planes. They produce 4 akusala vipāka cittas with the exception of ghāna-viītītāņa, jivhā-viītītāņa and kāya-viītītāņa, in 15 rūpa-planes excluding asafitāsatta realm.

# 2 EFFECTS OF KĀMĀVACARA-KUSALA KAMMAS

First there are two types of kāmāvacara-kusala kamma: dvihetuka and tihetuka. Dvihetuka kamma is again divided into two subgroups: ukkaṭṭha and omaka. Similarly tihetuka kamma is divided into two sub-groups: ukkaṭṭha and omaka. So, taking all together, we get 4 sub-groups:



Now 4 ñāṇa-vippayutta mahā-kusala cittas give rise to 4 dvihetuka-mahā-kusala kammas whereas 4 ñāṇa-sampayutta mahākusala cittas give rise to 4 tihetuka-mahā-kusala kammas.

As the 4 dvihetuka-mahā-kusala kammas can be either omaka or ukkațțha, we get

i 4 dvihetuka-omaka mahā-kusala kammas, and

ii 4 dvihetuka-ukkațțha mahā-kusala kammas.

Similarly, from 4 tihetuka-mahā-kusala kammas, we get

iii 4 tihetuka-omaka mahā-kusala kammas, and

iv 4 tihetuka-ukkattha mahā-kusala kammas.

Of the four sub-groups, (i) is the poorest, (ii) and (iii) are somewhat equal and (iv) is the best. The effects they produce are as follows:

i The 4 dvihetuka-omaka mahā-kusala kammas, at paţisandhikāla, produce kusala-vipāka upekkhā-santīraņa citta which forms kāma-sugati ahetuka-paţisandhi in the human realm and the lower catumahārājika realm.

At pavatti-kāla, they produce 8 ahetuka-kusala vipākacittas in the 11 kāma-planes; in the 15 rūpa-planes with the exception of asaññāsatta realm, they produce 5 ahetuka-kusala vipāka-cittas, excepting ghāna-viññāņa, jivhā-viññāņa and kāya-viññāņa.

ii & iii

The 4 dvihetuka-ukkattha mahā-kusala-kammas and the 4 tihetuka-omaka mahā-kusala-kammas, at patisandhi-kāla, produce 4 ñāṇa-vippayutta mahā-vipāka-cittas which form 4 kāma-sugati dvihetuka-patisandhi in the 7 kāma-sugati planes.

At pavatti-kāla, they produce 8 ahetuka-kusala vipākacittas and 4 ñāņa-vippayutta mahā-vipāka cittas in the 7 kāma-sugati planes; they produce 8 ahetuka-kusala vipākacittas in the 4 apāya-planes; they produce 5 ahetukakusala vipāka-cittas excluding ghāna-viññāņa, jivhāviññāņa and kāya-viññāņa in the 15 rūpa-planes with the exception of the asaññāsatta realm.

iv The 4 tihetuka-ukkațțha mahākusala kammas, at pațisandhikāla, produce 4 ñāņa-sampayutta mahā-vipāka-cittas which form 4 kāma-sugati tihetuka-pațisandhi in the 7 kāma-sugati planes; they produce 8 ahetuka-kusala vipāka cittas in the 4 apāya-planes; and they produce 5 ahetuka-kusala vipāka-cittas, excluding ghāna-viññāņa, jivhā-viññāņa and kāya-viñīnāņa in the 15 rūpa-planes with the exception of the asañīnāsatta realm.

# **3 EFFECTS OF RŪPĀVACARA-KUSALA KAMMAS**

Among chanda, citta, vīriya and paññā which associate with jhānacitta, one usually becomes predominant (adhipati). Based on the quality of this predominant factor, the jhānas can be differentiated as paritta (inferior), majjhima (moderate) and paņīta (superior).

1 Paritta-first-jhāna kusala-kamma gives birth in Brahmaparisajjā realm with first-jhāna vipāka-citta as rebirthconsciousness and then as life continuum.

Majjhima-first-jhāna kusala-kamma gives birth in Brahma-purohitā realm with first-jhāna vipāka-citta as rebirth-consciousness and then as life continuum.

Paņīța-first-jhāna kusala-kamma gives birth in Mahābrahma realm with first-jhāna vipāka-citta as rebirthconsciousness and then as life continuum.

2 Paritta-second-jhäna kusala-kamma and paritta-thirdjhäna kusala-kamma give birth in the Parittäbhä realm with second-jhäna vipäka-citta and third-jhäna vipäkacitta as rebirth-consciousness, respectively and then as life continuum.

Majjhima-second-jhāna kusala-kamma and majjhimathird-jhāna kusala-kamma give birth in the Appamānābhā realm with second-jhāna vipāka-citta and third-jhāna vipāka-citta as rebirth-consciousness and then as life continuum.

Paņīta-second-jhāna kusala-kamma and paņīta-third-

*jhāna kusala-kamma* give birth in the *Abhassarā* realm with second-*jhāna vipāka-citta* and third-*jhāna vipāka-citta* as rebirth-consciousness, respectively and then as life continuum.

3 Paritta-fourth-jhāna kusala-kamma gives birth in Parittasubhā realm with fourth-jhāna vipāka-citta as rebirthconsciousness and then as life continuum.

Majjhima-fourth-jhāna kusala-kamma gives birth in Appamānasubhā realm with fourth-jhāna vipāka-citta as rebirth-consciousness and then as life continuum.

Paņīta-fourth-jhāna kusala-kamma gives birth in Subhākiņhā realm with fourth-jhāna vipāka-citta as rebirth-consciousness and then as life continuum.

4 Fifth-*jhāna kusala-kamma* gives birth in the Vehapphala realm with fifth-*jhāna vipāka-citta* as rebirth-consciousness and then as life continuum.

After attaining the fifth-*jhāna*, if one practises safīfīā-virāga-bhāvanā (meditation which develops no desire for perception and consciousness) to completion, then this kamma will give birth in Asaññāsatta realm with rūpa-pațisandhi.

Fifth-*jhāna kusala-kamma* in *anāgāmī* person gives birth in the Suddhāvāsa planes with fifth-*jhāna vipākacitta* as rebirth-consciousness and then as life continuum.

Here again, depending on the predominant faculty, rebirth takes place in the 5 *Suddhāvāsa* planes as follows:

a Faculty of saddhā (faith) — Avihā realm

b Faculty of vīriya (effort) — Ātappā realm

- c Faculty of sati (mindfulness) Sudassā realm
- d Faculty of samādhi (concentration) Suddassī realm
- e Faculty of paññā (wisdom) Akanițțha realm

# 4 EFFECTS OF ARŪPĀVACARA-KUSALA KAMMAS

Ākāsānancāyatana-kusala kamma gives birth in Ākāsānancā-yatana realm with ākāsānancāyatana vipāka-citta as rebirth consciousness.

Viññānañcāyatana-kusala kamma gives birth in Viññānañcāyatana realm with viññānañcāyatana-vipāka citta as rebirth consciousness and then as life continuum.

Ākiñcaññāyatana-kusala kamma gives birth in Ākiñcaññāyatana realm with ākiñcaññāyatana-vipāka citta as rebirth consciousness and then as life continuum.

N'evasaññā-n'āsaññāyatana-kusala kamma gives birth in N'evasaññā-n'āsaññāyatana realm with n'evasaññā-n'āsaññā-yatanavipāka-citta as rebirth consciousness and then as life continuum.

# FOURFOLD ADVENT OF DEATH (MARAŅ'UPPATTI-CATUKKA)

The fourfold advent of death may be compared to the four ways of extinguishing a lighted oil-lamp.

The flame of the oil-lamp may go out when:

- 1 the wick burns out,
- 2 the oil burns out,
- 3 both the wick and the oil burn out, or
- 4 the wind blows suddenly or the light is put out purposely even though the wick and the oil still remain.

In the same way, a person may die in one of the following ways:

- 1 *Āyukkhaya-maraņa* Death due to the expiration of the age-limit,
- 2 Kammakkhaya-marana Death due to the expiration of the reproductive kammic force,
- 3 Ubhayakkhaya-marana Death due to the expiration of both the age-limit and kamma,

4 Upacchedaka-marana Death due to the intervention of a destructive kamma. It is sudden death such as the one encountered in car accident or suicide.

# APPEARANCE OF KAMMA-RELATED OBJECTS

Now, to those who are about to die, by the power of *kamma* that is going to condition the next birth, one of the following three objects always presents itself through one of the six doors:

- 1 Kamma object the kamma that produces rebirth in the subsequent life enters the mind door;
- 2 Kamma-nimitta sign of kamma, i.e. the scenes, the sound, the smell, etc., that are or were observed during the performance of the kamma which is going to bear result;
- 3 Gati-nimitta –

sign of destiny, i.e. the scenes of people or buildings in connection with the place where one is going to be reborn according to the successful *kamma*.

Since the *kamma*-object is in the form of a past *cetanā*, it presents itself through the mind-door.

If the *kamma-nimitta* belongs to the past *kamma*, it also presents itself through the mind-door. If it belongs to the present *kamma*, it can enter through any of the six doors depending on its form. If it is a visual object, it will enter through the eye-door; if it is an audible sound, it will enter through the ear-door; and so on.

*Gati-nimitta* belongs to the present. So, depending on its form, it may present itself through any of the six doors.

(Readers are requested to review the "Maranasanna Nimitta" described on page 128)

#### MARAŅĀSANNA VĪTHI

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Now, when the *maraṇāsanna-nimitta* appears at one of the six doors, the *āzvajjana-citta* (adverting consciousness) will pick up the sense object and a stream of consciousness, known as *maraṇā-sanna-vīthi*, flows on. In accordance with the *kamma* that is going to produce next rebirth, an *akusala* or *kusala citta* normally functions 5 times as *javanas* in these *vīthis*. These *javanas* are known as *"maraṇāsanna-javanas"*.

# A Ati-mahantā-rammaņa Cakkhu-dvāra Maraņāsanna Vīthis

Two typical maranāsanna-vīthis for a visible object of very great intensity striking the eye-door:

Tī-Na-Da-"Pa-Ca-Sam-Ņa-Vo-Ja-Ja-Ja-Ja-Da-Da-Bha-Cuti-<sup>او</sup> Pați" -Bha- <sup>المراجع</sup> على المراجع Tī-Na-Da- "Pa-Ca-Sam-Ņa-Vo-Ja-Ja-Ja-Ja-Da-Da-Cuti-Pați"

II-Na-Da-Tra-Ca-Sam-Na-vo-ja-ja-ja-ja-ja-Da-Da-Cuu-rau -Bha-

The present *kamma-nimitta* or the *gati-nimitta* strikes the eyedoor at the arising instant of the first *atīța-bhavanga* (Tī). Being of very great insensity, it becomes distinct as the arising instant

of bhavanga-calana (Na). The life-continuum (bhavanga) vibrates for two conscious moments (Na-Da) and is cut off. Then, observing the nimitta, pañcadvārāvajjana (Pa), cakkhu-viññāṇa (Ca), sampațicchana (Sam), santiraṇa (Na), voțthapana (Vo), five javanas (Ja), two tadālambaṇas (Da) and one bhavanga (Bha) arise in series. Then the death-consciousness (cuti) occurs when the person dies. In the second vīthi, cuti follows tadālambaṇa directly without any intervention of a bhavanga-citta.

Immediately after the dissolution of the death-consciousness, the rebirth-consciousness (*paţisandhi-citta*) arises in the next life without any break in the stream of consciousness and without any lapse in time. The next life may appear in a very far place like a *brahma* realm, yet there is no lapse in time.

Thus for the stream of consciousness to flow on, there is no barrier in time and space. The idea of timeless and spaceless is realized here. Also the idea that the soul wanders around before it enters the next life is not correct. There is no soul nor person in Abhidhamma; there are only incessant flows of  $n\bar{a}ma$ -stream and  $r\bar{u}pa$ -stream in accordance with the Law of Dependent Origination (*Paticcasamuppāda*) which will be explained in Chapter VIII.

- B Mahantā-rammaņa Çakkhu-dvāra Maraņāsanna Vīthis
- 1 TJ-TI-Na-Da-"Pa-Ca-Sam-Na-Vo-Ja-Ja-Ja-Ja-Ja-Bha-Cuti-Pați"-Bha-
- 2 Tī-Tī-Na-Da-"Pa-Ca-Sam-Ņa-Vo-Ja-Ja-Ja-Ja-Ja-Ja-Pați" -Bha-
- C Ati-vibhūta-rammaņa Mano-dvāra Maraņāsanna Vīthis
- 1 Na-Da-"Ma-Ja-Ja-Ja-Ja-Da-Da-Bha-Cuti-Pati"-Bha-

2 Na-Da-"Ma-Ja-Ja-Ja-Ja-Da-Da-Cuti-Pați"-Bha-

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When the kamma which is going to produce next rebirth or the kamma-nimitta or the gati-nimitta related to that kamma appears at the mind door, the life-continuum vibrates twice and is cut off (Na-Da). Then mano-dvārāvajjana adverts the stream of consciousness towards the object, observes the object and makes its decision. Then come five javanas followed by two tadālambaņas and one or no bhavaṅga. Then the death-consciousness (cuti) occurs when the person dies. Immediately after death, the rebirth-consciousness (pațisandhi) arises in the next life without any break in the stream of consciousness. After that the life continuum (bhavaṅga) flows on in the next life.

- D Vibhūtā-rammaņa Mano-dvāra Maraņāsanna Vīthis
- 1 Na-Da- "Ma-Ja-Ja-Ja-Ja-Ja-Bha-Cuti-Pați" Bha-
- 2 Na-Da- "Ma-Ja-Ja-Ja-Ja-Ja-Cuti-Pați" Bha-

#### **REBIRTH-CONSCIOUSNESS**

Rebirth-consciousness arises in the new life as the resultant of the *kamma* which has the chance to condition the new life. Rebirth consciousness joins the new existence with the old one; so it is called *paţisandhi-citta*.

The rebirth-consciousness will be accompanied by its concomitants (*cetasikas*). It is the nucleus as well as the foregoer and leader of its associates. It will have a physical base (*hadaya-vatthu*), provided by the same *kamma*, if the new existence takes place in *pañca-vokāra*-planes (planes of five *khandha*). If the new existence takes place in *catu-vokāra*-plane (plane of four-*khandha*, i.e. *arūpa*-plane), there will be no physical base.

The rebirth-consciousness grasps the sense-object which the marana-saññā javanas have observed. If the javanas observed *kamma-nimitta*, the rebirth-consciousness also observes *kamma-nimitta*. Moreover, all *bhavaṅga cittas* in the new life also observe the same sense-object.

The object of  $r\bar{u}pa$ -pațisandhi is kamma-nimitta which may be the pațibhāga-nimitta of kasiņa that usually appears at the mind-door at the time of death.

The object of *arūpa-pațisandhi* is also *kamma-nimitta* which may be either concepts such as infinite space (*ākāsa*) or *mahaggata-cittas*.

# PLANES OF REBIRTH AFTER DEATH

Death is the temporary end of a temporary phenomenon. By death is meant the extinction of psychic life  $(j\bar{i}vitjndriya)$ , heat  $(usma = tejodh\bar{a}tu)$  and consciousness  $(vinn\bar{a}na)$  of one individual in a particular existence. But death is not the complete annihilation of a being. Death in one place means rebirth in another place so long as the causes for the next life are not extinct.

Now the possible planes where rebirth could take place after death in a particular plane are enumerated as follows.

- 1 When a *brahma* in an *arūpa*-plane dies, he may be reborn in the same plane or a higher plane but not in a lower *arūpa*-plane. Moreover he may be reborn in the sensesphere with three roots either as a *deva* or a human being. Thus,
- i after the death in *Āķāsāņaācāyatana*-plane, 4 arūpapaţisandhis and 4 kāma-tihetuka-paţisandhis are possible.
- ii after the death in Viññānañcāyatana-plane, 3 arūpapaţisandhis (Ākāsānañcāyatana-paţisandhi is excepted) and 4 kāma-tihetuka-paţisandhis are possible.
- iii after the death in Äkiñcaññāyatana-plane, ākiñcaññā-

yatana-pațisandhi, n'evasaññā-n'āsaññāyatana-pațisandhi and 4 kāma-tihetuka pațisandhis are possible.

iv after the death in N'evasaññā-n'āsaññāyatana-plane, n'evasaññā-n'āsaññāyatana-pațisandhi and 4 kāma-tihetuka pațisandhis are possible.

2 When a brahma in a rūpa-plane (except Asaññāsatta and

Suddhāvāsas) dies, he may be reborn in any plane except the four apāya-abodes depending on his kamma. Also he will not be reborn either as a degraded human being or a degraded asura. In other words, 4 kāmadvihetuka-pațisandhis, 4 kāma-tihetuka-pațisandhis, 6 rūpāvacara pațisandhis and 4 arūpāvacara pațisandhis with the exception of 2 ahetuka-pațisandhis are possible.

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When Asaññāsatta brahma dies, he will be reborn in the sense-sphere either as a human or as a deva. Thus 4 kāma-dviņetuka paţisandhis and 4 kāma-tiņetuka paţisandhis are possible.

3 Now, when a human being or a *deva* from the sensesphere dies, he may be reborn in any plane if he is a *tihetuka*-person, because he can develop *jhānas* to be reborn as a *brahma* or he may commit immoral actions to be cast into the *apāya* abodes.

4+4+ 1+1=10

When a human being or a *deva* or *dvihetuka* person dies, any one of the 10 *kāma-pațisandhis* is possible.

4 When ahetuka-persons in the human realm as well as in the lower cațumahārājika realm die, all 10 kāmapațisandhis are possible.

When woeful persons from the four *apāya* abodes die, again all 10 kāma-pațisandhis are possible.

# Chapter 6 **RŪPA** Compendium of Matter

#### INTRODUCTORY

Of the four ultimate realities (*paramatthas*), consciousness (*citta*) and mental factors (*cetasikas*) have been described in the first five chapters of this book. We have seen 89 or 121 types of consciousness, 52 mental factors, association of these factors with *cittas*, the dependence of *nāma* (mind) on sense objects (*arammaņa*) as well as on physical bases (*vatthus*), the arising of cognitive processes to be aware of the sense objects, the 31 planes of existence and the types of persons who occupy them, the different types of *kamma* and their operation through their resultants such as rebirth-consciousness, life-continuum and death-consciousness, and finally death and rebirth.

Now in the present chapter, we shall deal with the two remaining ultimate realities, namely, *rūpa* and *Nibbāna*.

#### WHAT IS RŪPA?

 $R\bar{u}pa$  has been translated as 'matter', 'corporeality', 'material', 'body', 'form', etc., but none is exact. To judge from the various aspects of  $r\bar{u}pa$ , 'matter' is the nearest equivalent. But  $r\bar{u}pa$ comprises the characteristics of matter as well as those of energy.

#### 214 | THE ESSENCE OF BUDDHA ABHIDHAMMA

 $R\bar{u}pa$  may change state, form and colour on account of heat and cold just as matter does. Although form, shape and mass become apparent when a lot of  $r\bar{u}pa$  has accumulated, in the ultimate sense  $r\bar{u}pa$  is formless, shapeless and massless just as energy is. Scientists now know that matter and energy are interconvertible and identical in the ultimate sense.

But, unlike the law of conservation of mass and energy, which states that matter and energy can neither be created nor destroyed, we find in Abhidhamma that  $r\bar{u}pa$  arises and perishes incessantly at very short intervals measured by "small instant" called small *khaṇa. Rūpa* is incessantly produced from four main sources namely, *kamma*, *citta*, *utu* (heat) and  $\bar{a}h\bar{a}ra$  (nutriment). And  $r\bar{u}pa$ is very short lived – it endures only for 17 conscious moments. What is formed is almost instantly gone. It is very probable that the rate of formation and the rate of dissolution of  $r\bar{u}pa$  cancel each other making the law of conservation of matter and energy to hold as aggregates.

Besides  $r\bar{u}pa$  and  $n\bar{a}ma$  are interdependent. We shall understand  $r\bar{u}pa$  better by studying the various aspects of  $r\bar{u}pa$  which are described below.

#### **RŪPA-SAMUDDESA** (Enumeration of Rūpa)

First rupa is twofold namely, PRIMARY ELEMENT

- i Bhūta-rūpa essentials, and
- ii Upādāya-rūpa derivatives. DERWE MOTTER.

The  $bh\bar{u}ta$ - $r\bar{u}pa$  is more prominent than the  $up\bar{a}d\bar{a}ya$ - $r\bar{u}pa$ . Great masses like the earth and the sun are formed when a lot of  $bh\bar{u}ta$ - $r\bar{u}pa$  has accumulated. Consequently  $bh\bar{u}ta$ - $r\bar{u}pa$  is also called  $mah\bar{a}bh\bar{u}ta$  (great essentials).

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#### PRIMARY ELEMENTS. FOUR MAHABHŪTAS (Four Great Essentials)

- 1 Pathavī Element of solicity. No shope The element of extension with the characteristics of hardness and softness. Extension means occupation in space. Tri-dimensional extension gives rise to the idea of a solid-body. As no two bodies can occupy the same space at the same time, Buddhists derive the idea of hardness from pathavī. The dual characteristics of hardness and softness implies relativity. For example, a rock may be said to be 'hard' if compared with clay, but 'soft' if compared with iron. Pathavī serves as a support or nucleus for the other co-existing rūpas.
- 2 Apo Pathani can not exit above -Element of Fluidity

The element of cohesion with the characteristics of cohesiveness and fluidity. It is the  $\bar{a}po$  element that makes different particles of matter cohere and hold them together. It is like the force of attraction between the positive charge and the negative charge of electricity. When we add a little water to flour, the flour-particles cohere into a lump. If we add more water, the mixture becomes fluid and flows away.

3 Tejo

The element of heat or heat energy with the characteristics of hotness and coldness. Vivacity (liveliness), maturity, hotness and coldness are due to *tejo*. Both heat and cold are the properties of *tejo* or heat-energy. When heat flows into our body we feel hot; when heat flows out of our body to the surroundings, we feel cold.

#### 216 | THE ESSENCE OF BUDDHA ABHIDHAMMA

#### 4 Vāyo

The element of motion or kinetic energy with the characteristics of pushing and supporting. When we blow air into a balloon, the air pushes the walls of the balloon outwards, and if there is no balancing force exerted by the walls of the balloon, the balloon will bust. Remember that there is action and reaction at every point.

Motion, vibration, oscillation, rotation and pressure are caused by *väyo*.

#### Notes:

The four great essentials are also known as the four great elements.

*Dhātu* in Pāļi means that which carries its own characteristic marks or attributes. Element is the closest equivalent for *dhātu*.

Now pathavī-dhātu literally means the earth-element,  $\bar{a}po-dhatu$  the water-element, tejo-dhatu the heat element, and vayo-dhatu the wind-element. But pathavī is not the earth, neither is  $\bar{a}po$  water nor vayo the wind.

The four great essentials are the fundamental material elements which exist together and which are inseparable. Every material substance, whether earth, water, fire or wind, ranging from the minutest particles to the most massive object, is made up of these four elements which possess specific characteristics as described above.

From this, one can easily see that Buddhists are not dealing with Thales' water, Anaximenes' air, Herakleitus' fire, or the Peripatetics' matter, of Greek philosophy. *Pathavī*, *āpo*, *tejo*, and *vāyo* are formless and massless in the ultimate sense. In insight meditation, we meditate only on their characteristics in the body, viz., hardness and softness, cohesion and fluidity, hot and cold, pushing and balancing.

# 24 UPĀDĀ-RŪPAS (Twenty-four Derivatives)

There are 24 derivatives or secondary material properties dependent on the four great essentials. Like the earth are the essentials; like trees are the derivatives that spring there from.

The 4 great essentials together with the 24 derivatives make up 28 kinds of  $r\bar{u}pa$  with different properties. They may be counted as 11 kinds of material qualities as follows:

- 1 Essential material qualities pathavī, āpo, tejo, vāyo.
- 2 Sensitive material qualities eye, ear, nose, tongue and body.
- 3 Material qualities of sense-objects visible form, sound, odour, taste and tangibility.
- 4 Material quality of sex femininity and masculinity.
- 5 Material quality of base heart-base.
- 6 Material quality of life vital force.
- 7 Material quality of nutrition edible food.
- 8 Material quality of limitation the element of space.
- 9 Material qualities of communication bodily intimation and vocal intimation.
- 10 Material qualities of mutability material lightness, pliancy, adaptability together with the two forms of intimation.
- 11 Material qualities of characteristics material productivity, continuity, decay and impermanence.

# FIVE PASADA-RUPAS (Sensitive Material Qualities)

They are the sensitive parts of the organs – eye, ear, nose, tongue and body. They tend to clarify the co-existing material qualities. They receive the impressions of the sense-objects.

- 1 Cakkhu-pasāda Sensitive part of the eye; it spreads in 7 layers in the pupil of the eye where images appear.
- 2 Sota-pasāda Sensitive part of the ear; it spreads in the place shaped like a ring inside the ear-holes.
- 3 Ghāna-pasāda Sensitive part of the nose; it spreads in the place shaped like the leg of a goat inside the nostrils.
- 4 Jivhā-pasāda Sensitive part of the tongue; it spreads in the middle upper surface of the tongue.

5 Kāya-pasāda

Sensitive part of the body; it spreads throughout the whole body sensitive to touch, excluding head-hair, body-hair, finger-nails and hard dried skin.

#### **SEVEN GOCARA-RŪPAS** (Material Qualities of Sense Objects)

They are the five sense-objects observed and frequented by pañcaviññāṇa.

- 1 Rūpārammaņa visible form (vaņņa)
- 2 Saddārammaņa sound (sadda)
- 3 Gandhārammaņa smell (gandha)
- 4 Rasārammaņa taste (rașa)
- 5 Photthabbārammaņa tangible object (pathavī, tejo, vāyo)

#### Notes:

- a The names in brackets are the essential elements of the five senses. Note that there are 7 elements in all.
- b Owing to its subtlety, *āpo* cannot be felt by the sense of touch. For instance, when we put our hand in water, the cold felt is *tejo*, the softness is *pathavī*, and the pressure is *vāyo*. Thus only these three fundamental elements are regarded as tangible.

# **TWO BHĀVA-RŪPAS** (Material Qualities of Sex)

- 1 *Itthi-bhāva* material quality that imparts femininity; it spreads all over the body of the female.
- 2 *Purisa-bhāva* material quality that imparts masculinity; it spreads all over the body of the male.

Note:

These two rūpas differentiate the male from the female.

# HADAYA-VATTHU (Heart Base)

Hadaya-vatthu is the heart-base which spreads in the blood inside the heart. It is the seat of consciousness (mano-viññāṇa). Hadayavatthu is not one – there are billions of hadaya-vatthu which spreads in the blood of the heart.

# JIVITA-RUPA (Material Quality of Life)

It is *jīvitindriya-rūpa*—the vital force of *kammaja-rūpa* which spreads throughout the body.

It should be noted that there is vitality both in mind and matter. The vitality of the mind is "*jīvitindriya*", which is one of the seven *sabba-citta-sādhāraņa cetasikas*. The vitality of matter is *jīvita-rūpa*.

 $\checkmark$  Jīvitindriya may be regarded as psychic life and jīvita-rūpa as physical life.

#### **ĀHĀRA-RŪPA/OJĀ** (Material Quality of Nutrition)

The gross food which is taken in by making into morsels is called *kabalīkārāhāra*. Here *āhāra-rūpa* means the nutritive essence  $(oj\bar{a})$  which sustains the body.

# PARICCHEDA-RŪPA/ĀKĀSA-DHĀTU

(Material Quality of Limitation)

Pariccheda-rūpa is the inter-atomic or intra-atomic space that limits or separates material groups (rūpa-kalāpas). As there is space between the eggs in a basket, so there is space between the rūpa-kalāpas (very tiny particles) as they are produced by four causes – namely, kamma, citta, utu and āhāra. So paricchedarūpa is also assumed to be produced by the same four causes.

Pariccheda-rūpa is also called 'ākāsa-dhātu'. Ākāsa is space, which in itself is nothingness. Ākāsa is a dhātu in the sense of a non-entity (*nijjīva*), not as an existing element like the four great essential elements. As one of the 28 rūpas, ākāsa-dhātu means not so much the outside space as the inter-atomic space or intraatomic space that separates rūpa-kalāpas.

**TWO VIÑÑATTĪ-RŪPAS** (Material Qualities of Communication) Viññatti-rūpas are special behaviors of the body and the mouth which one uses to communicate one's ideas to another and by means of which one understands another's intentions.

1 *Kāya-viññatti* – action by hand, head, eye, leg, etc., which let others understand one's intentions.

2 *Vacī-viñītatti* – movement of the mouth to produce speech to let others understand one's intentions.

*Kāya-viññatti* and *vacī-viññatti* are caused by the *vāyo-dhātu* produced by the mind, and they last only for one conscious-moment.

# FIVE VIKARA-RUPAS (Material Qualities of Mutability)

Ledi Sayadaw explained ' $vik\bar{a}ra$ - $r\bar{u}pa$ ' as 'peculiar distinctive condition'. Venerable Narada took it as "changeability of  $r\bar{u}pa$ ." So we may regard ' $vik\bar{a}ra$ - $r\bar{u}pa$ ' as special condition of  $r\bar{u}pa$ .

- 1  $R\bar{u}$  passa-lahutā physical lightness or buoyancy; it suppresses the heaviness in the body.
- 2 *Rūpassa-muļutā* physical elasticity; it removes stiffness in the body and is comparable to a well-beaten hide.
- 3 Rūpassa-kammañňatā physical adaptability; it is opposed to the stiffness of the body, and is comparable to well-hammered gold.

These three *rūpas* together with the two *viññatti-rūpas* make up five *vikāra-rūpas*.

**FOUR LAKKHANA-RŪPAS** (Material Qualities of Characteristics) There are three common characteristics of *rūpa* and *nāma*-viz., arising (*uppāda*), existing (*thīti*) and dissolving (*bhanga*). The *rūpas* that denote these instants in real *rūpas* are called *lakkhana-rūpas*. '*Lakkhana*' literally means 'sign or symbol'.

- 1 *Upacāļja-rūpa* arising of *rūpa* at the moment of conception, and continued arising of *rūpa* till the required *rūpas* in life are completely formed.
- 2 Santati-rūpa subsequent arising of rūpas throughout the life-term.

#### 222 | THE ESSENCE OF BUDDHA ABHIDHAMMA

- $\sim$  3 Jaratā-rūpa rūpa that denotes development and decay during the existing period of 15 conscious moments.
  - 4 Aniccatā-rūpa rūpa that denote dissolution at the dissolving moment of real rūpa.

Notes:

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- a *Upacāya* and *santati* are sometimes treated as *jāti* (birth). Then the number of *rūpas* amounts to 27 instead of 28.
- b With the exception of the five rūpas-viz., two viññattis, jāti, jaratā and aniccatā, all the remaining rūpas last for 17 conscious-moments.
- c Strictly speaking there are only three *lakkhana-rūpas*, namely, *jāti*, *jaratā* and *aniccatā*. *Jāti* refers to *rūpa* at the arising instant, *jaratā* refers to *rūpa* at the existing period, and *aniccatā* refers to *rūpa* at the dissolving instant.

# **EIGHTEEN NIPPHANNA-RÜPAS**

The eighteen *rūpas* comprising 4 great essentials, 5 *pasāda-rūpas*, 7 gocara-rūpas (to be counted as 4 excluding tangibility), 2 bhāva-15<sup>5</sup> rūpas, hadaya-vatthu, jīvita-rūpa and āhāra-rūpa are caused and conditioned by kamma, citta, utu (tejo) and āhāra (ojā). So they are called nipphanna-rūpas.

Each of these 18  $r\bar{u}pas$  have their innate properties such as hardness for *pathavī* and heat for *tejo*. So they are also called *sabhāva-rūpas*.

<sup>1</sup>Each of these 18 *rūpas* also have the three *sankhāta-lakkhaņas* (innate signs or marks) viz., *jāti* (birth), *jarā* (decay) and *aniccatā* (death). So they are also called *sa-lakkhaṇa-rūpas*.

Because they may change in state, form and colour, etc., due to heat and cold, etc., they are known as *rūpa*.

Because they should be contemplated as *anicca* (impermanence), *dukkha* (unsatisfactoriness) and *anatta* (not-self), they are called *sammasana-rūpa*.

TEN ANIPPHANA-RŪPAS should not conteplete in Viposiona Michitalian.

The ten  $r\bar{u}pas$  comprising pariccheda- $r\bar{u}pa$ ,  $2vi\bar{n}\bar{n}atti-r\bar{u}pas$ ,  $3vik\bar{a}ra$  $r\bar{u}pas$  and 4 lakkhana- $r\bar{u}pas$  are not caused and conditioned by kamma, citta, utu and  $\bar{a}h\bar{a}ra$ . So they are known as anipphanna $r\bar{u}pas$ .

They are also known as *asabhāva-rūpas* because they do not have innate properties, *asalakkhaṇa-rūpas* because they do not have *saṅkhāta-lakkhaṇas*, as *arūpa* because they are not changeable by heat or cold, etc., and as asammasana-*rūpa* because they should not be contemplated in insight meditation.

# **RŪPA-VIBHĀGA** (Criticism on Rūpa)

All the *rūpas* are just one in the following aspects:

- 1 Ahetuka all are rootless;
- 2 Sappaccaya all are related to the causes (kamma, citta, utu, and āhāra);
- 3 Sāsava all serve as objects for defilements;
- 4 Sankhāta all are conditioned by the four causes;
- 5 Lokiya all are connected with the world of five aggregates of attachment;
- 6 Kāmāvacara all come within the range of sense objects;
- 7 Anārammaņa all do not perceive objects;
- 8 Appahātabba all are not eliminated by Maggas.

However, when  $r\bar{u}pa$  is distinguished as internal, or external, and so forth,  $r\bar{u}pa$  becomes manifold. Readers may consult the chart on  $r\bar{u}pa$  for a quick review of such criticism.

#### 224 | THE ESSENCE OF BUDDHA ABHIDHAMMA

#### 1 Ajjhattika-rūpa



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- The five *pasāda-rūpas* are called *ajjhattika* (internal), and the remaining 23 *rūpas* are called *bāhira* (external), because the five sensitive organs are essential for seeing, hearing, smelling, etc. People value them highly. Without them they are inanimate logs.
- 2 Vatthu-rūpa

The five *pasāda-rūpas* together with *hadaya-vatthu* are named *vatthu-rūpa* while the rest are called *avatthu-rūpa*. They act as seats of consciousness.

3 <sub>⊿</sub>Dvāra-rūpa

The five  $pas\bar{a}da-r\bar{u}pas$  together with the two  $vi\bar{n}\bar{n}atti-r\bar{u}pas$ are called  $dv\bar{a}ra-r\bar{u}pas$  while the rest are called  $adv\bar{a}ra-r\bar{u}pas$ . The five  $pas\bar{a}da-r\bar{u}pas$  serve as doors which give rise to  $pa\bar{n}ca-dv\bar{u}ra-v\bar{v}this$  whereas the two  $vi\bar{n}\bar{n}atti-r\bar{u}pas$  are the places and the means for performing bodily actions ( $k\bar{a}ya-kamma$ ) and verbal actions ( $vac\bar{i}-kamma$ ).

4 Indriya-rūpa ⊂ ?)

The five pasāda-rūpas, the two bhāva-rūpas and jīvita-rūpa together form eight *indriya-rūpas* while the remaining 20 rūpas are termed anindriya-rūpas.

'Indriya' means 'faculty' which has controlling power in its sphere. For instance, cakkhu-pasāda controls seeing, sota-pasāda controls hearing, and so on. Ithi-bhāva controls femininity and purisa-bhāva controls masculinity.

5 Olārika-rūpa

The five *pasāda-rūpas* and the seven *gocara-rūpas* together form 12 *olārika-rūpas* while the remaining 16 *rūpas*, are termed *sukhuma-rūpas*.

'Olārika' means 'gross or coarse'; 'sukhuma' means 'subtle or fine'. Because of their grossness and coarseness, the sensitive organs and the five sense objects can be easily seen or understood. And because they are easily understood, they are regarded to be close to the wisdom-mind. So the olārika-rūpas are also called santikerūpas (santike – near) whereas the sukhuma-rūpas are called dūre-rūpas (dūre – far).

Moreover, the sensitive organs and the sense objects can strike one another – the visual object strikes the eyedoor, the audible sound strikes the ear-door, and so on. So the 12 *olārika-rūpas* are also called *sappaţigha-rūpas* whereas the 16 *sukhuma-rūpas* are called *appaţigha-rūpas*. 'Sappaţigha' literally means 'with striking' whereas 'appaţigha' means 'without striking'.

6 Upādinna-rūpa

The 18 kammaja-rūpas are called upādinna-rūpas; the rest are termed anupādinna-rūpas. The 18 rūpas produced by kamma are grasped by the kamma as it's resultants in collaboration with craving (taņhā) and false view (dițțhi).

7 Sanidassana-rūpa

*Rūpārammaņa* (vaņņa) is called *sanidassana-rūpa*, because it can be seen by the eye. The remaining *rūpas* are called *anidassana-rūpas*, because they cannot be seen by the eye.

8 Gocaraggāhika-rūpa

The five *pasāda rūpas* can take external sense-objects as pasture. So they are called *gocaraggāhika-rūpas* while the rest are called *agocaraggāhika-rūpas*.

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Of the five sense organs, the eye and the ear cognize distant objects without any direct contact. We can see a flower without the flower coming in contact with the eye. We can hear what a man says without the man coming in contact with the ear.

On the other hand, the smell must come in contact with the nostril, the taste must directly touch the tongue, and something must actually touch the body in order to cognize these senses.

Thus, cakkhu-pasäda and sota-pasāda are called asampatta-gāhaka whereas the remaining three pasādarūpas are called sampatta-gāhaka.

Avinibbhoga-rūpa – The eight rūpas comprising pathavī, āpo, tejo, vāyo, vaņņa, gandhā, rasa and ojā are bound together and are inseparable and indivisible. So they are called avinibbhoga-rūpas whereas the rest are called vinibbhoga-rūpas.

The definition of 'avinibbhoga-rūpa' sounds like the original definition of the 'atom'. But atoms are later found to be divisible into electrons, protons and neutrons.

According to Abhidhamma, these sub-atomic particles can be regarded as *avinibbhoga-rūpas*. The four essentials and their innate four derivatives are produced together in nature as *kalāpas* which are fundamental units of matter.

These *kalāpas* have about the same size as electrons. So, however small a particle may be, it is always made up of the *avinibbhoga-rūpas* which are really invisible and inseparable.



# FIRE IN WATER AND WATER IN FIRE!

Now a dust particle or the whole earth is made up of avinibhogarūpas. So the earth must contain all the eight rūpas, viz., pathavī,  $\bar{a}po$ , tejo, vāyo, vaṇṇa, gandhā, rasa and ojā; of these pathavī is predominant.

Similarly, water must also contain all the eight *avinibbhoga* $r\bar{u}pas$ , but here  $\bar{a}po$  is predominant. As water contains tejo – the element of fire, we may say there is fire in water.

In the same way, fire must contain all the eight *avinibbhoga-rūpas*, *tejo* being predominant. As fire contains  $\bar{a}po$  – the element of water, we may say that fire contains water.

The Abhidhamma statement that 'water contains fire and fire contains water' is not in disagreement with the facts of science. We know that water contains heat which is the same substance as fire. Also in burning of wood or paper, which is cellulose containing carbon, hydrogen and oxygen, heat is evolved due to the combination of carbon with oxygen forming carbon dioxide and also due to the combination between hydrogen and oxygen forming water. The intense mass of heat appears as a flame which really contains water-vapour.

# RŪPA-SAMUTTHĀNA 201 (The Causes of Material Phenomena) mmg

There are four causes which produce *rūpa*. They are: kamma, citta, utu & āhāra.

1 Material Phenomena arising from Kamma There are 25 types of *kamma* which produce *rūpa* internally in the bodies of beings for their own continuity of material phenomena. The 25 types of *kamma* comprise 12 akusala cetanā, 8 kāmāvacarā-kusala cetana and 5 rūpāvacara-kusala cetanā. These immoral and moral kamma produce rūpas in the kāma-sphere and the rūpasphere at every small instant starting from the arising instant of rebirth consciousness till death. The rūpa produced by kamma is called kammaja-rūpa. Note that arūpāvacara kamma do not produce rūpas.

#### 2 Material Phenomena arising from Citta

The cittas that produce  $r\bar{u}pa$  number 75, excluding the 10 dvi-pañca-viññāṇa cittas and 4 arūpāvacara-vipāka cittas. All pațisandhi-cittas and the death-consciousness of arahats also do not produce  $r\bar{u}pa$ .

Starting from the first *bhavanga-citta* of the lifecontinuum till death, the 75 *cittas* mentioned above produce *cittaja-rūpa* at every arising instant of the respective *cittas*. The *rūpa* produced by *citta* is known as *cittaja-rūpa*.

Of the 75 *cittas*, the 26 *appanā-javana cittas* not only produce *cittaja-rūpa* but also support the four bodily postures – viz., standing, sitting, lying and walking.

The 32 cittas comprising mano-dvārāvajjana, 29 kāmāvacara javanas and 2 abhiññās (supernormal knowledge) produce cittaja-rūpa, support the bodily postures and also produce two viññatti-rūpas for bodily actions and vocal actions.

Of the 32 *cittas* mentioned above, the 13 *somanassa javanas* also produce smiles and laughters whereas the 2 *domanassa javanas*, i.e., the 2 *dosa-mūla cittas*, produce moaning and weeping.



12 8 5 Hasituppāda and 4 somanassa-mahā-kiriya cittas produce smiles in Buddhas and arahats.

Two lobha-mūla-diţthigata-vipayutta-somanassa cittas and 4 somanassa-mahā-kusala cittas produce smiles and laughters in sekha-persons, i.e., sotāpannas, sakadāgāmīs and anāgāmīs.

Four *lobha-mūla-somanassa cittas* and 4 *somanassa-mahā-kusala cittas* produce smiles and laughters in *puthuj-janas* (worldlings).

Three mano-dhātus, 11 tadālambaņas and 5 rūpāvacara vipāka cittas (totaling 19) produce only ordinary cittajarūpa.

#### 3 Material Phenomena arising from Utu

The heat-element, *tejo*, which comprises both cold and heat and which is present in all  $r\bar{u}pa$ -kal $\bar{a}pas$ , on reaching its static stage, produces *utuja*- $r\bar{u}pas$  and continues producing *utuja*- $r\bar{u}pas$  at every small instant both internally and externally.

#### 4 Material Phenomena arising from Āhāra

The nutritive essence,  $oj\bar{a}$ , is present in all  $r\bar{u}pa$ -kal $\bar{a}pas$  both inside the body (internal) and outside the body (external). The external food, which is eaten, is digested in the stomach and dispersed through blood to all parts of the body. So the internal  $oj\bar{a}$  and the external  $oj\bar{a}$  meet in every part of the body. The time they meet is called the arising instant ( $upp\bar{a}da$ ). After this instant, the static instant ( $th\bar{n}ti$ ) is reached. From this static instant the combination of internal and external  $oj\bar{a}$  starts producing *aharaja*- $r\bar{u}pas$  and goes on producing them at every small instant until the combination terminates.

230 | THE ESSENCE OF BUDDHA ABHIDHAMMA

# TYPES OF RŪPA

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*Ekaja-rūpa – rūpa* produced by a single cause *Dvija-rūpa – rūpa* produced by two cause *Tija-rūpa – rūpa* produced by three causes *Catuja-rūpa – rūpa* produced by four causes *Anekaja-rūpa – rūpa* produced by more than one cause or by many causes

Five pasāda-rūpas, two bhāva-rūpas, hadaya-vatthu and jīvita-rūpa (totaling 9) are produced by kamma alone.

Two *viññatti-rūpas* are produced by *citta* alone. So the total number of *ekaja-rūpas* is 11.

- 2 Sadda is the only *dvija-rūpa* produced by *citta* and *utu*. Vocal sounds such as speech, laughter, moaning, crying, singing, and whistling are produced by *citta*. Non-vocal sounds such as thunder, musical notes from instruments, speeches from the radio, songs from cassettes, noises made by cars and trains, etc., are produced by *utu*.
- 3 There are three *tija-rūpas* namely, *rūpassa-lahutā*, *rūpassa-mudutā* and *rūpassa-kammaññatā*. They are produced by *citta*, *utu* and *āhāra*. These *rūpas* are responsible for the pleasant bouyant feeling we experience when our mind is clear or when the weather is pleasant or after we have a light pleasant meal.
- 4 There are 9 *catuja-rūpas* which are produced by all the four causes. They are the eight *avinibbhoga-rūpas* and *ākāsa-dhātu* which arises when material groups (*kalāpas*) of *avinibbhoga-rūpas* are formed.
- 5 Kammaja-rūpas (18)
  9 kammaja-ekaja rūpas + 9 kammaja-anekaja rūpas (i.e. the 9 catuja-rūpas)

- 6 Cittaja-rūpas (15)
  2 cittaja-ekaja-rūpas + 13 cittaja-anekaja rūpas.
  The 13 cittaja-anekaja rūpas are the 9 catuja-rūpas + 1 sadda + 3 tija-rūpas.
- 7 Utuja-rūpas (13)
  13 utuja-anekaja rūpas which are the same as the 13 cittajaanekaja-rūpas.
- 8 Āhāraja-rūpas (āhāraja-anekaja rūpas) (12)
  9 catuja rūpas + 3 tija-rūpas.

Notes:

- 1 The three *tija-rūpas*, viz., *lahutā*, *mudutā* and *kammañňatā* are also called *lahutādi-rūpas*.
- 2 The four *lakkhaṇa-rūpas* are not produced by any cause. They just denote the arising (birth), existing (decay) and dissolving (death) nature of real *rūpas*.

# **GROUPING OF MATERIAL QUALITIES (RŪPA-KALĀPA)**

The 28 types of *rūpa* are not found separately in nature. They are produced by the four causes in the form of tiny material groups called *kalāpas*. *Kalāpas* have the following four features:

- 1 All the *rūpas* in a *kalāpa* arise together, i.e. they have a common genesis.
- 2 They also cease or dissolve together, i.e. they have a common cessation.
- 3 They all depend on the four great essentials present in the *kalāpa* for their arising, i.e. they have a common dependence.
- 4 They are so thoroughly mixed that they cannot be distinguished, i.e. they co-exist.

#### 232 | THE ESSENCE OF BUDDHA ABHIDHAMMA

It should be noted that  $kal\bar{a}pas$  are so small that they are invisible even under electronic microscopes. The size of  $kal\bar{a}pa$  in the human realm is just a 10<sup>-5</sup>th of a *paramānū*, which is smaller than an atom. So *kalāpas* are comparable to electrons, protons and neutrons in size.

There are 21 types of kalāpas—9 kammaja kalāpas + 6 cittaja kalāpas + 4 utuja kalāpas + 2 āhāraja kalāpas.

#### **1 NINE KAMMAJA-KALĀPAS**

These are formed from the 18 kammaja-rūpas. In all kalāpas, the 8 avinibbhoga-rūpas form the nucleus. All kammaja-rūpas contain  $j_{v}^{i}$ vita-rūpa which is the physical life. So a group of 8 avinibbhogarūpas and  $j_{v}^{i}$ vita-rūpa forms the simplest unit of kammaja-rūpa. It is called  $j_{v}^{i}$ vita-navaka-kalāpa meaning 'group of 9 rūpas including  $j_{v}^{i}$ vita'. It may be shortened to ' $j_{v}^{i}$ vita-nonad'.

By adding the remaining 8 kammaja-ekaja-rūpas one at a time to this basic unit of 'jīvita-nonad', we get the remaining 8 kammaja-kalāpas.

- Cakkhu-dasaka (eye-decad)
   8 avinibbhoga-rūpas + jįvitarūpa + cakkhu-pasāda
- 2 Sota-dasaka (ear-decad)
  8 avinibbhoga-rūpas + jīvita-rūpa + sota-pasāda
- 3 Ghāna-dasaka (nose-decad)
   8 avinibbhoga-rūpas + jīvitarūpa + ghāna-pasāda
- 4 Jivhā-dasaka (tongue-decad)
   8 avinibbhoga-rūpas + jīvita-rūpa + jivhā-pasāda
- 5 Kāya-dasaka (body-decad) 8 avinibbhoga-rūpas + jīvita-rūpa + kāya-pasāda
- 6 Itthibhāva-dasaka (female-decad)
  8 avinibbhoga-rūpas + jīvita-rūpa + itthibhāva-rūpa

- Pumbhāva-dasaka (male-decad)
   8 avinibbhoga-rūpas + jīvita-rūpa + pumbhāva-rūpa (purisabhāva)
- 8 Hadaya-dasaka (heart-decad)
  8 avinibbhoga-rūpas + jīvita-rūpa + hadaya-vatthu
- 9 Jīvita-navaka (vital-nonad)
  8 avinibbhoga-rūpas + jīvita-rūpa

Note: atthaka – 8; navaka – 9; dasaka – 10; ekādasaka – 11; dvādasaka – 12; terasaka – 13

# 2 SIX CITTAJA-KALĀPAS

They are formed by grouping the 14 *cittaja-rūpas* (excluding *pariccheda-rūpa*) together as may be required.

- Cittaja-suddhațthaka (pure octad)
   8 avinibbhoga-rūpas produced by citta
- 2 Kāyaviññatti-navaka (bodily intimation decad)
   8 avinibbhoga-rūpas + kāyaviññatti
- 3 Vacīviññatti-sadda-dasaka (vocal intimation decad) 8 avinibbhoga + vacīviññatti + sadda (sound)
- 4 Lahutādi-ekādasaka (undecad of mutability)
   8 avinibbhogas + lahutā + mudutā + kammaññatā
- 5 Kāyaviññatti-lahutādi dvādasaka (dodecad of mutability)
   8 avinibbhoga + kāyaviññatti + lahutādi-rūpas ~~~
- 6 Vacīviñnatti-sadda-lahutādi-terasaka (tridecad of mutability)

8 avinibbhogas + vacīviññatti + 3 lahutādi-rūpas + sadda

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# 3 FOUR UTUJA-KALĀPAS

They are formed by grouping the 12  $utuja-r\bar{u}pas$  (excluding *pariccheda-rūpa*) together as may be required.

234 | THE ESSENCE OF BUDDHA ABHIDHAMMA

- 1 Utuja-suddhatthaka (pure octad) 8 avinibbhoga-rūpas produced by utu
- 2 Sadda-navaka (sound-deead) Nonad 8 avinibbhoga-rūpas + sadda
- 3 Lahutādi-ekādasaka (undecad of mutability)
   8 avinibbhogas + 3 lahutādi-rūpas
- 4 Sadda-lahutādi-dvādasaka (dodecad of sound and
  - 🖌 mutability)
    - 8 avinibbhogas + sadda + 3 lahutādi-rūpas

# TWO ÄHĀRAJA-KALĀPAS

They are formed by grouping together the 8 avinibbhoga-rūpas and the 3 lahutādi-rūpas produced by āhāra.

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- Āhāraja-suddhațțhaka (pure octad)
   8 avinibbhoga-rūpas produced by āhāra
- 2 Lahutādi-ekādasaka (undecad of mutability)
   8 avinibbhoga-rūpas + 3 lahutādi-rūpas

# INTERNAL AND EXTERNAL KALĀPAS

All the 21 *rūpa-kalāpas* mentioned above occur internally in living beings. *Itthibhāva-dasaka* does not occur in males. Similarly *pumbhāva-dasaka* does not occur in females. For those who are born blind or deaf, *cakkhu-dasaka* or *sota-dasaka* should be eliminated.

(Note that of the 28 types of  $r\bar{u}pa$ , *itthibhāva-rūpa* is absent in males and *purisabhāva-rūpa* is absent in females. So only 27 types of  $r\bar{u}pa$  will be present in each species).

'*Ajjhatta*' refers to 'internal or within the individual'. '*Bahiddha*' refers to 'external or outside the individual'.

Now in the external (bahiddha) world, only two utuja-kalāpas

are found. All inanimate things such as trees, stones, earth, water, fire, corpses, etc., are made up of *utuja-suddhaţţhaka kalāpas*. The sounds produced by beating two sticks together or by rubbing of branches in the wind or by musical instruments such as violin, piano, radio, cassettes, etc., are *utuja-sadda-navaka kalāpas*.

# RŪPA-PAVATTIKKAMA

(Arising of Material Phenomena)

Before reading this section, readers are advised to review the "four modes of conceiving" on page 180.

All the 28 material qualities occur undiminished, if circumstances permit, in an individual during a life-time in *kāmaloka* (sense-sphere).

But at the moment of rebirth (*pațisandhi-kāla*), in *samsedaja*persons and *opapātika*-persons, at most seven *kammaja-kalāpas* comprising eye-decad, ear-decad, nose-decad, tongue-decad, body-decad, sex-decad and heart-decad are manifested. However, eye, ear, nose, and sex-decads are sometimes not manifested.

In gabbhaseyaka-persons (womb-born creatures) only three kammaja-kalāpas comprising body-decad, sex-decad and heartdecad are manifested at the moment of conception (pațisandhikāla). Here again the sex-decad may not be manifested in some particular individuals. After conception, during life(pavattikāla), the eye-decad and the rest are manifested slowly in due order.

Of the groups of material qualities which are produced in four ways, *kammaja-rūpa* starts to form at the moment of conception and it goes on forming incessantly at every minor-instant.
*Cittaja-rūpa* begins to form from the second moment of consciousness, i.e. from the arising instant of the first *bhavanga* which follows the rebirth-consciousness. *Cittaja-rūpa* continues to be formed at every arising instant of the subsequent *cittas* for the whole life-time.

Utuja-rūpa starts to form from the existing instant of rebirthconsciousness. The reason is that the *tejo-dhātu* (*utu*) present in the first *kammaja-kalāpas* come to the static stage (*thīti*) at that instant. From that time onwards the *tejo-dhātu* then produces *utujarūpa* at every minor-instant. Since *tejo-dhātu* is present in every *kalāpa*, every *kalāpa*, from the time it reaches the static stage, produces new *utuja-kalāpas* at every minor instant. And the new *utuja-kalāpas*, from the time they reach the static stage, again produce new *utuja-kalāpas* at every minor instant. So this process will go on forever.

Every kalāpa also contains the nutritive essence, ojā. But āhāraja-rūpa starts to form when internal ojā meets external ojā at the time of diffusion of nutritive essence and the combination of internal and external ojā comes to the static stage. From that instant, āhāraja-rūpa is also formed at every minor instant.

As new groups of material qualities are incessantly produced, old groups dissolve and disappear when their lifetime of 17 conscious-moments is over. Thus the material phenomena go on uninterruptedly in the sense-sphere till the end of life like the flame of a lamp, or the stream of a river.

#### MATERIAL PHENOMENA AT DEATH

At the time of death, psychic life and physical life must cease together. This means that all *kammaja-rūpa* which contains physical life must cease at the time of death.

So at the arising instant of the seventeenth *citta* reckoned backward from the death-consciousness (*cuti-citta*), the last *kammaja-rūpa* is formed. This last *kammaja-rūpa* will cease at the dissolving instant of the death-consciousness.

*Cittaja-rūpa* is formed till the arising instant of the *cuti-citta*. This last *cittaja-rūpa* will have lasted for a conscious-moment at the dissolution of *cuti-citta*, and thus will perish in another sixteen conscious-moments which happens almost instantly.

 $\bar{A}h\bar{a}raja-r\bar{u}pa$  is formed till the dissolving instant of the *cuticitta*, because the support required for the formation of  $\bar{a}h\bar{a}raja$ *rupa* can be furnished by *citta* up to that time. So at death, that last-formed  $\bar{a}h\bar{a}raja-rupa$  has lasted for only one minor-instant. However in another fifty minor instants (*rupa*-lifespan – 51 minor instants or 17 conscious-moments), that  $\bar{a}h\bar{a}raja-rupa$  also ceases.

Thus at the time of death, *kammaja-rūpa*, *cittaja-rūpa* and *ahāra-ja-rūpa* cease almost instantly. But *utuja-rūpa* goes on forming and dissolving till the corpse is converted into dust. A corpse consists of only *utuja-rūpa*.

So when a person dies and is reborn in another life, material phenomena similarly arise starting from the instant of conception and go on arising till the time of death.

# **ARISING OF MATERIAL PHENOMENA IN RÜPA-PLANES**

In the *rūpa*-plane, nose-decad, tongue-decad, body-decad, sexdecad and *āhāraja-kalāpas* do not arise. At the time of *opapātika*rebirth, there arise four *kammaja-kalāpas*, namely, eye-decad, eardecad, heart-decad and vital-nonad. During life, however, *cittajakalāpas* and *utuja-kalāpas* also arise.

To the Asaññasatta brahmas, eye-decad, heart-decad and sound-nonad (sadda-navaka) do not arise. Also cittaja-kalāpas do

not arise. Therefore, at the time of their *opapātika*-rebirth, only the vital-nonad (*jīvita-navaka*) arises. During life, *utuja-kalāpas*, with the exception of the sound-nonad, arise in addition.

Thus is  $k\bar{a}ma$ -loka and  $r\bar{u}pa$ -loka, the process of the arising of material phenomena should be understood in two ways, that is (1) at rebirth and (2) during life.

# SUMMARY OF MATERIAL PHENOMENA

In summary, it should be noted that

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- 1 all the 28 rūpas arise in the kāma-sphere;
- 2 in the 15 rūpa-plane, with the exception of Asañña-satta,
  23 rūpas arise (ghāna-pasāda, jivhā-pasāda, kāya-pasāda,
  itthi-bhāva and purisa-bhāva being excluded);
- 3 only 17 rūpas arise in the Asaññasatta plane; they are 8 avinibbhogas, jīvita, pariccheda, 3 lahutādi, 4 lakkhaņa-rūpas;
- 4 no material arises in the arūpa-planes;
- 5 eight rūpas comprising sadda, five vikāra-rūpas, jaratārūpa and aniccatā-rūpa, do not arise at the moment of birth (paţisandhi-kāla) whereas, during life time, there is no rūpa which is not formed.

# PRACTICAL OBSERVATIONS

All the material phenomena described in this chapter can be observed and verified by an interested person who will undertake tranquillity meditation and insight meditation strenuously.

Although *rūpa-kalāpas* are invisible under powerful microscopes, they can be observed by *samādhi*-eye which is the mindeye accompanied by access-concentration or better by *jhāna*concentration. One shall observe with *samādhi*-eye that there are six types of *kalāpas* in the eye, namely, the eye-decad, the body-decad, the sex-decad and three pure octads produced by *citta*, *utu* and *āhāra*, respectively. In the same way one shall observe six types of *kalāpas* each in the ear, the nose, and the tongue – just substitute the eye-decad with the ear-decad, the nose-decad, the tongue-decad, respectively, in enumerating these *kalāpas*. Note that *kāya-pasāda*, *bhāva-rūpa*, *cittaja-rūpa*, *utuja-rūpa* and *āhāraja-rūpa* spread all over the body, and so they will be present in the eye, the ear, the nose, the tongue and in every part of the body.

Observing kalāpas does not mean that one sees the ultimate  $r\bar{u}pa$ . If the  $r\bar{u}pas$  are observed in the form of particles, however small they may be, the  $r\bar{u}pas$  observed are not ultimate yet. The ultimate  $\mu\bar{u}pa$  is formless and massless. So one has to analyse each type of kalāpa to observe its contents just as one does a qualitative analysis of a brass sample to know its contents.

Ledi Sayadaw has written in Myanmar in the book entitled "Kammathan Kyan Gyi" on page 240 which says that:

"When one looks through a microscope or a telescope, one sees easily without troubles the originally invisible, subtle and far-away objects. In the same way if one develops *jhāna*, makes the *jhāna*-concentration the base and undertakes insight meditation, one can easily see without troubles the signs of impermanence, suffering and not-self, which are very deep, subtle, very far and very hard to see. Consequently there arise *magga-ñāņa* and *phala-ñāņa* that can anihilate the four *āsavas* (cankers) completely.

The Four Noble Truths and *Nibbāna*, which are very deep, subtle, very far and very hard to see, are also observed."

Recently I have interviewed many *yogīs* in International Buddha Sāsana Centres (Pa-Auk Meditation Centres) in Myanmar, where *samatha-vipassanā*-meditation is taught according to *Visuddhi-Magga* and *Piţaka* Canons. I have the opinion that these *yogīs* can observe the *kalāpas* and analyse them to the ultimate state. Of course, one could see the ultimate realities if one is properly guided by an able teacher.

# NIBBĀNA

- 1 *Nibbāna* is supramundane (*lokuttara*), that is, beyond the 31 planes of existence, beyond the world of mind and body(i.e. the five aggregates).
- 2 *Nibbāna* is realized through the knowledge belonging to the Four Paths and the Four Fruits. It is observed by *magga-ñāņa* and *phala-ñāņa*.
- 3 Nibbāna is the object of the four Paths and their Fruits.
- 4 When the cause of suffering, that is, defilements (*kilesas*) are completely eradicated by the 4 Path-wisdoms, suffering is also annihilated. Then only bliss (*sukha*) and peacefulness (*santi*) exist in the mental stream. This unique bliss and peacefulness is called *Nibbāna*.

In Sanskrit, Nibbāna is called Nirvāna which is composed of 'ni' and 'vāna'. 'Ni' implies 'to be free from', and 'vāna' means 'weaving or craving'. It is this craving (tanha) which acts as a cord to connect the series of lives of an individual in the course of his wanderings in Samsara – the eternal cycle of birth and death.

As long as one is entangled by craving, one accumulates fresh *kammas* which will give rise to new birth and death repeatedly. When all forms of craving are annihilated by the four Paths, kammic force ceases to operate and one escapes from the cycle of birth and death. Then one is said to attain *Nibbāna*. The Buddhist concept of 'Deliverance or Liberation' is this escape from the ever-recurring cycle of birth and death and all the misery associated with them.

By nature or intrinsically *Nibbāna* is peaceful (*santi*). As such it is unique. Though it is single by *santi-lakkhana*, *Nibbāna* is viewed as twofold according to the way it is experienced before and after the death of an *arahat*.

# 1 SA-UPADISESA-NIBBANA

Sa - with, upadi - the five aggregates grasped by craving and false view; sesa - remaining.

In Buddhas and *arahats*, though all defilements (*kilesās*) have been annihilated, *vipāka-cittas* and their concomitants (together known as *vipāka-namakkhandha*) and *kammaja-rūpas* still remain. Yet Buddhas and *arahats* can experience *Nibbāna* fully. The element of *Nibbāna* which is realized by Buddhas and *arahats* before death with *vipāka-nāmakkhandha* and *kammaja-rūpas* remaining is called *sa-upādisesa Nibbāna-dhātu*.

# 2 ANUPĀDISESA-NIBBĀNA

This is the Nibbāna experienced by Buddhas and arahats after death. The element of Nibbāna which is realized without any vipāka-nāmakkhandha and kammaja-rūpa remaining is called anupādisesa Nibbāna-dhātu.

Sa-upādisesa Nibbāna = Kilesa Nibbāna, i.e. it is attained by the annihilation of kilesās.

Anupādisesa Nibbāna = Khandha Nibbāna, i.e. it is attained by the annihilation of the five aggregates.

# THREE MODES OF NIBBANA

1 Suññata-Nibbāna

Nibbāna is devoid of lust, hatred and ignorance; it is also devoid of groups of *rūpa* and *nāma*. So it is called *Suññata-Nibbāna*.

Suñña – void or zero; here it means that lust, hatred, ignorance, rūpa and nāma are zero, but it does not mean that Nibbāna is 'nothingness'.

2 Animitta-Nibbāna

Material groups, which are composed of *rūpa-kalāpas*, have different forms and shapes. Mental groups consisting of *citta* and its concomitants may be assumed to have some kind of form for they can be seen by certain persons who have developed super-normal power (*abhiñīnās*). *Nibbāna*, however, has no form and shape at all. Thus it is called *Animitta-Nibbāna*.

3 Appanihita-Nibbāna

Nibbāna has no nāma and rūpa nor any form and shape to be longed for by taņhā (craving or lust). Neither is there any lust or craving in Nibbāna. Nibbāna is abso lutely free from lust as well as from the hankerings of lust. So it is known as Appanihita-Nibbāna.

# SOME MORE DEFINITIONS OF NIBBANA

Nibbāna may also be characterised by the following virtues.

- 1 Accutam It has past death, and thus no death occurs in Nibbāna.
- 2 Accantam It has past the end called death, so it is endless.
- 3 Asankhatam It is not conditioned by the four causes

viz., *kamma*, *citta*, *utu* and *āhāra*. Hence it is eternal and is neither a cause nor an effect.

- 4 *Anuttaram* It is superior to and more noble than any Dhamma.
- 5 *Padam* It is an objective reality (*vatthu-dhamma*) that can be realized by *ariyas* (noble persons).

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# Chapter 7 SAMUCCAYA Compendium of Ultimate Entities

# INTRODUCTORY

Seventy-two kinds of ultimate entities, called *vatthu-dhammas* because they have their own characteristics, have been described so far. They are *citta*, 52 *cetasikas*, 18 *nipphanna-rūpas* and *Nibbāna*.

# Citta

All the 89 or 121 types of consciousness are regarded as one as they all possess the characteristic of 'awareness'. Actually they are 89 or 121 types of combinations of *citta* with various *cetasikas*.

# Cetasikas

All 52 mental factors are viewed separately as they possess different characteristics.

# Nipphanna-rūpas

All the 18  $r\bar{u}pas$  which are caused and conditioned by kamma, citta, utu and  $\bar{a}h\bar{a}ra$  are regarded to be real and viewed separately as they possess different characteristics.

#### Nibbāna

It is one with regard to its characteristic of peacefulness (santi-lakkhaṇa).

Thus the total number of vatthu-dhammas: 1+52+18+1=72

All these 72 are subjective and objective realities. The related ones will be grouped into categories in the present chapter.

# **COMPENDIUM OF CATEGORIES**

The compendium of categories that will be treated here is fourfold:

- 1 the compendium of immoral categories,
- 2 the compendium of mixed categories,
- 3 the compendium of categories that pertain to enlightenment, and
- 4 the compendium of the whole vatthu-dhammas.

[1] **AKUSALA SANGAHA** (Compendium of Immoral Categories) There are nine immoral categories – viz., Āsava, Ogha, Yoga, Gantha, Upādāna, Nīvāraņa, Anusaya, Samyojana and Kilesā.

# 1 Four Asavas (Four Cankers or Intoxicants)

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' $\bar{A}sava'$  means intoxicant, defilements, corruption, taint, stain, canker, etc. We know that fermented liquor which has been left in the fermenting pot for a long time can strongly intoxicate men. Similarly the  $\bar{a}savas$ , which have been left to be fermented in the *khandha*-stream of beings for aeons, i.e., a *samsāra*, make men drunk and forgetful of their liberation. There are four  $\bar{a}savas$ :

- 1 *Kāmāsava* attachment to sensual pleasures in the sensesphere; it is *lobha* associated with 8 *lobha-mūla cittas*.
- 2 Bhavāsava attachment to rūpa-jhāna and arūpa-jhāna as well as to the existence in rūpa- and arūpa-planes; it is lobha associated with 4 lobha-mūla dițțhigata-vippayutta cittas. Faclude 4 composed
- 3 Dițțhāsava 62 kinds of false views; it is dițțhi present in 4 lobha-mūla dițțhigata-sampayutta cittas.

Sechlar

Dosa

4 Avijjāsava – ignorance with regard to the four Noble Truths, past life, future life, both past and future lives, and the Law of Dependent Origination. It is moha associated with 12 akusala cittas. s+2+2

# Note:

The essential elements of the four *āsavas* are just three, namely, *lobha*, *diţthi* and *moha*. These three strongly intoxicate beings and make them wander in *samsāra*.

# 2 Four Oghas (Four Floods)

'Ogha' means flood, torrent, whirlpool, overwhelm or suffocate.

Just as great floods sweep away men and animals into the sea, overwhelm, suffocate and drown them, so also the four *oghas* sweep away beings, overwhelm, suffocate and drown them in the great ocean of *samsāra*. Like four great whirlpools in the broad ocean, they can pull down any being who comes over them, and so it is very difficult to cross over them. The four *oghas* are similar to the four *āsavas*, their essential elements being the same.

- 1 Kāmogha the flood of sensual desire,
- 2 Bhavogha the flood of desire for jhānas and existence in rūpa- and arūpa-planes,
- 3 Ditthogha the flood of false views,
- 4 Avijjogha the flood of ignorance.

# 3 Four Yogas (Four Bonds)

'Yoga' means junction, union, application, devotion, attachment, bond, glue or 'to yoke'.

The oxen which are yoked to the cart cannot get away from the cart. Similarly the beings who are yoked to the machine of existence and firmly attached to the wheel of *saritsāra* by means

of four *yogas*, cannot get away from the machine of existence and from *satisāra*.

The four *oghas* are again similar to the four *āsavas*, the essential elements being the same.

- 1 Kāmayoga attachment to sensual pleasure,
- 2 Bhavayoga attachment to jhānas and to the existence in rūpa and arūpa planes,
- 3 Ditthiyoga attachment to false views,
- 4 Avijjāyoga attachment to ignorance.

#### 4 Four Ganthas (Four Ties)

'Gantha' means 'a tie' or 'a bond'. The four ganthas are the strong bonds which tie the groups of  $r\bar{u}pa$  and  $n\bar{a}ma$  of this existence to those of future existences.

In the following names of *ganthas*, '*kāya*' is used in the sense of group or mass implying both mental and physical.

- 1 Abhijjhā-kāyagantha all forms of craving (taṇhā); it is lobha present in the 8 lobha-mūla cittas.
- 2 Vyāpada-kāyagantha all forms of anger or illwill.
   It is dosa present in the 2 dosa-mūla cittas.
- 3 Silabbataparāmāsa-kāyagantha adherence to the false view that one becomes pure and thus be liberated by bovine and canine morality or conduct; it also includes adherence to rites and ceremonies; it is diţţhi present in the 4 lobha-mūla diţţhi-sampayutta cittas.
- 4 Idamsaccābhinipesa-kāyagantha dogmatic belief that only one's view is true and all the others are futile or that 'this alone is truth'. It is also diţţhi present in the 4 lobhamūla diţţhi-sampayutta cittas.

# 5 Four Upādānas (Four Graspings)

'Upādāna' means strong attachment or clinging or grasping; it is like a snake grasping a frog without letting it go. Upādāna is stronger than tanhā (craving). Tanhā is like a thief groping in the dark to steal something whereas upādāna is like the actual stealing.



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- Kāmupādāna sense-desire or clinging to the five senseobjects; it is lobha present in 8 lobha-mūla cittas.
- 2 Diţţhupādāna clinging to all false views except the two views to be mentioned in (3) and (4); it is diţţhi present in the 4 lobha-mūla diţţhi-sampayutta cittas.
- 3 Sīlabbatupādāna clinging to the false view that one becomes pure and thus be liberated by bovine and canine morality or conduct; clinging to rites and ceremonies; it is also *ditthi* present in the 4 *lobha-mūla ditthi-sampayutta cittas*.
- 4 Attavādupādāna clinging to the theory that the soul exists, and that I, you, he, she, persons, etc., exist; it is synonymous with 'sakkāya-diţţhi' which is 'personalitybelief'. It is also diţţhi present in the 4 lobha-mūla diţţhisampayutta cittas.

#### Note:

The latter three *upādānas* represent *diţthi cetasika* alone. They are differentiated as three because the ways and the objects of clinging are different.

# 6 Six Nīvaraņas (Six Hindrances)

'Nīvāraņa' means 'hindrance' or 'obstacle'. Nīvāraņas hinder and prevent the arising of good thoughts and good deeds, *jhānas* and *maggas*. Thus they obstruct the way to celestial and *Nibbānic* bliss.

Especially the first five *nivāranas* blind our mental vision and obstruct our moral actions. We have to wrestle with them whenever we try to perform some good deed whether it be saying some prayers or undertaking meditation. In the presence of them we cannot reach neighbourhoodconcentration (*upacāra-samādhi*) and full concentration (*appanā-samādhi*), and are unable to discern clearly the truth.

- 1 Kāmacchanda sense-desire; it is lobha in the 8 lobhamūla cittas.
- 2  $Vya \bar{a}pa da ill-will;$  it is dosa in the 2 dosa mūla cittas.
- 3 Thina-middha sloth and torpor; they are thina-cetasika and middha-cetasika.
- 4 Uddhacca-kukkucca restlessness and brooding or worry; they are uddhacca-cetasika and kukkucca-cetasika.
- 5 *Vicikicchā* sceptical doubt or perplexity; it is *vicikicchā*cetasika.
- 6 Avijjā ignorance; it is moha present in the 12 akusala cittas.

# Notes:

a. Both sloth and torpor, restlessness and brooding are grouped together because their functions (*kicca*), their causes (*hetu*) and their opposing factors are the same. The function of sloth and torpor is mental inactivity, their cause is laziness, and they are opposed to energy (*vīriya*).

The function of restlessness and brooding is disquietude, their cause is vexation about the loss of property, etc., and they are opposed to tranquility.

b. In the beautiful similes given by the Buddha in *Anguttara Nikāya*, sense-desire is compared with water mixed with manifold colours, ill-will with boiling water, sloth and

torpor with water covered by mosses, restlessness and brooding with agitated water whipped by the wind, and sceptical doubt with turbid and muddy water. Just as in such water one cannot perceive one's own reflection, so also in the presence of these five mental hindrances, one cannot clearly discern one's own benefit, nor that of others, nor that of both.

# 7 Seven Anusayas (Seven Latent Defilements)

'Anusaya' means 'to lie dormant' or 'to remain latent'. The seven anusayas are the seeds or potentiality of defilements (kilesās) that lie dormant in the khandha-streams of beings life after life throughout the long samsāra. They are like the potentiality of a tree to bear fruits; the potentiality cannot be found anywhere within the tree, but we know it is there by seeing the fruits it bears when the time is ripe.

Anusayas are nowhere to be seen. They do not have distinct appearances, and they are not specified by such characteristics as arising-existing-dissolving. But they remain ready to come to the surface as real defilements at an opportune moment when they are in contact with the corresponding sense-objects.

- 1 Kāmarāgānusaya attachment to sense-objects; it is lobha present in the 8 lobha-mūla cittas.
- 2 Bhavarāgānusaya attachment to rūpa-jhānas, arūpajhānas, and the existence in rūpa- and arūpa-planes; it is lobha in the 4 lobha-mūla dițțhi-vippayutta cittas.
- 3 Pațighānusaya ill-will or hatred; it is dosa present in the 2 dosa-mūla-cittas.
- 4 Mānānusaya pride; it is māna-cetasika present in the 4 lobha-mūla dițțhi-vippayutta cittas.

- 5 Dițțhānusaya false views; it is dițțhi-cetasika present in the 4 lobha-mūla dițțhi-sampayutta cittas.
- 6 Vicikicchānusaya sceptical doubts; it is vicikicchā-cetasika present in moha-mūla vicikicchā-sampayutta citta.
- 7 Avijjānusaya ignorance; it is moha present in the 12 akusala cittas.

# 8 Ten Samyojanas (Ten Fetters)

'Samyojana' means fetter that binds beings to the wheel of existence and to the rounds of misery. There are ten fetters which bind each individual to the wheel of existence.

- a Ten Fetters according to Sutta Pitaka:
- 1 Kāmarāga-samyojana attachment to sense-objects,
- 2 Rūparāga-samyojana attachment to rūpa-jhānas and rūpa-existence,
- 3 Arūparāga-samyojana attachment to arūpa-jhāna and arūpa-existence,
- 4 Patigha-samyojana ill-will or hatred,
- 5 Māna-samyojana pride,
- 6 Ditthi-samyojana false views,
- 7 Silabbata-parāmāsa-samyojana adherence to the false view that one becomes pure by bovine and canine morality or by rites and ceremonies,
- 8 Vicikicchā-samyojana sceptical doubt,
- 9 Uddhacca-samyojana restlessness,
- 10 Avijjā-samyojana ignorance.

The essential elements for the above ten fetters are lobha (for 1,2,3), dosa, māna, diṭṭhi (for 6, 7), vicikicchā, uddhacca and moha, i.e., 7 cetasikas in all.

- b The Fetters according to Abhidhamma Pitaka:
- 1 Kāmarāga-samyojana attachment to sense-objects
- 2 Bhavarāga-samyojana attachment to rūpa- and arūpajhānas and rūpa- and arūpa- existences,
- 3 Pațigha-samyojana ill-will or hatred,
- 4 Māna-samyojana pride,
- 5 Dițțhi-samyojana false views,
- 6 Silabbata-parāmāsa-samyojana as above,
- 7 Vicikicchā-samyojana sceptical doubt,
- 8 Issā-samyojana envy,
- 9 Macchariya-samyojana avarice,
- 10 Avijjā-samyojana ignorance.

The essential elements for the Abhidhamma ten fetters are lobha (for 1, 2), dosa, māna, dițțhi (for 5, 6), vicikicchā, issā, macchariya and moha, i.e. 8 cetasikas in all.

The essential elements for both *Sutta* and *Abhidhamma* fetters are 9 *cetasikas*—the 7 for *sutta* fetters + *issā* + *macchariya*.

# 9 Ten Kilesās (Ten Defilements)

'*Kilesā*' means 'defilements or torment'. *Kilesās* defile, burn and afflict the mind. There are ten *kilesās*:

- 1 Lobha greed or attachment,
- 2 Dosa hatred or ill-will,
- 3 Moha delusion or ignorance,
- 4 Māna pride or conceit,
- 5 Dițțhi false views,
- 6 Vicikicchā sceptical doubt or indecision,
- 7 Thina slot,
- 8 Uddhacca restlessness,
- 9 Ahirika moral shamelessness,
- 10 Anottappa moral fearlessness,

# 1500 KILESĀS

One citta, 52 cetasikas, 18 nipphanna-rūpas and 4 lakkhaṇa-rūpas together add up to 75 entities. These 75 nāma and rūpa entities exist both internally and externally. So if we multiply 75 with 2 for ajjhattika (internal) and bahiddha (external), we get 150. As these 150 entities are the object of operation for each kilesā, we multiply 150 with 10 kilesās when we get 1500 kilesās.

# 108 MODES OF TANHÄ

*Taṇhā* is craving. It is the chief root of suffering, and of the ever continuing cycle of rebirths. First, craving is of three kinds:

- 1 Kāma-taņhā craving for sense-objects,
- 2 Bhava-taṇhā craving for rūpa- and arūpa-jhānas and rūpa- and arūpa-existences,
- 3 Vibhava-tanhā craving for non-existence.

Corresponding to the six sense-objects, there are six kinds of craving:

- 1 rūpa-taņhā craving for visible objects,
- 2 sadda-taņhā craving for sounds,
- 3 gandha-taņhā craving for odours,
- 4 rasa-taņhā craving for tastes,
- 5 photthabba-tanhā craving for bodily impressions.
- 6 dhamma-tanhā craving for mental impressions.

If we multiply the first group of 3 kinds of craving with the second group of 6, we get 18 kinds of craving. Again multiplying this by 2 as they can exist both internally and externally, we get 36 kinds of craving.

Now these 36 kinds of craving can occur in the past, in the present and in the future. So they total to 108 kinds of tanha.

# SAMUCCAYA - Compendium of Ultimate Entities | 255

# Table 7.1 Akusala-saṅgaha

14 Akusala Cetasikas (Immoral Categories)	4 Asavas.	4 Oghas	4 Yogas	4 Ganthas	4-Upādānas	6 Nīvārajas	7 Amisayas	10 Samyojanas	10 Kilesās	Department
1 Lobha (Taṇhā)	•	0	8	0	9	9	0	0	9	9
2 Ditthi (False View)	0	0	0	9	9		•	•	8	8
3 Moha/Avijjā (Ignorance)	0	9	0			•	9	9	0	7
4 Dosa/Pațigha (Ill-will)				e		9	9	0	8	5
5 Vicikicchī (Doubt)						•	•	•	9	4
6 <i>Māna</i> (Pride)							•	•	0	3
7 Uddhacca (Restlessness)						•		0	•	3
8 Thina (Sloth)			•			9			0	2
9 Middha (Torpor)						•				1
10 Kukkucca (Brooding)						•				1
11 Issā (Envy)								•		1
12 Macchariya (Avarice)								•		1
13 Ahirika (Moral Shame)									•	1
14 Anottappa (Moral Fear)									•	1

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256 | THE ESSENCE OF BUDDHA ABHIDHAMMA

# GUIDE TO READING TABLE 7.1

#### a Reading longitudinally

- 1 Lobha occurs in all the 9 departments as Āsava, Ogha, Yoga, Gantha, Upādāna, Nīvāraņa, Anusaya, Samyojana and Kilesā.
- 2 Diffhi occurs in 8 departments as *Āsava*, Ogha, etc., as shown in the Table.
- 3 The rest can be read in a similar way.

# **b** Reading vertically

- 4 Four *Āsavas* have 3 essential elements *lobha*, *dițțhi*, and *moha*. The same is true for *oghas* and *Yogas*.
- 5 Four Ganthas also have 3 essential elements lobha, difthi and dosa.
- 6 The rest can be read in a similar way.

[2] MISSAKA-SANGAHA (Compendium of Mixed Categories) There are seven mixed categories – viz., Hetu, Jhānanga, Magganga, Indriya, Bala, Adhipati and Āhāra.

# 1 Six Hetus (Six Roots)

'*Hetu*' means root, cause, condition or root-condition. As the roots make a tree firm, prosperous and well-established, so in the same way the six *hetus* make *cittas* and *cetasikas* associated with them firm, prosperous and well-established at the sense-objects.

There are 3 moral roots and 3 immoral roots. The three immoral roots (*akusala-hetus*) are:

- 1 Lobha greed or attachment,
- 2 Dosa ill-will or hatred,
- 3 Moha ignorance or delusion.

Three moral roots (kusala-hetus) are:

- 4 Alobha non-attachment,
- 5 Adosa good-will,
- 6 Amoha wisdom.

The moral roots also associate with *sobhaņa kiriya-cittas* and *vipāka-cittas*. Thus they are also known as indeterminate roots (*avyākata-hetus*) because *kiriya-cittas* and *vipāka-cittas* are called indeterminate (*avyākata*).

resultant of past kanma.

2 Seven Jhānangas (Seven Constituents of Jhāna)

'Jhānangas' means 'jhāna-factors' or 'constituents of absorptions'. The *jhāna*-factors help the *cittas* and their associated *cetasikas* to observe an object, either bad or good, keenly, closely and fixedly.

- 1 Vitakka initial application,
- 2 Vicāra sustained application,
- 3 Pīti joy,
- 4 Ekaggatā one-pointedness,
- 5 Somanassa-vedanā pleasant feeling,
- 6 Domanassa-vedanā unpleasant feeling,
- 7 Upekkhā-vedanā neutral feeling or equanimity.

# 3 Twelve Maggangas (Twelve Constituents of the Path)

'Magga' means 'Path' and 'maggangas' means 'constituents of the path'. Unwholesome constituents combine to form a path leading to the woeful state whereas wholesome constituents combine to form a path leading to the blissful state up to Nibbāna.

1 Sammā-diļţhi - Right View It is pañīnā present in 8 mahā-kusala cittas, 8 mahā-kiriya cittas and 26 appanā-javanas.

- Sammā-sankappa Right Thought
   It is vitakka present in the above 42 cittas.
- 3 Sammā-vācā Right Speech It is sammā-vācā cetasika present in 8 mahā-kusala cittas and 8 lokuttara cittas.
- Sammā-kammanta Right Action
   It is sammā-kammanta cetasika present in 8 mahā-kusala
   cittas and 8 lokuttara cittas.
- 5 Sammā-ājīva Right Livelihood It is sammā-ājīva cetasika present in 8 mahā-kusala cittas and 8 lokuttara cittas.
- 6 Sammā-vāyāma Right Effort It is viriya present in 8 mahā-kusala cittas, 8 mahā-kiriya cittas and 26 appanā-javanas.
- Sammā-sati Right Mindfulness
   It is sati-cetasika present in the above 42 cittas.
- 8 Sammā-samādhi Right Concentration It is ekaggatā present in the above 42 cittas.
- 9 Micchā-dițțhi Wrong View It is dițțhi present in 4 lobha-mūla dițțhi-sampayutta cittas.
- Micchā-saṅkappa Wrong Thought It is vitakka present in 12 akusala-cittas
- Micchā-vāyāma Wrong Effort
   It is viriya present in 12 akusala-cittas.
- 12 Micchā-samādhi Wrong Concentration It is ekaggatā present in 12 akusala cittas.

4 **Twenty-two Indrivas** (*Twenty-two Faculties*) '*Indriva*' means 'faculty' or controlling power'. As the ministers control their respective ministries, the *indrivas* control their

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associates (*sampayutta-dhammas*) in their respective fields of influence. The 22 *indriyas* are partly physical and partly mental.

- 1 Cakkhundriya cakkhu-pasāda sensitive part of the eye,
  - 2 Sotindriya sota-pasāda sensitive part of the ear,
  - 3 Ghanindriya ghāna-pasāda sensitive part of the nose,
  - 4 Jīvhindriya jīvhā-pasāda sensitive part of the tongue,
  - 5 Kayindriya kāya-pasāda sensitive part of the body,
- 6 Itthindriya itthibhāva-rūpa femininity,
- 7 Purisindriya purisa-bhāva-rūpa masculinity,
- 8 Jīvitindriya jīvita rūpa and jīvitindriya-cetasika vitality,
  - 9 Manindriya 89 or 121 cittas, 330 20 m
  - 10 Sukhindriya sukha-vedanā bodily pleasant feeling,
  - 11 Dukkhindriya dukkha-vedanā bodily pain,
  - 12 Somanassindriya somanassa-vedanā gladness,
  - 13 Domanassindriya domanassa-vedanā sadness,
  - 14 Upekkhindriya upekkhā-vedanā indifference,
  - 15 <sup>-</sup> Saddhindriya saddhā faith,
  - 16 Vīriyindriya vīriya effort,
  - 17 Satindriya sati mindfulness,
  - 18 Samādhindriya ekaggatā concentration,
  - 19 Paññindriya paññā wisdom,
- 20 Anaññātiññassamītindriya paññā associated with sotāpatti-magga, which which which
- 21 Aññindriya paññā associated with 3 upper maggas and the 3 lower phalas,
- 22 Aññātāvindriya paññā associated with arahatta phala.

# Notes:

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1 Please note that the sensitive part of the eye controls seeing, the sensitive part of the ear controls hearing, and so on. The two *bhāva-rūpas* control the primary and the secondary characters of sex. Vitality controls the life-terms of its associates. The *cittas* control their concomitants in the collective efforts of taking and knowing the object.

- 2 1-7 *indriyas* are physical, 8 is both physical and mental and the rest are mental.
- 3 1-5 and 9 represent 6 bases.
  6, 7 are two *bhāva-rūpas*.
  10-14 represent 5 feelings.
  15-19 represent 5 spiritual faculties.
  The last three are supramundane faculties.
- 4 The number of *indriyas* present in a male or a female worlding is 18, excluding the opposite sex-*rūpa* and the last 3 supramundane faculties.

# 5 Nine Balas (Nine Powers)

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'Bala' means 'power'. The nine 'powers' are strong and firm and they cannot be shaken by the opposing forces. Besides they strengthen their concomitants or associates.

- 1 Saddhā-bala faith; it is saddhā present in sobhaņa cittas.
- 2 *Vīriya-bala* energy; it is *vīriya* present in the 73 *cittas* associated with *vīriya*.
- 3 Sati-bala mindfulness; it is sati present in sobhana cittas.
- 4 Samādhi-bala concentration; it is ekaggatā present in 72 cittas, excluding the 16 cittas not associated with vīriya and also the vicikicchā-sampayutta citta.
- 5 Paññā-bala wisdom; it is paññā present in the 47 tihetuka cittas.
- 6 Hirī-bala moral shame; it is hirī-cetasika present in sobhaņa cittas.

- 7 Ottappa-bala moral dread; it is ottappa present in sobhana cittas.
- 8 *Ahirika-bala* moral shamelessness; it is *ahirika* present in 12 *akusala cittas*.
- 9 Anottappa-bala moral fearlessness; it is anottappa present in 12 akusala cittas.

Of the 9 powers, the first seven may be regarded as moral whereas the last two as immoral. *Ahirika* and *anottappa* are prominent in wicked persons.

In accordance with the definition that *Balas* are unshakable by their opposites, (1) the power of Faith is unshaken by faithlessness, (2) Energy by laziness, (3) Mindfulness by forgetfulness, (4) Concentration by distractedness, (5) Wisdom by ignorance.

*Hirī* and *ottappa* strongly support moral actions whereas *ahirika* and *anottappa* lead the way to immoral actions.

#### **6** Four Adhipatis (Four Dominating Factors)

'Adhipati' means supreme, sovereign, lord, chief, king, etc. It is the chief among its associates and it has no equal. As there is one king in a country, so there is only one *adhipati* in a mental group of *citta* and its concomitants.

Adhipati should be differentiated from *indriya*. Adhipati may be compared to a king who, as the undisputed head of the state, lords over all his ministers and country men. *Indriyas* are like ministers who control only their respective ministries without interfering with the others. *Indriyas* have equals and they have to follow the *adhipati*.

Adhipati may be regarded as the 'dominating factor' in a mental group.

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262 | THE ESSENCE OF BUDDHA ABHIDHAMMA ×~ 00 2+ 5 = Ð

- Chandādhivati intention or will: it is chanda-cetasika 1 present in 18 dvi-hetuka javanas and 34 tihetuka-javanas. 5,2
  - Vīriyādhipati energy or effort; it is vīriya present in 18 2 dvi-hetuka javanas and 34 tihetuka-javanas
  - 3 Cittādhipati - consciousness or thought; it is the 18 dvihetuka javana cittas and the 34 tihetuka-javana cittas.
- Vimamsādhipati wisdom; it is paññā present in 34 4 Jens Mary Jans ; tihetuka javanas. Vīmamsa is the wisdom which can investigate and reason.

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#### Notes:

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Eighteen dvi-hetuka javanas – 8 lobha-mūla cittas, 2 dosa-1 mūla cittas, 4 ñāna-vipayutta mahā-kusala cittas and 4 ñānavipayutta mahā-kiriya cittas.

Thirty-four ti-hetuka javanas – 4 ñāna-sampayutta mahā-kusala cittas, 4 ñāņa-sampayutta mahā-kiriya cittas, 9 mahaggata-kusala cittas, 9 mahaggata-kiriya cittas, 4 maggas and 4 phalas.

2 When one of the adhipatis is very strong, all its associates come along to support it, and they together will achieve the aim set for.

7 Four Āhāras (Four Kinds of Food) intrimume 'Āhāra' means nutriment, cause, sustenance. Any dhamma, which can produce and sustain its resultant as our body is sustained by edible food, is called an *āhāra*. There are four types of *āhāra*.

Kabalīkārāhāra – edible food; it is ojā-rūpa. It produces 1 and sustains the *āhāraja suddhatthaka* - the eightfold corporeality having nutriment essence as its eighth factor.

- 2 Phassāhāra contact or sense-impact; it is phassa cetasika present in all cittas. It produces and sustains the five kinds of feeling (vedanā).
- 3 Manosancetanāhāra mental volition; it is the cetanā which manifests itself as the 29 types of kamma. It produces and sustains rebirth consciousness.  $\frac{7}{12}$
- 4 *Viññāņāhāra* consciousness; it represents the 89 or 121 types of *citta*. It produces and sustains its concomitants (*cetasikas*) and *cittaja-rūpas*.

# BODHIPAKKHIYA-SANGAHA(2) Emd of Mixed

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(Compendium of Enlightenment-factors)

'Bodhi' means enlightenment or magga-ñāṇa. 'Bodhipakkhiya' means the components or factors of enlightenment. There are 37 such factors. If one can develop them fully, one will attain enlightenment. The 37 factors are thus regarded as the essence of Tipiṭaka.

The 37 Factors of Enlightenment are 4 Foundations of Mindfulness, 4 Supreme Efforts, 4 Foundations of Accomplishment, 5 Faculties, 5 Powers, 7 Constituents of Enlightenment and 8 Constituents of the Path.

# 1 Four Satipațțhānas (Four Foundations of Mindfulness)

'Sati' means mindfulness or attentiveness. 'Pațțhāna' means establishment, application, fixing or foundation.

So the four *satipațțhānas* are the four 'foundations of mindfulness' by which one prevents the mind from wandering to other sense-objects and keeps the mind fixed attentively and firmly on the single object of meditation.

Sri Lanka commentary defines 'satipațțhāna' as the mindfulness which is established on its object by penetration, so to speak, into it.

The four 'foundations of mindfulness' are indispensable for the development of tranquility and insight. In the two *satipatthanasuttas*, the following weighty words are proclaimed both at the beginning and at the conclusion:

"The only way that leads to the attainment of purity, to the overcoming of sorrow and lamentation, to the end of pain and grief, to the entering of the right path, and to the realization of *Nibbāna* is the way comprising the four foundations of mindfulness."

- 1 Kāyānupassanā-satipatthāna Contemplation of the body or mindfulness of the corporeality group (rūpakkhandha).
- 2 Vedanānupassanā-satipaţţhāna Contemplation of the feelings or mindfulness of the feeling group (vedanākkhandha).
- 3 Cittānupassanā-satipatthāna Contemplation of consciousness or mindfulness of the consciousness group (viññānakkhandha).
- 4 Dhammānupassanā-satipaţţhāna Contemplation of dhamma or mindfulness of the perception group (saññakkhandha) and the group of mental formations (sankhārakkhandha).

Notes:

1 The essential element of the four satipațțhānas is saticetasika present in 8 mahā-kusala cittas, 8 mahā-kiriya cittas and 26 appanā-javanas as well as the sati present in 8 lokuttara cittas. SAMUCCAYA - Compendium of Ultimate Entities | 265

- 2 The reasons why 'sati' has been described as four satipatthānas are:
- the objects of contemplation are different as kāya, vedanā, i citta and dhamma:
- the manner of contemplation of the four objects are ii different as asubha (disgusting), dukkha (suffering), anicca (impermanence) and anatta (non-self);
- iii the purpose of contemplation on the four objects are different as to eradicate the wrong views that they are subha (beautiful), sukkha (pleasant), nicca (permanent) and atta (self), respectively.

# 2 Four Sammappadhanas (Four Supreme Efforts)

'Sammappadhana' signifies no ordinary effort, but the unfaltering concentrated effort of one who yows:

"Let me be reduced to skin and bone; let my blood and flesh dry up; let my life come to an end; but I will not stop till I succeed!"

Sammappadhāna represents vīriya present in 8 mahā-kusala cittas, 9 mahaggata-kusala cittas and 4 lokuttara-kusala cittas (21 Curper 3c 22 kusala cittas in all).

The four supreme efforts are:

- The effort to discard evils that have arisen. 1
- 2 The effort to prevent the arising of unrisen evils,
- The effort to bring about the arising of unrisen good, 3
- 4 The effort to further arisen good.

According to the above effort, one must try to discard greed, hatred, envy, etc., as soon as they arise in the mind. One must develop dāna, sīla and bhāvanā as much as possible. And finally, to bring about the arising of the unrisen good which has never arisen

in the long *samsāra*, one must purify one's mind stage by stage by tranquility and insight meditation till one enters the Path of the stream-winner (*sotāpanna*) and the higher Paths (*maggas*).

# Note:

The reason why  $v\bar{v}riya$  is described as the four supreme efforts is that the function of  $v\bar{v}riya$  has been differentiated into 4 categories, viz.,

- 1 to discard evils that have arisen,
- 2 to prevent the arising of unrisen evils,
- 3 to develop unrisen good, and
- 4 to further the arisen good.

# 3 Four Iddhipādas (Four Foundations of Accomplishment)

'Iddhi' means 'accomplishment' while 'pāda' signifies 'foundation'. The 'accomplishment' here refers to the arising of *jhānas*, maggas and phalas. And the foundations to achieve these ends are *chanda*, *vīriya*, *citta* and *vīmamsa* – the same as the four *adhipatis*.

- 1 Chandiddhipāda will; it is chanda present in 21 kusala cittas.
- 2 Vīriyiddhipāda energy or effort; it is vīriya present in
   21 kusala cittas.
- 3 Cittiddhipāda consciousness or thought; it is 21 kusala cittas consisting of 8 mahā-kusala cittas, 9 mahaggata-kusala cittas and 4 lokuttara-kusala cittas.
- 4 *Vīmamsiddhipāda* wisdom; it is *pañītā* present in 21 kusala cittas.

# 4 Five Indriyas (Five Faculties)

Of the twenty-two faculties mentioned earlier, the five spiritual faculties are taken here as factors of enlightenment.

- 1 Saddhindriya faith or confidence; it is saddhā present in 8 mahā-kusala cittas, 8 mahā-kiriya cittas, and 26 appanā javanas.
- 2 *Vīriyindriya* energy or effort; it is *vīriya* present in the above 42 *cittas*.
- 3 Satindriya mindfulness; it is sati present in the above 42 cittas.
- 4 Samādhindriya concentration; it is ekaggatā present in the above 42 cittas.
- 5 Paññindriya wisdom; it is paññā present in the above 42 cittas.

# 5 Five Balas (Five Powers)

The essential elements of the five Powers are the same as those of the five Faculties. It should be understood that each of these five elements has two distinct properties: 1) the ability to control the mind, and 2) the ability to be firm and unshakable by the opposing force.

- 1 Saddhā-bala faith or confidence,
- 2 Vīriya-bala energy or effort,
- 3 Sati-bala mindfulness,
- 4 Samādhi-bala concentration,
- 5 Paññā-bala wisdom.

In practice, *saddhā* and *paññā* should balance each other, because too much faith leads to unreasonable belief and too much investigation leads to no concentration.

Similarly *vīriya* and *samādhi* should balance each other, because too much effort may lead to restlessness and too much concentration may lead to drowsiness.

*Sati* need not be balanced by any factor; the more *sati* there is, the better it is.

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6 Seven Bojjhangas (Seven Constituents of Enlightenment) 'Bojjhanga' is derived from 'bodhi-anga' in which bodhi enlightenment and anga - constituent. Thus 'bojjhanga' means 'constituents of enlightenment'.

In sambojjhanga, 'sam' means 'good or exalted'

- 1
- Sati-sambojjhanga mindfulness, Iding ay lide with the Dhammavicaya-sambojihanga 2 the truth:
- Viriya-sambojjhanga energy or effort, 3
- Pīti-sambojjhanga rapture or jov. 4
- Passaddhi-sambojjhanga tranquility of the mind No second 5 comprising citta and cetasikas.
- Samādhi-sambojjhanga concentration 6
- Upekkhā-sambojjhanga equanimity. 7

The essential elements of the seven bojjhangas are (1) sati, (2) paññā, (3) vīriya, (4) pīti, (5) kāya-passaddhi and citta-passaddhi, (6) ekaggatā, and (7) tatramajjhattatā, respectively – all being present in the 42 cittas comprising 8 mahākusala cittas, 8 mahā-kiriya cittas and 26 appanā javanas.

Dhammavicaya, vīriya and pīti are opposed to thina-middha (sloth and torpor); passaddhi, samādhi and upekkhā are opposed to uddhacca (restlessness).

# 7 Eight Maggangas (Eight Constituents of the Path)

They comprise the first eight maggangas out of the twelve mentioned in the compendium of mixed categories. The essential elements are also the same.

Paññā-maggangas (wisdom):

- Sammā-dițțhi right view, 1
- Sammā-sankappa right thought, 2

Sīla-maggangas (morality)

- 3 Sammā-vācā right speech,
- 4 Sammā-kammanta right action,
- 5 Sammā-ājīva right livelihood,

Samādhi-maggangas (concentration)

6 Sammā-vāyamo - right effort,

- 7 Sammā-sati right mindfulness,
- 8 Sammā-samādhi right concentration.

In developing the right constituents of the Path, one should start with the right speech, the right action and the right livelihood – the three *sīla-maggangas* which constitute moral training (*sīla-sikkhā*).

Based on *sīla*, one then develops the right effort, the right mindfulness and the right concentration – the three *samādhi-maggangas* which constitute mental training (*samādhi-sikkhā*).

When one attains *upacāra-samādhi* (neighbourhood-concentration) or better *jhāna samādhi* (concentration associated with absorption), one can penetrate to the ultimate realities and investigate the true nature of mind and matter. Here *sammāsaňkappa* – the right thought based on the right method of investigation – comes into play.

The right method of investigation and analysis reveals the truth which gives rise to the right view – sammā-dițțhi. The right view is the most important factor of enlightenment. It provides a really unshakable and safe foundation of the path. Starting from the tiniest germ of faith and knowledge, it gradually, step by step, develops into penetrating insight (vipassanā-ñāṇa) and then further into the knowledge of the four Noble Truths when magga-ñāṇa or enlightenment is attained.

Sammā-saṅkappa and sammā-diṭṭhi together constitute paññāsikkhā (wisdom-training).

All the eight constituents together constitute the Noble Path or the Middle Path which leads to *Nibbāna*.

# **REVIEW ON BODHIPAKKHIYA**

Although there are 37 enlightenment-factors, the essential elements amount to only 14 – namely, sati, vīriya, chanda, citta, paññā saddhā, ekaggatā, pīti, passaddhi (both kāya and citta), tatramajjhattatā, vitakka, sammā-vācā, sammā-kammanta and sammāājīva.

Of these 14 essetial elements, pīti, passaddhi, tatramajjhattatā, vitakka, 3 viratis, chanda and citta occur only as one factor each.

*Vīriya* occurs 9 times, i.e. as 9 factors; *sati* as eight factors; *ekaggatā* as 4 factors; *paīnīā* as five factors; and *saddhā* as 2 factors. Please see Table 7.2.

SABBA-SANGAHA (Compendium of the Whole Vatthu-dhammas) Five categories will be dealt with here. They are Khandha, Upādānakkhandha, Āyatana, Dhātu and Ariyasacca.

#### 1 Five Khandhas (Five Aggregates)

'*Khandha*' means group or aggregate. Buddha has summed up all the physical and the mental phenomena of existence into five groups or aggregates.

- 1 Rūpakkhandha corporeality group consisting of 28 rūpas.
- 2 Vedanākkhandha feeling group consisting of sukha-vedanā, dukkha-vedanā, somanassa-vedanā, domanassa-vedanā and upekkhā-vedanā.

# SAMUCCAYA - Compendium of Ultimate Entities | 271

# Table 7.2 Bodhipakkhiya-saṅgaha

14 Beautiful Cetasikas (Enlightenment Factors)	4 Satipațihanas	4 Samnappadhānas	4 Iddhipadās	5 Indriyas	5 Balas	7 Bojjhangas	8 Maggangas	No. of times
1 Viriya		04	0	0	0	0	ø	9
2 Sati	04			ø	ø	0	0	8
3 Paññā			ø	0	0	Ø	0	5
4 Ekaggata (samādhi)				0	6	Ø	0	4
5 Saddhā				٥	0			2
6 Pīti						Ø		1
7 Passaddhi						0		1
8 Tatramajjhattatā			-			0		1
9 Chanda			8					1
10 Citta			ø					1
11 Sammā-vāca							ø	1
12 Sammā-kammanta							0	1
13 Sammā-ājīva					-		٩	1
14 Vittaka							0	1
3 Saññakkhandha -

perception group, comprising perceptions of form, sound, odour, taste, bodily impression and mental impression.

4 Sankhārakkhandha –

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group of mental formations; it consists of 50 cetasikas other than vedanā and saññā.

5 Viññānakkhandha -

consciousness group; it consists of 89 or 121 cittas.

In grouping the components of each *khandha*, eleven aspects must be taken into account. These aspects are past, present, future, internal (*ajjhattika*), external (*bahiddha*), inferior (*hīna*), superior (*panīta*), distant (*dure*), near (*santike*), gross (*olārika*) and subtle (*sukhuma*).

The purpose of analysing a being into five groups of existence is to eliminate the wrong perception and the wrong view that ego, self, personality or *atta* exists. This elimination will lead to the path of stream-winner.

#### 2 Five Upādānakhandhas (Five Groups of Grasping)

In specifying the five *khandhas*, Buddha has taken into account all the physical and the mental phenomena. But in *vipassanā* meditation one does not investigate the *lokuttara cittas* and their associated *cetasikas*.

The 81 *lokiya-cittas*, their concomitants and the corporeality group form the objects of grasping by *lobha* and *ditthi*. The division of these objects of grasping into five groups gives rise to five *upādānakkhandhas*.

 Rūpupādānakkhandha – corporeality group consisting of 28 rūpas. SAMUCCAYA - Compendium of Ultimate Entities | 273

- Vedanupādānakkhandha –
   feeling group consisting of vedanās associated with 81
   lokiya cittas.
- Saññupādānakkhandha –
   perception group consisting of saññās associated with
   81 lokiya cittas.
- 4 Sankhārupādānakkhandha group of mental formations; it consists of 50 lokiya cetasikas other than vedanā and sanīnā.
- 5 *Viñfiānupādānakkhandha* consciousness group consisting of 81 *lokiya cittas*.

## **REASON FOR CLASSIFICATION OF TWO TYPES OF KHANDHA**

- In order to show that there are only five groups of existence and that there are no ego, self, persons or *atta*, Buddha classified all the physical and mental phenomena, whether *lokiya* or *lokuttara*, into five groups. This is His first *khandha-desanā*.
- 2 In insight meditation, the lokuttara cittas and their concomitants are not investigated, because they do not belong to the group of suffering (dukkha-sacca). Only lokiya cittas and their concomitants as well as the corporeality group are investigated in insight meditation, because they are grasped by upādāna (lobha and dițthi) and they are involved in the round of misery. Besides they possess the characteristics of impermanence (anicca), suffering (dukkha) and non-self (anatta).

So the Buddha again classified the physical and the mental phenomena which are grasped by *upādāna* into five groups. This is His second *upādānakhandha-desanā*.

#### NIBBĀNA IS KHANDHA-VIMUTTI

In the classification of five groups of existence, *Nibbāna* is not included. The reason is that there is only one *Nibbāna* and it belongs to a class of its own. As it always exists, it cannot be differentiated as past, present and future. It cannot be differentiated as internal and external – it belongs to the external (*bahiddha*). It cannot be differentiated as base and supreme – it belongs to the supreme (*panīta*). It cannot be differentiated as *dure* (distant) and *santike* (near) –it is *dure* alone as it is far from ordinary knowledge. It cannot be differentiated as gross and subtle – it is subtle (*sukhuma*).

Bahiddha, sukhuma, panīta and dure do not imply different Nibbānas – they are the different attributes of the same Nibbāna.

So there are no two varieties of *Nibbāna*. Thus *Nibbāna* need not be classified as a *khandha*.

#### 3 Twelve Äyatanas (Twelve Bases)

' $\bar{A}$ yatana' means base, source or sphere. Here the twelve  $\bar{a}$ yatanas means the 12 bases or sources from which consciousness and its concomitants arise.

The 12 bases are divided equally into two groups:

- (a) ajjhattika (internal) and (b) bāhira (external).
- a Ajjhattikāyatana (Six internal bases)
- 1 Cakkhāyatana cakkhu-pasāda eye-base (sensitive part of the eye),
- 2 Sotāyatana sota-pasāda ear-base (sensitive part of the ear),
- 3 Ghānāyatana ghāna-pasāda nose-base (sensitive part of the nose),

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SAMUCCAYA - Compendium of Ultimate Entities | 275 Smi

- Jivhāyatana jivhā-pasāda tongue-base (sensitive part 4 of the tongue),
- 5 Kāyāyatana - kāya-pasāda - body-base (sensitive part of the body).
- 6 Mānāyatana - 89 or 121 cittas - mind-base.
- Bāhirāyatana (six external bases) Ъ
- 1 Rūpāyatana – vanna – visible object
- 2 Saddāyatana - sadda - sound
- 3 Gandhāyatana – gandha – odour
- 4 Rasāyatana - rasa - taste
- me melion? 5 Photthabbhayatana - pathavī, tejo, vāyo - tangible object
- Dhammāyatana mind-object consisting of 52 cetasikas,
  - 16 sukhuma-rūpas and Nibbāna.

19 8 Mm - mind door - life continuity

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The six internal bases consist of the five physical senseorgans and consciousness. Manāyatana is a collective term for all consciousness.

- The six external bases consist of the six sense-objects. 2 Dhammāyatana is a little short of dhammā-rammaņa as it does not contain cittas, pasāda-rūpas, and concepts. Cittas and pasāda-rūpas are already described as the six internal bases whereas concepts do not belong to realities, so they are not included in dhammäyatana.
- 3 All cittas, all cetasikas, all rūpas and Nibbāna are included in the 12 *āyatanas*.
- 4 Cognitive processes arise from the contact between internal and external bases. When the visible object strikes the eye-base, cakkhu-dvāra vīthi arises. When the

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sound strikes the ear-base, sota-dvāra vīthi arises, and so on.

- 5 Those, who have difficulty to understand the five *upādānakkhandhas*, may understand the twelve *āyatanas* and thus see the absence of an ego-entity called 'atta' or 'self'. This understanding may lead to their liberation.
- 6 One other reason why the '*āyatanas*' are so-called is that they cause the long cycle of misery.

### 4 Eighteen Dhätus (Eighteen Elements)

"Dhātu" is that which bears its own characteristics. It exists in nature and functions its purpose, but it is not a living being.

Buddha has divided all the realities into 18 *dhātus* or elements for the benefit of those who could not understand *upādānakkhandhas* and *āyatanas* to show them clearly that there is no 'atta' nor 'a living being'. The eighteen *dhātus* are equally divided into three groups: (a) six subjective elements, (b) six objective elements, and (c) six intellectual elements.

- a Six Subjective Elements (Dvāras)  $\hat{t}^{(1)}$
- 1 Cakkhu-dhātu cakkhu-pasāda eye-door
- 2 Sota-dhātu soto-pasāda ear-door

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- 3 Ghāna-dhātu Ghāna-pasāda nose-door
- 4 Jivhā-dhātu jivhā-pasāda tongue-door
- 5 Kāya-dhātu kāya-pasāda body-door
- 6 Mano-dhātu pañca-dvārāvajjana and 2 sampaticchanas.
- b Six Object Elements (Sense-objects)  $\pi^{-1}$ 
  - 7 Rūpa-dhātu vaņņa visible object
  - 8 Sadda-dhātu sadda sound
  - 9 Gandha-dhātu gandha odour

SAMUCCAYA - Compendium of Ultimate Entities | 277

- 10 Rasa-dhātu rasa taste
- 11. Phoțțhabba-dhātu pathavī, tejo, vāyo tangible object
- 12. Dhamma-dhātu 52 cetasikas, 16 sukhuma-rūpas and Nibbāna (the same as dhammāyatana).  $2 \sqrt{4}, \sqrt[3]{2}$
- c Six Intellectual Elements (Consciousness)
- 13 Cakkhu-viññāṇa-dhātu אילי 2 cakkhu-viññāṇa cittas – eye-consciousness איזע אילי 14 Current
- 14 Sota-viññāna-dhātu –
- 15 Ghāna-viññāņa-dhātu –
   2 ghāna-viññāņa cittas nose-consciousness
- 16 Jivhā-viññāņa-dhātu –
  2 jivhā-viññāņa cittas tongue-consciousness
- 17 Kāya-viññāņa-dhātu –
  2 kāya-viññāņa cittas body-consciousness
- 18 Mano-viññāņa-dhātu –
   76 cittas excluding 10 dvipañca-viññāņa cittas and 3 mano-dhātu cittas.

Page 118

Notes:

- 1 Based on six doors and six sense-objects, six types of consciousness arise. Thus there are 18 *dhātus* or elements.
- 2 The 18 Dhātus include all rūpas, all cittas, all cetasikas and Nibbāna just like the 12 āyatanas.
- 3 The 4 essential elements, viz., *pathavī-dhātu*, *āpo-dhātu*, *tejo-dhātu* and *vāyo-dhātu* should not be counted among the 18 elements, which of course include the 4 essential elements.

#### 5 Four Ariya-saccas (Four Noble Truths)

'Sacca' means 'truth'. The truth that can be understood fully only by ariyas (noble persons) is called *ariya-sacca* (Noble Truth).

There are four Noble Truths which are the briefest synthesis of the entire teachings of the Buddha. They encompass every thing and contain all those manifold doctrines of the threefold Canons (*Tipitaka*).

They are truly universal laws of the highest form and those who see them clearly become ariyas.

The Abhidhamma names, the common names and the meanings of the four Noble Truths are described in Table 7.3.

## TABLE 7.3 Four Noble Truths

		Abhidhamma Name	Gömmon Name	Meanings
د ور	EFFERT	1 Dukkha Ariya- sacca	Dukkha Sacca	the Noble Truth of Suffering
	C BUSE	2 Dukkha-samudaya- Ariya-sacca	Samudaya Sacca	the Noble Truth of the Cause of Suffering
	EFEET	3 Dukkha-nirodha Ariya-sacca	Nirodha Sacca	the Noble Truth of the Cessation of Suffering
(	CAUSE	4 Dukkha-nirodha- gāminipaţipadā Ariya-sacca	Magga Sacca	the Noble Truth of the of the Path leading to the Cessation of Suffering

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SAMUCCAYA -- Compendium of Ultimate Entities | 279

# THE ESSENTIAL ELEMENTS OF EACH NOBLE TRUTH



Eighty-one lokiya cittas, 51 lokiya-cetasikas excluding lobha, and 28 types of  $r\bar{u}pa$  are the essential elements of the Noble Truth of Suffering. They cause the long cycle of rebirth and misery in the three spheres namely, Kāmaloka, R $\bar{u}pa$ -loka and  $Ar\bar{u}pa$ -loka.  $32^{36}$ 

The first Truth teaches us that all forms of existence whatsoever are unsatisfactory as they are subject to suffering (*dukkha*).

2 The real essence of the Noble Truth of the Cause of suffering is *taṇhā* which is *lobha* present in 12 *akusala cittas*. *Taṇhā* brings about rebirth and misery in the unending chain of continuous existence.

The second Truth teaches us that all suffering, including all rebirth, is produced by craving (*taṇhā*).

3 The real essence of the Noble Truth of the Cessation of Suffering is *Nibbāna* which arises as the result of the cessation of craving.

The third Truth teaches us that extinction of craving necessarily results in Extinction (*Nirodha*) of rebirth and suffering. The extinction of rebirth and suffering results in eternal peace (*santi-sukha*) which is *Nibbāna*.

4 The eight *maggangas* present in *magga-ñāṇas* are the essential elements of the Noble Truth of the Path leading to the Cessation of Suffering.

The fourth Truth teaches us that the eight *maggangas* are the real means by which the extinction of rebirth and suffering can be brought about.

5 The Noble Truth of Suffering and the Noble Truth of the Cause of Suffering are known as *lokiya-saccas*; the latter is the cause and the former is the effect.

The Noble Truth of the Cessation of Suffering and the Noble Truth of the Path leading to the cessation of suffering are known as *lokuttara-sacca*; again the latter is the cause and the former is the effect.

6 There is a general belief in Myanmar that one's life is not worth living if one does not know *khandhas, āyatanas, dhātus* and *saccas*. So we are fortunate to learn them now, and we should exert the right effort to know them by insight-wisdom (*bhāvanāmaya-ñāṇa*).

## Chapter 8 **PACCAYA** Cause or Condition

## INTRODUCTORY

'*Paccaya*' means 'cause or condition'. It is something on which something else, the so-called 'conditioned-thing' (*paccayuppanna*), is dependent, and without which the latter cannot be.

Paccaya is the cause of the conditioned thing.

Paccayuppanna is the effect or result of the cause.

In conditioning its *paccayuppanna* (effect or result), the *paccaya* (cause or condition) acts in two supportive ways:

- 1 it causes the effect which has not arisen to arise, and
- 2 it strengthens the effect which has already arisen.

There are two methods of conditioning:

- 1 Pațiccasamuppāda-method the Law of Dependent Origination,
- 2 Patthāna-method the Law of Causal Relations.

The first method describes the cause and the effect without mentioning how the cause conditions the effect to arise. However, *Paţiccasamuppāda* is a very important doctrine as it describes eleven causal relations which explain the conditionality and dependent nature of uninterrupted flux of manifold physical and mental phenomena of existence. In other words it explains how each individual is involved in the Wheel of Existence undergoing the rounds of rebirth and misery in the long saņsāra. Patthāna method not only describes the cause and the effect but also explains how the cause conditions the effect to arise. It is wonderful to learn that there are 24 modes of conditionality which correlates all the physical and psychical phenomena by cause and effect with specific illustrations occurring in real life.

## 1 PAŢICCASAMUPPĀDA METHOD

The *Paţiccasamuppāda* method of correlating the cause and the effect is generally known as the Law of Dependent Origination. The brief essential statement of the law runs like this:

- 1 Avijjā-paccayā sankhārā Dependent on ignorance arise the rebirth-producing volition or kamma formations.
- Sankhāra-paccayā vinnānam Cabiyant
   Dependent on kamma formations (in past life) arises rebirth consciousness (in the present life).
- 3 Viññāņa-paccayā nāma-rūpam Dependent on rebirth consciousness arise the mental and physical phenomena.
- Nāma-rūpa-paccayā saļāyatanam –
   Dependent on the mental and physical phenomena arise the six (sense) bases.
- 5 Saļāyatana-paccayā phasso –
   Dependent on the six (sense) bases arise contact (between sense base, sense object and consciousness).
- 6 Phassa-paccayā vedanā Dependent on contact arises feeling.

- 7 Vedanā-paccayā taņhā –
   Dependent on feeling arises craving.
- 8 Tanhā-paccayā upādānam Dependent on craving arises grasping.
- 9 Upādāna-paccayā bhavo Dependent on grasping arises the rebirth-producing kamma (kamma-bhava) and the rebirth-process (upapatti-bhava).
- 10 Bhava-paccayā jāti Dependent on the rebirth-producing kamma (in the present life) arises rebirth (in the future life).
- 11 Jāti-paccayā jarā-maranam-soka-parideva-dukkha-domanassa, upāyāsā sambhavanti = Dependent on rebirth arise old age, death, worry, lamentation, pain, grief and despair.

Thus arises the whole mass of suffering again in the future.

### **EXPLANATION OF THE CAUSAL RELATIONS**

#### 1 Avijjā-paccayā Sankhārā

Avijjā conditions sankhāra to arise or, in other words, sankhāra arises as a consequence of avijjā.

Now *avijjā* is ignorance or delusion. Essentially it is *moha* present in 12 *akusala-cittas*. As ignorance, it veils man's mental eyes preventing him from seeing the true nature of things. As delusion it tricks beings by making life appear to them as permanent, pleasant, substantial (*atta*) and beautiful (*subha*) while everything in reality is impermanent, liable to suffering, void of substance (I), and loathsome.

There are eight important objects (departments) which are covered by *avijjā* so that their true nature is not known. These are: (1) *dukkha sacca*, (2) *samudaya sacca*, (3) *nirodha sacca*, (4) *magga* 

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sacca, (5) the past khandha- and āyatana-groups, (6) the future khandha- and āyatana-groups, (7) the front end and the rear end of the present khandha- and äyatana groups, and (8) Paticcasamuppāda causal relations which include kamma and its consein the states and the auences.

Sankhāra means rebirth-producing volitions (cetanā) or kamma-formations. It refers to puññābhisankhāra, apuññābhisankhāra and anenjābhisankhāra.

Puññābhisankhāra represents the 13 cetanās (volitions) 1 present in 8 mahā-kusala cittas and 5 rūpāvacara-kusala 8 Anistesuttorit cittas. It is so called because it conditions good vipākanāmakkhandha and kaṭattā-rūpa to arise in Kāma-loka and margin Rūva-loka.

> Apuññābhisankhāra represents the 12 cetanās present in 2 12 akusala cittas. It is so called because it conditions bad vipāka-nāmakkhandha and kaţattā-rūpa to arise in the four Avāva abodes.

> 3 Anenjābhlsankhāra represents the 4 cetanās present in 4 arūpāvacara-kusala cittas. It is so called because it conditions the arising of unshakable arūpa existence.

Mach By Mach In short, sankhāra represents the 29 types of kamma associated with 17 lokiya kusala cittas and 12 akusala cittas.

> How does avijjā condition sankhāra? Because of ignorance about kamma and its effect, people commit immoral actions for immediate self-benefit. Because of the delusion thinking that sensual pleasure and *jhāna*-ecstasy are real forms of happiness, people perform dana, sila and bhavana in order to attain such happiness either in the present life or in future lives. Thus people accumulate both moral and immoral kammas (sankhāra) as the result of ignorance or delusion (avijjā).

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PACCAYA - Cause or Condition | 285  $\frac{8}{19} \left(\gamma_{h} \sqrt{3} \gamma^{5}, \sqrt{3} \sqrt{2}\right)$ 

#### 2 Sankhāra-paccayā Vinnānam

Sankhāra conditions viñnāņa to arise or, in other words, vinnāņa arises as a consequence of sankhāra.

Here sankhāra means the 29 wholesome and unwholesome *cetanās* (kammas) mentioned above. Viññāņa means rebirthconsciousness which is the initial resultant of kamma-formations. But sankhāra goes on producing vipāka-cittas throughout the whole new life. So all the 32 lokiya-vipāka cittas are taken to represent 'viññāņa' as the direct effect of sankhāra.

Thus the second causal relation should be interpreted as follows.  $a^{2}$ 

At pațisandhi-kāla, 11 akusala cetanās (excluding uddhaccacetanā) and the 17 lokiya kusala cetanās (excluding the 2 abhiññācetanās) condition the arising of the 19 rebirth consciousness. At pavatti-kāla all the 12 akusala cetanās and the 17 lokiya kusala cetanās (excluding the 2 abhiññā-cetanās) continue to condition the arising of the 32 lokiya-vipāka cittas. These can be split up as follows.

- 1 Apuññābhisankhāra (12 akusala cetanās) conditions the arising of 7 akusala-vipāka cittas.
- 2 Puññābhisankhāra (8 mahā-kusala cetanās and 5 rūpāvacarakusala cetanās) conditions the arising of 8 kusala-ahetukavipāka cittas, 8 mahā-vipāka cittas and 5 rūpāvacara-vipāka cittas.
- 3 Anenjābhisankhāra (4 arūpāvacara cetanās) conditions the arising of 4 arūpāvacara-vipāka cittas.

So it should be understood that from the very first moment of conception in the mother's womb the *kamma*-resultant consciousness of the embryonic being is functioning, and it goes on functioning as life-continuum and seeing consciousness, hearing

consciousness, etc., throughout the whole new life. Of course, it terminates as death-consciousness finally.

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#### 3 Viñnāņa-paccayā Nāma-rūpam

Viññāņa conditions nāma-rūpa to arise or, in other words, nāmarūpa arises as a consequence of viññāņa.

Viññāņa here represents two entities: vipāka-viññāņa and kamma-viññāṇa. Vipāka-viññāṇa means the 32 lokiya-vipāka cittas mentioned in the second causal relation.

Kamma-viññāņa means cittas associated with cetanā-kamma, and it refers back to the 29 wholesome and unwholesome kammas we have described as sankhāra. This back-reference is required because only kusala and akusala kammas, and not the vipāka cittas, can produce 18 types of kammaja-rūpa.

In nāma-rūpam, nāma indicates the 35 cetasikas which associate with the 32 lokiya-vipāka cittas. In terms of groups of existence, the 35 cetasikas represent three mental groups – viz., vedanakkhandha, saññakkhandha and sankhārakkhandha. The second part, rūpam, means the 18 kammaja rūpas.

To summarise, 32 *lokiya-vipāka-viññāņas* condition the arising of 35 *cetasikas* or three *nāmakkhandhas*, whereas 29 *kamma-viññāṇas* condition the arising of 18 *kammaja-rūpas*. These phenomena constitute the third causal relation.

We should remember that kamma starts producing kammajarūpas from the very first moment of conception in the mother's womb, and it keeps on doing so incessantly at every minor instant till death. We have learnt these in Chapter 6 in connection with the arising of material phenomena in individuals (Page 235). Among these kammaja-rūpas, the vital nonad (i.e. jīvita-navakakalāpa) serves as the rūpa-paţisandhi of asafifiasatta brahmas. So far, i.e. up to the third causal relation, we have seen that *avijjā* (ignorance) conditions the arising of various *kammas*, which in turn condition the arising of 32 *lokiya-vipāka cittas* and 18 *kammaja-rūpas*. The 32 *lokiya-vipāka cittas*, in their turn, condition the arising of 35 *cetasikas*, i.e. three mental groups.

Since vipāka cittas represent viññāņakkhandha, and kammaja rūpas represent rūpakkhandha, we now have all the five groups of existence for the new embryo to manifest itself as a living being.

It should be noted, however, that only the 4 mental groups arise in *Arūpa*-planes, only the corporeality group in the mindless (*Asañña*)-plane, and all the five groups in *Kāma*- and *Rūpa*-planes.

#### 4 Nāma-rūpa-paccayā Saļāyatanam

Nāma-rūpa conditions saļāyatana to arise, or in other words, saļāyatana arises as a consequence of nāma-rūpa.

*Nāma-rūpa* here means the 35 *cetasikas* (three *nāmakkhandhas*) which associate with the 32 *lokiya-vipāka cittas*, and 18 *kammaja-rūpas* as stated in the third causal relation.

Saļāyatana refers to the six ajjhattikāyātanas (six internal bases) namely, cakkhāyatana, sotāyatana, ghānāyatana, jivhāyatana, kāyāyatana and manāyatana. The first five ayatanas represent the five pasāda-rūpas which are present in 18 kammaja-rūpas. Manāyatana here represents only the 32 lokiya-vipāka cittas as we are describing the causal relations.

We have seen in the third causal relation that 35 cetasikas arise as a consequence of the 32 lokiya-vipāka cittas. Now we see that the 35 cetasikas re-condition the arising of the 32 lokiya-vipāka cittas. This illustrates añña-mañña-paccaya (condition by way of mutuality) between cittas and cetasikas.

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#### 5 Saļāyatana-paccayā Phasso

Saļāyatana conditions the arising of phassa or, in other words, phassa arises as a consequence of saļāyatana.

Saļāyatana means the six ajjhattikāyātanas (six internal bases) as above.

Phassa here indicates the phassa cetasika present in the 32 lokiya-vipāka cittas.  $\chi \times \hat{\tau} + \hat{\tau}$ 

To describe the individual co-relations, cakkhäyatana conditions the arising of cakkhusamphassa (i.e., phassa associated with cakkhu-viññāṇa); sotāyatana conditions the arising of sotāsamphassa; ghānāyatana conditions the arising of ghānasamphassa; jivhāyatana conditions the arising of jivhāsamphassa; kāyāyatana conditions the arising of kāyasamphassa; manāyatana conditions the arising of manosamphassa. Samphassa is synonymous with phassa.

Cakkhāyatana (eye-base) is cakkhu-pasāda, the eye-door, where the visual object strikes to give rise to seeing consciousness (cakkhu-viññāṇa). Then the phassa associated with the seeing consciousness is said to be conditioned by the eye-base. The remaining five phassas are produced similarly.

Without the five physical bases or sense-organs, there can be no sense impressions; and without the sixth base, or consciousness, there can be no mental impression.

#### 6 Phassa-paccayā Vedanā

*Phassa* conditions the arising of *vedanā* or, in other words, *vedanā* arises as a consequence of *phassa*.

Here phassa is the phassa-cetasika associated with the 32 lokiyavipāka cittas. Vedanā is also the vedanā cetasika present in the 32 lokiya-vipāka cittas. *Phassa* and *vedanā* arise simultaneously in the same consciousness. Nevertheless *phassa* is regarded as the cause, and *vedanā* as the effect. In accordance with the six types of *phassa* that have been enumerated in the previous causal relation, there are six types of *vedanā*.

Because of cakkhusamphassa, cakkhusamphassajā-vedanā arises. Because of sotasamphassa, sotasamphassajā-vedanā arises. Because of ghānasamphassa, ghānasamphassajā-vedanā arises. On account of jivhā samphassa, jivhāsamphassajā-vedanā arises. On account of kāyasamphassa, kāyasamphassajā-vedanā arises. On account of manosamphassa, manosamphassajā-vedanā arises.

*Cakkhusamphassajā-vedanā* means the *vedanā* (feeling) in the eye-consciousness produced by *cakkhusamphassa* which is the sense-impression or sense-contact in the eye-consciousness. The remaining *vedanās* should be similarly understood.

#### 7 Vedanā-paccayā Taņhā

Vedanā conditions taņhā to arise or taņhā arises as a consequence of vedanā.

Vedanā here means the six vedanās enumerated above as cakkhusamphassajā-vedanā, sotasamphassajā-vedanā, and so on. In the causal relations explaining how each individual is going round and round in the wheel of existence the cause produces the effect, and the effect becomes the cause to produce its effect again. Some authors, however, like to take all the vedanās associated with the 81 lokiya cittas as paccaya, since vedanā is playing the role of the cause here.  $(2\pi) = 31$ 

Now the *taṇhā* (craving) which arises as the result of *vedanā* (feeling) is also of six types – viz., *rūpa-taṇhā* (craving for visual object), *sadda-taṇhā* (craving for sound), *gandha-taṇhā* (craving the

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odour), rasa-tanhā (craving for taste), phoțthaba-tanhā (craving for tangible object), and dhamma-tanhā (craving for mind-object). These six types of tanhā exist internally in oneself and externally in others. So together they make 12 types of tanhā. They become 36 when past, present and future are taken into consideration. When multiplied by the three types of tanhā enumerated as samudaya-sacca, they become 108 types of tanhā.

 $\int_{a}^{a} \tilde{c}$  The three types of tanhā enumerated as samudaya-sacca are:

Kāma-tanhā – craving for sensual and *jhāna* pleasures;

- Bhava-tanhā craving for sensual and *jhāna* pleasures associated with the view of eternalism, i.e., enjoving pleasures thinking that they are imperishable;
- Vibhava-tanhā craving for sensual and jhāna pleasures 3 associated with the view of nihilism, i.e., enjoving pleasures thinking that everything is annihilated after death.

Essentially all the different modes of tanhā represent lobha which is associated with the eight lobha-mūla cittas.

### 8 Tanhā-paccayā Upādānam

Tanhā conditions upādāna to arise or upādāna arises as a consequence of tanhā.

Tanhā here refers to the six types of craving for the six senseobjects, namely, rūpa-taņhā, sadda-taņhā, gandha-taņhā, rasa-taņhā, photthabba-tanhā and dhamma-tanhā or it may be taken as the 108 modes of *tanhā* as described in the seventh causal relation.

Upādāna stands for the four types of grasping - viz., kāmupādāna, ditthupādāna, sīlabbatupādāna and attavādupādāna – which have been described in Chapter 7.

Let us first consider the arising of kāmupādāna as a consequence of tanhā. Kāmupādāna is the sense-desire or clinging to the five-objects, and essentially it is *lobha* present in the eight *lobha-mūla cittas*.

So we see that both the cause (tanha) and the effect (kamu-padana) respectively stand for *lobha*. How can *lobha* be the cause as well as the effect? The explanation is fourfold:

- 1 Tanhā is weaker than kāmupādāna in intensity. When we see a beautiful object, first a weak attachment in the form of tanhā arises. When we think over and over how exceptionally beautiful the object is, the attachment grows stronger and stronger until it becomes intensive craving or firm grasping which is kāmupādāna.
- 2 Other commentators have the view that the desire to get an object is *tanhā* and the strong attachment or firm grasping which develops after getting the object is *kāmupādāna*.
- 3 Furthermore, tanhā is the opposite of appicchatā (frugality) whereas kāmupādāha is the opposite of santutthitā (contentment).
- 4 *Tanhā* is the cause of suffering encountered in acquiring wealth whereas *kāmupādāna* is the cause of suffering encountered in guarding the wealth.

Thus it is appropriate to say that *kāmupādāna* arises as a consequence of *taņhā*.

We have to explain further how the remaining three graspings arise as the results of *tanhā*. These graspings are: *dițthu-pādāna* (clinging to false views), *sīlabbatupādāna* (clinging to canine and bovine morality) and *attavādupādāna* (clinging to the 'atta' or 'soul' theory).

The clinging to the theory that "atta" or "I" exists is synonymous with "sakkāya-diţţhi" which is "personality-belief" taking

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the five aggregates of existence as a person or as "I". This belief is clearly the outcome of the attachment (tanha) to oneself.

Those, who practise the canine or bovine morality or other futile practices such as sleeping on thorns, are actually doing so for the betterment of their 'selves' out of the attachment to their 'selves'.

Thus the causal relation that *tanhā* conditions the arising of *upādāna* is well justified.

#### 9 Upādāna-paccaya Bhavo

*Upādāna* conditions *bhava* to arise or *bhava* arises as a consequence of *upādāna*.

'Upādāna' here means the four graspings – kāmupādāna, diţţhupādāna, sīlabbatupādāna and attavādupādāna – as described in the eighth causal relation.

"Bhava" literally means "becoming" or "existence". But here it means the 'kamma-bhava" as well as the "upapatti-bhava".

Kamma-bhava means the rebirth-producing kamma. It includes all the wholesome and unwholesome deeds (kamma) performed in this life. To be more specific, it includes the 29 cetanās associated with 17 lokiya-kusala cittas and 12 akusala cittas. It is the same as saṅkhāra which is explained in the first causal relation. The only difference between saṅkhāra and kamma-bhava is that the former pertains to the past and the latter to the present.

Kamma-bhava is the active kamma-process of becoming whereas upapatti-bhava is the passive kamma-resultant process, the so-called 'rebirth-process'. In essence, upapatti-bhava stands for 32 lokiya-vipāka cittas, their associated 35 cetasikas and 18 kammaja rūpas. Note that these essential elements are the same as those symbolised by "viññāņa" and "nāma-rūpa" in the second and third causal relations. As sankhāra conditions the arising of "viññāṇa" and "nāmarūpa" in the past, so too kamma-bhava will condition the arising of "upapatti-bhava' in the future.

*Upādāna* cannot condition the rebirth-process directly. It can only condition new *kamma*-processes of becoming. When one is strongly craving for something, he will act in one way or another to possess that thing, and in doing so, new *kamma*-processes are performed.

If he performs wholesome *kamma*, that will condition the rebirth-process in blissful planes. If he carries out unwholesome *kamma*, that will condition the rebirth – process in four  $ap\bar{a}ya$  abodes.

#### 10 Bhava-paccayā Jāti

Bhava conditions jāti to arise or jāti arises as a consequence of bhava.

*Bhava'* here means the *kamma-bhava* which stands for the  $\sqrt[4]{29}$  types of wholesome and unwholesome *kammas* as described in the ninth causal relation.

'Jāti' refers to the arising or becoming of upapatti-bhava, the rebirth-process. Right at the first instant of conception (pațisandhikāla),(there arise 32 lokiya-vipāka cittas, 35 cetasikas associated with the lokiya-vipāka cittas and 18 kammaja rūpas which make up upapatti-bhava.) The 32 lokiya-vipāka cittas and 18 kammaja rūpas comprise all the 20 forms of rebirth-process.)

Thus through the wholesome and unwholesome kammaprocesses (kamma-bhava) are conditioned the rebirth-processes (upapatti-bhava). The tenth causal relation combines the second and the third causal relations; they teach practically the same thing, namely that kamma is the cause of rebirth.

## 11 Jāti-paccayā jarā-maraņam soka parideva dukkha domanassa upāyāsā sambhavanti

Jāti conditions jarā-maraņa to arise or jarā-maraņa arises as a consequence of jāti. Now jāti refers to the arising of upapatti-bhava which is the same thing as the arising of 32 lokiya-vipāka cittas, 35 associated cetasikas and 18 kammaja-rūpas.

Now every ultimate reality (paramattha) has the characteristics of arising (uppāda), existing (thīti) and dissolving (bhanga). Thus after uppāda, thīti and bhanga must inevitably follow. Uppāda is called jāti; thīti, jarā; and bhanga, maraṇa. So jarāmaraṇa must arise as a consequence of jāti.

As the arising, the existing and the dissolving of *upapatti-bhava* are designated as *jāti*, *jarā*, and *maraṇa*, respectively, we should note that beings are facing rebirth, decay (old age) and death at every instant according to *Abhidhamma*.

Conventionally, we think that we are born just once, become old as the years pass by, and then die just once in this life. The phenomenon that death arises as a consequence of rebirth at every conscious moment is known as 'khanika-marana'.

As the results of rebirth ( $j\bar{a}ti$ ), worry (soka), lamentation (parideva), pain (dukkha), grief (domanassa) and despair ( $up\bar{a}y\bar{a}s\bar{a}$ ) may also arise. These five resultants are not primary nor inevitable; they are secondary and may or may not arise depending on conditions. They are absent in brahma-loka and may be also unknown to an embryo, which dies in the womb or in an egg.

Thus we should differentiate between primary and secondary effects of rebirth.

Jarā and maraņa are the primary and compulsory resultants of jāti; soka, parideva, dukkha, domanassa and upāyāsā are secondary and optional resultants of jāti. Soka (worry or sorrow) is the unpleasant feeling (domanassavedanā) present in the 2 dosa-mūla cittas.

*Parideva* (lamentation) is *cittaja-vipallāsa-sadda-rūpa* which means mind-produced-reversal sound.

Dukkha (pain) is the vedanā-cetasika associated with dukkhasahagata kāya-viññāņa citta.

Domanassa (grief) is the vedanā-cetasika associated with the 2 dosa-mūla cittas.

*Upāyāsā* (despair) is the resentment produced by excessive mental suffering. It is anger (*dosa*) present in the 2 *dosa-mūla cittas*. A comparison between grief, lamentation and despair states that grief is like the boiling of oil in a vessel; lamentation (viz., the outward expression of grief) is like the overflow (boiling over) from the vessel when the cooking is done by a fierce fire; despair is like the simmering in the vessel of what remains after boiling over until it is all boiled away.

### SOME NOTABLE ASPECTS OF THE LAW

In the Law of Dependent Origination, twelve factors (*anga*), three periods (*kāla*), twenty modes (*ākāra*), three connections (*sandhi*), four abridgments (*sankhepa*), three rounds (*vațța*) and two roots (*mūla*) should be taken into consideration.

### 1 Twelve Factors (Anga)

Avijjā, sankhāra, vinnāna, nāma-rūpa, saļāyatana, phassa, vedanā, taņhā, upādāna, bhava, jāti, jarā-maraņa.

#### 2 Three Periods (Kāla)

- 1 Past avijjā, sankhāra
- 2 Present viññāṇa, nāma-rūpa, saļāyatana, phassa, vedanā, taṇhā, upādāna, kamma-bhava
- 3 Future jāti, jarā-maraņa.

In the past, because a person's mind is veiled by ignorance (*avijjā*), he does not understand the misery of the round of rebirth (*samsāra*). So he performs both wholesome and unwholesome kammas (*sankhāra*). Thus *avijjā* and *sankhāra* belong to the past.

The past kamma produces rebirth in the present life. Thus starting from the very moment of conception till death, viññāṇa, nāma-rūpa, saļāyatana, phassa, vedanā, taṇhā, upādāna and kammabhava arise. So these eight belong to the present.

The kamma-bhava performed in this life produces rebirth in the form of upapatti-bhava in the subsequent life. The arising, the existing and the dissolving of upapatti-bhava are called jāti, jarā and maraṇa, respectively. Thus jāti, jarā-maraṇa belong to the future.

(Note that *bhava* has been divided into *kamma-bhava* and *upapatti-bhava*; the former belongs to the present and the latter, to the future.)

#### 3 Twenty modes (*Ākāra*)

- 1 Past Causes (Atīta Hetu) avijjā, sankhāra, taņhā, upādāna, kamma-bhava.
- 2 Present Effects (Vațțamana Phala) vinnāna, nāma-rūpa, saļāyatana, phassa, vedanā.
- 3 Present Causes (Vațțamana Hetu) taņhā, upādāna, kamma-bhava, avijjā, sankhāra
- 4 Future Effects (Anāgata Phala) viññāņa, nāma-rūpa, saļāyatana, phassa, vedanā.

When we look at the past period, we see only *avijjā* and *sankhāra* to be taken as the past causes. But *avijjā*; is *kilesa-vațța*-

*dhamma*; so also are *taṇhā* and *upādāna*. Since these *vaṭṭa-dhammas* occur together in the same *citta*, *taṇhā* and *upādāna* must also be included in the past causes.

Again sankhāra is a kamma-vaṭṭa-dhamma, and so also is kammabhava. Thus when sankhāra is taken into account, kamma-bhava is also implicitly accounted for. So we have five dhammas viz., avijjā, sankhāra, taṇhā, upādāna and kamma-bhava – as the past causes.

*Viññāṇa, nāma-rūpa, saļāyatana, phassa* and *vedanā* in the present period are the present effects of the past causes.

Again in the present period, taṇhā, upādāna and kamma-bhava can act as the present causes for future rebirth. As reasoned above, when taṇhā and upādāna are taken into account, avijjā is also implicitly accounted for. Furthermore, saṅkhāra must also be grouped together with kamma-bhava. So we get taṇhā, upādāna; kamma-bhava, avijjā and saṅkhāra as the present causes which will condition the rebirth-process in the subsequent life.

In the future period, only *jāti* and *jarā-maraņa* are present. They represent becoming, decay and death, respectively. The question arises here as to which entities come into being, decay and die. The answer is: '*Viññāņa*, *nāma-rūpa*, *saļāyatana*, *phassa* and *vedanā* come into being, decay and die'. The arising, the existing and the dissolving phenomena of these entities are taken as *jāti*, *jarā* and *maraṇa*, respectively. So we get *viñfiāṇa*, *nāmarūpa*, *saļāyatana*, *phassa* and *vedanā* as the future effects. Thus it is stated in *Visuddhi Magga* (Path of Purification) that:

"Five causes were there in the past; Five fruits we find in present life; Five causes do we now produce; Five fruits we reap in future life." We should note that, although *Paticcasamuppāda* states one cause for one effect, and the effect becomes the cause to give rise to another effect, actually many causes take part at the same time to give rise to many effects in real life.

The twenty modes discussed above may be illustrated as in Table 8.1 to show the relationship of dependence between three successive lives.

3 Revied Ca	usal R	elations Between Three S	20MUDE +		
	17	12 (12-0-0-13	4 Abridgments		
Past	1	Avijjā (Ignorance)	Kamma-bhava		
2.00 20 80 80 10	2	Sankhāra	(Kamma-process)		
		(Kamma-formations)	5 Causes: 1,2,		
		لم	8, 9, 10		
Presen	t 3	Viññāṇa (Conciousness)			
-E1.451.19E	4	Nāma-rūpa (Corporeality	Upapatti-bhava		
		-Mentality)	(Rebirth-process)		
	5	Saļāyatana (6 Bases)	5 Effects: 3, 4,		
	6	Phassa (Contact)	5, 6, 7		
	7	Vedanā (Feeling)			
	8	Taņhā (Craving)	Kamma-bhava		
	9	Upādāna (Grasping)	(Kamma-process)		
valo 220 Enter	82) 	Kamma-bhava	(5 Causes : 1, 2		
		(Kamma-formations)	8, 9, 10		
Future	. 11	Jāti (Rebirth)	Upapatti-bhava		
	5. <b>3</b>	Jarā-maraņa	(Rebirth-Process)		
4 3	<u>اً</u> ا	(Old age and Death)	5 Effects: 3, 4,		
B spolie confie		(	5, 6, 7		

#### TABLE 8.1

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#### 4 Four Abridgments (Sankhepa)

The Five Past Causes constitute an abridgment. The Five Present Effects constitute an abridgment. The Five Present Causes constitute an abridgment. The Five Future Effects constitute an abridgment.

## 5 Three Connections (Sandhi) $\mathcal{L}_{o}^{\mathcal{G}}$

In Table 8.1 it will be seen that the connection between *sankhāra* and *viññāṇa* constitutes the connection between the Past Causes and the Present Effects; the connection between *vedanā* and *taṇhā* constitutes the connection between the Present Effects and the Present Causes; and the connection between *kamma-bhava* and *jāti* represents the connection between the Present Causes and the Future Effects.

At present we are concerned with the middle link, that is the connection between *vedanā* and *taņhā*. If we are mindful at the six doors to note seeing as just seeing, hearing as just hearing, and so on and not to let *vedanā* develop into *taņhā*, then we are reconstituting the link as '*vedanā-pañīnā*' instead of '*vedanā-taṇhā*'. This means that we are stopping the wheel of *Paticcasamuppāda* momentarily and trying to cut the link with mindfulness.

#### 6 Three Rounds (Vațța)

'Vațța' means going round and round like the rotation of a wheel. The wheel of *Pațiccasamuppāda* may be divided into three segments called 'three rounds' or 'three vațțas'.

- 1 Kilesa-vațța (Round of Defilements) avijjā, taņhā, upādāna
- 2 Kamma-vațța (Round of Kamma) kamma-bhava, sankhāra
- 3 Vipāka-vaţţa (Round of Resultants) upapatti-bhava, viñfiāņa, nāma-rūpa, saļāyatana, phassa, vedanā, jāti, jarāmaraņa.

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#### Explanation

Avijjā, taņhā, upādāna are defilements (kilesā). So they are grouped as kilesa-vatta.

Kamma-bhava and sankhāra are kamma-formations. So they are grouped as kamma-vațța.

Upapatti-bhava, viññāṇa, nāma-rūpa, saļāyatana, phassa, vedanā, jāti, jarā-maraṇa are the resultants (vipāka) of kamma-formations. So they are grouped as vipāka-vaṭṭa.

In the past, because of ignorance  $(avijj\bar{a})$ , we have false view and attachment  $(tanh\bar{a})$  to sense-objects. When the attachment and the false-view grow up to strong craving or grasping  $(up\bar{a}d\bar{a}na)$ , we perform wholesome or unwholesome deeds  $(kamma-bhava \text{ and } sankh\bar{a}ra)$ . This illustrates how kilesa-vațța gives rise to kamma-vațța in the past.

Now because of kamma-formations (kamma-bhava and sankhāra) in the past, vipāka-vaṭṭa – viz., upapatti-bhava, viñīāṇa, nāma-rūpa, saļāyatana, phassa, vedanā, jāti, jarā-maraṇa – arises in the present life. At the same time avijjā, taṇhā and upādāna come along with viñīfāṇa as anusaya-kilesās (latent defilements). When the six bases (saļāyatana) are in contact with the sense-objects and phassa and vedanā arise, those anusaya-kilesās arise as full-fledged kilesās. So we get kilesa-vaṭṭa again.

As the result of *kilesa-vațța*, *kamma-vațța* arises. As the result of *kamma-vațța*, *vipāka-vațța* arises. And as the result of *vipākavațța*, *kilesa-vațța* arises again. So the rounds of *vațța* will keep on rotating, and so does the wheel of *Pațiccasamuppāda*, for ever.

#### 7 Two Roots (Mūla)

The wheel of *Pațiccasamuppāda* (see Table 8.1) can be divided into two portions. The first portion starts from the Past Causes



and ends at the Present Effects comprising avijjā, sankhāra, vinnāna, nāma-rūpa, saļāyatana, phassa and vedanā. In this portion, avijjā is the root or origin (mūla).

The second portion starts from the Present Causes and ends at the Future Effects covering *taṇhā*, *upādāna*, *bhava*, *jāti* and *jarāmaraṇa*. In this portion *taṇhā* is the root or origin (*mūla*).

So the two roots of *Pațiccasamuppāda* are *avijjā* and *taņhā*. If we cut off these two roots, the wheel of *Pațiccasamuppāda* will be destroyed for ever as far as we are concerned, just as a tree will die when its main roots are cut off.

We can cut off the two main roots of *Paticcasamuppāda* by tranquility and insight-meditation. When we see all the true nature of mentality and corporeality and open up the eight departments which are covered up by *avijjā*, then *taṇhā* has no place to attach to. So both *avijjā* and *taṇhā* will be cut off and we shall be liberated from the round of *saṅtsāra*.

#### 8 The Cause of Avijjā

In expounding the Law of Dependent Origination, the Buddha began with *avijjā* (ignorance) and went on explaining that because of *avijjā*, saṅkhāra arises; because of saṅkhāra, viññāṇa arises; and so on. So one would enquire whether *avijjā* is the first cause or there is another cause for *avijjā*.

The answer is definite: *avijjā* is not the first cause and the four *āsavas* (cankers or intoxicants) are the cause of *avijjā*. The four *āsavas* are *kāmāsava* (attachment to sensual pleasures), *bhavāsava* (attachment to *jhānas* and *brahma* existence), *dițțhāsava* (false views) and *avijjāsava* (ignorance).

When a great loss in our property or close relatives occurs, great sorrow (*soka*), lamentation (*parideva*), grief (*domanassa*) and despair (*upāyāsa*) arise in our mind. This shows how attachment to our property and relatives (*kāmāsava*) conditions sorrow, lamentation, grief and despair to arise.

Also when *brahmas*, who live in *jhāna* peace, approach death, they feel scared and sad. Thus sorrow, grief and despair also arise in them and this arising is a consequence of *bhavāsava*.

Those, who cling to false views such as *sakkāya-diţţhi* (personality-belief) taking the body or the mind as 'I', feel sad or angry when something is wrong with the body or the mind. Thus *diţţhāsava* also causes sorrow or worry, lamentation, grief and despair to arise.

Also on account of ignorance about the true nature of mentality and corporeality, sorrow, lamentation, grief and despair arise. Thus *avijjāsava* is also one of the causes for the arising of *soka*, *parideva*, *domanassa*, *upāyāsa*, etc.

Now when soka, parideva, domanassa, and upāyāsa arise, akusala cittas also arise. Since moha (avijjā) is associated with all these akusala cittas, avijjā also arises.

Thus on account of the four *āsavas*, soka, parideva, domanassa and *upāyāsa* arise, and when *soka*, parideva, domanassa and *upāyāsa* arise, avijjā also arises. Thus the four *āsavas* are the cause of *avijjā*.

#### 9 No Beginning in Samsāra

'Samsāra' literally means 'perpetual wandering'. It is a name given to the continuous process of ever again and again being born, growing old, suffering and dying. To put it more precisely, samsāra is the unbroken chain of the fivefold khandhacombinations which constantly change from moment to moment and continuously follow one upon the other through inconceivable periods of time.

As no one can trace the limits of space, so also no one can trace back to the beginning of *samsāra* and nobody can conceive when it will end. Compared to the course of *samsāra*, a single lifetime constitutes only a tiny and fleeting fraction.

The 'round of rebirth' in the thirty-one planes of existence according to the causal relations has been explained by the Law of Dependent Origination. This law can be satisfactorily verified by insight meditation and I have seen this being done in International Buddha Sasana Centres (Pa-auk Meditation Centres) in Myanmar.

When we draw a circle, we have to begin from some point,

and when we have completed the circle, no beginning nor the end can be seen. Similarly, when the Law of Dependent Origination is explained, the explanation must start from some point, and  $avijj\bar{a}$  is an appropriate point. When the explanation is over, we see that there is no beginning nor the end. The wheel of *Paticcasamuppāda* will keep on rotating for each individual until and unless he can cut off the two main roots, i.e.  $avijj\bar{a}$  and  $tanh\bar{a}$ .

In Digha Nikāya (Sutta 15) the Buddha said: "Profound, Ānanda, is this Dependent Origination, and profound does it appear. It is through not understanding, not penetrating this law, that this world resembles a tangled ball of thread, a bird's nest, a thicket of reed, and that man does not escape from the lower states of existence, from the course of woe and perdition, suffering from the round of rebirth."

#### PAŢŢHĀNA METHOD

The twenty-four conditions (*paccayas*) are enumerated in Pāļi as follows:

 Hetu-paccayo, (2) ārammaņa-paccayo, (3) adhipati-paccayo, (4) anantara-paccayo, (5) samanantara-paccayo, (6) sahajāta-paccayo, (7) aññamañña-paccayo (8) nissaya-paccayo, (9) upanisaya-paccayo (10) purejāta-paccayo, (11) pacchājāta-paccayo, (12) āsevana-paccayo, (13) kamma-paccayo, (14) vipāka-paccayo, (15) āhāra-paccayo, (16) indriya-paccayo, (17) jhāna-paccayo, (18) magga-paccayo, (19) sampayutta-paccayo, (20) vippayutta-paccayo, (21) atthi-paccayo, (22) natthi-paccayo, (23) vigata-paccayo, (24) avigata-paccayoti.

This short *Pāli-gāthā* is very useful for demarcating a place of sanctuary to protect oneself from the attack of wicked men, wild beasts and ghosts.

PACCAYA - Cause or Condition | 305

## **THE 24 MODES OF CONDITIONALITY**

- 1 Hetu-paccayo Root condition
- 2 Ārammaņa-pacayo Object condition
- 3 Adhipati-paccayo Predominance condition
- 4 Anantara-paccayo Contiguity condition
- 5 Samanantara-paccayo immediacy condition
- 6 Sahajāta-paccayo Co-nascence condition
- 7 Aññamañña-paccayo Mutuality condition
- 8 Nissaya-paccayo Dependence condition
- 9 Upanisaya-paccayo Powerful Dependence condition
- 10 Purejāta-paccayo Pre-nascence condition
- 11 Pacchājāta-paccayo Post-nascence condition
- 12 Asevana-paccayo Repetition condition
- 13 Kamma-paccayo Kamma condition
- 14 Vipāka-paccayo Kamma-result condition
- 15 Āhāra-paccayo Nutriment condition
- 16 Indriya-paccayo Faculty condition
- 17 Jhāna-paccayo Jhāna condition
- 18 Magga-paccayo Path condition
- 19 Sampayutta-paccayo Association condition
- 20 Vippayutta-paccayo Dissociation condition
- 21 Atthi-paccayo Presence condition
- 22 Natthi-paccayo Absence condition
- 23 Vigata-paccayo Disappearance condition
- 24 Avigata-paccayo Non-disappearance condition

## THE PROPERTY OF EACH CONDITION

## 1 Hetu (Root condition)

*Hetu* resembles the main root of a tree. As the main root supports the tree to be firm, alive and prosperous, so too the six roots (*lobha*, *dosa*, *moha*, *alobha*, *adosa*, *amoha*) support the *cittas* 

and the *cetasikas* associated with them and also the *cittaja-rūpa* and *patisandhi-kammaja-rūpa* to be firm, strong and prosperous.

### 2 Arammana (Object Condition)

An invalid person may get up by pulling a rope-line and may stand with the support of a walking stick. Just as the rope-line and the walking stick give support to an invalid person, so also the six sense-objects give support to *cittas* and *cetasikas* to enable them to arise.

#### 3 Addhipati (Predominance Condition)

'Adhipati' means supreme, sovereign, lord, chief, king, etc. The King of a country, by using his authority over all his countrymen, can contribute to the peace and prosperity of his country to a great extent. This means that he can condition his country by way of his predominance over all others.

In natural phenomena, there are two kinds of predominance – namely,  $\bar{a}ramman\bar{a}dhipati$  and  $sahaj\bar{a}t\bar{a}dhipati$ .  $\bar{A}ramman\bar{a}dhipati$  is an outstanding object which can draw our attention to it. We cannot help but observe it or listen to it. Sahaj $\bar{a}t\bar{a}dhipati$  means a predominant factor that arises together with its associates. This factor refers to the four adhipatis – viz., chanda (concentrated intention),  $v\bar{r}riya$  (energy or effort), citta (consciousness) and  $v\bar{v}mansa$  (investigating wisdom).

In one and the same state of consciousness, only one of these four *adhipatis* can be predominant. This predominant factor then conditions its associates (*citta* and *cetasikas*) to accomplish the goal set by it.

#### 4 Anantara (Contiguity Condition)

Contiguity means proximity without any separation in time and space. When a king dies, his eldest son becomes king without

any interruption in the lineage of monarchy. Thus we can say that the king helps his eldest son to become king by contiguity condition.

In the same way when a consciousness together with its concomitants dissolves or perishes, another consciousness with its concomitants arises without any time-gap. This phenomenon arises because the former *citta* and *cetasikas* condition the next *citta* and *cetasikas* to arise without interruption by means of contiguity condition.

## 5 Samanantara (Immediacy condition)

'Immediacy' means the same thing as 'contiguity'. Anantarapaccaya and Samanantara-paccaya are identical; 'sama' means 'well'. They refer to any state of consciousness and the mental phenomenon associated with it, which are the condition for the immediately following stage in the process of consciousness.

## 6 Sahajāta (Co-nascence condition)

Sahajāta-paccaya means the condition by way of simultaneous arising. Co-nascence means co-arising. When an oil lamp is lighted, the light comes out simultaneously. Thus we may say that the lamp conditions the light to spread out as soon as the lamp lights up. This is an example of co-nascence condition.

In general any phenomenon in which the cause conditions the effect to arise simultaneously with the cause is called conascence condition.

### 7 Aññamañña (Mutuality condition)

When three sticks are propped up together in the form of a pyramid, they balance one another. If one stick is removed, the other two will fall. This mutual or reciprocal support among the sticks illustrates mutuality condition.
In physical and psychical phenomena, in which the cause and the effect mutually conditions the arising of each other, then we say that the cause and the effect support each other by means of mutuality condition.

# 8 Nissaya (Dependence condition)

Nissaya-paccaya is a condition which aids by means of support or dependence. For example, a man crosses a river by rowing a canoe. Then we say that the canoe helps the man to cross the river by means of dependence condition, and reciprocally the man aids the canoe to get over the other side of the river by means of dependence condition.

Let us consider another example. Plants and animals depend on the earth for their existence. Here the earth aids plants and animals by way of dependence condition, but no reciprocity exists.

# 9 Upanissaya (Powerful Dependence condition)

*Upanissaya* is a powerful cause which aids by means of dependence condition. For example, the rain is a powerful cause that supports the growth of plants and animals. Similarly parents are a powerful support for their children.

In any phenomenon in which the cause is a powerful support for its effect, then we say that the cause aids the effect to arise by means of powerful dependence condition.

## 10 Purejāta (Pre-nascence condition)

Pre-nascence condition refers to something previously arisen, which serves as the cause for something arising later. For example, the sun and the moon have come into existence since the formation of this solar system. They give light to the people who are living on the earth now. so we may say that the sun and the moon aid the people by means of prenascence condition.

## 11 Pacchājāta (Post-nascence condition)

This refers to the causal relation in which the cause (*paccaya*) arises later and the conditioned thing (*paccayuppanna*) arises earlier. It may be illustrated by an offspring of a vulture. Now the young off-spring, after being hatched from the egg, feels hungry, it expects that its mother will bring some food for it to eat. But the mother vulture, as a rule, never brings food for its off-springs.

So the young bird has nothing to eat. But nature comes in to help. The off-spring's volition (*cetanā*) for eating food causes its body to grow. Here the off-spring's body (*paccayuppanna*) has arisen earlier, and the volition for eating (*paccaya*) arises later. Thus the volition aids the bird's body to grow by means of postnascence condition.

#### 12 Asevana (Repetition condition)

When we read a difficult passage, we may not understand it at first. But if we keep on reading it again and again, we usually understand it better. Also in learning by heart through constant repetition, the later recitation becomes gradually easier and easier. So we may say that earlier learning aids later learning by means of repetition condition.

Similarly in applying sandal-wood lotion or make-up to the face, one should not apply a thick layer just once. One should apply a thin layer first, fan it to dry, and then apply another layer – and another layer. The earlier applications will aid the later applications by repetition condition to be firmer and smoother and also to smell sweeter.

#### 310 | THE ESSENCE OF BUDDHA ABHIDHAMMA

In cognition processes we have seen that the *javana cittas* usually occur seven times. Here all the preceding *javanas* are for the succeeding ones a condition by way of repetition and frequency.

## 13 Kamma-paccaya (Kamma condition)

A well preserved seed, when placed in a well watered ground, gives rise to an off-shoot. Similarly wholesome or unwholesome *kamma*, with the support of *avijjā* and *taṇhā*, gives rise to a new off-spring in the form of five aggregates of existence.

In the two accounts stated above, the seed or *kamma* is the cause (*paccaya*), and the off-shoot or the five aggregates of existence is the result or conditioned thing (*paccayuppana*). The cause is said to condition the result to arise by way of *kamma* condition.

#### 14 Vipāka (Kamma-result condition)

*Vipāka-citta* and its concomitant-*cetasikas* are the *kamma*-result of a past *kamma*. As they are caused to arise by the force of the past *kamma*, they have no worry at all for their arising. When the time for their arising comes, they can arise peacefully and leisurely without any struggle.

Now a cool breeze makes a person in the cool shade feel cooler. Similarly *vipāka citta* and its concomitant *cetasikas*, which by nature arise peacefully, mutually aid one another by *kamma*-result condition to arise more peacefully and more leisurely

#### 15 Ahāra (Nutriment condition)

Parents produce children, support them and look after them so that they will grow up happily. A pole, supporting a leaning old house, makes the house stable and durable. In the same way the four nutriments, namely, edible food  $(oj\bar{a})$ , contact (*phassa*), volition (*cetanā*), and consciousness (*viñňāņa*) aid their resultants or conditioned things to arise, and keep on supporting them so that they are stable and durable. This type of conditioning process is known as 'nutriment condition.'

## 16 Indriya (Faculty condition)

*Indriyas*, like ministers, have control over their respective departments or faculties, and by this virtue they contribute to the progress and prosperity of the whole system. This contribution is said to take place by means of faculty condition.

Of the 22 *indriyas* we have come across in chapter VII, the two *bhava-rūpas* do not participate as faculty condition. The five physical sense-organs, in their capacity as faculties, form a condition only for mental phenomena such as the arising of eye-consciousness, etc. Physical vitality (*jīvita-rūpa*) and all the remaining faculties form a condition for the arising of the conscient mental and corporeal phenomena.

### 17 Jhāna-paccaya (Jhāna-condition)

Jhāna-condition stands for the seven jhāna factors called jhānaṅgas. These jhāna-factors condition their co-nascent citta, cetasikas and cittaja-rūpa to focus on a particular object closely and fixedly. This type of conditioning is said to occur by way of jhānacondition.

#### 18 Magga-paccaya (Path-condition)

Path-condition stands for the 12 constituents of the path called *maggangas* (see chapter VII). The wholesome path-constituents form a path conditioning their co-nascent *citta*, *cetasikas* and *cittaja-rūpa* to bear results in the blissful state. The unwholesome

path-constituents similarly form a path conditioning their conascent *citta*, *cetasikas* and *cittaja-rūpa* to bear results in the woeful state. This type of conditioning is said to take place by way of path-condition.

## 19 Sampayutta (Association condition)

Tea-essence, milk, sugar and water are so thoroughly mixed in a cup of tea that they cannot be differentiated and they give a combined pleasant taste.

Similarly consciousness and its concomitants, which together form the four mental aggregates, are so thoroughly mixed that they cannot be differentiated. Besides they arise together, dissolve together, have a common physical base and a common object, and they mutually aid one another by being associated together. They are said to aid one another by way of 'association condition'.

#### 20 Vippayutta (Dissociation condition)

The six tastes – viz., tart, bitter, sweet, sour, salty, acid – do not mix together; yet they support one another to give an agreeable taste in curry.

Again in a crown or neck-lace, the gold and the jewels do not mix up; they can be differentiated easily by sight. Yet the gold makes the jewels more beautiful, and the jewels make the gold more attractive.

Similarly corporeal group and mental groups do not mix, neither do they arise together nor dissolve together. Yet corporeal groups aid mental groups, and mental groups aid corporeal groups in many ways. They are said to aid one another by way of 'dissociation condition.'

#### 21 Atthi-paccaya (Presence condition)

The earth can support plants to grow on it, because it is present. Parents can support and look after their children while they are present or living.

Such a phenomenon—either pre-nascent or co-nascent which through its presence is a condition for other phenomena to arise is called 'presence condition'.

#### 22 Natthi-paccaya (Absence condition)

The absence of the sun contributes to the appearing of the moon; the absence of light contributes to the appearing of darkness; the death of a king contributes to the enthronement of his eldest son; so one can contribute something by being absent.

In mental phenomena, a consciousness and its concomitants which have just dissolved form the necessary condition called 'absence condition' for the immediate arising of the following consciousness and its concomitants.

#### 23 Vigata-paccaya (Disappearance condition)

When something disappears or dissolves, it no longer exists; it is absent. So *vigata-paccaya* is synonymous with *natthi-paccaya*.

Disappearance condition, like absence condition, applies only to mental phenomena in which a consciousness with its concomitants can arise only when the preceding consciousness together with its concomitants dissolves or disappears.

#### 24 Avigata-paccaya (Non-disappearance condition)

If something does not disappear, it is present. So 'avigata-paccaya' is identical with 'atthi-paccaya' (presence condition).

The great ocean, by its non-disappearance, contributes to the happiness of the fish and the sea-turtles which live in it. 314 | THE ESSENCE OF BUDDHA ABHIDHAMMA

Such a phenomenon – either prenascent or co-nascent – which through its not-disappearance is a condition for other phenomena to arise is called 'non-disappearance condition'.

#### **APPLICATIONS OF 24 CONDITIONS**

The operations of the 24 conditions (*paccayas*) in mental and corporeal phenomena are illustrated in *Patthāna-Niddesa Pāli*. This Pāli is often recited singly or in groups as a form of veneration ( $p\bar{u}j\bar{a}$ ) to Lord Buddha's *Sabbaññuta-ñāṇa* (Omniscience).

Many wish to understand the meanings of this *Pāli*. Without the background of *Abhidhamma*, however, it would be very hard to understand them. But with the knowledge we have so far acquired from this book, it would not be difficult to understand them. A direct translation of the *Pațțhāna-Niddesa Pāli* will be given to enable the reader to understand the meanings in reciting the *Pāli*.

#### ΡΑΤΤΗΑΝΑ ΡΑΙΙ

#### 1 Paccayuddeso

Hetupaccayo, ārammaņapaccayo, adhipatipaccayo, anantarapaccayo, samanantarapaccayo, sahajātapaccayo, aññamaññapaccayo, nissayapaccayo, upanissayapaccayo, purejātapaccayo, pacchājātapaccayo, āsevanapaccayo, kammapaccayo, vipākapaccayo, āhārapaccayo, indriyapaccayo, jhānapaccayo, maggapaccayo, sampayuttapaccayo, vippayuttapaccayo, atthipaccayo, natthipaccayo, vigatapaccayo, avigatapaccayoti.

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## 2 Paccavaniddeso

- K450L hetupaccayoti – hetū/hetusampayuttakānam dhammānam 1 tamsamutthananañca' rupanam/hetupaccayena paccayo.
- 2 arammanapaccavoti – rūpāyatanam cakkhuvinnānadhātuyā tamsampayuttakānanca dhammānam ārammanapaccayena paccayo, saddāyatanam sotaviñnānadhatuya tamsampayuttakānañca dhammānam ārammanapaccayena paccayo, gandhāyatanam ghānaviñfiānadhātuvā tamsampayuttakānañca dhammānam ārammanapaccavena paccavo. rasāyatanam jivhāviññānadhātuyā tamsampayuttakānanca dhammānam ārammanapaccayena paccayo, phottabbāyatanam kāyavififiānadhātuyā tamsampayuttakānañca dhammānam ārammaņapaccayena paccayo, rūpāyatanam saddāyatanam gandhāyatanam rasāyatanam phottabbāyatanam manodhātuyā tamsampayuttakānañca dhammānam ārammaņapaccayena paccayo, sabbe dhamma manoviññāṇadhātuyā taṃsampayuttakānañca dhammānam ārammanapaccayena paccayo.

yam yam dhammam arabbha ye ye dhammā uppajjanti cittacetasikā dhammā, te te dhammā tesam tesam dhammānam arammanapaccayena paccayo.

adhipatipaccayoti - chandādhipati chandasampayutta-3 kānam dhammānam tamsamutthānānañca rūpānam adhipatipaccayena paccayo, vīriyādhipati vīriyasampayuttakānam dhammānam tamsamutthānānañca rūpānam adhipatipaccayena paccayo, cittādhipati cittasampayuttakānam dhammānam tamsamutthānānañca rūpānam

4

adhipatipaccayena paccayo, vimaṃsādhipati vimaṃsasampayuttakānaṃ dhammānaṃ taṃsamuṭṭhānānañca rūpānaṃ adhipatipaccayena paccayo.

yam yam dhammam garum katvā ye ye dhammā uppajjanti cittacetasikā dhammā, te te dhammā tesam tesam dhammānam adhipatipaccayena paccayo.

anantarapaccayoti – cakkhuviññaṇadhātu taṃsampayuttakā ca dhammā manodhātuyā taṃsampayuttakānañca dhammānaṃ anantarapaccayena paccayo. manodhātu taṃsampayuttakā ca dhammā manoviññāṇadhātuyā taṃsampayuttakānañca dhammānaṃ anantarapaccayena paccayo.

sotavififiāņadhātu tamsampayuttakā ca dhammā manodhātuyā tamsampayuttakānafica dhammānam anantarapaccayena paccayo, manodhātu tamsampayuttakā ca dhammā manovififiāņadhātuyā tamsampayuttakānafica dhammānam anantarapaccayena paccayo.

ghānaviñfiāņadhātu tamsampayuttakā ca dhammā manodhātuyā tamsampayuttakānafica dhammānam anantarapaccayena paccayo, manodhātu tamsampayuttakā ca dhammā manoviñfiāņadhātuyā tamsampayuttakānafica dhammānam anantarapaccayena paccayo.

jivhāvififiāņadhātu tamsampayuttakā ca dhammā manodhātuyā tamsampayuttakānafica dhammānam anantarapaccayena paccayo, manodhātu tamsampayuttakā ca dhammā manovififiāņadhātuyā tamsampayuttakānafica dhammānam anantarapaccayena paccayo.

kāyavifiñāņadhātu tamsampayuttakā ca dhammā manodhātuyā tamsampayuttakānañca dhammānam anantarapaccayena paccayo, manodhātu taṃsampayuttakā ca dhammā manoviññāṇadhātuyā taṃsampayuttakānañca dhammānaṃ anantarapaccayena paccayo.

purimā purimā kusalā dhammā pacchimānam pacchimānam kusalānam dhammānam anantarapaccayena paccayo. purimā purimā kusalā dhammā pacchimānam pacchimānam abyākatānam dhammānam anantarapaccayena paccayo.

purimā purimā akusalā dhammā pacchimānam pacchimānam akusalānam dhammānam anantarapaccayena paccayo. purimā purimā kusalā dhammā pacchimānam pacchimānam abyākatānam dhammānam anantarapaccayena paccayo.

purimā purimā abyākatā dhammā pacchimānam pacchimānam abyākatānam dhammānam anantarapaccayena paccayo. purimā purimā abyākatā dhammā pacchimānam pacchimānam kusalānam dhammānam anantarapaccayena paccayo. purimā purimā abyākatā dhammā pacchimānam pacchimānam akusalānam dhammānam anantarapaccayena paccayo.

yesam yesam dhammānam anantarā ye ye dhammā uppajjanti cittacetasikā dhammā, te te dhammā tesam tesam dhammānam anantarapaccayena paccayo.

5 samanantarapaccayoti – cakkhuviññanadhātu tamsampayuttakā ca dhammā manodhātuyā tamsampayuttakānañca dhammānam samanantarapaccayena paccayo, manodhātu tamsampayuttakā ca dhammā manoviññanadhātuyā tamsampayuttakānañca dhammānam samanantarapaccayena paccayo. sotaviññanadhātu tamsampayuttakā ca dhammā manodhātuyā tamsampayuttakānañca dhammānam samanantarapaccayena paccayo, manodhātu taṃsampayuttakā ca dhammā manoviññaṇadhātuyā taṃsampayuttakānañca dhammānam samanantarapaccayena paccayo.

ghanaviññanadhātu tamsampayuttakā ca dhammā manodhātuyā tamsampayuttakānañca dhammānam samanantarapaccayena paccayo, manodhātu tamsampayuttakā ca dhammā manoviññanadhātuyā tamsampayuttakānañca dhammānam samanantarapaccayena paccayo.

jivhāviftfiaņadhātu taṃsampayuttakā ca dhammā manodhātuyā taṃsampayuttakānañca dhammānaṃ samanantarapaccayena paccayo, manodhātu taṃsampayuttakā ca dhammā manovifīfiaṇadhātuyā taṃsampayuttakānañca dhammānaṃ samanantarapaccayena paccayo.

kāyaviññaṇadhātu taṃsampayuttakā ca dhammā manodhātuyā taṃsampayuttakānañca dhammānaṃ samanantarapaccayena paccayo, manodhātu taṃsampayuttakā ca dhammā manoviññaṇadhātuyā taṃsampayuttakānañca dhammānaṃ samanantarapaccayena paccayo.

purimā purimā kusalā dhammā pacchimānam pacchimānam kusalānam dhammānam samanantarapaccayena paccayo. purimā purimā kusalā dhammā pacchimānam pacchimānam abyākatānam dhammānam samanantarapaccayena paccayo.

purimā purimā akusalā dhammā pacchimānam pacchimānam akusalānam dhammānam samanantarapaccayena paccayo. purimā purimā kusalā dhammā pacchimānam pacchimānam abyākatānam dhammānam samanantarapaccayena paccayo. purimā purimā abyākatā dhammā pacchimānam pacchimānam abyākatānam dhammānam samanantarapaccayena paccayo. purimā purimā abyākatā dhammā pacchimānam pacchimānam kusalānam dhammānam samanantarapaccayena paccayo. purimā purimā abyākatā dhammā pacchimānam pacchimānam akusalānam dhammānam samanantarapaccayena paccayo.

yesam yesam dhammānam samanantarā ye ye dhammā uppajjanti cittacetasikā dhammā, te te dhammā tesam tesam dhammānam samanantarapaccayena paccayo.

- 6. sahajātapaccayoti cattāro khandhā arūpino aññamaññam sahajātapaccayena paccayo. cattāro mahābhūtā aññamaññam sahajātapaccayena paccayo. okkantikkhaņe nāmarūpam aññamaññam sahajātapaccayena paccayo. cittacetasikā dhammā cittasamuţthānānam rūpānam sahajātapaccayena paccayo. mahābhūtā upādārūpānam sahajātapaccayena paccayo rūpino dhammā arūpinam dhammānam kiñci kāle sahajātapaccayena paccayo, kiñci kāle na sahajātapaccayena paccayo.
- aññamaññapaccayoti cattāro khandhā arūpino aññamaññapaccayena paccayo. cattāro mahābhūtā aññamaññapaccayena paccayo. okkantikkhane nāmarūpam aññamaññapaccayena paccayo.
- 8. nissayapaccayoti cattāro khandhā arūpino aññamaññam nissayapaccayena paccayo. cattāro mahābhūtā aññamaññam nissayapaccayena paccayo. okkantikkhane nāmarūpam aññamafifiam nissayapaccayena paccayo. cittacetasikā dhammā cittasamuţţhānānam rūpānam nissayapaccayena paccayo. mahābhūtā upādārūpānam nissayapaccayena paccayo.

9

cakkhāyatanam cakkhuviħfiānadhātuya tamsampayuttakānafica dhammānam nissayapaccayena paccayo. sotāyatanam sotaviñfiānadhātuyā tamsampayuttakānafica dhammānam nissayapaccayena paccayo. ghānāyatanam ghānāvififiānadhatuya tamsampayuttakānafica dhammānam nissayapaccayena paccayo. jivhāyatanam jivhāvififiānadhātuya tamsampayuttakānafica dhammānam nissayapaccayena paccayo. kāyāyatanam kāyāvififiānadhātuya tamsampayuttakānafica dhammānam nissayapaccayo. yam rūpam nissāya manodhātu ca manovififiānadhātuyā ca tamsampayuttakānafica dhammānam nissayapaccayena paccayo. yam rūpam nissāya manodhātu ca manovififiānadhātuyā ca tamsampayuttakānafica dhammānam nissayapaccayena paccayo.

upanissayapaccayoti – purimā purimā kusalā dhammā pacchimānam pacchimānam kusalānam dhammānam upanissayapaccayena paccayo. purimā purimā kusalā dhammā pacchimānam pacchimānam akusalānam dhammānam kesañci upanissayapaccayena paccayo. purimā purimā kusalā dhammā pacchimānam pacchimānam abyākatānam dhammānam upanissayapaccayena paccayo.

purimā purimā kusalā dhammā pacchimānam pacchimānam akusalānam dhammānam upanissayapaccayena paccayo. purimā purimā akusalā dhammā pacchimānam pacchimānam kusalānam dhammānam kesanci upanissayapaccayena paccayo. purimā purimā akusalā dhammā pacchimānam pacchimānam abyākatānam dhammanam upanissayapaccayena paccayo. purimā purimā abyākatā dhammā pacchimānam pacchimānam abyākatānam dhammānam upanissayapaccayena paccayo. purimā purimā abyākatā dhammā pacchimānam pacchimānam kusalānam dhammānam upanissayapaccayena paccayo, purimā purimā abyākatā dhammā pacchimānam pacchimānam akusalānam dhammānam upanissayapaccayena paccayo.

utubhojanampi upanissayapaccayena paccayo. puggalopi upanissayapaccayena paccayo. senäsanampi upanissayapaccayena paccayo.

10 purejātapaccayoti — cakkhāyatanam cakkhuviññānadhātuyā tamsampayuttakānañca dhammānam purejātapaccayena paccayo. sotayatanam sotāviñiñānadhātuyā tamsampayuttakānañca dhammānam purejātapaccayena paccayo. ghānāyatanam ghānaviññānadhātuyā tamsampayuttakānañca dhammānam purejātapaccayena paccayo. jivhāyatanam jivhāviñinānadhātuyā tamsampayuttakānañca dhammānam purejātapaccayena paccayo. kāyāyatanam kāyaviñinānadhātuyā tamsampayuttakānañca dhammānam purejātapaccayena paccayo.

rūpāyatanam cakkhuvinnānadhātuyā tamsampayuttakānanca dhammānam purejātapaccayena paccayo. saddāyatanam sotavinnānadhātuyā tamsampayuttakānanca dhammānam purejātapaccayena paccayo. ghānāyatanam ghānavinnānadhātuyā tamsampayuttakānanca dhammānam purejātapaccayena paccayo. gandhāyatanam ghānāvinnānadhātuyā tamsampayuttakānanca dhammānam purejātapaccayena paccayo. rasāyatanam jivhāvinnānadhātuyā tamsampayuttakānañca dhammānam purejātapaccayena paccayo. phoṭṭhabbāyatanam kāyaviññāṇadhātuyā tamsampayuttakānañca dhammānam purejātapaccayena paccayo. rūpāyatanam saddāyatanam gandhāyatanam rasāyatanam phoṭṭhabbāyatanam manodhātuyā tamsampayuttakānañca dhammānam purejātapaccayena paccayo.

yam rūpam nissāya manodhātu ca manoviññānadhatu ca vattanti, tam rūpam manodhātuyā tamsampayuttakānafica dhammānam purejātapaccayena paccayo. Manoviñfiānadhātuyā tamsampayuttakānafica dhammānam kifici kāle purejātapaccayena paccayo, kifici kāle na purejātapaccayena paccayo.

- 11 pacchājātapaccayoti pacchājātā cittacetasikā dhammā purejātassa imassa kāyassa pacchājātapaccayena paccayo.
- 12 āsevanapaccayoti purimā purimā kusalā dhammā pacchimānam pacchimānam kusalānam dhammānam āsevanapaccayena paccayo, purimā purimā akusalā dhammā pacchimānam pacchimānam akusalānam dhammānam āsevanapaccayena paccayo. purimā purimā kiriabyākata dhammā pacchimānam pacchimānam kiriyābyākatānam dhammānam āsevanapaccayena paccayo.
- 13 kammapaccayoti kusalākusalam kammam vipākānam khandhānam katattā ca rūpānam kammapaccayena paccayo. cetanā sampayuttakānam dhammānam tamsamutthānānanca rūpānam kammapaccayena paccayo.
- 14 vipākapaccayoti vipākā cattāro khandhā arūpino afifiamafifiam vipākapaccayena paccayo.

- 15 āhārapaccayoti kabaļīkaro āhāro imassa kāyassa āhārapaccayena paccayo. arūpino āhārā sampayuttakānam dhammānam tamsamuţţhānānañca rūpānam āhārapaccayena paccayo.
- 16 indriyapaccayoti cakkhundriyam cakkhuviññānadhātuyā tamsampayuttakānañca dhammānam indriyapaccayena paccayo. sotindriyam sotaviññānadhātuyā tamsampayuttakānañca dhammānam indriyapaccayena paccayo. ghānindriyam ghānaviññānadhātuyā tamsampayuttakānañca dhammānam indriyapaccayena paccayo. jivhindriyam jivhāviññānadhātuyā tamsampayuttakānañca dhammānam indriyapaccayena paccayo. kāyindriyam kāyaviññānadhātuyā tamsampayuttakānañca dhammānam indriyapaccayena paccayo. rūpajivitindriyam kaţattārūpānam indriyapaccayena paccayo.

arūpino indriyā sampayuttakānam dhammānam tamsamuţthānākānañca rūpanam indriyapaccayena paccayo.

- 17 jhānapaccayoti jhānangāni jhānasampayuttakānam dhammānam tamsamutthānānanca rūpānam jhānapaccayena paccayo.
- 18 maggapaccayoti maggangāni maggasampayuttakānam dhammānam tamsamutthānānanca rūpānam maggapaccayena paccayo.
- 19 sampayuttapaccayoti cattāro khandhā arūpino añflamafiflam sampayuttapaccayena paccayo.
- 20 vippayuttapaccayoti rūpino dhammā arūpīnam dhammānam vippayuttapaccayena paccayo. arūpino

dhammā rūpinam dhammānam vippayuttapaccayena paccayo.

21 atthipaccayoti – cattāro khandhā arūpino aññamaññam atthipaccayena paccayo. cattāro mahābhūtā afiñamaññam atthipaccayena paccayo. okkantikkhane nāmarūpam afiñamaññam atthipaccayena paccayo. cittacetasikā dhammā cittasamuţţhānānam rūpānam atthipaccayena paccayo. mahābhūtā upādārūpānam atthipaccayena paccayo.

cakkhāyatanam cakkhuviñfiānadhātuyā tamsampayuttakānañca dhammānam atthipaccayena paccayo. sotāyatanam sotavinnānadhātuyā tamsampayuttakānañca dhammānam atthipaccayena paccayo. ghānāyatanam ghānaviñfiānadhātuyā tamsampayuttakānafica dhammānam atthipaccayena paccayo. jivhāyatanam jivhāvinnanadhātuya tamsampayuttakanafica dhammānam atthipaccayena paccayo. kāyāyatanam kāyavififiānadhātuyā tamsampayuttakānafica dhammānam atthipaccayena paccayo.

rūpāyatanam cakkhuviññānadhātuyā tamsampayuttakānanca dhammānam atthipaccayena paccayo. saddāyatanam sotaviññānadhātuyā tamsampayuttakānanca dhammānam atthipaccayena paccayo. ghadhāyatanam ghānaviñnānadhātuyā tamsampayuttakānanca dhammānam atthipaccayena paccayo. rasāyatanam jivhāviñnānadhātuyā tamsampayuttakānanca dhammānam atthipaccayena paccayo. photthabbāyatanam kāyavinnānadhātuyā tamsampayuttakānanca dhammānam atthipaccayena paccayo. rūpāyatanam saddāyatanam gandhāyatanam rasāyatanam photthabbāyatanam manodhātuyā

PACCAYA - Cause or Condition | 325

tamsampayuttakānafica dhammānam atthipaccayena paccayo.

yam rūpam nissāya manodhātu ca manoviññānadhātu ca vattanti, tam rūpam manodhātuyā ca manoviññānadhātuyā tamsampayuttakānañca dhammānam atthipaccayena paccayo.

- 22 natthipaccayoti samanantaraniruddhā cittacetasikā dhammā paţuppannānam cittacetasikānam dhammānam natthipaccayena paccayo.
- 23 vigatapaccayoti samanantaravigatā cittacetasikā dhammā paţuppannānam cittacetasikānam dhammānam vigatapaccayena paccayo.
- 24 avigatapaccayoti cattāro khandhā arūpino aññamaññam avigatapaccayena paccayo. cattāro mahābhūtā aññamaññam avigatapaccayena paccayo. okkantikkhaņe nāmarūpam aññamaññam avigatapaccayena paccayo. cittacetasikā dhammā cittasamuţţhānānam rūpānam avigatapaccayena paccayo. mahābhūta upādārūpānam avigatapaccayena paccayo.

cakkhāyatanam cakkhuvififiānadhātuyā tamsampayuttakānafica dhammānam avigatapaccayena paccayo. sotāyatanam sotavififiānadhātuyā tamsampayuttakānafica dhammānam avigatapaccayena paccayo. ghānāyatanam ghānavififiānadhātuyā tamsampayuttakānafica dhammānam avigatapaccayena paccayo. jivhāyatanam jivhāvififiānadhātuyā tamsampayuttakānafica dhammānam avigatapaccayena paccayo. kāyayatanam kāyavififiānadhātuyā tamsampayuttakānafica dhammānam avigatapaccayena rūpāyatanam cakkhuviñfiāņadhātuyā tamsampayuttakānafica dhammānam avigatapaccayena paccayo. saddāyatanam sotavififiānadhātuyā tamsampayuttakānafica dhammānam avigatapaccayena paccayo. gandhāyatanam ghānavififiānadhātuyā tamsampayuttakānafica dhammānam avigatapaccayena paccayo. rasāyatanam jivhāvififiānadhātuyā tamsampayuttakānafica dhammānam avigatapaccayena paccayo. photthabbāyatanam kāyavififiānadhātuyā tamsampayuttakānafica dhammānam avigatapaccayo. rūpāyatanam saddāyatanam gandhāyatanam rasāyatanam photthabbāyatanam manodhātuyā tamsampayuttakānafica dhammānam avigatapaccayena

yam rūpam nissāya manodhātu ca manoviñhanadhātu ca vattanti, tam rūpām manodhātuyā ca manoviñhānadhātuyā ca tamsampayuttakānanca dhammānam avigatapaccayena paccayo.

paccayaniddeso nitthito

#### 1 Root Condition (Hetu Paccaya)

The six roots (*lobha*, *dosa*, *moha*, *alobha*, *adosa*, *amoha*) are related to the *cittas* and the *cetasikas* associated with the roots and also to the corporeality produced by the *cittas* by root condition.

#### 2 Object Condition (Ārammaņa Paccaya)

- i Visible object is related to eye-consciousness and its concomitants by object condition.
- ii Sound is related to ear-consciousness and its concomitants by object condition.

- iii Smell is related to nose-consciousness and its concomitants by object condition.
- iv Taste is related to tongue-consciousness and its concomitants by object condition.
- v Tangible object is related to body-consciousness and its concomitants by object condition.
- Visible object, sound, smell, taste and tangible object are related to mind-elements (sampațicchana-dvi and pañcadvārāvajjana) and their concomitants by object condition.
- vii All the six sense objects are related to mind-consciousness and its concomitants by object condition.
- viii Grasping any *dhamma* as object, these *dhammas*, viz. consciousness and its concomitants, arise; the former *dhamma* is related to the latter *dhammas* by object condition.

#### 3 Predominance Condition (Adhipati Paccaya)

- i Predominant desire or will (*chanda*) is related to the *citta* and the *cetasikas* associated with the *chanda* and also to the corporeality produced by the *citta* by predominance condition.
- ii Predominant effort (*vīriya*) is related to the *citta* and the *cetasikas* associated with the *vīriya* and also to the corporeality produced by the *citta* by predominance condition.
- iii Predominant consciousness (*citta*) is related to its concomitants (*cetasikas*) and also to the corporeality produced by the *citta* by predominance condition.
- iv Predominant investigating wisdom (*vīmainsa*) is related to the *citta* and the *cetasikas* associated with it and also to the corporeality produced by the *citta* by predominance condition.

V Grasping any *dhamma* as an outstanding object, these latter *dhammas* – viz. consciousness and its concomitants – arise, the former *dhamma* is related to the latter *dhammas* by predominance condition.

# 4 Contiguity Condition (Anantara Paccaya)

(Readers should refer to cognitive series to understand this causal relation.)

- i Eye-consciousness and its concomitants are related to sampaticchana (mind-element) and its concomitants by contiguity condition; sampaticchana and its concomitants are related to santīraņa (mind-consciousness) and its concomitants by contiguity condition.
- ii Ear-consciousness and its concomitants are related to sampaticchana (mind-element) and its concomitants by contiguity condition; sampaticchana and its concomitants are related to santīraņa (mind-consciousness) and its concomitants by contiguity condition.
- iii Nose-consciousness and its concomitants ... (as above).
- iv Tongue-consciousness and its concomitants... (as above).
- v Body-consciousness and its concomitants... (as above).
- vi Preceding *javana kusala cittas* and their concomitants are related to subsequent *javana kusala cittas* and their concomitants by contiguity condition.
- vii Preceding *kusala cittas* and their concomitants are related to subsequent *avyākata* (*tadālambana* or *bhavanga*) and their concomitants by contiguity condition.
- viii Preceding *javana akusala cittas* and their concomitants are related to subsequent *javana akusala cittas* and their concomitants by contiguity condition.

- ix Preceding *akusala cittas* and their concomitants are related to subsequent *avyākata* (*tadālambaņa* or *bhavanga*) *cittas* and their concomitants by contiguity condition.
- x Preceding *avyākata* (*kiriya* or *phala*) *cittas* and their concomitants are related to subsequent *avyākata cittas* and their concomitants by contiguity condition.
- xi Preceding avyākata (voțțhapana or mano-dvārāvajjana) citta and its concomitants are related to subsequent kusala citta and its concomitants by contiguity condition.
- xii Preceding *avyākata* (*voţţhapana* or *mano-dvārāvajjana*) *citta* and its concomitants are related to subsequent *akusala citta* and its concomitants by contiguity condition.

#### 5 Immediacy Condition (Samanantara Paccaya)

The causal relations are the same as in contiguity condition.

## 6 Co-nascence Condition (Sahajāta Paccaya)

- i The four incorporeal (i.e. mental) aggregates are mutually related to one another by conascence condition.
- ii The four great essentials (*mahābhūtas*) are mutually related to one another by conascence condition.
- iii At the moment of conception, mentality (*pațisandhi citta*) and corporeality (*kammaja-rūpa*) are mutually related to each other by conascence condition
- iv Consciousness and its concomitants are related to the mindproduced corporeality (*cittaja-rūpa*) by conascence condition.
- v The great essentials are related to their derived matter (*upādā-rūpa*) by conascence condition.
- vi Material phenomena are sometimes related to immaterial (i.e. mental) phenomena by conascence condition and are sometimes not related by conascence condition.

## 7 Mutuality Condition (Aññamañña Paccaya)

- i The four incorporeal (i.e. mental) aggregates are related to one another by mutuality condition.
- ii The four great essentials are related to one another by mutuality condition.
- iii At the moment of conception, mentality (*pațisandhi citta*) and corporeality (*kammaja-rūpa*) are related to each other by mutuality condition.

#### 8 Dependence Condition (Nissaya Paccaya)

- i The four incorporeal aggregates are mutually related to one another by dependence condition.
- ii The four great essentials are mutually related to one another by dependence condition.
- iii At the moment of conception, mentality (*pațisandhi citta*) and corporeality (*kammaja-rūpa*) are mutually related to each other by dependence condition
- iv Consciousness and its concomitants are related to the mindproduced corporeality (*cittaja-rūpa*) by dependence condition.
- v The great essentials are related to their derived matter (*upādā-rūpa*) by dependence condition.
- vi Eye-base is related to eye-consciousness and its concomitants by dependence condition.
- vii Ear-base is related to ear-consciousness and its concomitants by dependence condition.
- viii Nose-base is related to nose-consciousness and its concomitants by dependence condition.
- ix Tongue-base is related to tongue-consciousness and its concomitants by dependence condition.
- x Body-base is related to body-consciousness and its concomitants by dependence condition.

xi Depending on this corporeality (i.e. heart-base) mindelement and mind-consciousness element (*mano-dhātu* and *mano-viñīnāņa-dhātu*) arise; that corporeality is related to the mind-element, the mind consciousness element and their concomitants by dependence condition.

#### 9 Powerful Dependence Condition (Upanissaya Paccaya)

- i Preceding wholesome *dhammas* (*kusala cittas, saddhā, alobha, etc.*) are related to subsequent wholesome dhammas by dependence condition.
- ii Preceding wholesome dhammas are sometimes related to subsequent unwholesome dhammas (*akusala cittas, lobha, dosa,* etc.), by powerful dependence condition.
- iii Preceding wholesome *dhammas* are related to subsequent indeterminate (*avyākata-vipāka* and *kiriya*) *dhammas* by powerful dependence condition.
- iv Preceding unwholesome *dhammas* (*akusala citta*, *lobha*, *dosa*, etc.) are related to subsequent unwholesome dhammas by powerful dependence condition.
- Preceding unwholesome *dhammas* are sometimes related to subsequent wholesome *dhammas* (*kusala cittas, saddhā, alobha,* etc.) by powerful dependence condition.
- vi Preceding unwholesome *dhammas* are related to subsequent indeterminate *dhammas* by powerful dependence condition.
- vii Preceding indeterminate *dhammas* (*vipāka cittas, kiriya cittas* and their concomitants, etc.) are related to subsequent indeterminate *dhammas* by powerful dependence condition.
- viii Preceding indeterminate *dhammas* are related to subsequent wholesome *dhammas* (*kusala cittas* and their concomitants, etc.) by powerful dependence condition.
- ix Preceding indeterminate dhammas are related to subsequent

unwholesome *dhammas* (*akusala cittas* and their concomitants, etc.) by powerful dependence condition.

x. Also, weather, food, person and lodging-place are related to beings by powerful dependence condition.

## 10 Prenascence Condition (Purejāta Paccaya)

- i Eye-base is related to eye-consciousness and its concomitants by prenascence condition.
- ii Ear-base is related to ear-consciousness and its concomitants by prenascence condition.
- iii Nose-base is related to nose-consciousness and its concomitants by prenascence condition.
- iv Tongue-base is related to tongue-consciousness and its concomitants by prenascence condition.
- v Body-base is related to body-consciousness and its concomitants by prenascence condition.
- vi Visible object is related to eye-consciousness and its concomitants by prenascence condition.
- vii Sound is related to ear-consciousness and its concomitants by prenascence condition.
- viii Smell is related to nose-consciousness and its concomitants by prenascence condition.
- ix Taste is related to tongue-consciousness and its concomitants by prenascence condition.
- x Tangible-object is related to body-consciousness and its concomitants by prenascence condition.
- xi Visible object, sound, smell, taste and tangible object are related to mind-elements (pañcadvārāvajjana and sampaticchana-dvi) and their concomitants by prenascence condition.

xii. Depending on this corporeality (i.e. heart-base), mind-element and mind-consciousness element (i.e. *mano-dhātu* and *manoviñīnāṇa-dhātu*) arise; that corporeality is related to the mindelement and its concomitants by prenascence condition; that corporeality is sometimes related to the mind-consciousness element and its concomitants by prenascence condition and is sometimes not related by prenascence condition.

#### 11 Post-nascence Condition (Pacchājāta Paccaya)

The post-nascent consciousness and its concomitants are related to this prenascent corporeality (i.e. heart-base, eye-base, ear-base, etc.) by post-nascence condition.

#### 12 Repetition Condition (Asevana Paccaya)

- i Preceding *javana kusala cittas* and their concomitants are related to subsequent *javana kusala cittas* and their concomitants by repetition condition.
- ii Preceding *javana akusala cittas* and their concomitants are related to subsequent *javana akusala cittas* and their concomitants by repetition condition.
- iii Preceding functional indeterminate dhammas are related to subsequent functional indeterminate dhammas by repetition condition.

#### 13 Kamma Condition (Kamma Paccaya)

- i *Kusala* and *akusala kammas* are related to their resultant mental aggregates and *kamma*-produced corporeality by *kamma* condition.
- ii. Volition (*cetanā*) is related to its concomitants (i.e. *citta* and *cetasikas*) and to the *citta*-produced corporeality by *kamma* condition.

## 14 Kamma-result Condition (Vipāka Paccaya)

The four incorporeal (i.e. mental) aggregates are mutually related to one another by *kamma*-result condition.

#### 15 Nutriment Condition (Ahāra Paccaya)

- i. Edible food is related to this body by nutriment condition.
- ii. The immaterial nutriments (*phassa*, *viññāṇa* and *cetanā*) are related to their concomitants (*citta* and *cetasikas*) and to the *citta*-produced corporeality by nutriment condition.

#### 16 Faculty Condition (Indriya Paccaya)

- i Eye-faculty (*cakkhu-pasāda*) is related to eye-consciousness and its concomitants by faculty condition.
- ii Ear-faculty (*sota-pasāda*) is related to ear-consciousness and its concomitants by faculty condition.
- iii Nose-faculty (*ghāna-pasāda*) is related to nose-consciousness and its concomitants by faculty condition.
- iv Tongue-faculty (*jivhā-pasāda*) is related to tongue-consciousness and its concomitants by faculty condition.
- v Body-faculty (*kāya-pasāda*) is related to body-consciousness and its concomitants by faculty condition.
- vi Physical life-faculty (*jīvita-rūpa*) is related to *kamma*produced corporeality by faculty condition.
- vii The incorporeal (i.e. mental) faculties are related to their concomitants (i.e. *citta* and *cetasikas*) and to the *citta*-produced corporeality by faculty condition.

#### 17 Jhāna Condition (Jhāna Paccaya)

The *jhāna*-factors are related to their concomitants (i.e. *citta* and *cetasikas*) and to the *citta* produced corporeality by *Jhāna* condition.

# 18 Path Condition (Magga Paccaya)

The path-factors are related to their concomitants (i.e. *citta* and *cetasikas*) and to the *citta*-produced corporeality by Path condition.

## 19 Association Condition (Sampayutta Paccaya)

The four incorporeal (i.e. mental) aggregates are mutually related to one another by association condition.

## 20 Dissociation Condition (Vippayutta Paccaya)

- i Corporeal phenomena (*dhammas*) are related to mental phenomena by dissociation condition.
- ii Mental phenomena are related to corporeal phenomena by dissociation condition.

### 21 Presence Condition (Atthi Paccaya)

- i The four incorporeal aggregates are mutually related to one another by presence condition.
- ii The four great essentials are mutually related to one another by presence condition.
- iii At the moment of conception, mentality (*pațisandhi-citta*) and corporeality (*kammaja-rūpa*) are mutually related to each other by presence condition.
- iv Consciousness and its concomitants are related to the mindproduced corporeality (*cittaja-rūpa*) by presence condition.
- v The great essentials are related to their derived matter (*upādā-rūpa*) by presence condition.
- vi Eye-base is related to eye-consciousness and its concomitants by presence condition.
- vii Ear-base is related to ear-consciousness and its concomitants by presence condition.
- viii Nose-base is related to nose-consciousness and its concomitants by presence condition.

- ix Tongue-base is related to tongue-consciousness and its concomitants by presence condition.
- Body-base is related to body-consciousness and its concomitants by presence condition.
- xi Visible object is related to eye-consciousness and its concomitants by presence condition.
- xii Sound is related to ear-consciousness... (as above)
- xiii Smell is related to nose-consciousness... (as above)
- xiv Taste is related to tongue-consciousness... (as above)
- xv Tangible object is related to body-consciousness...(as above)
- xvi Visible object, sound, smell, taste and tangible object are related to mind-elements (*pañcadvārāvajjana* and *sampaticchana-dvi*) and their concomitants by presence condition.
- xvii Depending on this corporeality (i.e. heart-base) mindelement and mind-consciousness element (i.e. mano-dhātu and mano-vinnāņa dhātu) arise; that corporeality is related to the mind-element, the mind-consciousness element and their concomitants by presence condition.

#### 22 Absence Condition (Natthi Paccaya)

Consciousness and its concomitants, which have just ceased in contiguity, are related to the present consciousness and its concomitants, which have arisen in a similar manner, by absence condition.

#### 23 Disappearance Condition (Vigata Paccaya)

Consciousness and its concomitants, which have just disappeared in contiguity, are related to the present consciousness and its concomitants, which have arisen in a similar manner, by disappearance condition.

#### 24 Non-disappearance Condition (Avigata Paccaya)

The causal relations are the same as in presence condition. 'Nondisappearance' and 'presence' refer to similar conditions.

#### SUMMARY OF CAUSAL RELATIONS

1 Mind is related to mind in six ways - viz., anantara, samanantara, āsevana, sampayutta, natthi and vigata. (Here 'mind' stands for 'nāma' which is a combination of citta and cetasikas.)

How is mind related to mind in six ways?

Citta and cetasikas which have just ceased are related to the present citta and cetasikas by way of anantara (contiguity), sammanantara (immediacy), natthi (absence) and vigata (disappearance) conditions.

Preceding *javanas* are related to subsequent *javanas* by way of *āsevana* (repetition) condition.

Co-nascent *citta* and *cetasikas* are mutually related by way of *sampayutta* (association) condition.

2 Mind is related to mind and matter in five ways - viz., hetu, jhāna, magga, kamma and vipāka.

How is mind related to mind and matter in five ways?

Hetus (roots), jhānangas (jhāna-factors) and maggangas (path-constituents) are related to co-nascent mind and matter by way of hetu (root), jhāna (absorption) and magga (path) conditions.

Co-nascent *cetanā* (*sahajāta-kamma*) is related to co-nascent mind and matter by way of *kamma* condition. So also asynchronous volition (*nānakkhanika-kamma*) is related to mind and matter born of *kamma* by way of *kamma* condition. The four resultant mental groups (*vipāka-nāmakkhan-dhas*) are related to one another and also to co-nascent matter by way of *vipāka* (*kamma*-result) condition.

3 Mind is related to matter only on one way that is *pacchājāta* (post-nascence).

Subsequent *cittas* and *cetasikas* are related to preceding and previous corporeal groups (heart-bases and sensebases) by way of *pacchājāta* condition.

4 **Matter is related to mind only in one way** – that is *purejāta* (pre-nascence).

The six bases (*vatthu*) during life are related to the seven *viññāṇa-dhātus* (i.e., all *cittas*) by way of *purejāta* condition. So also are the five sense-objects related to the five *viññāṇa vīthis* (processes of sense-cognition) by way of *purejāta*-condition.

#### 5 Concepts, mind and matter are related to mind in two ways - viz., *ārammaņa* and *upanissaya*.

*Ārammaņa-paccaya* consists of the six sense-objects which comprise concepts, mind and matter. They are related to *cittas* and *cetasikas* by way of *ārammaņa* (object) condition.

*Upanissaya-paccaya* (powerful dependence condition) is threefold, namely, powerful dependence as object, powerful dependence as contiguity, and powerful dependence as intrinsic nature.

Of them the object itself, when it becomes prominent and attracts our attention, serves as a powerful dependence. *Cittas* and *cetasikas*, which have just ceased, act as the powerful dependence of contiguity.

The powerful dependence of intrinsic nature is of several kinds: *akusala dhamma* such as *rāga*, *dosa*, etc., *kusala dhamma* 

such as *saddhā*, *sati*, etc., bodily pleasant feeling, bodily pain, person, food, weather, season, lodging place, etc. These are related by way of powerful dependence to moral states, immoral states resultant states (*vipāka*) and functional states (*kiriya*) which subsequently arise either internally (*ajjhattika*) or externally (*bahiddha*). Powerful *kamma* is also similarly related to its effects.

- 6 Mind and matter are related to mind and matter in nine ways – viz., adhipati, sahajāta, aññamañña, nissaya, āhāra, indriya, vippayutta, atthi and avigata.
  - 1 There in the relation of *adhipati* (predominance) is twofold:
  - i. Very prominent object which draws one's attention is related to *cittas* and *cetasikas* by way of objective predominance (*ārammaņādhipati*) condition.
  - The fourfold co-nascent predominance (chanda, viriya, citta, vīmainsa) is related to co-nascent citta, cetasikas and matter by way of co-nascent predominance (sahajā-tādhipati) condition.
  - 2 The relation of *sahajāta* (co-nascence) is threefold:
  - i Co-nascent *citta* and *cetasikas* are related to one another and also to co-nascent matter by way of *sahajāta* condition.
  - The four great essentials (*mahābhūta*) are related to one another and also to co-nascent derived material qualities (*upādā-rūpa*) by way of *sahajāta* condition.
  - iii At the moment of conception, the heart-base (hadayavatthu) is related to the rebirth consciousness and its concomitants by way of sahajāta condition.

- 3 The relation of aññamañña (mutuality) is threefold:
- Co-nascent citta and cetasikas are mutually related by way of aññamañña condition.
- ii The four great essentials are mutually related by way of *aññamañña* condition.
- iii At the moment of conception, the heart-base is related to the rebirth-consciousness and its concomitants by way of *aññamañña* condition.
- 4 The relation of *nissaya* (dependence) is threefold:
- i Co-nascent *citta* and *cetasikas* are related to one another and also to co-nascent matter by way of *nissaya* condition.
- ii The four great essentials are related to one another and also to co-nascent derived material qualities by way of *nissaya* condition.
- iii The six bases (*vatthu*) are related to the seven *viññānadhātus* by way of *nissaya* condition.
- 5 The relation of *āhāra* (nutriment) is twofold:
- i Edible food is related to corporeal groups by way of *āhāra*-condition.
- ii The three mental nutriments (*phassa*, *cetanā*, and *viñīnāņa*) are related to co-nascent mind and matter by way of *āhāra*-condition.
- 6 The relation of *indriya* (faculty of control) is threefold:
- The five sensitive organs (pasāda-rūpas) are related to pañca-viññāņa (eye-consciousness, ear-consciousness, etc.), by way of *indriya* condition.
- *Jīvita-rūpa* (material vitality) is related to *kammaja-rūpas* by way of *indriya* condition.

- iii. Mental *indriyas* (immaterial controlling factors) are related to co-nascent mind and matter by way of *indriya* condition.
- 7 The relation of *vippayutta* (dissociation) is threefold:
- i At the moment of conception, the heart-base is related to the rebirth-consciousness and its concomitants by way of *sahajāta-vippayutta* condition. *Citta* and *cetasikas* are also similarly related to co-nascent matter.
- Subsequent *cittas* and *cetasikas* are related to preceeding and previous corporeal groups (heart-bases and sensebases) by way of *pacchājāta-vippayutta* condition.
- iii The six bases during life are related to the seven vinnānadhātus (i.e. all cittas) by way of purejāta-vippayutta condition.

8 The relations of atthi (presence) and avigata (nondisappearance) are each fivefold: The relations of sahajāta (co-nascence), purejāta (prenascence), pacchājāta (post nascence), āhāra (nutriment), and rūpa-jīvitindriya (material vitality) also serve as the relations for atthi and avigata. Atthi and avigata are more or less identical.

#### A GENERALISED SUMMARY

All the 24 relations are reducible to these four: (1) ārammaņa, (2) upanissaya, (3) kamma and (4) atthi.

#### DIVISION OF NĀMA AND RŪPA

The corporeal group ( $r\bar{u}pakkhandha$ ) consisting of 28 kinds of  $r\bar{u}pa$  is called  $r\bar{u}pa$  (matter).

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The four mental groups (*nāmakkhandhas*) consisting of all *cittas* and all *cetasikas*, and *Nibbāna* are the five kinds of the immaterial called *nāma*. It is significant that *Nibbāna* is classed under *nāma*: this may imply that *Nibbāna* is a sense object which is observed by *lokuttara-cittas*.

# PAÑÑATTI (CONCEPTION)

Apart from *nāma* and *rūpa*, there is *paññatti* (conception). *Paññatti* is twofold:

1 Attha-paññatti

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It is the name of something that makes the form, shape, mass, appearance, etc., of the thing be known in communication.

The thing we refer to may be a man, a dog, a house or a mountain which are not ultimate realities. Also the form, shape, mass, appearance, etc., of the thing are not real. They are just ideas or concepts which appear in the mind. Furthermore, the name is not a reality since various names can be chosen to refer to a particular thing.

2 Sadda-paññatti

Since 'sadda' signifies "sound", 'sadda-paññatti' refers to spoken words in various languages. When we mention the names of various things in communication, we make the things known to others.

So by *attha-paññatti* something is made known by giving it an appropriate name, and by *sadda-paññatti* we are making that something known to others by speaking it out.

For illustration, the spoken word 'man' let others known that we refer to the form, shape, mass and appearance of a man. So it is a 'sadda-paññatti'. Now the form, shape, mass and appearance of the man which are made known by the word 'man' should be regarded as 'attha-paññatti'.

## VARIOUS FORMS OF ATTHA-PAÑÑATTI

In discussing the various forms of attha-*paññatti*, the external octad (*suddhatthaka-kalāpa*) will be referred to as 'mahābhūta' (great essential).

1 Santāna-paññatti

Such words as 'land', 'mountain', 'hill', 'field', and the like, are so designated on account of the mode of linking and spreading out of *mahābhūta*. They are called '*santāna-pañňatti*'.

2 Samüha-paññatti

Such terms as 'house', 'school', 'chariot', 'cart' and the like are so named on account of the mode of combination of materials. They are called '*samūha-pañňatti*'.

#### 3 Sandhāna-paññatti

Such terms as 'plate', 'bowl', 'saucer', 'spoon', 'tea-cup' and the like are so named on account of the form or shape of the material (porcelain in this case). They are called 'sanḍhānapaññatti'.

#### 4 Satta-paññatti

Such terms as 'man', 'woman', 'child', 'person', 'dog', and the like are so named on account of the five aggregates. They are called '*satta-pañňatti*'.

#### 5 Disā-paññatti

Such terms as 'east', 'west', 'north', 'south', 'direction' and the like, are so named on account of the revolution of the sun and the moon, etc. They are called '*disā-paññatti*'.

#### 6 Kāla-pannatti

Such terms as 'morning', 'noon', 'afternoon', 'evening', 'night', 'time' and the like are so designated on account of time. They are called '*kāla-paññatti*'.
#### 7 Ākāsa-paññatti

Such terms as 'cave', 'well', 'hole', 'tunnel', and the like are so named on account of empty space (*ākāsa*). So they are called '*ākāsa-paāīňatti*'.

#### 8 Kasiņa-paññatti

Such terms as 'pathavi-kasiņa', 'āpo-kasiņa', 'tejo-kasiņa', 'vājokasiņa', and the like, are so designated on account of the predominant element in mahābhūta. They are called 'kasiņapafīnātti'.

9 Nimitta-paññatti prepara by Such terms as 'parikamma-nimitta', 'uggaha-nimitta', 'pațibhāga nimitta' and the like are so designated on account of the degree of concentration in meditation. They are called 'nimittapaññatti'.

Note:

The various forms of *attha-paññatti* do not exist in the ultimate sense. They refer to objects made up of real things but appear in the mind as images.

Though they do not exist in the ultimate sense, they become objects of thought in the form of shadows of (ultimate) things. They are used in conversation to express one's view and to let others know one's wish.

# SIX NAMES FOR SADDA-PAÑÑATTI

The spoken words of different languages are all *sadda-paññatti*. Each and every *sadda-paññatti* has the following six names.

#### 1 Nāma

It is the name of something and it is always bent towards the meaning it could express. For example, the word '*bhūmi*' could express the meaning of 'land' and so it is always bent towards that meaning. Moreover, because it could express so, it always let the meaning 'land' bend towards it as its own meaning.

# 2 Näma-kamma

The name *bhūmi* has been given to it by some important learned men in the past. So it is also known as '*nāma-kamma*'.

# 3 Nāma-dheyya

The name *bhūmi* has been long established by learned people. Thus it is also called *nāma-dheyya*.

# 4 Nāma-nirutti

The name 'bhūmi' lies hidden before it is spoken, and it should be exposed by expressing it in language. So it is called *nāma-nirutti*.

# 5 Nāma-byañjana

Because the name *bhūmi* can show its meaning very clearly, it is called *nāma-byanjana*.

# 6 Nāmabhilāpa

The word *bhūmi* should be spoken with the intention of expressing the meaning of it. So it is called *nāmabhilāpa*.

# SIX KINDS OF SADDA-PAÑÑATTI

# 1 Vijjamāna-paññatti (real concept)

When a name is given to something which exists in reality, then that name is called 'vijjamāna-paññatti'. All the names of the ultimate realities (paramatthas) belong to this class; eg., Rūpa, citta, cetasika, vedanā, saññā, vitakka.

#### 346 | THE ESSENCE OF BUDDHA ABHIDHAMMA

Avijjamāna-paññatti (unreal concept)
 When a name is designated to something which does not exist in reality, then that name is called 'avijjamāna-paññatti'. All the names of things which are not ultimate realities belong to this class;

eg., Man, dog, house, school, hill, cave.

3 *Vijjamānena-avijjamāna-paññatti* (real and unreal concept)

It is a *sadda-paññatti* which makes known a compound name formed by combining a real concept with an unreal concept; eg., *Chaļābhiňñā* – a possessor of six super-knowledge.

In this compound name, 'sixfold *abhinnā*' is a real concept while 'possessor' is an unreal concept since it is a name given to the five aggregates.

eg., Te-vijja – a possessor of three vijja-ñāņa.

4 Avijjamānena-vijjamāna-paññatti (unreal and real concept).

It is a *sadda-paññatti* which makes known a compound name formed by combining an unreal concept with a real concept. eg,, *Itthi-sadda* – woman's voice.

The voice does exist as a sound, so it is a real concept. But 'woman' is an unreal concept, because it is a name also given to the five aggregates.

eg., Itthi-rūpam – woman's visual feature; Purisa-sadda – man's voice.

5 Vijjamānena-vijjamāna-paññatti (real and real concept). It is a sadda-paññatti which makes known a compound name formed by combining a real concept with a real concept. eg., Cakkhu-viññāņa, sota-pasāda, ghāna-samphassa, rūpa-taņhā.

# 6 *Avijjamānena-avijjamāna-paññatti* (unreal and unreal concept)

It is a *sadda-paññatti* which makes known a compound name formed by combining and unreal concept with an unreal concept.

eg., *Rāja-putta* (king's son), movie-actress, company-director, head-master.

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# Chapter 9 **KAMMAŢŢHĀNA** Meditation Subjects

#### INTRODUCTORY

In 'kammatthana', 'kamma' means the act of meditation and 'thana' means station, ground or place, implying subject or exercise.

So 'kammațțhāna' means 'working-ground' (for meditation) or 'subject of meditation'.

This 'working ground' or 'subject of meditation' will serve as the training ground or the training tool for mental culture. There are two aspects of mental culture – one dealing with 'calm' and the other with 'insight'. Both aspects will be treated in the present chapter.

The methods of mental training, i.e. meditation, as taught by the Buddha are unique in that they can stop worry, relax mental tension, eradicate mental depression, offer instant peace or mind, and lead to *samādhi* (concentration), *jhāna* (ecstatic absorption), *vipassanā-ñāṇa* (insight), and the four paths and their fruits (*maggas* and *phalas*) which are the highest and noblest attainment in life.

This chapter will give a brief but authentic and fruitful account of *samatha-bhāvanā* (calm-meditation) and *vipassanā-bhāvanā* (insight-meditation).

# **BHĀVANĀ (MEDITATION)**

'Bhāvanā' is generally rather vaguely translated as 'meditation'. It is better be called 'mental development'. It is a process of mental culture that produces so much good effect that it should be developed repeatedly in one's mind.

There are two kinds of bhāvanā:

- 1 Samatha-bhāvanā development of tranquility, and
- 2 Vipassanā-bhāvanā development of insight.

#### SAMATHA-BHĀVANĀ

'Samatha' means 'tranquility' which is the concentrated, unshaken, undefiled and peaceful state of mind. It is called 'calm' because it calms down the five hindrances (*nivāraņas*) including passions.

In essence 'samatha' stands for the ekaggatā-cetasika (samādhi) present in lokiya-kusala cittas or lokiya-kiriya cittas. It refers to that samādhi (concentration) which can calm down the five hindrances and also to the higher jhāna-samādhi which can calm down the lower jhāna factors, viz., vitakka, vicāra, pīti and sukha.

#### VIPASSANĀ-BHĀVANĀ

'*Vipassanā*' means 'insight', i.e. the intuitive insight into the impermanent (*anicca*), miserable (*dukkha*) and impersonal (*anatta*) nature of all bodily and mental phenomena of existence.

In essence, 'vipassanā' stands for the paññā-cetasika (wisdom) present in mahā-kusala cittas and mahā-kiriya cittas.

## KAMMAŢŢHĀNA

Here 'kammațțhāna' is taken to mean the object of meditation. As consciousness cannot arise without an object, we need suitable objects for mental training.

Buddha has prescribed 40 objects for *samatha-bhāvanā*. They are known as *'samatha-kammaṭṭhāna'*. They comprise the following seven classes:

- 1 Kasina 10 kasina objects
- 2 Asubha 10 loathsome objects
- 3 Anussati 10 recollection objects <
- 4 *Brahma-vihāra* 4 sublime abodes
- 5 Āruppa 4 immaterial spheres
- 6 Āhāre-paţikūla-saññā 1 object
- 7 Catu-dhātu-vavatthāna 1 object

The object of meditation for *vipassanā-bhāvanā* is '*tilakkhaṇa*', i.e. the triple symbol comprising *anicca*, *dukkha* and *anatta* of all bodily and mental phenomena of existence.

### **TEN KASIŅAS**

'Kasina' means 'whole', 'all', 'complete'. It is so called because it should be observed wholly or completely in meditation, and also because the light issuing from the conceptualized image is extended to all directions without any limitation.

Because it should be observed wholly, the shape of *kasina* should be circular with its diameter equal to one span and four fingers, i.e. about a foot.

- 1 *Pathavī-kasiņa* earth-circle, i.e. pure earth or dawncoloured clay spread in a tray of optimum size.
- 2 *Āpo-kasiņa* water-*kasiņa*, i.e. water placed in a suitable vessel or container.
- 3 *Tejo-kasiņa* fire-*kasiņa*; it may be prepared by placing evenly burning charcoal in an old tray, or one may look through a hole of an old-tray into the middle part of a big fire.

#### 352 | THE ESSENCE OF BUDDHA ABHIDHAMMA

- 4 *Vāyo-kasiņa* air-*kasiņa*; to develop it, one concentrates on the wind which blows the hair-tops or the grass-tops or which touches the cheek.
- 5 *Nīla-kasiņa* brown-*kasiņa;* take a brown circle of paper or cloth on a white background.
- 6 *Pīta-kasiņa* yellow or golden-coloured *kasiņa*; prepare as above.
  - 7 Lohita-kasina red-kasina; prepare as above.
- 8 Odāta-kasiņa white-kasiņa; take a white circle of paper or cloth on a black background.
  - 9 Āloka-kasiņa light-kasiņa; it may be developed by concentrating on the morning or evening sun, on the moon, or on a circle of light cast on the floor or wall by sunlight entering through a hole in the wall.
- 10 *Ākāsa-kasiņa* space-*kasiņa*; it may be developed by looking through a hole in the wall towards the outside space having sky as background.

An example of meditation on *kasiņa* will be illustrated soon. One can develop all the five *rūpāvacara-jhānas* by meditating on a *kasiņa*. One can then proceed on to develop four *arūpāvacara-jhānas* and five *lokiya-abhiānānas* (mundane super-knowledge) based on the ten *kasiņas*.

# **TEN ASUBHAS**

They refer to ten kinds of corpses which were found in ancient Indian cemeteries where dead bodies were not buried or cremated and where flesh-eating animals such as dogs, wolves and vultures frequent.

In modern days any kind of corpse which shows the loathsomeness of the body is a suitable object for meditation.

4 Color

We are, as a rule, very strongly attached to our body as well as to others' bodies by *rāga* (lust). The best way to suppress that *rāga* and the best remedy to cure the *rāga*-disease is *asubhakammaţţhāna*. It was made a standard or compulsory *kammaţţhāna* during the time of the Buddha, especially for young monks.

Even now it is included in the four *kammațțhānas* which serve as guardians or protectors. They are called *caturārakkha-kammaţthānas* before one proceeds on to insight meditation.

The ten kinds of corpses are enumerated as follows.

- 1 Uddhumātaka rotten and bloated corpse.
- 2 *Vinīlaka* discoloured corpse which becomes brownish black.
- 3 Vipubbaka one with cracked skin and pus oozing out.
- 4 *Vicchiddaka* one which has been cut into two or three pieces.
- 5 *Vikkhāyitaka* one which has been gnawn and mangled by dogs, vultures, etc.
- 6 *Vikkhittaka* one which has been bitten and scattered into pieces by dogs, vultures, etc.
- 7 *Hatavikkhittaka* one which has been mutilated and cut by knife, axe, etc., and thrown away as fragments.
- 8 Lohitaka a bloody corpse.
- 9 Puluvaka worm-infested corpse.
- 10 Atthika a skeleton.

Meditation on any kind of corpse will lead to the first *jhāna*. As the object is very disgusting, it is impossible to fix the mind on the object without *vitakka*. So *vitakka* cannot be removed in order to attain the second *jhāna*. 354 | THE ESSENCE OF BUDDHA ABHIDHAMMA

#### **TEN ANUSSATIS**

'Anussati' means repeated reflection or constant mindfulness. It stands for sati-cetasika.

#### 1 Buddhānussati

Reflection on the virtues of the Buddha. One may reflect on the 9 virtues one by one as, for example, "Such indeed is the Exalted one – worthy, fully enlightened, endowed with wisdom and conduct, well-farer, knower of the worlds, an incomparable charioteer for the training of individuals, teacher of gods and men, omniscient, and holy".

Or one may choose the virtue one likes best and reflect on it again and again as, for example, '*Araham*, *araham*'. In so reflecting one should visualize the virtue as:

"Buddha is the holiest person as He has discarded all defilements completely, and thus He is worthy of worship by men and gods."

The second method is more effective for developing concentration.

#### 2 Dhammänussati

Reflection on the virtues of the Dhamma (the Doctrine) as, for example, "Well-expounded is the doctrine by the Exalted One, to be realized by oneself, of immediate fruit, inviting investigation, leading to *Nibbāna*, to be understood by the wise, each one for himself".

Here again one may choose the virtue on likes best and reflect on it repeatedly.

#### 3 Samghānussati

Reflection on the virtues of Sampha – the order of Brotherhood of the Noble Ones. One may reflect on the nine virtues as follows:

"Of good conduct is the Order of the disciples of the Exalted One; of upright conduct is the Order of the disciples of the Exalted One; of wise conduct is the Order of the disciples of the Exalted One; of dutiful conduct is the Order of the disciples of the Exalted One. The four pairs of persons constitute eight individuals. This Order of the disciples of the Exalted One is worthy of offerings, is worthy of hospitality, is worthy of gifts, is worthy of reverential salutation, is an incomparable field of merit for the world."

Here also one may choose the virtue one likes best and reflect on it repeatedly.

# 4 Sīlānussati

Reflection on the perfection of one's morality (sīla).

#### Cāgānussati 5

Reflection on one's own charitable offering (dāna).

#### Devatānussati 6

Reflection on one's own virtues with a consideration on deities as witnesses.

For example, "Deities are born in such exalted states on account of their faith, morality, charity, knowledge, wisdom, moral shame and moral dread. I too possess these virtues."

# 7 Upasamānussati

Reflection on the virtues of Nibbāna.

#### Maranānussati 8

Reflection on the nature of one's own death as, for example, "My death is certain, my being alive is uncertain."  $(1 - 1)^{1/2} (1 - 1)^{1/2}$ 

#### Käyagatäsati 9

Reflection on the 32 impure parts of the body such as head-hair, body-hair, nails, teeth, skin, flesh, sinews, bones, marrow, kidneys, heart, liver, diaphragm, spleen, lungs, bowels, mesentery, stomach, faeces, brain, bile, phlegm, pus, blood, sweat, lymph, tears, grease, saliva, nasal mucus, articular fluid and urine."

In the Buddha's time many monks attained arahatship by meditating on these impure parts. *Kāyagatāsati* develops *asubha-saītītā* (notion of loathsomeness) on the body just as *asubha-bhāvanā* does. This loathsomeness of the body leads to dispassion, i.e. the suppression of *rāga* (lust).

#### 10 Ānāpānassati

Mindfulness on the in-breathing and out-breathing of one's respiration.

# A BRIEF COMMENT ON ANUSSATIS

Of the ten Anussatis, kāyagatāsati can lead to the first jhāna; ānāpānassati, to all the five rūpāvacara jhānas; and the rest, to neighbourhood concentration (upacāra-samādhi).

Buddhānussati and maranānussati are included in the four guardian-kammatthānas. By reflecting on the virtues of the Buddha repeatedly for a long time, one's body becomes venerable as a pagoda and so it may not be insulted by beasts, ghosts or wicked persons.

Also one has the notion of living together with the Buddha, and thus one develops faith on Buddha, moral shame and moral dread to a greater extent.

Reflection on death repeatedly enables one to comprehend the fleeting nature of life. When one has the notion that one's death may come at any moment, one sheds all pride, anger, attachment, etc., and one endeavours to make the best use of one's life by working for self-development instead of wholly indulging in sensual pleasures. *Ānāpānassati* is one of the best *kammațțhānas* for developing concentration as well as insight. It is the staple *kammațțhāna* practised by all Buddhas. It is easy to practise and can be practised anywhere at any time while sitting, standing, walking or lying. Breathing exists all the time and what is required is just to be mindful of it.

The mindfulness (*sati*) should be placed at the tip of the nose where the breath touches and pushes itself in and out. From that watch-point, one must be aware of the in-going breath and the out-going breath. It is like sitting at the gate of entrance and checking the people going in and coming out.

In the suttas this simple method of mindfulness of respiration is explained as follows:-

- 1 Attentively he breathes in, attentively he breathes out.
- 2 When making a long inhalation he knows: "I make a long inhalation", when making a short inhalation he knows: "I make a short inhalation"; when making a long exhalation he knows: "I make a long exhalation"; when making a short exhalation he knows: "I make a short exhalation he knows: "I make a short exhalation."
- 3 "Clearly perceiving the entire body (breath) I will inhale"; thus he trains himself; "clearly perceiving the entire body (breath) I will exhale"; thus he trains himself. (It means that one must be mindful to know every part of the breath; i.e. the whole breath.)
- 4 "Calming this breathing process I will inhale"; thus he trains himself; "calming this breathing process I will exhale"; thus he trains himself.

As breathing occurs rhythmically it can draw one's attention towards it and builds up concentration very quickly. If the mind wanders out to some external object such as tea-shop, cafeteria, movie-house, etc., note that it is there and focus it back on respiration. When the five hindrances (*nivāranas*) are suppressed completely, rapture ( $p\bar{t}ti$ ), tranquility of mind (*passaddhi*), pleasant feeling (*sukha vedanā*) and concentration (*samādhi*) will become distinct, and one experiences happiness one has never experienced before. One feels very light in body and mind and very peaceful. Some even feel as if they were floating in the air.

About this time a conceptualized light image (*nimitta*) in the form of a tube of rays or a sparkling diamond or a bright ruby or the like usually appears. The five *jhāna*-factors also become distinct and strong, and one may be assured that one has attained neighbourhood-concentration. If one carries on the mindfulness exercise earnestly and intensely, very soon one may attain the first *jhāna* and the higher *jhānas*.

Based on the *jhāna*-concentration, one may carry on the insight-meditation by investigating the mental and the corporeal phenomena in mind and body in detail. Then by contemplating on *tilakkhaṇa*- i.e. the phenomena of impermanence, suffering and non-personality – one develops insight knowledge (*vipassanā-ñāṇa*) which will gradually lead to the Path and its Fruition.

#### FOUR BRAHMA-VIHÂRAS

'Brahma' means 'sublime' and 'vihāra' means 'abode' or 'state of living'. Thus 'Brahmavihāra' refers to 'sublime abode' or 'sublime state of living'. This 'sublime state of living' is similar to the moral living of celestial Brahmas. So it is called 'Brahmavihāra'.

The four Brahma-vihāras are also known as 'four Appamaññās' meaning 'four boundless states'. They are so called because those who practise these exercises are radiating loving-kindness or compassion or sympathetic joy to all beings without limit or obstruction.

1 Mettā – loving-kindness, benevolence, goodwill.

It is defined as that which softens one's heart. It is the wish for the good, safety and happiness of all beings. Benevolent attitude is its chief characteristic.

It is not carnal love (*rāga*) or personal affection (*pema*). Its direct enemy is hatred or illwill (*dosa*) or aversion (*kodha*). Its indirect enemy is *pema* (*lobha*). It has the ability to quench illwill.

The culmination of *mettā* is the identification of oneself with all beings, i.e. one no longer differentiates between oneself and the others in the order of priority.

Mettā stands for adosa-cetasika.

2 Karunā - compassion

It is defined as that which makes the hearts of the noble quiver when others are subject to suffering or that dissipates the sufferings of others. The wish to remove the sufferings of others is its chief characteristic.

Its direct enemy is cruelty or wickedness (*himsa*) and its indirect enemy is passionate grief (*domanassa*). It discards cruelty or wickedness.

*Karunā* embraces sorrow-stricken beings with the ardent wish to free them from all sufferings.

It stands for the karunā-cetasika.

3 *Muditā* – sympathetic joy, appreciative joy.

It is the congratulatory attitude of oneself. Its chief characteristic is to be happy and full of joy in others' prosperity and success. Its direct enemy is jealousy, and its indirect enemy is exhilaration (*pahāsa*). it eliminates dislike (*arati*).

*Muditā* embraces all prosperous beings with the ardent wish that their prosperity will last for a long time. It stands for the *muditā-cetasika*.

4 Upekkhā – equanimity

It literally means 'to view impartially', that is, with neither attachment nor aversion. Impartial attitude is its chief characteristic.

It is not hedonic indifference nor the neutral feeling (*upekkhā-vedanā*). It stands for *tatramajjhattatā-cetasika* and means perfect equanimity or a well-balanced mind. It stays in between *karunā* and *muditā*. It keeps the mind balanced and unwavering amidst the vicissitudes of life such as praise and blame, pain and happiness, gain and loss, repute or disrepute.

Its direct enemy is passion  $(r\bar{a}ga)$  and its indirect enemy is callousness. It eliminates clinging and aversion.

## LIVING IN THE SUBLIME ABODE

Any one who is practising one of the four *Brahma-vihāras* is said to be living in the sublime abode.

To practise *metta*, one extends one's loving-kindness towards all beings, sincerely wishing them to be happy and free from danger, free from bodily pain and mental suffering.

To practise *karunā*, one embraces all sorrow stricken beings, sincerely wishing them to be free from all miseries.

To exercise *mudita*, one embraces all prosperous beings, wishing them sincerely that all their gain and prosperity remain with them for a long time. To exercise *upekkhā*, one embraces the good and the bad, the loved and the unloved, the sorrow-stricken or the prosperous, with equanimity contemplating that "all beings are as they are conditioned by their own-*kamma*".

Meditational practice of the first three *Brahma-vihāras* can lead to four *rūpāvacara jhānas* whereas *upekkhā*-exercise leads to the fifth *jhāna*. Remember that only the fifth *jhāna* is associated with equanimity and indifferent feeling (*upekkhā-vedanā*).

To develop one's concentration up to *jhāna*, it is advisable to choose a suitable person and concentrate on him pervading him with *mettā*, *karunā* or *muditā*. Even then it usually takes a long time to develop *jhāna*.

The faster way is to develop *jhāna*, preferably to fifth *jhāna*, by meditating on respiration (*ānāpānassati*) or another *kammaṭṭhāna* in which the object of meditation is well defined. Then, making concentration associated with the fifth *jhāna* as the base, one undertakes *mettā*-exercise. In this way one can develop the four *mettā-jhānas* very rapidly. This method is being successfully practised in Pa-auk Tawya Meditation Centres in Myanmar.

Only when one can pervade all beings with *jhāna-mettā*, *jhāna-karunā*, *jhāna-muditā* and *jhāna-upekkhā*, one is living truly in the sublime state.

The stereotype text on the development of these four sublime states of living is mentioned in the Suttas as follows:

"There, O monks, the monk with a mind full of lovingkindness pervading first one direction, then a second one, then a third one, then a fourth one, just so above, below and all around, and everywhere identifying himself with all, he is pervading the whole world with mind full of loving-kindness, with mind wide, developed, unbounded, free from hate and illwill". The same theme follows with compassion, sympathetic joy and equanimity.

# **ĀHĀRE-PAŢIKŪLA-SAÑÑĀ**

#### (Perception of Loathsomeness on Food)

It is the repeated contemplation to develop the perception of loathsomeness on the food and drinks we eat and swallow.

How do we develop the notion of loathsomeness on the food we are eating?

When the various dishes of food are arranged attractively, they appeal to our appetite. Note that when they are mixed up, their attractiveness is reduced. On chewing the food in our mouth, note how tiresome it is to lower the jaw and raise it repeatedly pounding on the food as if we are pounding chili in a mortar with pistle.

Also note that, while chewing, saliva, bile, phlegm and other digestive juices are produced at the bottom of the tongue, and that the tongue is mixing them with food which becomes sticky and loathsome. On swallowing the food, it reaches the stomach where it has to be further digested. The undigested food collects in the bowels and it has to be discarded from time to time in the lavatory. As the excrement is very loathsome, one has to hide shamefully in the lavatory to discard it.

Now attachment to food (*rasa-taṇhā*) is a strong form of *lobha* which is a hindrance to the development of concentration. So the Buddha advised His Disciples to suppress it by means of  $\bar{A}h\bar{a}re-pațik\bar{u}la-sañn\bar{a}$ .

**CATU-DHĀTU-VAVATTHĀNA** (Defining the Four Elements) '*Catu-dhātu*' means the four essential elements namely, pathavī, *āpo, tejo* and *vāyo*. '*Vavatthāna*' means the knowledge of characterizing (the elements).

As the four essential elements form the basis of all corporeal phenomena, their characteristics must be investigated and put into knowledge.

In Chapter 6 we have learnt that our body is made up of 21 kinds of corporeal groups called *kalāpas*, and each *kalāpa* comprises at least the four essential elements and their four material qualities viz., visible form (*vaṇṇa*), smell (*gandha*), taste (*rasa*) and nutriment (*ojā*).

Thus the four great elements are present in every part and particle of our body. *Pathavī* must be characterized as the element of extension with the characteristics of hardness and softness.  $\bar{A}po$  must be known as the element of cohesion with the characteristics of cohesiveness and fluidity. *Tejo* is the element of heat with the characteristics of hot and cold. *Vāyo* is the element of motion with the characteristics of pushing and supporting.

We must investigate in the body the characteristics of hardness and softness, cohesiveness and fluidity, hot and cold, pushing and supporting are present in every part and particle of the body. We must feel these characteristics and be conscious of them in the mind to be sure of their presence. When they become distinct in the mind, one keeps on concentrating on them and noting them to develop one's *samādhi*. The highest *samādhi* attainable here is neighbourhood concentration as the object of meditation is too deep and vast.

According to the results discovered in Pa-auk Tawya Meditation Center, *catu-dhātu-vavatthāna* is a very effective *kammaṭṭhāna* for developing concentration very quickly. When one attains neighbourhood-concentration, one can see through the body to observe the flesh, the sinew, the bone, the heart, the liver, etc., as one should see in *kāyagatāsati* -meditation.

Then one can use the skeleton which one penetratively sees in one's body or in the body of another person as the object of *asubha-kammathāna* and meditate on it to raise the concentration to the level of first *jhāna*.

Furthermore, the whiteness of the bone, preferably the skull, can be used as the object of *odāta-kasiņa*. One meditates on it to raise the concentration further to the level of fifth *jhāna*.

These step-wise methods of developing concentration are described in *Visuddhi Magga* and they are successfully put into practice in Pa-Auk Tawya Meditation Centres.

# FOUR ARUPPAS (FOUR IMMATERIAL SPHERES)

The four immaterial spheres of unbounded space ( $\bar{a}k\bar{a}sa$ ), unbounded consciousness, nothingness, and neither-perception nor non-perception are employed as the objects of meditation to develop the four  $ar\bar{u}p\bar{a}vacara-jh\bar{a}nas$ , respectively.

In practices one has to develop the five *rūpāvacara-jhānas* first on one of the *kasiņas*, and then, making the fifth-*jhāna* as the base, one goes higher to the four *āruppas* to develop the four *arūpāvacarajhānas*.

# SIX CARITAS (SIX TYPES OF TEMPERAMENT OR NATURE)

There are six types of persons according to their temperament or nature.

- 1 *Rāga-carita* the greedy-natured who indulge in sensuous pleasure without shame;
- 2 Dosa-carita the hate-natured who get angry easily even over trivial things;

- 3 *Moha-carita* the stupid or dull-natured;
- 4 Saddhā-carita the faithful-natured who venerate the Triple-Gem piously;
- 5 *Buddhi-carita* the intelligent-natured who rely on reason and would not believe easily;
- 6 *Vitakka-carita* the ruminating-natured who think over this and that without accomplishing much.

# KAMMAȚȚHÂNA AND CARITA

The forty *kammațțhānas* should be coupled with six *caritas* suitably for beneficial results.

- 1 The greedy-natured persons should exercise the ten *asubhas* and *kāyagatāsati* as these *kammaṭṭhānas* can suppress passion effectively.
- 2 The hate-natured persons should practise the four *Brahmavihāras* and the four colour-*kasiņas*, i.e. *nīla*, *pīta*, *lohita* and *odāta kasiņas*. These *kammațțhānas* are pure and serene and can delight persons who exercise them.
- 3 The stupid and dull-natured persons as well as the ruminating-natured persons should practise *ānāpānassati*. The minds of these people are restless and distracted because of *uddacca*, *vicikicchā* and *vitakka*. In *ānāpānassati* the in-breathing and the out-breathing have to be noted rhythmically. So *ānāpānassati* can control and calm down the restless minds.
- 4 The faithful-natured persons should practise Buddhānussati, dhammānussati, sanighānusssati, sīlānussati, cāgānussati and devatānussati. Saddhā (faith) is already strong in these persons and it will be further strengthened to great benefits by practising these anussati-kammaṭṭhānas.

- 5 The intelligent-natured persons should practise maranānussati, upasamānusssati, āhāre-paţikūla-saññā and catudhātu-vavatthāna. The subjects of these kammatthānas are deep and subtle, and thus they can stimulate and strengthen the wisdom of the intelligent-natured persons.
- 6 The kammațțhānas which are suitable to all types of persons are pathavī-kasiņa, āpo-kasiņa, tejo-kasiņa, vāyo-kasiņa, aloka-kasiņa, ākāsa-kasiņa and the four āruppas.

#### THREE STAGES OF BHĀVANĀ

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*Bhāvanā* (meditation) may be divided into three classes in accordance with the degrees of concentration or mental culture they can give rise to.

1 Parikamma-bhāvanā – the preparatory stage of meditation. The kammațțhāna-objects such as kasiņas are called parikamma-nimitta, meaning, preparatory immage. By observing an earth circle, one may meditate: "Pathavī, pathavī" repeatedly either by murmuring it slowly or by just noting it in the mind. This early stage of meditation, that can develop 'parikamma-samādhi' is called parikammabhāvanā. It paves the way for the arising of higherbhāvanās later on.

'Parikamma-samādhi' is 'preparatory concentration' which is the initial and still undeveloped concentration of mind. All stages of concentration starting from this initial stage up to the stage just below the neighbourhood-concentration is termed 'parikamma-samādhi'.  $child start f_{0} = child$ Upacāra-bhāvanā – the neighbourhood stage of meditation.

*Upacāra-bhāvanā* – the neighbourhood stage of meditation. *'Upacāra'* means 'neighbourhood' or 'moment of access'. *'Upacāra-bhāvanā'* is that meditation which has come to



the neighbourhood of *jhāna*, *magga* or *phala*. It may also be regarded as the meditation which is about to enter the absorption-stage of meditation called *appanā-bhāvanā*.

Parikamma-bhāvanā itself is developed into the upacāra-bhāvanā. The object of upacāra-bhāvanā is no longer 'parikamma-nimitta'; it is 'pațibhāga-nimitta', meaning 'counter-image'.

The concentration associated with *upacāra-bhāvanā* is called '*upacāra-samādhi*' which is translated as 'neighbourhood-concentration or access-concentration'. It represents the degree of concentration just before entering any of the absorption (*jhānas*).

3 Appanā-bhāvanā – the absorption stage of meditation. The meditation, which has developed to jhāna, magga or phala, is called ' appanā-bhāvanā'. The jhāna, magga or phala remains absorbed or fixed in their respective objects.

The object of *jhāna* is '*pațibhāga nimitta*' whereas the object of *magga* or *phala* is *Nibbāna*. The concentration associated with the *appanā-bhāvanā* is called the '*appanā-samādhi*'.

# BHĀVANĀ AND KAMMAŢŢHĀNA

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- 1 Parikamma-bhāvanā is attainable in all the forty kammaļthānas.
- 2 Parikamma-bhāvanā and upacāra-bhāvanā occur in the first eight anussatis and also in āhāre-paţikūla-saññā and catudhātu-vavatthāna (totalling 10 kammaţţhānas).
- All three types of bhāvanā occur in the remaining 30 kammaţţhānas, viz., 10 kasiņas, 10 asubhas, 4 Brahma-vihāras, 4 āruppas, kāyagatāsati and ānāpānassati.

# JHĀNA AND KAMMAŢŢHĀNA

#### TABLE 9.1

# Differentiation of Kammatthanas by means of Jhanas

No.	Kammațțhāna	Total	Jhānas attainable
1	10 Kasiņas, Ānāpānassati	11	<sup>₩</sup> 5 Rūpāvacara Jhānas
2	10 Asubhas, Kāyagatāsati	11	Rūpāvacara first Jhāna
3	Mettā, Karunā, Mudita	3	First-second- 2000 third-fourth 9 Rūpāvacara Jhānas
4	Upekkhā	1	Rūpāvacara 5 <sup>t</sup> 15 fifth Jhāna warn <sup>w</sup> ipekthā
5	4 Āruppas	4	4 Arūpāvacara Jhānas

Notes:

- 1 There are 25 kammațthānas which can produce rūpāvacara first jhāna (add 1+2+3 in the above Table).
- 2 Fourteen kammațțhānas can give rise to rūpāvacara second-third-fourth jhānas (add 1+3)
- 3 Twelve *kammattanas* can give rise to *rūpāvacara* fifth *jhāna* (add 1+4),
- 4 Four *āruppas* can produce four *arūpāvacara jhānas*.
- 5 Ten kammațthānas comprising the first 8 anussatis, āhārepațikūla-saññā and catu-dhātu-vavatthāna cannot give rise

to any *jhāna*. They can, however, help to attain neighbourhood concentration.

# BHĀVANĀ-NIMITTA (MEDITATION IMAGE)

'Nimitta' means mark, sign, image, target, object, etc. Here it refers to the 'mental image' obtained in meditation. Three types of nimitta are to be noted.  $2^{3^{5^{\circ}}}$ 

- Parikamma-nimitta preparatory image
  It is the object of parikamma-bhāvanā. It is the object perceived at the early stages of meditations.
- 2 Uggaha-nimitta acquired image As the meditation proceeds, the meditator finds that he can see the object, eg. kasina, without looking at it directly. He has acquired the image in his mind, and he can see it with eyes closed.

The acquired image is still unsteady and unclear; it arises when the mind has reached a weak degree of concentration.

3 Pațibhāga-nimitta – counter image

As the meditation proceeds on, at the point when the concentration reaches *upacāra-samādhi*, the acquired image suddenly changes into a bright, clear and steady image. It is similar to the original object, but it is many time brighter and clearer than the acquired image. It is entirely free from faults such as unevenness, graininess, etc., that may be present in the original object. It is immovable as if it remains fixed in the eye. As soon as this image arises, the stage of *upacāra-bhāvanā* and neighbourhood concentration is reached.

370 | THE ESSENCE OF BUDDHA ABHIDHAMMA

# NIMITTA AND KAMMAŢŢHĀNA

#### TABLE 9.2

# Differentiation of Kammatthanas by Nimittas

No.	Kammațțhāna	Total	Nimitta attainable
1	All Kammaţţhānas	40	<i>Parikamma-nimitta</i> and <i>Uggaha nimitta</i> (not distinguishable in some Kammaţthānas)
2	10 Kasiņas, 10 Asubhas Kāyagatāsati Ānāpānassati	22	Parikamma-nimitta, Uggaha-nimitta, Paṭibhāga-nimitta may all appear.
3	First 8 Anussatis 4 Brahma-vihāras 4 Ārupas, Āhāre- paṭikūla-saññā, Catudhātuvavatthāna	18	Parikamma-nimitta and Uggaha-nimitta only. Paṭibhāga-nimitta is not formed.

# PRACTICAL COUPLING OF BHĀVANĀ WITH NIMITTA

Parikamma-bhāvanā takes as its object parikamma-nimitta and uggahanimitta. Upacāra-bhāvanā and appanā-bhāvanā take paṭibhāga nimitta as their object. This coupling of bhāvanā with nimitta will be illustrated by the meditation on pathavī-kasiņa.

Pathavī-kasiņa is prepared by covering a tray or a circle about one span and four fingers (i.e. about 12 inches) in diameter with dawn-coloured clay. If there be not enough clay of dawn colour, some other clay may be placed underneath. The surface of the clay should be made as smooth as possible. This hypnotic circle is known as *kasina-mandala*.

Now this earth-circle is placed at a suitable height about two and a half cubits (i.e. about 45 inches) away from the place where one is going to sit. One should sit comfortably keeping the upper part of the body erect.

# 1 Parikamma-nimitta and Parikamma-bhāvanā

The meditator looks at the earth-circle attentively, saying mentally or inaudibly: "Pathavī, pathavī" or "earth, earth". Now, from this time onwards, the earth-circle that he is looking at is called 'parikamma-nimitta' and the meditation he is doing is called 'parikamma-bhāvanā'.

## 2 Uggaha-nimitta and Parikamma-bhāvanā

After meditating for some time, perhaps weeks or months, he will be able to close his eyes and visualise the object. This means that he could see the earth-circle vividly in his mind as he has seen it with open eyes even though his eyes are closed. This visualised object or acquired image is called 'uggaha-nimitta'.

Although the image has changed, his *bhāvanā* does not change yet. At this stage he is meditating on *uggaha-nimitta* with *parikamma-bhāvanā*.

### 3 Pațibhāga-nimitta and Upacāra-bhāvanā

From the time the acquired image appears, it is no longer necessary to look at the original earth-circle, unless his concentration disperses. By concentrating on the acquired image, he keeps on meditating: "*Pathavī*, *pathavī*" or "earth, earth".

When his concentration reaches the level of *upacāra-samādhi*, the *uggaha-nimitta* changes into *paṭibhāga-nimitta* (counter-image). This change is very distinct and is easily noticed as the *paṭibhāga*- http://www.dhammadownload.com

372 | THE ESSENCE OF BUDDHA ABHIDHAMMA

*nimitta* is very different from *uggaha-nimitta*. The change is as distinct as taking out a mirror from its leather-case, or as a flock of herons flying out of dark clouds.

The parikamma-bhāvanā is now raised to the level of upacārabhāvanā. The meditation is now at the stage of paṭibhāga-nimitta and upacāra-bhāvanā.

At this stage all the hindrances (*nīvāraņas*) are suppressed, and the five *jhāna*-factors become quite strong and function their duties efficiently. Therefore the mind is well fixed on the counterimage. For this reason, *upacāra-bhāvanā* is also called '*upacārajhāna*.'

# 4 Pațibhāga-nimitta and Appanā-bhāvanā

Concentrating on the *pațibhāga-nimitta*, the meditator carries on his meditation, noting: "*Pathavī*, *pathavī*" as before. When the counter-image is firm and immovable, it is made to expand by will-power inch by inch until it fills every space in all directions. Concentrating on this new abstract image, he keeps on meditating: "*pathavī*, *pathavī*". If he is an intelligent, quick-witted person, he soon reaches *appanā-bhāvanā* when the first *jhāna* arises. If he is a slow-witted person, he must try hard to maintain the *pațibhāganimitta* with special care, and if he keeps on meditating, he too attains the first *jhāna* sooner or later.

He is now at the stage of *pațibhāga-nimitta* and *appanā-bhāvanā*. This means that the object of *appanā-bhāvanā* is the counter-image of the earth-circle.

# TOWARDS THE SECOND AND HIGHER JHÅNAS

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The yogi (meditator), who has attained the first *jhāna*, should develop five kinds of abilities with respect to that *jhāna*. These abilities are called '*vasitās*', meaning literally 'habits'.

KAMMATTHĀNA - Meditation Subjects | 373

- 1 *Āvajjana-vasitā* the ability to reflect on the *jhāna* factors guickly; 5
- 2 Samāpajjana-vasitā the ability to attain the jhāna quickly;
- 3 *Adhitthāna-vasitā* the ability to remain in the *jhāna* as long as one wishes;
- 4 Vutthāna-vasitā the ability to come out from the jhāna (meditative absorption) at the moment one has predetermined, eg one hour after getting to jhāna;
- 5 Paccavekkhaņa-vasitā the ability to review the *jhāna* factors quickly by reducing the number of *bhavanga-cittas* between *vīthis*.

Now in order to eliminate *vitakka* to go up to the second *jhāna*, the yogi contemplates on the coarse nature of *vitakka* how it can divert the mind towards a sensuous object and thus destroy the *jhāna*. He also contemplates on the subtle nature of the second *jhāna* which is free from *vitakka*.

Then concentrating on the *pațibhāga-nimitta* of *pathavī-kasiņa*, he tries to develop the three stages of *bhāvanā* in the normal order of *parikamma*, *upacāra* and *appanā*, without letting *vitakka* associate with the *citta*. This series of *bhāvanā* without a desire for *vitakka* is known as *'vitakka-virāga-bhāvanā'*. The culmination of this *bhāvanā* is the attainment of the second *jhāna*.

The second *jhāna* contains only four *jhāna*-factors viz. *vicāra*, *pīti*, *sukha*, *ekaggatā*, which are subtler than those present in the first *jhāna*.

The yogi then tries to develop the five abilities called 'vasitā' (habit) with respect to the second-*jhāna*. He then eliminates vicāra in a similar way to attain the third *jhāna*. The fourth and the fifth *jhānas* are attained by eliminating *pīti* and *sukha* respectively in a similar manner.

#### TOWARDS ARŪPA-JHĀNAS

 $R\bar{u}p\bar{a}vacara$  fifth *jhāna* is used as the base for going up to *arūpāvacara jhānas*. First the five abilities called *'vasitā'* with respect to the fifth *jhāna* must be developed. Then the yogi contemplates on the faults of corporeality (*rūpa*) to suppress his attachment to corporeality. He may reason like this:

"This body is subject to hot and cold, hunger and thirst, and to all kinds of diseases. Because of it, one quarrels with others. To clothe it, to feed it, and to house it, one has to go through many miseries."

The yogi should also contemplate how subtle and calm the *arūpāvacara jhāna* is to strengthen his desire to attain it.

Then he develops the five *rūpāvacara jhānas* one after one on any of the nine *kasiņas*, excluding *ākāsa-kasiņa*. He comes out from the fifth *jhāna* and, without paying attention to the *pațibhāganimitta*, he concentrates on the space behind it and meditates repeatedly: "Space is infinite! space is infinite!". This is *parikammabhāvanā* – the pre-requisite for the arising of higher *bhāvanās*.

The *pațibhāga-nimitta* will be in front of him so long as he still has a subtle desire (*nikanti*) for it. When that desire is gone, the *pațibhāga-nimitta* is also gone unfolding infinite space. Concentrating on this space, he meditates on: "Space is infinite! Space is infinite!'.

When his desire (*nikanti*) for the *rūpāvacara* fifth *jhāna* disappears, he is said to reach *upacāra-bhāvanā*. If he goes on meditating earnestly and strenuously, he may soon reach the *appanā-bhāvanā* and attain the first *arūpāvacara jhāna* called '*ākāsānaficā-yatana kusala citta*'.

He then develops the five abilities (*vasitā*) with respect to the first *arūpa jhāna*. Then to develop the second *arūpa jhāna*, he

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contemplates on the unsatisfactoriness of the first *arūpa jhāna* for being close to *rūpāvacara-jhānas* and being coarse compared to the second *arūpāvacara jhāna*. Then concentrating on *ākāsānañcāyatana kusala citta* which focuses on infinite space, he meditates: "consciousness is infinite; consciousness is infinite". This is the new *parikamma-bhāvanā*. When his subtle clinging (*nikanti*) to the first *arūpāvacara jhāna* disappears, he comes to *upacāra-bhāvanā*. When he attains the second *arūpāvacara jhāna* called '*viñīnānañcāyatana-kusala citta*', he reaches *appanā-bhāvanā*.

Similarly by practising the *parikamma-bhāvanā* on the nonexistence of *ākāsānañcāyatana kusala citta*, mentally repeating: "There is nothing whatsoever!", the third *arūpāvacara jhāna*, called *'ākiñcaññāyatana kusala citta'*, is attained.

Furthermore by practising the parikamma-bhāvanā on ākiñcaññāyatana kusala citta, mentally repeating: "This citta is calm! It's excellent!', the fourth arūpāvacara jhāna called 'neva-saññānāsaññāyatana kusala citta' is finally attained.

## **GOING HIGHER TO ABHIÑÑĂ**

'Abhiāāā' is 'higher power' or 'supernormal knowledge'. Those who have attained five *rūpāvacara jhānas* and four *arūpāvacara jhānas* may further develop five mundane (*lokiya*) supernormal knowledge by practising these *jhāna* in various ways based on ten *kasiņas*.

- 1 Iddhividha Abhiññā Powers of creating forms, flying through the air, walking on water, diving into the earth, etc.
- 2 Dibba-sota Abhiññā
  Divine ear or clairaudience, which enables one to hear subtle or coarse sounds far or near.

- 3 Paracitta-vijānana (Ceto-pariya ñāņa) Power of penetrating the mind of others to discern their thoughts.
- 4 Pubbenivāsānussati Power to remember the former existences of oneself and the former worlds.

5 Dibba-cakkhu

Divine eye or clairvoyance, which enables one to see subtle or coarse things far or near and also the celestial worlds and the *apāya* abodes.

The last one, i.e. *dibba-cakkhu*, may be extended to two more Supernormal Powers:

6 Yathākammūpagañāņa

Power of seeing beings in the 31 planes of existence and knowing their respective kammas which have given rise to their rebirths.

7 Anāgatamsanāna

Power of knowing future existences and future worlds.

So we may say there are seven *lokiya-abhiññās*. But when we count five mundane supernormal knowledge (five *lokiya abhiññās*), (6) and (7) are included in *dibba-cakkhu*. Also *catupapatañāṇa*, which is the knowledge with regard to the dying and reappearing of beings, is included in *dibba-cakkhu*.

In counting six *abhiññās*, a supramundane power (*lokuttara abhiññā*) is added to the five *lokiya abhiññās*. This *lokuttara abhiññā* is called *Āsavakkhaya-ñāṇa*.

8 Āsavakkhaya-ñāņa (Arahatta-magga-ñāņa) Knowledge associated with Arahatta-magga that can extinct all cankers (āsava).

Chalābhiñña is an Arahat who possess the six super-

knowledge mentioned above. It should be noted that the five mundane supernormal knowledge are attainable through the utmost perfection of mental concentration (*samādhi*) and they are the culmination of *samatha-bhāvanā* (tranquility-meditation). The supramundane power, i.e.  $\bar{A}savakkhaya-\bar{n}ana$ , is attainable through penetrating insight (*vipassanā*) and it is the culmination of *vipassanā-bhāvanā* (insight meditation).

# VIPASSANĀ KAMMAŢŢHĀNA

In the exercises on *vipassanā-bhāvanā* (insight-meditation) one should have the knowledge of the following:

- 1 Sevenfold Visuddhi seven stages of purity,
- 2 Ti-lakkhana three characteristic marks,
- 3 Threefold Anupassanā 3 methods of contemplation,
- 4 Ten Vipassanā-nāņas 10 insight-knowledges,
- 5 Threefold Vimokkha 3 ways of emancipation,
- 6 Threefold Vimokkha-mukha 3 doors of emancipation.

# SEVENFOLD VISUDDHI (SEVEN STAGES OF PURITY)

*'Visuddhi'* means 'purification' or 'purity'. There are seven stages in purifying the mind by insight-meditation.

- 1 Sīla-visuddhi purity of morality,
- 2 Citta-visuddhi purity of mind,
- 3 Ditthi-visuddhi purity of view,
- 4 Kankhā-vitaraņa-visuddhi purity by transcending doubt,
- 5 Maggāmagga-ñāṇadassana-visuddhi purity of vision in discerning the Path and not-Path,
- 6 Pațipadā-ñāṇadassana-visuddhi purity of vision of the Path-progress,
- 7 *Nāņadassana-visuddhi* purity of vision of the knowledge of the four Paths.

#### 378 | THE ESSENCE OF BUDDHA ABHIDHAMMA

In *Majjhima Nikāya* (Sutta 24) the simile of the stage -coach is mentioned comparing the sevenfold *Visuddhi* with seven stagecoaches. One mounts the first coach and travels to the second coach. Then one mounts the second coach and travels to the third coach, and so on.

In exactly the same way one purifies one's morality to get to the starting point of the purification of the mind. Then one purifies the mind in order to get to the starting point of the purification of view. Then one purifies one's view to arrive at the starting point of the purification by transcending doubt. One proceeds in this way until the four Paths and their Fruits are attained.

There in *Majjhima Nikāya* it is said that the real and ultimate goal does not consist in the purity of morality, or of mind, or of view, etc., but in total deliverance from and extinction of defilements.

## TI-LAKKHANA (THREE CHARACTERISTIC MARKS)

There are three characteristic marks of mental and corporeal phenomena, i.e. of the five aggregates of existence. They form the objects of insight-meditation.

- 1 Anicca-lakkhana the characteristic mark of impermanence
- 2 Dukkha-lakkhana the characteristic mark of suffering
- 3 Anatta-lakkhana the characteristic mark of not-self.

"Whether Perfect Ones (Buddhas) appear in the world or whether Perfect Ones do not appear in the world, it still remains a firm condition, and immutable fact and fixed law, that all formations are impermanent, that all formations are subject to suffering, that everything is without a self".

(Anguttara Nikāya, Book IV, Sutta 134)

# **THREEFOLD ANUPASSANĀ** (Three Methods of Contemplation)

This topic describes three methods for conducting insightmeditation on mental and corporeal formations, i.e. on the five aggregates of existence.

- 1 Aniccānupassanā repeated contemplation on the impermanent nature of mind and matter in the five aggregates of existence.
- 2 Dukkhānupassanā repeated contemplation on the unsatisfactory nature of mind and matter in the five aggregates of existence.
- 3 Anattānupassanā repeated contemplation on the selfless or no-soul nature of mind and matter in the five aggregates of existence.

Note:

The meanings of the threefold  $anupassan\bar{a}$  are described here as they are mentioned in most popular books. Actually these meanings can be misleading. The word 'contemplation' itself is misleading.

'Contemplation' implies 'deep thought' or 'to be in a thoughtful state'. In *vipassanā*-meditation there is no place for thinking or for being thoughtful. With the help of concentration (*samādhī*), one penetrates into the ultimate realities and sees with one's own mind-eye the real nature of these realities – that is the three characteristic marks of *nāma* and *rūpa*.

By observing the incessant arising and dissolving of the ultimate *nāma* and *rūpa*, one understands the impermanent nature as well as the unsatisfactory nature of mental and corporeal formations. To be subject to incessant dissolving itself means suffering. Since the body and mind are made up of five aggregates
and all these aggregates are incessantly forming and dissolving, leaving no single entity as permanent, one realizes that there is no self nor soul.

Thus in *vipassanā-bhāvanā*, one actually sees the ultimate things and knows their nature. This ultimate nature cannot be known by mere contemplation.

In *aniccānupassanā*, one concentrates on the impermanent nature of the ultimate *nāma* and *rūpa*, and note repeatedly "*anicca*, *anicca*, *anicca*..." for ten to thirty minutes at a stretch.

Then one takes up dukkhānupassanā.

In *dukkhānupassanā*, one concentrates on the unsatisfactory nature of the ultimate *nāma* and *rūpa* and notes repeatedly "*dukkha*, *dukkha*, *dukkha*,..." for ten to thirty minutes at a stretch. Then one proceeds with *anattānupassanā*.

In anattānupassanā, one concentrates on the selfless or nosoul nature of the ultimate nāma and rūpa, and notes repeatedly "anatta, anatta, anatta,..." for ten to thirty minutes at a stretch. Then one takes up aniccānupassanā again.

As one carries on the *vipassanā* meditation is this manner, the ten insight-knowledge (*vipassanā-ñāṇa*) will arise in due course. Soon after the last insight-knowledge arises, *magga-ñāṇa* and *phala-ñāṇa* (the Path and its Fruition) also arise.

## TEN VIPASSANĀ-ÑĀŅAS (Ten Insight Knowledges)

1 Sammasana-näna

The knowledge that can investigate the three characteristic marks of  $n\bar{a}ma$  and  $r\bar{u}pa$  in the five aggregates of existence;

2 Udayabbaya-ñāņa
 The knowledge that can investigate the arising and

KAMMATTHÄNA – Meditation Subjects | 381

passing away of the ultimate *nāma* and *rūpa* in the five aggregates of existence;

3 Bhanga-ñāņa

The knowledge of the incessant dissolution of the ultimate  $n\bar{a}ma$  and  $r\bar{u}pa$ ;

4 Bhaya-ñāņa

The knowledge of realizing *nāma-rūpa* and the five aggregates of existence as fearful as they are dissolving incessantly;

5 Ādīnava-ñāņa

The knowledge that realizes the fault and unsatisfactoriness in *nāma-rūpa* as they have been known to be fearful;

6 Nibbidā-ñāņa

The knowledge of disgust in *nāma-rūpa* as they have been known to be unsatisfactory;

- 7 Muncitukamyatā-ñāņa The knowledge of the desire to escape from the entanglement of nāma-rūpa;
- 8 Pațisankhā-ñāņa

The knowledge to re-investigate *nāma-rūpa* and the five aggregates of existence in order to escape there from;

- 9 Sankhārupekkhā-nāņa The knowledge of equanimity towards nāma-rūpa and conditioned things;
- 10 Anuloma-nāņa

The knowledge of adaptation to the Path.

514m

### THREEFOLD VIMOKKHA (Three Ways of Emancipation)

'*Vimokkha*' means 'emancipation, liberation or deliverance'. It refers to the emancipation from the entanglement of *nāma-rūpa*, i.e. from the round of rebirth or the *samsāra* of misery.

Here 'vimokkha' stands for magga-phala (the Path and its Fruition) which has emancipated from defilements (kilesas).

 Suñňata-vimokkha – emancipation through the concept of void by anattānupassanā.

'Suññata – void or emptiness' here means the absence of 'atta' or 'self' or any permanent entity in  $n\bar{a}ma-r\bar{u}pa$ and the five aggregates of existence. The yogi who practises anattānupassanā realizes this concept of void, and if he attains emancipation while practising anattānupassanā his magga-phala or emancipation is known as 'Suññata-vimokkha'.

2 Animitta-vimokkha – emancipation through the concept of signlessness by aniccānupassanā.

'Nimitta' means mark, sign, image, object, etc. So 'animitta' means no mark, no sign, no image, no object, etc. While practising aniccānupassanā, the yogi is observing the incessant dissolution of nāma-rūpa in the five aggregates all the time. In the ultimate state the five aggregates, which are nothing but mental and corporeal groups, have no form and shape nor any sign or image. So while the yogi is observing the incessant dissolution of nāma and rūpa, he observes no form and sign at all; he is having the concept of signlessness. If he emancipates from defilements through aniccānupassana, his maggaphala or emancipation is known as 'Animitta-vimokkha'. 3 *Appanihita-vimokkha* – emancipation through the concept of desirelessness by *dukkhānupassanā*.

The yogi, while practising *dukkhānupassanā*, is observing the unsatisfactory or suffering nature of *nāma-rūpa* in the five aggregates all the time. So he has no desire for nor attachment to the *nāma-rūpa*. In other words he is having the concept of desirelessness (*appanihita*). And if he emancipates from defilements through *dukkhā-nupassanā*, his *magga-phala* or emancipation is called '*Appanihita-vimokkha*'.

**THREEFOLD VIMOKKHA-MUKHA** (*Triple Gate-way to Liberation*) 'Mukha' means 'door or gateway'. The three doors to emancipation or liberation from the entanglement of defilements refer back to the three *anupassanās*.

- Anattānupassanā is Suññata-vimokkha-mukha.
  It realizes that the nāma-rūpa formations are void of 'atta' or 'self' or 'ego'. Suññata refers to 'void of atta.'
- 2 Aniccānupassanā is Animitta-vimokkha-mukha. It understands that the nāma-rūpa formations are formless, signless or imageless. Animitta refers to signless state of nāma-rūpa.
- 3 Dukkhānupassanā is Appanihita-vimokkha-mukha. It understands that the nāma-rūpa formations are just suffering or misery. So it develops no desire (taņhā) for nāma-rūpa formation. Appanihita refers to the state of desirelessness.

In *Visuddhi Magga* (Chapter XXI, paragraph 70), the following message is given:

#### 384 | THE ESSENCE OF BUDDHA ABHIDHAMMA

- 1 "Whosoever, being filled with determination (*adhimokkha*), considers all formations as impermanent (*anicca*), such a person attains the signless liberation.
- 2 "Whosoever, being filled with tranquility, considers all formations as painful (*dukkha*), such a person attains the desireless liberation.
- 3 "Whosoever, being filled with wisdom, considers all formations as not-self (*anatta*), such a person attains the void (*suññata*) liberation.

## THE SEVEN STAGES OF THE PATH OF PURIFICATION

It is clearly stated in *Mahā-satipațțhāna Sutta* that the only way towards absolute purity and extinction of all sufferings is the Noble Eightfold Path (*ațțhaṅgika-magga*).

The eight constituents of the Path can be divided into three groups called *sikkhā* (learning or training):

- 1 Sīla-sikkhā training in morality
- It comprises three maggangas (constituents of the Path):
- i Sammā-vācā right speech
- ii Sammā-kammanta right action
- iii Sammā-ājīva right livelihood.
- 2 Samādhi-sikkhā training in concentration

This also comprises three maggangas:

- i Sammā-vāyāma right effort
- ii Sammā-sati right mindfulness
- iii Sammā-samādhi right concentration
- 3 Paññā-sikkhā training in wisdom

This training consists of two maggangas:

- i Sammā-dițthi right view
- ii Sammā-sankappa right thought

Though the right view (wisdom) should guide the way throughout the course of purification, one should begin with *sīlasikkhā* for the purpose of laying down the foundation of the Path. Based on *sīla*-foundation, one shall develop concentration (*samādhi-sikkhā*), and based on concentration, one shall practise *vipassanā* to develop wisdom (*pañītā*).

So in the Path of Purification (*Visuddhi Magga*), sīla-visuddhi (purity of morality) comes first, and *citta-visuddhi* (purity of the mind which refers to *samādhi-sikkhā*) comes next. The remaining five visuddhis correspond to *paītītā-sikkhā* (training in wisdom).

The progress along the Path will be marked by the seven *visuddhis*, the last *visuddhi* being the end of the Path. Each *visuddhi* is characterised by certain *vipassanā-ñāṇas* (insight-knowledge). These phenomena together with the practical aspects of *samatha-vipassanā* meditation will now be described.

# 1 Sīla-Visuddhi (Purity of Morality)

A lay-person can attain the purity of morality by fulfilling the three sīla-maggangas:  $\sim 2^{2^{2}}$ 

- 1 Right speech abstaining from lying, slandering, harsh speech and vain talk;
- 2 Right action abstaining from killing, stealing and sexual misconduct;
- 3 Right livelihood abstaining from a livelihood connected with immoral speech or immoral action. 2020 800

A person can fulfil the above moral requirements by observing the five precepts. It is better if he can observe eight, nine or ten precepts. Most meditation centres in Myanmar ask their yogis to observe eight or nine precepts. One main reason is to save all the troubles and the money for preparing and serving j.

food in the afternoon. Another reason is that yogis will have more time to meditate and will meditate better without consuming food in the afternoon and in the evening. Fresh fruit-juices and certain light drinks without milk, barley or any cooked vegetables are, however, allowed.

For monks the purity of morals consists of four kinds of *sīla* or discipline:

- 1 *Pātimokkha-samvara-sīla* moral discipline as prescribed by the *Pātimokkha*,
- 2 Indriya-samvara-sīla mindfulness to prevent the arising of defilements (*kilesās*) at the five doors (eye, ear, nose, tongue and body),
- 3 *Ājīvapārisuddhi-sīla* discipline as regards purity of livelihood.
- 4 *Paccayasannissita-sīla* contemplation of the purpose of using the necessaries of life in order to prevent the arising of defilements in using them.

Lay-persons should also observe the above *sīlas* for these *sīlas* develop not only moral culture but also mental culture – both of which pave the way to the arising of concentration. Of course eight or nine precepts serve as *Pātimokkha-samvara-sīla* for lay-people.

2 Citta-Visuddhi (Purity of Mind)



For purity of mind, the yogis must develop the three samādhimaggangas:

- 1 Right effort undertaking tranquility meditation,
- 2 Right mindfulness being mindful on the object of meditation,
- 3 Right concentration concentrating one's mind on the object of meditation.

http://www.dhammadownload.com KAMMATTHANA - Meditation Subjects 1 387 medidation por mons = bouchous

When the meditation progresses to the stage of upacārabhāvanā, neighbourhood or access-concentration is attained. At this stage, all the hindrances (nīvāraņas) are temporarily driven away from the mind. So the mind is free form defilements (kilesās) and it is pure. The yogi is said to attain *citta-visuddhi* at this stage. If, however, the yogi can raise his concentration to *jhāna-samādhi* (ecstatic absorption) by continuing his meditation till appanābhāvanā is attained, then his mind will be free from defilements for longer periods of time. The *jhāna*-concentration is much more stable than access-concentration.

It is definitely stated in Abhidhamma that in order to attain purity of mind, one must attain either upacāra-samādhi (accessconcentration) or appanā-samādhi (jhāna-concentration). Appanāsamādhi means the concentrations associated with the five rūpāvacara ihānas or the four arūpāvacara jhānas.

So to attain Purity of Mind, one must at least develop accessconcentration. Without this concentration one cannot penetrate into the ultimate realities in insight-meditation, and so one cannot gain insight-knowledge.

A thorough investigation has been carried out in Pa-auk Tawya Meditation Centre that yogis cannot even penetrate through the body to see the internal organs, let alone to see the ultimate rūpa, the cittas in the cognitive series and the cetasikas associated therewith, if one is not equipped with the samādhieye, i.e. the mind-eye accompanied by access-concentration or jhāna-concentration, the more powerfully can one penetrate into the ultimate realities, and so the better.

The reader should not forget the simile of the stage-coach. If one misses one coach, one cannot catch the remaining coaches. If one cannot develop Moral Purity, one shall miss the Purity of Engran algorithe

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Mind. If one cannot develop Purity of Mind, one shall miss the next coach, i.e. Purity of View, and so on.

# 3 Ditthi-visuddhi (Purity of View)

Equipped with samādhi-eye, the yogi first looks into his body to see thousands and thousands of  $r\bar{u}pa$ -kalāpas (corporeal groups) arising and dissolving incessantly. He analyses the kalāpas to know the ultimate  $r\bar{u}pas$ , viz., pathavī, āpo, tejo, vāyo, vaņņa, gandha, rasa,  $oj\bar{a}$ ,  $j\bar{i}vita$ - $r\bar{u}pa$  (physical vitality), cakkhu-pasāda, etc. Then he characterises each  $r\bar{u}pa$  by means of its salient characteristic (lakkhaṇa), its function or essential properties (rasa), the result of its function or the way it appears to the yogi's mind (paccupaṭṭhāna), and the immediate causes which condition its arising (padaṭṭhāna).

Then he investigates his mind by observing the *vīthi cittas* as they occur in succession in cognitive series. He investigates thoroughly all the *cittas* arising in all six types of *vīthis* (cognitive series). After differentiating each *citta*, he investigates the *cetasikas* which associate with each *citta*.

He then characterises each *citta* and each *cetasika* by means of *lakkhaṇa, rasa, paccupaṭṭhāna* and *padaṭṭhāna* as he has done with each *rūpa*.

By characterising each type of *citta*, each type of *cetasika* and each type of  $r\bar{u}pa$  in his mind and body, he comes to know that only the feeling group (*vedanā*), the perception group (*saññā*), the group of mental formations (*saňkhāra*), the consciousness group (*viñītāna*) and the corporeality group ( $r\bar{u}pa$ ) exist, and that nothing else, such as '*atta*', 'self' or 'ego', ever exists.

He also understands that just as the combination of wheels, axle, vehicle-body, horse, etc., is called a carriage, so also the combination of the five groups (*khandhas*) is called 'I, you, he, she or person".

KAMMATTHÄNA – Meditation Subjects | 389

His view is now free from the wrong notion that 'I, you, he, she, atta, self or person exists'. He is said to attain the Purity of View (*Ditthi Visuddhi*).

The ability to characterise each type of *citta*, each type of *cetasika* and each type of *rūpa* by means of *lakkhaṇa*, *rasa*, *paccupațțhāna* and *padațțhāna* is called '*nāma-rūpa-pariccheda-ñāṇa*' (the knowledge of characterization of mental groups and corporeal groups). This knowledge is the landmark of the Purity of View.

#### Note:

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The characterization of *cittas*, *cetasikas* and *rūpas* by means of *lakkhaņa*, *rasa*, *paccupațthāna* and *padațthāna* is systematically carried out in Pa-auk Tawya Meditation Centres.

4. Kankhā-vitarana-visuddhi (Purity by Transcending Doubt) 'Kankhā' means 'doubt', it may be either intellectual or ethical doubt, i.e. methodical doubt or sceptical doubt. Only the sceptical doubt, which is identical with *vicikicchā*, is rejectable and kammically unwholesome, as it hinders the inner development of man.

The 16 doubts enumerated in the Suttas, such as the second Sutta in *Majjhima Nikāya*, are as follows.

- a Five doubts concerning the past:
  - i Have I been in the past?
  - ii Or, have I not been in the past?
  - iii What have I been in the past?
  - iv How have I been in the past?
  - v From what state into what state did I change in the past?

- b Five doubts concerning the future:
  - i Shall I be in the future?
  - ii Or, shall I not be in the future?
  - iii What shall I be in the future?
  - iv How shall I be in the future?
  - v Form what state into what state shall I change in the future?
- c Six doubts concerning the present:
  - i Am I?
  - ii Or, am I not?
  - iii What am I?
  - iv How am I?
  - v Whence has this being come?
  - vi Whether will it go?

'Kankhā-vitarana-visuddhi' means 'purity by transcending doubt' or 'purification by overcoming doubt'. Thus in order to reach this stage of purity, one need to transcend or overcome the 16 doubts mentioned above as well as the 8 types of vicikicchā described in Abhidhamma (See Chapter 2, p.76).

So one need to know one's past lives as well as one's future lives and how the past, the present and the future are inter-related by the Law of Dependent Origination.

It is stated clearly in *Visuddhi Magga* (II, 221 Myanmar) and *Abhidhamma-atthakathā* (II, 189 Myanmar) that there is no one, even in dreams, who became enlightened without seeing the causal relations of Dependent Origination with his own wisdom-eye.

In order to correlate the past mental and corporeal phenomena with those of the present, one must know the mental and corporeal groups of the past lives as well as those of the present life. Again to correlate the present with the future, one should also know the mental and corporeal groups of the future lives.

How can one know the past mental and corporeal phenomena which have already dissolved and the future phenomena which do not come into existence yet?

Well, the ability of the *samādhi*-mind is marvellous. We have learnt about *pubbenivāsānussati-abhiñīnā* which can remember thousands of one's past lives and *anāgatamsaīnāna* which can know one's future existences.

In the case of insight-meditation (*vipassanā*) we need not go to the *Abhiānā*-stage and we have no *Abhiānā* – the power of which we could make use of. But, if we have the necessary *samādhi* and the knowledge to characterize the mental and corporeal phenomena ( $n\bar{a}ma-r\bar{u}pa$ ) both internally (in one's self) and externally (in the others), then we can trace the current or stream of arising and dissolving  $n\bar{a}ma-r\bar{u}pa$  backwards to the past lives. The method is described in *Samyutta Nikāya* (II, 71 Myanmar), in *Khajjaniya Sutta*, and it is being practised satisfactorily in Pa-auk Tawya Meditation Centres.

The future mental and corporeal groups may also be observed in a similar way by examining the probable results of the five causes of the present life. In Pa-auk Tawya Meditation centre, the yogi performs some meritorious deeds at the shrine by offering candles and flowers. He makes the usual prayers and makes a wish as to the kind of person he wants to be in the next future existence as the result of that good deed. He characterises the mental and corporeal phenomena which arise during this performance.

He then goes to the common meditation hall and meditates together with the other yogis. He develops concentration, recalls

the previous performance of the meritorious deed and again analyses the mental and corporeal phenomena arising at that time. If he observes the same results as he has noted before, he is assured that he can characterize external  $n\bar{a}ma-r\bar{u}pa$  phenomena.

Now based on the present five causes, viz., *avijjā*, *taņhā*, *upādāna*, *saṅkhāra* and *kamma-bhava* – he tries to visualize the future life which will be formed as a result. He may see the same life as he has wished for at the shrine, or it may be a different one, which is more often the case. Whatever the new life may be the yogi again analyses the *nāma-rūpa* phenomena of the new person and correlates the five future effects, viz., *viñītāṇa*, *nāma-rūpa*, *saļāyatana*, *phassa* and *vedanā* (see Chapter 8, page 297) with the five present causes. If he can actually observe the five future effects being formed as the results of the five present causes, then he is assured convincingly that the present and the future correlation of the Law of Dependent Origination holds.

The causal relations as described by the Law of Dependent Origination and the 24 conditions of *Patthāna* are the major causal relations which govern the arising and dissolving the mental and corporeal phenomena occurring in ourselves as well as in others. There are certain immediate causes which the yogi has to investigate.

For example, four causes must be present for the arising of *cakkhu-dvāra vīthi* (the eye-door cognitive series). These causes are the eye-door, the visible object, light and *manasikāra* (attention). Similar four causes are respectively required for the arising of the other door-cognitive series.

Again in each cognitive series (vīthi), kusala cittas (moral kamma-formations) arise as javanas if there is 'yoniso manasikāra (wise reflection), and akusala cittas (immoral kamma-formations) arise as javanas if there is 'ayoniso manasikāra' (unwise reflection).

KAMMATTHĀNA – Meditation Subjects | 393

Depending on these *kamma*-formations again, rebirth consciousness as well as other resultant consciousness arise in the next life.

The corporeal groups are produced by four causes, viz., *kamma*, *citta*, *utu* (*tejo*) and *āhāra* (*ojā*). These causes together with their resultants should be seen vividly by the *samādhi*-eye.

When the immediate causes as well as the major causes for the arising of mental and corporeal groups have been thoroughly investigated, the yogi knows definitely that the five groups of existence that constitute each living being are being produced by the respective appropriate causes. So he is able to eliminate the "View of Uncausedness" (*Ahetuka-dițthi*) which believes in the arising of living beings without any cause, and also the 'View of the Wrong Cause' of existence (*Visama-hetuka-dițthi*) which believes in the creation of living beings by a Creator.

Furthermore, since the yogi has observed the continuous chain of cause and effect relations occurring in accordance with the Law of Dependent Origination, he can discard the 'View of the Inefficacy of Action' (*Akiriya-dițțhi*), the 'View of Nihilism' (*Natthikadițțhi*), the 'View of Eternity of the Soul or Ego' (*sassata-dițțhi*) and the 'View of Annihilation of the Soul or Ego' (*uccheda-dițțhi*).

Numerous speculative opinions and theories, which at all times have influenced and still are influencing mankind, and which are not in accord with the causal relations, can all be eliminated.

Now the mind of the yogi is free from all false views. Thus the stage of the 'Purity of View' (*Ditthi Visuddhi*) is further reinforced. Besides since the yogi has now overcome all the 16 doubts (*kankhā*) mentioned above as well as the sceptical doubt (*vicikicchā*) with respect to the causal relations, he is said to overcome or transcend all doubts. So he has also attained the 'Purity by Transcending Doubt' (kankhā-vitaraņa Visuddhi).

The landmark of this stage of purity is Yathā-bhūta-ñāṇa (the knowledge which can discern the reality correctly) or Paccayapariggaha-ñāṇa (the knowledge which embraces all the causes of mental and corporeal phenomena).

### Cūla-Sotāpanna (Junior Stream-winner)

'Sotāpanna' is a noble person (Ariya) who has eliminated dițțhi and vicikicchā completely. He will never be reborn in the apāya abodes and he is destined to enter Nibbāna in no more than seven rebirths in the kāma-planes.

Now the yogi, who has attained *Nāma-rūpa-pariccheda-ñāņa* and *Paccaya-pariggaha-ñāṇa*, has temporarily eliminated *dițțhi* and *vicikicchā* as described above. So he resembles a *sotāpanna* but he is not a *sotāpanna* yet. He is called a *cūla-sotāpanna* meaning a junior-*sotāpanna*. He will not be reborn in the *apāya* abodes in his subsequent life.

The two knowledges, i.e. Nāma-rūpa-pariccheda-ñāṇa and Paccaya-pariggaha-ñāṇa are very important. They are the basic knowledge in insight-meditations and they constitute the foundations for the arising of ten vipassanā-ñāṇas in later stages. They are not included in vipassanā-ñāṇas because they do not concentrate on the three characteristic marks (Tilakkhaṇa) of existence. Nevertheless they reveal the insight nature of the ultimate realities concerning nāma and rūpa.

They are important because they eliminate the wrong or evil views (*micchā-dițțhi*) and strengthens the right view (*sammā-dițțhi*). The wrong views are rejected for being a source of evil aspirations and conduct. It is stated in *Anguttara Nikāya* (Book II, Sutta 22) that:

"No other thing than evil views do I know, O monks, whereby to such an extent the unwholesome things not yet arisen arise, and the unwholesome things already arisen are brought to growth and fullness. No other things than evil views do I know, whereby to such an extent the wholesome things not yet arisen are hindered in their arising, and the wholesome things already arisen disappear. No other thing than evil views do I know, whereby to such an extent human beings at the dissolution of the body at the death are passing to a way of suffering into a world of woe into hell."

Furthermore, in Anguttara Nikāya (Book II, Sutta 23) it is stated that:

"Whatever a man filled with evil views performs or undertakes, or whatever he possesses of will, aspiration, longing and tendencies, all these things lead him to an undesirable, unpleasant and disagreeable state, to woe and suffering".

## 5 Maggāmagga-ñāņadassana Visuddhi

(Purity of Vision in Discerning the Path and not-Path)

The criteria of this Purity of Vision is Sammasana-nanaand the first part of Udayabbaya-nanaand. Sammasana-nanaana is the knowledge that can investigate the three characteristic marks of nama-ranaan in the five aggregates of existence. Udayabbaya-nana is the knowledge that can investigate the arising and passing away of the ultimate nama and rana.

Strictly speaking *vipassanā-bhāvanā* which is the investigation of the three characteristic marks of *nāma* and *rūpa* in the thirtyone planes of existence, begins at this stage. There are four methods for investigating the three characteristic marks of existence.

#### 396 | THE ESSENCE OF BUDDHA ABHIDHAMMA

#### 1 Kalāpa-sammasana Method

This is the investigation of all conditioned things (*sankhāra* or *nāma-rūpa*) in the thirty-one planes of existence in terms of five groups or aggregates without differentiating them as belonging to the past, present or future.

Considering all the corporeal groups in the 31 planes that have arisen with causes, he meditates: "This material group has the nature to dissolve and pass away, so it is impermanent (*anicca*). It has the nature of fearfulness because of their incessant dissolution, so it is unsatisfactory or suffering (*dukkha*). It possesses no substantial entity which does not dissolve, so it is not 'I', not 'person', not 'ego' nor '*atta*' (*anatta*).

Then he considers all the feeling group, the perception group, the group of mental formations and the consciousness group in turn and meditates in the same way as above.

#### 2 Addhāna-sammasana Method

This method investigates the conditioned things in the 31 planes of existence by way of duration. He divides the conditioned things into the past, the present and the future group. He meditates like this:

"The material group in the past life has all dissolved in the past life. It does not proceed or pass on to the present. Because of its nature of dissolving and passing away, it is *anicca*. Because of it nature of fearfulness it is *dukkha*. Because of its nature of not 'ego or *atta*' it is *anatta*".

Then considering the fact that all the material group in the present life will dissolve in this life and will not pass on to the future life, he again meditates on the present material group as *anicca*, *dukkha* and *anatta*.

He meditates in the same way on the four mental groups, considering one group at a time.

# 3 Santati-sammasana Method

This method investigates the conditioned things in the 31 planes of existence in terms of continuous series.

To practise this method the yogi divides the corporeal groups in one life as a series of hot  $r\bar{u}pa$ , a series of cold  $r\bar{u}pa$ , etc. He then meditates thus:

"The hot series of  $r\bar{u}pa$  has all dissolved. It does not pass on to the cold series of  $r\bar{u}pa$ . Because of its nature of dissolution, it is *anicca*. Because of its nature of fearfulness, it is *dukkha*. Because of its nature of not 'ego or *atta*', it is *anatta*".

Similarly considering the various cognitive series of consciousness, he meditates that *cakkhu-dvāra vīthi-cittas* dissolve soon after they are formed and they do not pass on to *sota-dvāra vīthi-cittas*, that *sota-dvāra vīthi-cittas* also dissolve soon after they are formed and they do not pass on to *ghāna-dvāra vīthi-cittas*, and so on. So they are *anicca*, *dukkha* and *anatta* on account of their dissolution, fearfulness and not 'ego or *atta*' natures.

# 4 Khana-sammasana Method

This method investigates the conditioned things in the 31 planes of existence by way of momentariness. He meditates like this:

"The corporeal group which is formed in the past moment has all dissolved in the past. It does not pass on to the present moment. Because of its dissolution nature, it is *anicca*. Because of its nature of fearfulness, it is *dukkha*. Because of its nature of not 'ego or *atta*' it is *anatta*."

"The mental groups (citta and cetasikas) that have arisen at

the moment of *atita-bhavangā* have all dissolved at that moment. They do not pass on to the moment of *bhavangā-calana*. Because of their nature of dissolution, they are *anicca*. Because of their nature of fearfulness, they are *dukkha*. Because of their nature of not 'ego or *atta*', they are *anatta*".

"The mental groups (*citta* and *cetasikas*) that have arisen at the moment of *bhavangā-calana* have all dissolved at that moment. They do not pass on to the moment of *bhavangu-paccheda*. Because of their nature of dissolution, they are *anicca*. Because of their nature of not 'ego or *atta*', they are *anatta*".

The yogi can extend this method as far as his knowledge can embrace the natural phenomena of  $n\bar{a}ma$  and  $r\bar{u}pa$ .

For those yogis, who have systematically investigated the five groups of existence in the present as well as in the past and the future lives, and have characterized each type of  $r\bar{u}pa$ , *citta* and *cetasika* by means of *lakkhaṇa*, *rasa*, *paccupaṭṭhāna*, *padaṭṭhāna*, and have also correlated these ultimate realties according to the Law of Dependent Origination, they can vividly see the long chain of arising and dissolving of *nāma-rūpa* phenomena extending from the earliest past life they have investigated to the subsequent past lives, to the present life and then to the future lives. Since they can see the arising and the dissolution of individual *nāma* and *rūpa* in the chain, they can easily meditate on the three characteristics of existence.

According to the experience of Pa-auk Tawya yogis, the long chain of arising and dissolving of the mental and corporeal phenomena is so distinct that they just watch the arising and the dissolving of the phenomena and meditate on them by way of *aniccānupassanā* for 10-15 minutes, then by way of *dukkhānupassanā* for another 10-15 minutes and again by way of *anattānupassanā* for 10-15 minutes. As they keep on meditating and rotating the *anupassanās* in turn, their ability to investigate the three characteristic marks of *nāma* and *rūpa* become better and better until they are able to see the arising instant, the existing instant and the dissolving instant of each *nāma* and *rūpa*. This is the culmination of *Sammasana-ñāṇa*.

Then the conditioned things are investigated according to the causal relations. Because the cause arises, the effect arises. When the cause dissolves, the effect also dissolves. The causes that condition *rūpa* to arise are *avijjā*, *taņhā*, *kamma* and *āhāra*. The causes that condition the *cetasikas* to arise are *avijjā*, *taṇhā*, *kamma* and *phassa*. The causes that condition the arising of *cittas* are *avijjā*, *taṇhā*, *kamma* and *nāma-rūpa*. These the yogi comes to know well.

By meditating in this way for thousands of times, the yogi's investigating knowledge improves more and more until he is able to see the arising instant and the dissolving instant of *nāma-rūpa* very clearly. At this stage, the yogi stops considering the cause-effect relations, and concentrates on the arising instant and the dissolving instant of *nāma-rūpa*. The arising and the dissolving phenomena of mental and corporeal groups become very distinct when the knowledge known as *Udayabbaya-ñāņa* which observes these phenomena also arises.

As this knowledge gathers in strength, the ten *Upakkilesas* (impurities or corruption) normally arise. These *upakkilesas* are very distinct, and so they represent a very good criterion for judging whether one has really attained *Udayabbaya-ñāṇa*.

# Upakkilesa (Ten Impurities of Vipassanā)

- 1 Obhāsa rays emitting from the body on account of insight,
  - 2 Pīti five kinds of rapture (unprecedented joy),

- 3 Passaddhi both kāya- and citta-passadhi tranquility or quietude.
- 4 Adhimokkha the controlling faculty of strong faith,
- 5 Paggaha intense effort which supports vipassanā-citta
- 6 Sukha pleasant feeling in the whole body due to wholesome cittaja-rūpa,
- 7 *Nāṇa* quick insight wisdom,
- 8 Upațthāna mindfulness fixed on kammațthāna,
- 9 Upekkhā tatramajjatupekkhā and avajjanupekkhā, (the former represents tatramajjattatā cetasika which can observe phenomena effortlessly; the latter refers to the cetanā associated with avajjana-citta that can reflect on phenomena quickly)
- 10 Nikanti mild attachment to vipassanā-ñāṇa which is accompanied by pīti, passaddhi, sukha and obhāsa.

Of the ten impurities mentioned above, only *nikanti* (attachment) belongs to *kilesas* (defilements). The remaining ones are wholesome qualities. Yet when one is presented with these qualities, especially the body-rays, unprecedented joy, quietude and happiness on account of pleasant feeling, strong religious fervour due to intense faith, the insight wisdom and the ability to observe the arising and passing away of conditioned things quickly and effortlessly, one may develop grasping *dițthi* (the wrong view that they occur in me), vicious *māna* (the pride that I alone possess these marvellous qualities) and grasping *taņhā* (strong attachment that the qualities are mine). These *dițthi*, *māna* and *taṇhā* really defile one's meditation because they are real defilements (*kilesas*).

Some yogis with poor knowledge of Dhamma even think that they attain *Magga* and *Phala* when they have the unusual aura, joy, tranquility and happiness. All these people who have such a wrong view (*ditthi*) or a vicious pride (*māna*) or a grasping attachment (*taṇhā*) are on the wrong Path; their meditation will be at a standstill and may even decline.

Those people, who have sufficient knowledge of Dhamma, know very well that these unusual phenomena of aura, joy, happiness; etc., are just *upakkilesas* and that they do not represent a *Magga* or *Phala* yet. To be on the right Path, one must meditate on the arising and passing away of the conditioned things.

This knowledge which can differentiate between the wrong Path and the right Path is called *Maggāmagga-fiānadassana Visuddhi*. The yogi who possesses this knowledge is said to attain the Purity of Vision discerning the Path and not-Path.

# 6 Pațipadā-ñāņadassana-visuddhi

(Purity of Vision of the Path-progress)

The Purity of Vision of the Path-progress ranges from the later part of *Udayabbaya-ñāṇa* to the last *vipassanā-ñāṇa*, covering nine insight knowledges in all. These knowledge have to be developed one after another by earnestly and strenuously meditating on the three characteristic marks of the conditioned things (*saṅkhāra* - nāma-rūpa).

# Udayabbaya-ñāṇa

After attaining the Purity of Vision discerning the Path and not-Path, the yogi earnestly undertakes the *vipassanā*-meditation again, meditating on the three characteristic marks of existence, with particular attention to the arising phenomena and the dissolving phenomena of the conditioned things. Gradually the yogi's Udayabbaya-ñāna becomes matured. 402 | THE ESSENCE OF BUDDHA ABHIDHAMMA

# Bhanga-ñāna

As the insight knowledge of the yogi gradually developed, the yogi is able to note the arising and passing away of  $n\bar{a}ma$  and  $r\bar{u}pa$  more and more quickly. Since  $n\bar{a}ma$  and  $r\bar{u}pa$  are arising and passing away at a tremendous rate of many billions per second, no yogi would be able to observe all *cittas* and *cetasikas* as they arise and perish. Even when he can note along fairly quickly, he will not observe the arising phenomena any more; all he observes is only the dissolving phenomena. Whatever he looks at, he observes the dissolution of conditioned things.

The knowledge that observes the incessant dissolution of the ultimate  $n\bar{a}ma$  and  $r\bar{u}pa$  is called *Bhanga*  $n\bar{a}na$ . If the yogi can observe the dissolving instant of the *Bhanga*  $n\bar{a}na$ , that investigates the dissolving instant of a conditioned thing, with a subsequent *Bhanga*  $n\bar{a}na$ , then his *Bhanga-na* is said to reach its culmination.

# ు<sup>, C</sup>Bhaya-ñāṇa

When the yogi observes the incessant dissolution of the conditioned things continuously, he realizes the fearful nature of  $n\bar{a}ma-r\bar{u}pa$  and the five aggregates of existence. The yogi is said to attain *Bhaya-ñāṇa* which is the knowledge that realizes the fearful nature of  $n\bar{a}ma-r\bar{u}pa$ .

Ādinava-ñāņa

When the yogi possesses the knowledge that realizes the fearful nature of  $n\bar{a}ma-r\bar{u}pa$ , he finds the faulty and unsatisfactory nature of  $n\bar{a}ma-r\bar{u}pa$ . Thus he also attains  $\bar{A}dinava-\bar{n}\bar{a}na$ , which is the knowledge that realizes the fault and unsatisfactoriness in  $n\bar{a}ma-r\bar{u}pa$ .

#### KAMMATTHĀNA - Meditation Subjects | 403

## Nibbidā-ñāņa

When the yogi finds fault in *nāma-rūpa* and knows well how unsatisfactory the conditioned things are, he develops disgust in these things. He is no longer happy to possess them. He is said to develop *Nibbidā-ñāņa* which is the knowledge of disgust in *nāma-rūpa*.

### Muñcitukamyatā-ñāņa

When the yogi has disgust in  $n\bar{a}ma-r\bar{u}pa$ , the conditioned things, he wants to escape from the entanglement of  $n\bar{a}ma-r\bar{u}pa$  just as the fish in the net of the fisherman and the little frog in the mouth of the snake want to escape. Thus *Muñcitukamyatā-ñāna*, i.e. the knowledge of the desire to escape from the entanglement of  $n\bar{a}ma-r\bar{u}pa$  arises in the mind of the yogi.

#### Pațisankhā-ñāņa

The yogi, who wants to escape from the net of  $n\bar{a}ma$ - $r\bar{u}pa$  finds no way out other than to meditate on the three characteristics of existence in the five aggregates both internally and externally.

There is a good example here. A fisherman uses a bell-shaped bamboo-basket with a wide opening at the bottom to catch fish. He lowers the basket into water in a creek until it touches the bottom of the creek, puts his hand in from a narrow mouth at the top of the basket, and stirs the water in the basket with his hand to see whether the basket has enclosed some fish. If his hand touches a fish, he will catch it. Otherwise he lifts the basket and lowers it again and again into water a few steps away from the previous place. Now his hand touches something like a fish. He grasps it and pulls it out of water. When the upper part of the animal comes over the surface of water he sees three stripes around its neck and he knows it to be a water-cobra. Now the snake has poisonous venom. It can kill him if it has the chance to bite him.

At first he thought that he had caught a big fish and so he was delighted. Every worldling feels delighted in a similar way to possess mind and body because he does not know the fearful nature of *nāma-rūpa* yet.

When the fisherman saw the three stripes on the neck of the snake, he knew the snake to be a water-cobra and to be very dangerous. This is analogous to the situation when the yogi saw the three characterisitc marks of existence and the fearful nature of the conditioned things ( $n\bar{a}ma-r\bar{u}pa$ ). This is the time when the yogi attain *Bhaya-fiāna*.

When the fisherman saw danger, he found the situation to be unsatisfactory and the snake to be disgusting. In the same way the yogi, who realized the fearful nature of the conditioned things, found them to be unsatisfactory and developed disgust on them. These correspond to the times when the yogi developed  $\bar{A}d\bar{n}ava-\bar{n}a\bar{n}a$  and Nibbid $\bar{a}-\bar{n}a\bar{n}a$ , respectively.

Now the fisherman was no longer happy to have the snake in his hand and he developed a strong desire to escape from the snake. This is analogous to the situation when the yogi attain *Muñcitukamyatā-ñāņa* and wanted to escape from the entanglement of *nāma-rūpa*.

The fisherman, who wants to escape from the snake, dares not free the snake, because it will bite him if he frees it. So, whether he likes it or not, he grips the snake, pulls it out of the water, raises it over his head, swirls it around three or four times, throws it away as far as he can and hurries to the high ground.

In the same way the yogī, who wants to escape from *nāma* and *rūpa*, cannot neglect them and forget them. He must take a firm grip on them by meditating on the three characterisitc marks of existence. This corresponds to *Pațisankhā-ñāņa*.

Sankhārupekkhā-nāna

The fisherman, who has thrown away the snake and hurried to the high ground, soon feels safe and relaxed. In a similar manner, the yogi, who earnestly meditates on the three characteristics of the conditioned things, soon develops equanimity towards *nāma-rūpa*. He has neither disgust on nor attachment to *nāma-rūpa*. He can keep a balanced mind even though he is observing the true nature of *nāma* and *rūpa*.

Here again there is a good illustration. A man had a beautiful wife. We might think that he was lucky. But his wife's beauty attracted the attention of other men, some of whom went out of their way to use every means to win her love. If she was not faithful or if her mind was not firm, she might commit adultery.

Now this man's wife was not faithful. She went out with several men. Her husband was very unhappy and he pleaded with her to be faithful to him. She refused to comply. She kept on going out with other men. The man was so upset that he couldn't bear it any more. So he divorced her at court.

#### 406 | THE ESSENCE OF BUDDHA ABHIDHAMMA

After that, even though the man knew that she was going out with several men as usual, he did not feel upset as her conduct was not concerned with him any more.

Similarly the yogi, who has developed Sankhārupekkhā-nāņa, can maintain equanimity towards nāmarūpa and conditioned things even though he is observing the incessant dissolution and the unsatisfactory nature of them.

Anuloma-ñāna

The yogī, who can maintain equanimity towards *nāma-rūpa* and conditioned things, carries on his meditation on the three characteristics of existence by way of the three *Anupassanās*. However, his mind no longer wants to observe the conditioned things. His mind is looking out for *Nibbāna*, and so long as it does not find *Nibbāna*, it keeps on observing the conditioned things. When it finds *Nibbāna*, however, it departs from the conditioned things and enters the realm of *Nibbāna*.

Here again we find a beautiful simile. In the old days sailors used to take some crows with them on voyage. After sailing the ship for a certain number of days, they expected to see land. If no sign of land was in sight, they set a crow free to fly in the direction the ship was sailing. The crow would fly as far as it could, and if it did not spot land, it came back to the ship and rested on the mast.

After sailing on for a couple of days, the sailors again set free another crow. The crow would fly as far as it could and , if it did not see land, it would come back. But if it saw land, it would fly on to the land without http://www.dhammadownload.com

KAMMATTHÂNA – Meditation Subjects | 407

returning to the ship. Then the sailors knew that land was near and sailed the ship towards the land.

In the same way the investigating mind would keep coming back to Sankhārupekkhā-ñāna so long as it did not see Nibbāna. Once it saw Nibbāna, it did not come back; it proceeded on towards Nibbana through Maggavīthi. The Magga-vīthi has been discussed on page 158 in Chapter IV. It occurs like this:

Magga-vīthi in manda-vaññā (slow-witted) person: а "Na-Da-Ma-Pa-U-Nu-Go-Magga-Phala-Phala"-Bha-

Magga-vīthi in tikkha-paññā (quick-witted) person: b "Na-Da-Ma-U-Nu-Go-Magga-Phala-Phala-Phala"-Bha-

In the above *vīthis* the insight knowledge associated with 'Pa-U-Nu' is known as Anuloma-ñāna.

Pa – Parikamma – preparation for the arising of magga.

(It is absent in *tikkha-paññā* person.)

U - upacara - proximity of magga

Nu - anuloma - adaptation or connection,

Go - gottrabhu - the citta that cuts the putthujjana-lineage to form the ariya-lineage.

In the above cognitive series, parikamma, upacāra and anuloma cittas take tilakkhana as their object and thus they are included in vipassanā cittas. os object.

## Gottrabhu-ñāna

Gottrabhu, on the other hand, takes Nibbāna and not tilakkhana as its object. So it is not included in vipassanā cittas. The insight knowledge associated with gottrabhu is called Gottrabhu ñāṇa.

#### Magga-ñāņa and Phala-ñāņa

As gottrabhu points the way towards Nibbāna, Magga-citta and Phala-cittas follow immediately taking Nibbāna as their object. The wisdom (paññā) associated with Magga and Phala are called Magga-ñāṇa and Phala-ñāṇa, respectively.

The *Magga-ñāṇa*, though it arises just once, is very powerful. It simultaneously accomplishes four functions namely,

- 1 comprehension of the Truth of suffering,
- 2 eradication of craving which is the cause of suffering,
- 3 realization of Nibbāna and
- 4 full development of the eight constituents of the Path.

"As the traveler by night sees the landscape around him by a flash of lightening and the picture so obtained swims long thereafter before his dizzled eyes, so the individual seeker, by the flashing light of insight, glimpses Nibbāna with such clearness that the after picture never more fades from his mind." ~ DR. PAUL DAHLKE

The Path (*Magga*) is immediately preceded by two or three *Phalas*, which are the Fruits of the Path. This is the reason why the Dhamma is called '*akālika*' (immediately effective).

#### Paccavekkhaņa-nāņa

After the *magga-vīthi* and a few *bhavangā-cittas*, five *paccavekkhaņa-vīthis* normally arise. By these *vīthis* the yogī (1) reflects on the Path, (2) reflects on the Fruits, (3) reflects on the *Nibbāna* he has realized, (4) reflects on

the defilements he has annihilated and (5) reflects on the defilements he has yet to annihilate.

The knowledge associated with paccavekkhaṇa-javana cittas is called Paccavekkhaṇa-ñāṇa.

#### Sixteen ñāņas in Series

Up to now the yogi has attained 16 ñāņas, viz., Nāma-rūpapariccheda-ñāņa, Paccaya-pariggaha-ñāṇa, ten vipassanā ñāṇas (Sammasana-ñāṇa to Anuloma-ñāṇa), Gottrabhu ñāṇa, Magga-ñāṇa, Phala-ñāna, and Paccavekkhaṇa-ñāṇa.

#### 7 Ñāñadassana-visuddhi

(Purity of Vision of the knowledge of the four Paths)

The effort to purify the mind stage by stage begins with *sīla-visuddhi*. When *anuloma-ītāņa* is attained, the first six stages are completed. On attainment of *Magga* and *Phala*, the final stage of purification called *ftāṇadassana-visuddhi* is reached.

*Nāṇadassana-visuddhi* comprises four *maggas* which comprehend the four Noble Truths directly and purify the mind from all defilements stage by stage as described below.

 Sotāpattimagga – It is the first magga attainable by yogīs. It may be regarded as the first stage of Sainthood. Sota – the stream leading to Nibbāna, Apatti – entering for the first time, Magga – the noble Eightfold Path.

Sotāpattimagga annihilates two kilesas (defilements) viz., di<u>t</u>thi and vicikicchā and three Fetters (Samyojana), namely, sakkāya-di<u>t</u>thi, vicikicchā and sīlabbataparāmāsa.

*Sakkāya-diṭṭhi* – personality belief taking the complex combination of psycho-physical aggregates as person or self or 'I'.

#### 410 | THE ESSENCE OF BUDDHA ABHIDHAMMA

*Vicikicchā* – Sceptical doubt about (1) the Buddha, (2) the Dhamma, (3) the Sangha, (4) the Training, (5) the past lives, (6) the future lives, (7) both the past and the future lives, and (8) the Law of Dependent Origination.

*Sīlabbataparāmāsa* – adherence to the false view that one becomes pure and thus be liberated by bovine and canine morality or by rites and ceremonies.

- 2 Sakadāgāmi-magga It is the second magga attainable and may be regarded as the second stage of Sainthood. It does not annihilate any of the remaining kilesas and Fetters; but it reduces the strength of these defilements.
- 3 Anāgāmi-magga It is the third magga attainable and may be regarded as the third stage of Sainthood. It annihilates one more kilesa, i.e., dosa (hatred), and two more Fetters – namely, kāmarāga and paṭigha. Dosa – Paṭigha – hatred or illwill Kāmarāga – attachment to sense-objects.
- 4 Arahatta-magga It is the fourth magga attainable by yogīs and it may be regarded as the fourth and last stage of Sainthood. It annihilates all the remaining kilesas and Fetters.

#### **ARIYAS** (Noble Persons)

There are eight types of *ariyas* – namely, four *maggattha*-persons and four *phalattha*-persons. The *maggattha*-persons, however, exist only for a conscious moment each, i.e., during the *magga-citta* they are experiencing. After the dissolution of the *magga-citta*, they become *phalattha*-persons.

For example, a person is called *sotāpatti-maggațțha* person while the *sotāpatti-magga citta* is arising in him. After the dissolu-

#### KAMMAŢŢHĀNA – Meditation Subjects | 411

tion of this *citta*, *sotāpatti-phala citta* arises in him and he is known as a *sotāpatti-phalațțha* person or *sotāpanna* from this moment onwards.

If a sotāpanna again undertakes vipassanā meditation, he will attain sakadāgāmi-magga in due course. During this second maggacitta, he is called a sakadāgāmi-maggattha person. After the dissolution of this citta, sakadāgāmi-phala citta arises in him and he is known as a sakadāgāmi-phalattha person or sakadāgāmi from this moment onwards.

A sakadāgāmī may again undertake vipassanā meditation. When he attains the third magga, he is known as an anagami-maggațţha person while that magga-citta lasts. As soon as the magga-citta dissolves, anāgāmi-phala citta arises in him and he is called an anāgāmi-phalațţha person or anāgāmī from that moment onwards.

Again an anāgāmī may undertake vipassanā meditation, and when he attains the fourth magga, he becomes an arahattamaggațțha person. But as soon as the arahatta-magga citta dissolves, arahatta-phala citta arises and he becomes an arahatta-phalațțha person or arahat from that moment onwards.

Thus the four *maggattha* persons exist for so short a duration that they cannot be pointed at. Only the four *phalattha* persons can be pointed at. Their distinct characteristics may be noted as follows:

1 Sotāpanna or Sotāpan

A sotāpanna is one who has attained sotāpatti-magga and sotāpattiphala. He (or she) can enjoy the peace or Nibbāna whenever he wishes by developing the meditative absorption corresponding to sotāpatti-phala-samāpatti.

He is called a stream-winner because he has entered the stream that leads to *Nibbāna*. The stream represents the noble

Eightfold Path. He is no longer a worldling (*putthujjana*), but an *ariya* (noble person).

A sotāpanna has eradicated the two worst defilements, i.e., diţţhi and vicikicchā, and three basic Fetters, namely, sakkāya diţţhi, vicikicchā and sīlabbataparāmāsa. He has also eliminated the coarse properties of the remaining defilements—the properties that can cast a person to the apāya abodes. So to him, the doors of the apāya abodes are closed for ever, neither will he be reverted to a worldling again.

He has unwavering faith in the Buddha, the Dhamma and the Samgha. He will also steadfastly observe the five precepts and will abstain from committing any of the ten *akusala-kamma*pathas, i.e., ten *ducaritas* or unwholesome actions. The four *lobhamūla diţţhigata-sampayutta cittas* and the *moha-mūla vicikicchāsampayutta citta* will never arise in him.

He may, however, enjoy the sense pleasures as an ordinary person. But he will not be reborn more than seven times in the sense-sphere (*kāma-loka*). He will become an *arahat* in due course and after that last life, he will enjoy the peace of *Nibbāna* for ever.

There are three types of *sotāpanna*:

- 1 Sattakkhattu-parama-sotāpanna one who enters Nibbāna after seven lives,
- 2 *Kolańskola-sotāpanna* one who enters *Nibbāna* after two to six lives,
- 3 Ekavijī-sotāpanna one who enters Nibbāna after one life.

## 2 Sakadägāmī or Sakadāgam

A sakadāgāmī is one who has attained sakadāgāmi-magga and phala. He (or she) can enjoy the peace of Nibbāna whenever he wishes by developing the meditative absorption corresponding to sakadāgāmi-phala-samāpatti. KAMMAŢŢHĀNA - Meditation Subjects | 413

'Sakadāgāmī' literally means 'once returner'. A sakadāgāmī will be reborn only once in the sense sphere. He will then become an *arahat* and, after that last life, will be in *Nibbāna* for ever.

The cittas that arise in a sakadāgāmī are the same as those which arise in a sotāpanna with the only exception that a sakadāgāmī enjoys sakadāgāmi-phala-samāpatti instead of sotāpattiphala-samāpatti.

Compared to a *sotāpanna*, a *sakadāgāmī* has less *rāga*, (lust, greed), *dosa* (illwill, hatred) and *moha* (delusion). Thus he is nobler than a *sotāpanna*.

There are six kinds of *sakadāgāmīs*, namely:

- 1. Those who attain *sakadāgāmī* in the human world and attain *parinibbāna* here,
- 2. Those who attain *sakadāgāmī* in the human world and attain *parinibbāna* in a heavenly realm,
- 3. Those who attain *sakadāgāmī* in a heavenly realm and attain *parinibbāna* there,
- 4. Those who attain *sakadāgāmī* in a heavenly realm and attain *parinibbāna* in the human world,
- 5. Those who attain *sakadāgāmī* in the human plane, and after being born once in a heavenly realm, attain *parinibbāna* in the human plane,
- Those who attain sakadāgāmī in a heavenly realm, and after being born once in the human plane, attain parinibbāna in a heavenly realm.

## 3 Anāgāmī or Anāgam

An *anāgāmī* is one who has attained *anāgāmi-magga* and *phala*. He (or she) can enjoy the peace of *Nibbāna* whenever he wishes by developing the meditative absorption corresponding to *anāgāmī-phala-samāpatti*.

#### 414 | THE ESSENCE OF BUDDHA ABHIDHAMMA

'Anāgāmī' literally means 'no returner'. An anāgāmī will not be reborn in the sense sphere. If he does not attain the arahatship in the present life yet, he will be reborn in a *Brahma* realm or Pure Abode (*Suddhāvāsa*), where he will attain arahatship and pass to *Nibbāna*.

Since the *anāgāmi-magga* eliminates the *kilesa*: *dosa* (hatred) and the two Fetters namely, *kāmarāga* (sense desire) and *paṭigha* (hatred or illwill), an *anāgāmī* will no longer experience anger, hatred, worry, despair, fright, and any unpleasant mental feeling, neither will he enjoy sense pleasures.

His mind will always be in peace and he will enjoy the ecstatic peace of *Nibbāna* whenever he wishes by developing *anāgāmiphala-samāpatti*. If he attains all the eight *jhānas*, he can also enjoy *Nirodha-samāpatti* during which all consciousness and mental activity are temporarily suspended.

There are five types of anāgāmīs:

- 1 Those who attain arahatship within the first half of the life of the Pure Abode where they are reborn,
- 2 Those who attain arahatship within the second half of the life of the Pure Abode where they are reborn,
- 3 Those who attain *kilesa-parinibbāna* (i.e., arahatship) without having to struggle very hard,
- 4 Those who attain *kilesa-parinibbāna* after struggling very hard,
- 5 Those who do not attain arahatship in the four lower abodes of the five Pure Abodes, but attain arahatship in the highest Pure Abode (i.e., *Akanițțha*).

#### 4 Arahat

An *arahat* is one who has attained *arahatta-magga* and *phala*. He (or she) can enjoy the peace of *Nibbāna* whenever he wishes by

developing the meditative absorption corresponding to arahattaphala-samāpatti. He can enjoy Nirodha-samāpatti if he attains the eight jhānas.

Since *arahatta-magga* eliminates all the defilements (*kilesas*), an *arahat* has no greed, ill-will, delusion, conceit, personality-belief and other bad mental factors. He has no attachment to anything; so he is free from all entanglements. He does not regard anything as his own; thus he has no reason to feel sad because something is taken or stolen from him.

Because he has uprooted all *dosa* (anger, hatred or ill-will) from his mind, he will never experience unpleasant mental feeling which accompanies *dosa-mūla cittas*. All the twelve *akusala-cittas* (immoral consciousness) will never arise in him.

As his mind is always free from all defilements, it is at the purest state making him the nobles one. He is a true Saint worthy of respect by men and devas and worthy of receiving alms which are offered to him with the intention of enjoying the benefits in the present life as well as in future lives.

As *arahat*, literally meaning a worthy one, does not accomplish fresh kammic activities, and he is not subject to rebirth because the conditions for his reproduction in matter have been destroyed.

Sotāpannas, sakadāgāmīs and anāgāmīs are called sekhas because they have yet to undergo a training. Arahats are called asekhas because they no longer need to undergo any training.

The *arahat* realizes that what is to be accomplished has been done. A heavy burden of misery has finally been thrown away, and all forms of craving and all shades of delusion have been annihilated. He now stands on heights higher than celestial, far removed from uncontrolled passions and the defilements of the world.
There are five types of *arahats*:

- Paññāvimutta-arahat one who is emancipated through paññā (wisdom),
- 2 Ubhatobhāgavimutta-arahat one who is emancipated in two ways, namely by arūpajjhāna and by ariyāmagga,
- 3 Tevijja-arahat one who possesses the three vijjās,
- 4 Chalābhiñňa-arahat one who possesses the six abhiñňās (supernormal powers),
- 5 Paţisambhidhāpatta-arahat one who possess the four sambhidhās, i.e. the knowledge of the meaning of each word, the knowledge of the text (*Pā*ļi), the knowledge of the origin of the words, and the determinate knowledge together with the accurate discrimination of the first three.

### CONCLUSION

*Cittena niyate loko*. The *citta* (consciousness) rules over all the world. The *citta* of every person controls the person, leads his every action and shapes his destiny.

Men's mind has produced modern science, has been developing it very rapidly and controls all the science technology including the atomic energy and the atomic weapons.

It is men's mind which has shaped various cultures of the world and it will be men's minds again which will direct the hands to pull the triggers of the atomic weapons which will wipe out the human civilization and the human race from the surface of the earth.

Indeed the mind is the most powerful agent in all the worlds. It is the mind which manipulates the fate of each individual to be born in an *apāya* abode or in the human world or in a *deva* realm.

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So it is of paramount importance to understand the true nature of the mind and the function of each constituent of the mind.

There is no doubt that only the Buddha *Abhidhamma* can analyse the mind in detail and correctly describe the functions of the *citta* and the *cetasikas* which constitute the mind.

Moreover it is only the Buddha Abhidhamma which fully and correctly explains the co-relations between the various factors of mind and matter in the form of the majestic Law of Dependent Origination which vividly describes the rounds of rebirth undergone by each individual.

Furthermore, the *Abhidhamma* clearly exposes the theoretical as well as the practical aspects of the Noble Eightfold Path, also known as the Middle Path by which the mind is purified from the defilements in seven stages by developing mental concentration and *vipassanā* insight.

The attainment of various blissful experiences which surpass sensual enjoyment and the realization of the unique peace of *Nibbāna* in this very life are very real, and the *Abhidhamma* brightly illuminates the right path to be followed by every person for the attainment of the highest goal in life.

Everybody should study *Abhidhamma* very seriously and use the *Abhidhamma* knowledge as the guiding torch of his life.

May the guiding torch of Abhidhamma shine forever!

May the supreme knowledge of Abhidhamma ever enlighten the whole world!

# **ABOUT THE AUTHOR**

**Dr. Mehm Tin Mon.** was born in Kamawet village, Mudon township, Mon State, Union of Myanmar, on January 13, 1934. His parents were U Yaw In and Daw Sein Tan who were devout Buddhists. They belonged to the Mon race and made their living by farming.

Mehm Tin Mon attended Kamawet Primary School and Mudon State High School where he topped his class every year. He passed the High School Leaving Examination in 1951 with distinctions in Mathematics and General Science. He also passed the Matriculation Examination in the same year from the first division with distinction in Mathematics.

He joined the University of Yangon in 1951. In the Intermediate Examination held in 1953, he scored the highest marks in Mathematics and Chemistry, and he was awarded the University Hoe Wah Kain Gold Medal as well as the University Scholarship.

In the Bachelor of Science Examination held in 1955, he stood first with distinctions in Physics, Chemistry and Pure Mathematics. Again he was awarded a University gold medal called Esoof Bimiah Gold Medal.

In 1956 he passed the B.Sc. Honours Examination in Chemistry with flying colours and a third University gold medal called U Shwe Lay Gold Medal was awarded to him.

In 1957 he went to the United States of America to study at the University of Illinois on a State Scholarship sponsored by the Government of the Union of Myanmar. Here also he was awarded the University Fellowship for two consecutive years for his outstanding scholastic record. He gained the Master of Science Degree in 1958 and the Doctorate Degree in 1960. He also won membership to Phi Lambaa Upsilon Society and Sigma Xi Society.

He served his country for more than 36 years from 1956 to 1992 working as Lecturer and Head of Department of Chemistry in several Institutes and finally as Professor of Chemistry in the University of Mawlamyine. He retired from Professorship on December 1, 1992.

During his service to the State, he headed the Buddhist Association of the Institute of Medicine (1), the Buddhist Association of the Institute of Education and the Buddhist Association of Mawlamyine University. He also served as Secretary and later as President of the Central Buddhist Association of Universities and Institutes in Yangon from 1983 to 1986. He succeeded in raising funds and building the beautiful two-storey Dhammayone (Community Hall for religious purposes) and the sacred Shrine (Pagoda) in the University of Mawlamyine.

Dr. Tin Mon also excelled in Religious examinations. He stood first in the Abhidhamma Examination (Ordinary Level) in 1981. He also stood first in the Abhidhamma Examination (Honours Level) in 1983. Again in 1984 he stood first in the Visuddhi Magga Examination. These Examinations are held annually in Myanmar by the Department of Religious Affairs.

Dr. Tin Mon has written over fifty books on education as well as on Buddhism. He travelled throughout Myanmar as well as abroad delivering lectures on Buddhism and conducting short intensive classes on Abhidhamma and meditation. He was awarded the title of Saddhamma Jotakadhaja by the Government of Union of Myanmar in 1994 and Mahā Saddhamma Jotikadhaja in 2003 for his outstanding contribution to the propagation of Buddhism.

Dr. Tin Mon was appointed as an Adviser to the Ministry of Religious Affairs on August 1, 1993 and he has been serving the State in this capacity ever since. He also serves as Professor of Samatha in the International Theravada Buddha Missionary University, Yangon.

### Lectures on Abhidhamma and Buddhism

Any interested society or organization may invite Dr. M. Tin Mon to lecture on Buddhism or teach Abhidhamma in any town or country.

A full course on Abhidhamma by Dr. M. Tin Mon takes about 50 lecturing hours. Please contact:

Dr. M. Tin Mon 15/19 U Wisara Estate Dagon P. O. Yangon Union of Myanmar.

Phone: 95-01-286610

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(C) Chart No-3

(D) Chart No.	(D)	Chart	NO.	-4
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2	Present f	ive sen	se ohje	cls		Present five sense objects	triante catalo p	3 tini	ekan	I
3	Kāma- citta 54	Cetasi- ka 52	Rūpa 28			Six Kāma- sense objects	Tadžiambana 11, Hasituppāda 1	)2 dvā dasa	25	
4	Loki- citta 81	Cctasi- ka 52	Riipa 28	Conc	epts	Six Loki- sense objects	Akusala 12, mahākusala-ņāņa- vip 4, mahākiriya-ñāņa-vip 4	20 visa	Kâm Mah Conc	- aggala
5	All Cittas except Ara-mag- ga+phala 87	ka	Rūpa 28	Con cepts	Nibba -na	All six sense objects except Ara -mag + Phala	Mahākusala-fiāņa-sampayutta 4 Rūpa-kusala Abbifififā I	5 Pañca	Anc -kan	Nib- bàna anc-
6	Citta 89	Cetasi- ka 52	Růpa 28	Con- cepts	Nibbā •na	All six sence objects	Mahākiriya-nāna-sampayulla 4 Kiriya-Abhinnā I, Mano-dvārāvaj I	6 cha	31	kan 11
7	to	10		Ānāpā- nassati J	Brahma -vihära 4	Concetps (Dhammåram) 26	Rūpāvacara cittas 15 Abhlififiā-dvi excepted	21	Pann ckan	alli
8	Åkasa (sp Natthi kir	tci (not	-			Concepts (Dhammāram)	Ākāsānaficāyatana cittas 3 Ākincafināyatana cittas 3	cka visati	21	
9	Äkäsänañ Äkincaññ	iyatana	i ku, k iku, ikin	iri citta i citta		Dhammāram- maņa	Viñānañcāyatana cittas 3 Nevasañfiā - nāsannāyatana 3	6 ducha	Maha 6	g-ekan
10			2.4			Dhammāram	Lokuttara cittas 8	8 attha	Nibb ckan	
	Kamma, I	na, Kamma-nimitta, gati-nim				6 sense obj.	Pațisandhi, Bhavań, Cuti 19 each	19		

(E)	) Chart	No	5

Cha	n Ì	NO.	5.2					٧	/AT	TH	6.6	SAN	GA	HA		-										·
	A	Jku	12			Ahc	luka	cit	las	18				àma- 1ana		Rüp 15		Arüp 12		Lo 8	kut		Bhun /ififif			
Name of Vatthu	Lobhanüla 8	Dosamŭla 2	Mohamula 2	Cakkhu-vifina 2	Sota-viñitāņa 2	Ghina-vififia 2	Jivhe-vinna 2	Käya-vinna 2	Mano-dhàn 3	Mano-dvärävaj 1	Sentirana 3		Maha-kusala 8	Mahā-vipāka 8	Mahā-kiriya 8	Rūpāvacara 15	Arīpi-kosala 4	Arūpā-vipāka 4	Arūpā-kiriya 4	Sotspatti-magga 1	Higher mag+phalas 7		Depend on Vatihu or not	Kāma-planes 11	Rupa-plance 15	Arūpa-planes 4
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Ē	Second Jhäna ku-kamma	_	inima.	4	a	Parittabhā Appam@ntibhā	_						- 17	nd Jhāna			
Ϋ́	Third Jhāna ku-kamma		nina nita	- 41	#									vipêka		2	12
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(I) Chart No. 9





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## Table of Puggala and Cittas

## (Continued from the Table on page 180)

Puggala	Kāma-bhumi	Rupa-bhumi		Arupa-bhumi
Tihetuka- putihujjana	Akusala cittas       12         Ahetuka cittas       1         (hasi. excepted)       17         Mahākusala       8         Mahāvipāka       8         Mahāvipāka       45         Add the kusala jhānas       which the respective persons attain	Akusala cittas (2 dosamula excepted) Ahetuka cittas (ghāna-dvi, jivhā-dvi kāya-dvi and hasi excepted). Mahākusala Mahaggata Kusala Rūpa-vipāka (out of 5) total	10 11 8 9 1 39	Akusala cittas10(2 dosamula except)Manodvärävajjana1Mahäkusala8Arūpakusala4Arūpa-vipāka1(out of 4)total24
Sotāpanna (Sotapatti- phalatiha)	Akusala cittas     7       (4 lobhamula     1       ditthi-sam and     vicikicchā-sam       excepted)     Abetuka cittas     17       Ahetuka cittas     17       (hasi. excepted)     Mahākusala     8       Mahākusala     8       Sotāpatti-     phalattha     1       total     41       Add the kusala jhānas     attalned.	Akusala cittas (2 dosa-mūla, 4 lobha- mūla dițthi-sam and vicikicchă-sam excepted) Ahetuka cittas (ghāna-dvi, jivhā-dvi, kāya-dvi and hasi excepted) Mahā-kusala Mahaggata Kusala Rupa-vipāka (out of 5) Sotāpatti phalațțha total	5 11 8 9 1 <u>1</u> 35	Akusala cittas5(2 dosa - mula4 lobha-muladiuhi-samdiuhi-samvicikicchā-samexcepted)ManodvārāvajMahākusala8Arūpa-kusala4Arūpa-vipāka1(out of 4)Sotāpatti phalaņtha1total20
Sakadāgāmi	As in Sotăpanna 41 Insert sakadă-gămi phalațiha instead of sotapatti phalațiha	As in rupa-sotäpanna Insert sakadägämi phalattha instead of sotäpatti phalattha	35	As in Artipa-sotäpanna 20 Insert sakadägämi phalaijiha instead of sotäpatti phalaijiha
Anăgâmi	Akusala cittas       5         (2 dosa-mùla, 4 lobha- mūla dithi-sam and vicikicchā-sam excepted) Ahetuka cittas       17         Ahetuka cittas       17         (hasi excepted)       17         Mahā-kusala       8         Mahā-vipāka       8         Anāgāmi phalattha       1         total       39         Add the kusala jhānas attained.	As in rūpa-sotāpanna Insert anāgāmi phalaņtha instead of sotā-patti phalaņtha	35	As in Arupa-sotāpanna 20 Insert anāgāmi phalattha instead of sotāpatti phalattha
Arahai	Ahetuka 18 Mahā-vipāka 8 Mahā-kiriya 8 Arahatta phalattha <u>1</u> total <u>35</u> Add the kiriya jhanas attained.	Ahetuka (ghāna-dvi, jivhā-dvi, kāya-dvi excepted) Mahā-kiriya Mahaggata-kiriya Rūpa-vipāka (out of 5) Arahatta phalatijha total	12 8 9 1 <u>1</u> 31	Manodvärävaj 1 Mahā-kiriya 8 Arūpa-kiriya 4 Arūpa-vipāka (out of 4) <u>1</u> Arahatta phalattha 1 total 15

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Lye Wai Fun & Family	200.00
Doris Ang & Family	200.00
Ang Ming Huat	
Lim Soon Peng	400.00
Ang Hwee Gek Clara	400.00
Ang Teck Guan Diilon	
Yeo Chueng Eng	100.00
Tee Koon Tiong & Family	100.00
Richard Tan & Family	100.00
Chris & Kala	70.00
Anonymous	60.00
Lau Kit Fun & Family	50.00
Chng Choo Hian & Family	50.00
Lau Choy Fun & Family	50.00
Lim Cheng Hua & Family	50.00
Lim Kian Sing & Family	50.00
Anonymous	50.00
Tan Tiong Huat & Family	50.00
Ng Lay Kieng & Family	50.00
Wee Eng Geok & Family	50.00
Lim Soon Eng & Family	50.00
Lim Bock Chwee & Chan Geok Kheng	50.00
S H Lim & Family	50.00
Goh Siew Kuan	50.00
Henry Lau & Family	50.00
Anonymous	50.00
Lee Hock Jee & Family	30.00
Foo Kwai Khuan & Family	30.00
Leong Sau Lin & Family	20.00
Albert Gan Kim Song & Family	20.00
Teo Peng Ann & Family	20.00
Anonymous	20.00
Anonymous	20.00
See Lian Eng & Family	20.00
Tan Huat Chye & Family	20.00
Tiang Wen Hou & Family	10.00
N Choo & Family	10.00
W Y Yip & Family	10.00
G Lye & Family	10.00
Tan Ong Chwee	10.00
Tan Cheng Hock	10.00
Tan Li Hock	10.00
Tan Chuan Hock	10.00
Seah Gek Keng	10.00
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