

Statements of the Candidate

**A Comparative Study of the Buddhist  
Concept of Pāramitā (perfection)  
with Reference to Theravāda  
and Mahāyāna Sources**

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I certify that this thesis was Completed under my supervision  
and I recommend this as suitable to be considered for awarding  
the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy

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## Abstract

The present research is about a comparative study of the Buddhist concept of Pāramitā with reference to Theravāda and Mahāyana sources.

This deals comprehensively about the origin and the development of this concept in both these traditions. In doing this an attempt has been taken to show the true significance of the practice of Pāramitā and how important it has been to both these traditions of Buddhist thought. Special focus has been directed to show the relation of the practice of Pāramitā to the development of buddhology, and specially to the concept of Bodhisattva in both tradition.

In the process, therefore many other related concepts have been dealt with. Among such concepts are: *abhināhāra*, *pranidhāna*, *bodhicitta* etc. such aspects as the relation between Pāramitā and *bhūmi/vihāra* has also been minutely examined.

As the practice of Pāramitā is concerned with the personality development, special focus has been directed to analyze the influence of this practice on the development of the emotional and intellectual aspects of an aspirant to enlightenment or Buddhahood. This analysis showed that the Pāramitā practice came to be considered as the source leading to

the absolute perfection of compassion (*karuṇā*) and wisdom (*paññā/prajñā*), which are the two most dominant characteristics of an individual who is enlightened and dedicates himself to the service of others.

In doing this both primary sources of Theravāda and Mahāyana have been used comparatively and critically.

AA	Aṅguttara-Nikāya-Aṅgakkathā
APA	Apadāna-Aṅgakkathā
BD	Buddhist Dictionary
BE	Encyclopedia of Buddhism
BU	Buddhavaṃsa
BVA	Buddhavaṃsa-Aṅgakkathā
CDI	Connected Discourses of the Buddha
CP	Cariyāpitaka
CFA	Cariyāpitaka-Aṅgakkathā
D	Dīghanikāya
Dep	Dhammapadam
DPN	Dictionary of Pāli Proper Names
S	Sīvatthaka
J	Jātaka
M	Majjhimanikāya
MV	Mahāvastu