

PRACTISING, PROPAGATING AND PRESERVING
THE TEACHINGS OF THE HISTORICAL BUDDHA
The Early Buddhist Texts

DEB

Dictionary of Early Buddhism

[A volume from the SID or Sutta Index of Dharma series]

Online Version (in progress)

by
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THE MINDING CENTRE
Singapore

©2002-2018

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The Minding Centre (TMC), based in Singapore, is part of Piya Tan’s non-religious Buddha-Dharma ministry to people of all faiths or none. It was founded in 2006 to provide Dharma-based non-religious service to those in need of counsel and solace. It also serves as a haven and hub for those seeking Dharma by way of meditation and education, Sutta study and translation, and spiritual experience. The Centre also supports and promotes Piya Tan in his full-time Buddhist and related work.

The Living Word of the Buddha Project aspires to encourage and facilitate Buddhist Studies, especially the early suttas and their commentaries, and social ethics, both in a Dharma-spirited academic manner for Buddha-centred personal development as well as sangha-inspired and community-based outreach and fellowship work. The Minding Centre and the Living Word of the Buddha (LWB) project are motivated and guided by the vision of mere Buddhism.

The mere Buddhist vision. We aspire to learn, teach and practise mere Dharma, or “non-religious Buddhism,” that is, Buddhism as simple as possible, as the Buddha Dharma of the historical Buddha, so that it is open to all who seek true peace and liberating wisdom. We aspire to compassionately and joyfully proclaim the possibility, necessity and urgency of gaining spiritual liberation in this life itself—at least as streamwinners, with or without dhyana—in keeping with the Okkanti Saṃyutta (S 25). ***Mere Buddhism is easy and efficacious: live it and be free***

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CONVENTIONS & NOTES

READ THIS FIRST (How to use the DEB)

Look up the Pali term or the English term that you want, and follow the references or cross-references. Read at least Section I below. Whenever you are not sure of an abbreviation or convention in the Index, look it up here below.

I Conventions

(1) References are, as a rule, to Sutta Name or Text Numbers,xxx (where xxx, *after a comma*, refers to paragraph, section, stanza or line).

Disregard initial articles “A,” “The,” etc, in titles.

(2) Translations following their Pali or Sanskrit forms and conventional remarks are given in *italics*.

Otherwise, Pali and Sanskrit (Skt) terms (especially headers) are given in roman. Unless otherwise stated, such terms are in Pali.

(3) Alphabetical arrangement: Disregard all diacritics and initial articles “A,” “The,” etc. Disregard all spaces, apostrophes, hyphens, etc. Disregard (brackets) in bracketed words. For example, “nāma,rūpa” precedes “namo tassa.”

(4) Online searching: It is usually possible to search a word by simply using the search-word without any diacritics.

II Symbols and Abbreviations

, & .	A comma separates the main elements of a compound. A dot separates the elements of a term or phrase within the compound. Eg gaha.pati,putta = gaha,pati + putta, “houselord’s son.”
@	[See IV (4).]
~ or ~	(a tilde) ~ or wiggly sign ~ means that the headword should be inserted.
--+	A terminal plus sign means that the head-word (in a sub-entry) should be added, eg, “Navārahā,-guṇa <i>or fully</i> satthu+,” where “satthu+” should read “satthu navāraha,guṇa.”
--	An initial asterisk () denotes abridged suttas, sutta excerpts, or partial translations.
--*	A terminal asterisk (*) follows a reference denotes a verse or stanza.
↑	(up arrow) <u>look up</u> or see (under) the headword or key-word in bold .
↑↑	(twin up arrows) <u>look up</u> these entries, or this entry and related one (those following these).
↓	(down arrow) <u>look under</u> (this header) or <u>look down</u> see sub-header below (under same headword).
→	see also; cf (confer, compare with).
()	(1) (After a translation) amplified translation (explains the preceding words). (2) Look up this reference in quoted qork.
[]	(1) (After a translation) alternate translation. (2) Look up this reference in this work.
	parallel (passages, references, etc).
Abh	Abhidhamma.
abr	abridged.
adj	adjective.
angl	anglicized (as); anglicization (of). See also untr.
aor	aorist = past tense.
Be	Burmese edition (Tīṭaka etc).

BHD	Piya Tan, <i>The Buddha and His Disciples</i> , Singapore: The Minding Centre, 2002b, 2013: http://sites.google.com/site/dharmafarer/home/books-by-piya-tan .
biog	biographical (usually the lives of the Buddha or his disciples).
brahm	brahminical.
btw	between.
Ce	Sinhala (Ceylonese) edition (Tipiṭaka etc).
Comy	(n) Commentary.
comy	(adj) commentarial.
cosm	cosmology, cosmological (terminology).
cpd	compound.
DEB	Dictionary of Early Buddhism (2016). Index of doctrinal terms and doctrine-related words.
DEBN	Dictionary of Early Buddhism Names (2012). Index of proper names and non-doctrinal names.
DEBS	Dictionary of Early Buddhist Suttas (2012). Index of sutta titles and related words.
DEBX	Dictionary of Early Buddhist Numbers (2010). Index of numerical teachings.
DEBo	Dictionary of Early Buddhism Online (2017).
def	definition.
EBT	Early Buddhist text(s), usually the suttas (especially of the 4 Nikāyas), but may include the 5 th Nikāya, early parts of the Vinaya and the early Abhidhamma.
Ee	European (PTS) edition (Tipiṭaka etc).
ethic	ethical, ethics.
exeg	exegesis, exegetical (explanatory).
exist	existential (terminology).
f, ff	(terminal) an “f” following a page number means, “and the following page,” and “ff” means “following pages.”
fem	feminine (noun, adjective, etc).
fig	figurative, figuratively.
foll	following (page/s, etc).
masc	masculine (noun, adjective, etc).
med	meditation (terminology).
n	noun.
n, nn	note(s).
neut	neuter (noun, adjective, etc).
pej	pejorative.
pl	plural.
psych	psychology, psychological(ly).
qv	(Latin, quod vide) which see (look up this reference).
qqv	(pl of preceding) look up these references.
SD	Sutta Discovery (translation and commentarial series).
Se	Siamese (Thai) edition (Tipiṭaka etc).
sg	singular.
K	Some Burmese eds (Tipiṭaka etc).
Ke	Cambodian (Kamboja) edition (Tipiṭaka etc).
mod	modern (of our times or recent times).
MY	Mahāyāna.
P	Pāli.
p	page.
phil	philosophical, philosophy.
pl	plural.

R or R- (prefix) (Weekly) Reflection(s): <http://dharmafarer.org/wordpress/weekly-reflections>.

RI Reflection Index.

ref, refs reference(s) or citation(s) of works (look them up).

rel religious; religion.

S (terminal) Sutta, eg, “Karaṇīya Metta S” = Karaṇīya Metta Sutta.

sg singular.

SID Sutta Index of Dharmas (a series in the Sutta Discovery project); see DEB.

soter soteriological; soteriology (dealing with salvation, sainthood, awakening, or nirvana).

spir spiritual (non-religious).

STI Sutta Title Index (Sutta Discovery: Sutta Index of Dharma series).

teleo teleological: purpose (of life).

tr(s) translated (by, as); translation(s).

ts tatsama, a word that is the same both in Pali and in Sanskrit, eg buddha.

tt(s) technical term.

untr untranslated. This is a Pali term, without its diacritics, used as anglicized terms: see angl.

v verse or stanza.

Ved Vedic (related to the brahminical Vedas).

WT World Tipiṭaka (Thailand).

III Sutta referencing conventions

If you find this section bewildering, start with the most often used references, that is, those within boxes. Being with, say, “M” = Majjhima Nikāya, making sure you understand how the M references are used in the actual files. This basic understanding applies to D = Dīgha Nikāya, S = Saṃyutta Nikāya, and to A = Aṅguttara Nikāya. They gradually work through into the other abbreviations.

<u>Abbreviation</u>	<u>Text or title</u>	<u>Referencing or remarks</u>
-A [suffix]	Aṭṭhakathā	Commentary, eg, DA = Dīgha Commentary.
A	Aṅguttara Nikāya	book.sutta (A 5.41) = Aṅguttara Book of Fives, sutta no 41; <i>or</i> vol:page (A 3:45) = Aṅguttara volume 3, page 45; <i>or both</i> (A 5.41/3:45); <i>or</i> book.sutta,para (A 5.41,-2).
A:ÑB	Aṅguttara Nikāya tr Ñānamoli & Bodhi	page
AA	Aṅguttara Aṭṭhakathā	Manoratha Pūraṇī (Aṅguttara Commentary): vol:page.
-AaṬ	= -anṬ <i>or</i> -ANṬ= Abhinava,ṭīkā	New Subcommentary, eg, DAaṬ = DANṬ = Dīgha Very New Subcommentary
Ani	Aniyata rule	see Ptmk.
-anṬ	Abhinava Ṭīkā	Very New Subcommentary. Eg DANṬ = Dīgha Very New Subcommentary
Ap	Apadāna	ch.stanza <i>or</i> stanza.
ApTha	Thera Apadāna	vol:page <i>or</i> stanza. Or ThaAp.
ApThī	Therī Apadāna	vol:page <i>or</i> stanza. Or as ThīAp.
Asl	Attha,sālinī = DhsA (qv)	page
B	Buddha,vam̐sa	ch:stanza.
Bhī -	(prefix) Bhikkhuṇī (Pāṭimokkha)	see Ptmk.
C	Cariyā,piṭaka	book.sutta (eg, C 1.5).
Cv	Cullavagga, Khandhaka (see V)	ch.section <i>or</i> ch.section.para.

SD Conventions & Notes

D	Dīgha Nikāya	sutta,section (eg, D 2,11) <i>or</i> sutta,section.para (eg, D 16,6.7) <i>or</i> vol:page (eg, D 1:50; D 2:156) <i>or both</i> (eg D 2.11/1:50; D 16,6.7/2:156).
D:W	Dīgha Nikāya tr Walshe	page
DA	Dīgha Nikāya Aṭṭhakathā	Sumaṅgala Vilāsinī (Dīgha Commentary): vol:page.
DAṬ	Dīgha Nikāya Ṭīkā	Līn’attha-p,ṭkakāsinī (Dīgha Subcommentary).
DANṬ	Dīgha Nikāya Abhinava,ṭīkā	Sadhu(jana)vilāsinī (Dīgha New Subcommentary).
Dh	Dhammapada	stanza (Dh 183), lines denoted as a, b, c, d, e, f.
Dh:CP	Dhammapada tr Carter & Palihawadana	as for Dh.
Dh:G(B)	Gāndhāri Dharmapada, ed J Brough	
Dp:P	Patna Dhammapada	stanza (eg, Dh 277).
Dhk	Dhātu,kathā	page.
Dhs	Dhamma.saṅgaṇī	page <i>or</i> item no.
DhsA	Dhs Comy = Attha,sālinī	vol:page.
Dīpv	Dīpavaṃsa	canto.stanza.
It	Iti Vuttaka	book.ch.sutta (eg, It 3.2.1), <i>or</i> book.ch.sutta/page (eg, It 3.2.1/51).
J	Jātaka	no (eg, Vessantara J, J 547), <i>or</i> vol:page (J 6:520), <i>or</i> no/vol:page (J 547/6:520), <i>or</i> stanza (J 500*).
Kh	Khuddaka Nikāya; cf Khp	
Khp	Khuddaka,pāṭha	sutta (eg, Khp 9 = Karaṇīya Metta Sutta) <i>or</i> sutta,stanza.
Khp:Ñ	Khuddaka,āṭṭha tr Ñāṇamoli	page.
Kvu	Kathā,vatthu	vol:page.
M	Majjhima Nikāya	sutta,section (eg, M 10,4) <i>or</i> sutta,section.para (M 10,-4.2) <i>or</i> vol:page (eg, M 1:56) <i>or both</i> (eg M 10,4.2/-1:56).
M:ÑB	Majjhima Nikāya tr Ñāṇamoli & Bodhi	page.
MA	Majjhima Nikāya Aṭṭhakathā	Papañca Sūdanī (Majjhima Commentary).
Mahv	Mahāvāṃsa	canto.stanza.
Miln	Milinda,paṇḥa	vol:page.
Mp	Manoratha,pūraṇī = AA (qv)	
-MṬ = -MAṬ	-Mahā Ṭīkā	[suffix] Great Subcommentary.
Mv	Mahāvagga, Khandhaka (see V)	ch.section <i>or</i> ch.section.para.
Mvst	Mahāvastu	vol:page.
Nc	Culla Niddesa	vol:page.
Nett	Nettipakaraṇa	page
-N or Nik	(suffix, as in Dīgha N, etc) Nikāya	DN = D, MN = M, SN = S, AN = A.
Nik	→“-N or Nik”	
Nis	Nissaggiya rule	see Ptmk.
Nm	Mahā Niddesa	vol:page.
-Ns	Nissaya (Siamese Commentary)	
-NṬ = -AnṬ	-Nava Ṭīka	[suffix] New Subcommentary.
Pāc	Pācittiya rule	see Ptmk.
Pār	Pārājika rule	see Ptmk.
Paṭ	Paṭṭhāna	→TikaP.
Pāṭi	Pāṭidesanīya rule	see Ptmk.

Peṭk	Peṭakôpadesa	page.
Pj I	Param'attha,jotikā I = KhpA (qv)	vol:page.
Pj II	Param'attha,jotikā II = SnA (qv)	vol:page.
Pm	Paṭisambhidā Magga	vol:page.
Ps	Papañca,sūḍani = MA (qv)	vol:page.
-Pṭ	Porāṇā Ṭīkā	[suffix] Ancient Subcommentary, eg SPT = SAPṭ (pref) = Ancient Subcommentary to Saṃyutta.
Ptmk	Pātimokkha; also Sutta Vibhaṅga, Vinaya	rule no (eg Pār 4). Pār = Pārajika, Saṅgh = Saṅghādisesa, Ani = Aniyata, Nis = Nissaggiya, Pāc = Pācittiya, Pāṭi = Pāṭidesanīya, Sekh = Sekhiya. For the nuns' rules, add the prefix Bhī, thus: Bhī Pār, etc. See V.
PtmkA	Pātimokkha Aṭṭhakathā	Kaṅkhā,vitāraṇī (Pātimokkha Commentary)
Pug	Puggala Paññatti	book.sutta <i>or</i> vol:page.
Pv	Peta Vatthu	ch:sutta <i>or</i> vol:page.
Pv:BK	Peta Vatthu tr U Ba Kyaw	as for Pv.
S	Saṃyutta Nikāya	ch.sutta (eg, S 6.2) <i>or</i> ch.sutta,para (eg, S 6.2,8) <i>or</i> vol:page (eg, S 1:139) <i>or both</i> (eg S 6.2,8/1:139).
S:B	Saṃyutta Nikāya tr Bodhi	page
SA	Saṃyutta Nikāya Aṭṭhakathā	Sārattha-p.pakāsinī (Saṃyutta Commentary)
Saṅgh	Saṅghādisesa rule	see Ptmk.
SAPṭ	Saṃyutta Nikāya Porāna Ṭīkā	Saṃyutta Nikāya Ancient Sub-commentary
SD	Sutta Discovery	See "IV Sutta Discovery referencing conventions."
Sekh	Sekhiya rule	see Ptmk.
Sn	Sutta Nipāta	canto.sutta (eg, Sn ***) <i>or</i> stanza (eg, Sn ***), with lines denoted as a, b, c, d, e, f.
Sp	Sār'attha-p,pakāsinī = SA (qv)	vol:page.
Sv	Sumaṅgala,vilāsinī = DA (qv)	vol:page.
-Ṭ = -AṬ	[suffix] Ṭīkā	Sub-commentary, eg MṬ = MAṬ = Majjhima Subcommentary
Tha	Theragāthā	stanza (eg Tha 469), lines denoted as a, b, c, d, e, f.
ThaAp	Thera Apadāna	<i>or</i> as ApTha.
Thī	Therīgāthā	stanza.
Thī:N	Therīgāthā tr Norman	stanza.
ThīAp	Therī Apadāna	<i>or</i> as ApThī.
TikaP	Tika Paṭṭhāna (3 vols)	page.
U	Udāna	ch.sutta <i>or</i> ch.sutta,section <i>or</i> sutta,section <i>or</i> page.
UA	Paramattha,dīpanī I (U Comy)	Udāna Commentary.
Ujl	Upāsaka,janālaṅkāra	
V	Vinaya	vol:page (eg, V 1:10). For the Sutta Vibhaṅga (monastic rules), see under Ptmk. For the Khandhaka (Mahāvagga and Cullavagga), use Mv (qv) <i>or</i> Cv (qv).
V:H	Vinaya tr Horner	
V:cv	Vinaya Culla,vagga	
V:mv	Vinaya Mahā,vagga	
Vbh	Vibhaṅga	section <i>or</i> vol:page <i>or</i> section/vol:page.
Vimm	Vimutti,magga	ch.section.
Vism	Visuddhi,magga	ch.section <i>or</i> page.

VismMhṭ	= VismṬ
VismṬ	Visuddhi,magga Commentary = Vism Mhṭ = Paramattha,mañjūsā
Vv	Vimāna Vatthu
Yam	Yamaka

IV Sutta Discovery referencing conventions

The Sutta Discovery (SD) series comprises annotated translations, commentaries and essays by Piya Tan, 2002- .

(1) **SD numbers**

1.1 The SD number denotes volume and chapter, eg “**SD 3**” = “Sutta Discovery volume 3 (Theme: Refuge-going)”; “**SD 3.10**” = “SD volume 3, chapter 10,” that is, “**the Amba,laṭṭhika Rāhul’ovāda Sutta (M 61).**”

1.2 Sutta names are mentioned first, followed by the Pali reference (within round brackets) and then the SD no, eg, “**Dhamma,cakka Pavattana Sutta** (S 56.11), SD 1.1.” For Pali referencing, see section III.

1.3 Essays are similarly denoted as volume and chapter, eg “**SD 5.16**” = “Sutta Discovery vol 5, chapter 16” is “**Dependent arising.**”

(2) Embedded suttas are denoted as “**SD vol.ch(no)**” [*no space after “ch”*], eg “**SD 37.13(1)** = SD vol 37, ch 13, section 1,” that is, “**the Doṇa,pāka Sutta** (S 3.13).”

(3) Sections of sutta introductions and commentaries, and essays are referred to as “**SD vol.ch (section)**” eg “**SD 40a.8 (2.2)**” [with the free-standing round brackets] = “SD vol 40a, ch 8, section 2.2, ‘Entering the stream’.”

(4) Specific sections referred to are denoted by an @ symbol, eg “**Buddhānussati @ SD 15.7 (2.3.4)**” [Look up section 2.3.4 of SD 15.7] or “**Cūḷa Māluṅkyā,putta S (M 63) @ SD 5.8 (3)**” [Look up section 3 of SD 4.8]. An exception is when the @ symbol is used in a bracketed reference, eg, (M 63 @ SD 5.8). “M 63,7 + SD 5.8 (3)” means look up M 63 section 7 (the sutta) *and* also the Introductory Notes in SD 5.8 section (3).

Preface to the provisional edition 2016

This provisional Dictionary of Early Buddhism (DEB) was initially entitled Sutta Glossary Index (SGI), first released in July 2016, for the benefit of those using the SD series, and also to solicit feedback for improvements from such users. The SGI materials here basically come from SD 1 up to SD 6.1, completed in 2013, and also selections from other SD chapters. This indexing was initially suspended so that I could continue with the translation work. In 2016, once again, I am resuming the indexing and dictionary work which may take up to 2 years. Work progress will be slow, as we now have 53 volumes, totaling over 10,000 A4 pages.

After 15 years of sustained efforts, the Sutta Discovery (SD) series of Pali sutta translations and related essays has grown into a modern commentary on the **early Buddhist texts** (EBT), the earliest records we have of the teachings of the historical Buddha. The SD series is also a valuable survey of the Buddhist social ethics of our times.

To facilitate word-search, related numerical dharmas (sets of teachings) are listed together. The “5 precepts,” for example, has the main reference under **sīla 5**, with cross-reference as “pañca,sīla” and “precepts 5.” The advantage of following the “numerical dharma” sequence is that **related sets can be seen at a glance**. So, we have the useful sequence of headers: **sīla, sīla 4, sīla 5, sīla 6, sīla 8, and sīla 10**. Here I have followed the traditional Thai sequencing by placing the number after the headword to facilitate indexing.

As this is only a provisional publication of a work in progress, you are welcome to suggest corrections, additions, and improvements to the DEB. Enjoy the fresh simplicity and efficacy of early Buddhism.

Piya Tan

Sutta Discovery Translation Work Summary

SD volumes completed:

53 volumes (A4 size).

Over 10,000 pages.

2003 vols 1-3; **2004** vols 4-6 9; **2005** vol 7-8 12-13; **2006** vols 10-11 14, 15, 25; **2007** vols 16 17ab 18; **2008** vols 19-22 40b; **2009** vols 23-28; **2010** vols 29-32; **2011** vols 33-35 36ab; **2012** vols 37-40a1; **2013** vols 40a2 41 42; **2014** vols 43-47; **2015** vols 48 49a; **2016** vols 49b 49c; **2017** vols 50a 50b 51a 51b; **2018** vols vols 52.1 52a 53b.

Summary (2014) *For the 4 Nikāyas, their respective sutta-totals are given in round brackets.*

Vinaya	12 titles	Saṃyutta Nikāya	383 suttas (2904)	Abhidhamma	3 titles
Dīgha Nikāya	23 suttas (34)	Aṅguttara Nikāya	325 suttas (3872)	Commentarial	31 titles
Majjhima Nikāya	109 suttas (152)	Khuddaka Nikāya	126 titles	Essays	125 titles
		Dhammapada	208 stanzas		
		Sutta Nipāta	218 stanzas		
		Thera,gāthā	176 stanzas		
		Therī,gāthā	159 stanzas		