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Buddhism

In Translations / by Henry Clarke Warren



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IN TRANSLATIONS

Passages Selected from the Buddhist Sacred Books
and Translated from the Original Pāli into English by

Henry Clarke Warren

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TO MY FRIEND AND TEACHER

Charles Rockwell Lanman

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CONTENTS

Abbreviations	Page
General Introduction	ix
	xi

CHAPTER I.

THE BUDDHA.

	Introductory Discourse	1
§ 1.	The Story of Sumedha	5
2.	A List of former Buddhas	32
3.	The Characteristics of a Future Buddha	33
4.	The Birth of The Buddha	38
5.	The young Gotamid Prince	48
6.	The Great Retirement	56
7.	The Great Struggle	67
8.	The Attainment of Buddhahship	71
9.	First Events after the Attainment of Buddhahship	83
10.	The Conversion of Sāriputta and Moggallāna	87
11.	The Buddha's daily Habits	91
12.	The Death of The Buddha	95

CHAPTER II.

SENTIENT EXISTENCE.

	Introductory Discourse	111
§ 13.	Questions which tend not to Edification	117
14.	King Milinda and Nāgasena come to an Understanding	128
15.	There is no Ego	129
16.	All Signs of an Ego are Absent	146
17.	No continuous Personal Identity	148
18.	The Mind less permanent than the Body	150
19.	What is Unity or One ?	153
20.	Analysis of the Human Being	155

	PAGE
§ 21. The Composition of the Body	157
22. On getting Angry	159
23. The Origin and Cessation of the Human Being	159
24. Inanimate Nature	164
25. The Middle Doctrine	165
26. Ignorance	170
27. Karma	179
28. Consciousness	182
29. Name and Form	184
30. The Six Organs of Sense	186
31. Contact	186
32. Sensation	187
33. Desire	187
34. Attachment	189
35. Existence	194
36. Birth etc.	201
37. Discussion of Dependent Origination	202

CHAPTER III.

KARMA AND REBIRTH.

Introductory Discourse	209
§ 38. Be a Friend to Yourself	213
39. The cause of Inequality in the World	214
40. Fruitful and barren Karma	215
41. The Death of Moggallāna	221
42. Good and bad Karma	226
43. How to obtain Wealth, Beauty, and Social Position	228
44. The Round of Existence	232
45. Cause of Rebirth	232
46. Is this to be my Last Existence?	233
47. Rebirth is not Transmigration	234
48. Reflections on Existence	242
49. Different kinds of Death	252
50. How Existence in Hell is Possible	253
51. Death's Messengers	255
" The Three Warnings "	259
52. The Ass in the Lion's Skin	262
53. The devoted Wife	264
54. Friendship	267
55. Virtue is its own Reward	269
56. The Hare-mark in the Moon	274

CHAPTER IV.

MEDITATION AND NIRVANA.

	PAGE
Introductory Discourse	280
§ 57. The Way of Purity	285
58. Concentration	288
59. The Thirty-one Grades of Being	289
60. The Forty Subjects of Meditation	291
61. The Earth-kasina	293
62. Beauty is but Skin-deep	297
63. The Conversion of Animals	301
64. Love for Animals	302
65. The Six High Powers	303
66. Spiritual Law in the Natural World	306
67. Going Further and Faring Worse	308
68. Sāriputta and the Two Demons	313
69. World-cycles	315
70. Wisdom	330
71. The Summum Bonum	331
72. Māra as Plowman	349
73. The Fire-sermon	351
74. The Four Intent Contemplations	353
75. The Attainment of the Paths	376
76. Nirvana to be attained at Death	380
77. The Attainment of Nirvana by Godhika	380
78. The Trance of Cessation	383
79. The Attainment of Nirvana	389

CHAPTER V.

THE ORDER.

Introductory Discourse	392
§ 80. Conduct	393
81. The Admission and Ordination Ceremonies	393
82. The Serpent who wanted to be a Priest	401
83. The Buddhist Confession of Priests	402
84. The Order receive leave to dwell in Houses	411
85. Residence during the Rainy Season	414
86. The Mendicant Ideal	417
87. The Value of Training in Religion	420
88. The colorless Life	421
89. Can the Saint suffer ?	422
90. The Body is an open Sore	423

	PAGE
§ 91. Heaven not the Highest Good	424
92. The Saints Superior to the Gods	424
93. The Anger-eating Demon	426
94. Contentment is Riches	428
95. The Story of a Priest	430
96. The young Stone-Thrower	432
97. "And hate not his father and mother"	434
98. No Buddhist should commit Suicide	436
99. The Admission of Women to the Order	441
100. A Family of Magicians	448
101. The Story of Visākhā	451
102. The Buddhist Apocalypse	481

APPENDIX.

§ 103. The Five Groups	487
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being are transitory;" but there is no passage quotable for them separately.

Meritorious and demeritorious thoughts belonging to the three modes of being are, moreover, *active karma*. For them is quotable the passage, "This ignorant individual, O priest, performs meritorious karma etc."¹

Bodily and mental heroism is called *strenuous karma*. This is quotable in the passage, "It went as far as there was room for karma, and then it stopped, as if struck in the axle."²

But there are not merely these, there are also others. In such quotations as, "Brother Visākha, when any priest enters upon the trance of the cessation of perception and sensation, first vocal karma ceases, then bodily karma, and then mental karma," several karmas are mentioned, but there is no one of these that is not included under *static karma*.

¹ Compare page 182, line 8.

² This quotation probably refers to the wheel of empire (see 64 and 101), and symbolically expresses the victorious progress of a Universal Monarch in subduing the world. (Compare Wheel of Doctrine, s. v. Doctrine, in Index.)

HENRY CLARKE WARREN (1854-1899) was born in Cambridge, Massachusetts and was educated at Harvard, Johns Hopkins, and Oxford. He was a student of James B. Greenough, Charles R. Lanman, and Maurice Bloomfield in Sanskrit; and of Rhys Davids, the founder of the Pali Text Society. Despite severe and life-long physical handicaps, Warren became a leading figure in Indian studies and the first American scholar to attain distinction in the field of Pali. He did not live to complete his *magnum opus*, a translation of Buddhagosa's *Way of Purity*. His generosity made possible the publication of the Harvard Oriental Series.

Buddhism

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The life of the Buddha, his teachings, and his monastic order form the substance of this work — Buddhism portrayed in the words of the Buddhists themselves and from the basic texts. The Pali passages, done into vigorous English and accurately rendered, were chosen to make a systematically complete presentation of the subject. The abiding importance and value of the work has become ever clearer in the years since its first publication in the Harvard Oriental Series.