

- The Buddha left no records of His Teachings after ^{Parinibbana} ~~attaining~~ enlightenment in 543 B.C.
 - There was no avenue for writing, no equipment.
- But the Buddha's disciples preserved His teachings, generation after generation, by committing them to memory.

The TIPITAKA

Truths, and analyses both Mind and Matter and the relationship between them.

Introduction

What is the Tipitaka?

- An extensive body of Pali literature or canon (writings), containing the Teachings of the Buddha.
- All that the Buddha taught forms the subject matter and substance of the Pali Canon, which is divided into 3 divisions called Pitakas, or baskets.

Why 'Baskets'?

contains writings on old leaves

- The metaphor 'basket' signifies its use as a receptacle in which things are passed on from one to another.
- Therefore, the Tipitaka contains 3 baskets or 3 divisions of the Buddha's Teachings which have been handed down from one generation to the next.

How is the Tipitaka classified?

- **Sutta Pitaka:**
 - Contains the Teachings intended for both monks and laymen.
 - Includes discourses delivered by some of the Buddha's distinguished disciples, e.g. Venerables Sariputta, Moggallana and Ananda.
- **Vinaya Pitaka:**
 - Contains the body of rules for monks.
 - Includes modes of conduct and restraints on both bodily and verbal actions.
 - These form the rules of discipline for monks.
- **Abhidhamma Pitaka:**
 - Contains the philosophical aspect of the Buddha's Teachings, i.e. 'Higher' Teachings.
 - More profound and abstract than the Sutta Pitaka.
 - The Abhidhamma deals with ultimate

Books of the Sutta Pitaka

All Suttas begin with "Thus Have I Heard"

The Collections

- The Sutta Pitaka is divided into 5 separate collections known as Nikayas:
 1. Digha Nikaya
 2. Majjhima Nikaya
 3. Samyutta Nikaya
 4. Anguttara Nikaya
 5. Khuddaka Nikaya

- Recited by Ananda
↳ have a good memory

1. Digha Nikaya

- Collection of **long discourses** of the Buddha.
- Made up of **34** such long discourses, divided into 3 divisions:
 1. Silakkhandha Vagga - Division Concerning Morality;
 2. Maha Vagga - Large Division; and
 3. Pathika Vagga - Division of shorter discourses of a miscellaneous nature.

2. Majjhima Nikaya

- Collection of **medium length** discourses of the Buddha, providing social, economic and political information.
- Made up of **152** suttas in 3 books known as panna:
 1. Mulapanna - deals with the first 52 suttas in 5 vaggas;
 2. Majjhimapanna - deals with the second 50 suttas in 5 vaggas; and
 3. Uparipanna - deals with the last 52 suttas in 5 vaggas.

3. Samyutta Nikaya

- Collection of **7,762** suttas of **varied length**, according to subject matter, in 5 major divisions:
 1. Sagatha Vagga;
 2. Nidana Vagga;
 3. Khandha Vagga;
 4. Salayatana Vagga; and
 5. Maha Vagga.

- Each vagga is divided into samyuttas, after the subjects they deal with, or after some principal personalities such as Venerable Sariputta.

4. Anguttara Nikaya

- Collection of 9,557 short suttas, divided into 11 divisions known as nipatas.
- Anguttara Nikaya constitutes an important source book on Buddhist psychology, ethics, theory and practice.
- The discourses are arranged in progressive numerical order, with each nipata containing suttas with items of Dhamma.
- There are 11 such divisions:
 1. Ekaka Nipata;
 2. Duka Nipata;
 3. Tika Nipata;
 4. Catukka Nipata;
 5. Pancaka Nipata;
 6. Chakka Nipata;
 7. Sattaka Nipata;
 8. Atthaka Nipata;
 9. Navaka Nipata;
 10. Dasaka Nipata; and
 11. Ekadasaka Nipata.

5. Khuddaka Nikaya

- Contains the largest number of treatises and the most numerous categories of Dhamma.
- Miscellaneous collection of:
 - discourses by the Buddha;
 - compilations of brief doctrinal notes mostly in verse;
 - accounts of personal struggles and achievements by the Theras and Theris in verse; and
 - the birth stories and histories of the Buddhas, etc.
- There are 18 treatises of the Khuddaka Nikaya:
 1. Khuddakapatha;
 2. Dhammapada; →
 3. Udana;
 4. Itivuttaka;
 5. Suttanipata;
 6. Vimana Vatthu;
 7. Peta Vatthu;

8. Thera Gatha;
9. Theri Gatha;
10. Jataka (birth stories of the Buddhas); →
11. Niddesa;
12. Patisambhida Magga;
13. Apadana;
14. Buddhavamsa (history of the Buddhas);
15. Cariya Pitaka;
16. Netti;
17. Petakopadesa; and
18. Milindapanha.