

Who will destroy Buddhism?

The Dhamma-ending occurs within us

Source: SD 1.10 (3.3)

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The suttas record warnings by the Buddha and early monks on the dangers that threaten Buddhism, especially FROM WITHIN.

The Dhamma-destroyer (for whom there is no Dhamma) is very popular, powerful, wealthy and cunning. He will use anything, even the good teaching to draw attention to himself, for his own glory. Many will be led astray, turn away from the Dhamma.

Unless you and I work to know Dhamma, make Dhamma known.

THE ANĀGATA BHAYA SUTTA 3 (A 5.79), in a more serious tone, warns of the growing malpractices and wrong views of the order members (here abridged and paraphrased):

“Bhikshus, there will be on the long road to the future, monks who are neither cultivated in body, nor in moral conduct, nor in mind, nor in wisdom.

(1) THEY ORDAIN THE WRONG CANDIDATES

They (The monks/nuns) will ordain others, but they will not be able to lead them to higher training (in moral conduct, mind and wisdom), and these undeveloped candidates in turn ordain others, repeating the vicious cycle ...

(2) THEY ARE NOT PROPERLY TRAINED

They will provide training and tutelage (*nissaya*) to others, but they will not be able to lead them to higher training (in moral conduct, mind and wisdom), and these undeveloped candidates will repeat the vicious cycle ...

(3) THEY UPHOLD FALSE TEACHINGS

They will give talks regarding Dharma (*abhidhamma*) and on the Catechisms (*vedalla*), and, without any understanding, fall into dark teachings (*kaṇha,dhamma*) ...

(4) THEY FOLLOW WRONG TEACHINGS AND GLORIFY THEMSELVES

They will not listen to the Buddha word, neither study nor master them; instead, they will listen to and master “discourses that are poetry composed by poets, beautiful in word and phrase, composed by outsiders, spoken by their disciples” [S 20.7/2:266 f] ...

(5) THEY BEHAVE LIKE LAY PEOPLE

They will become luxurious, lax, led by backsliding [behave like lay people], not valuing solitude [moral conduct, meditation and simple life] (*paviveke nikkhitta,dhurā*) ...

Thus, indeed, bhikshus, from corrupt Dharma comes corrupt Discipline; from corrupt Discipline comes corrupt Dharma.” (A 5.79/3:105-108), SD 77.17

The Buddha is our one and only teacher.

The Dhamma is the only path to awakening, nirvana.

The noble sangha are those who have reached the path, and nirvana.

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[an occasional re-look at the Buddha's Example and Teachings]

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