



# Nāmarūpaparicchedo

of

Ven. Anuruddhācariya Thera

A Critical Edition

By

**Induragare Dhammapala**

B.A.(Special.), M.A.

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## Abstract

*Namarupaparicchedo* is a compendium on *Abhidhamma*, which consists of 1858 stanzas, and was written by *Ven. Anuruddhacariya* of *Polonnaruva* period for mediators and those who were interested in *Abhidhamma* studies.

The thirteen chapters of this treatise is sub-divided into two categories. In the first *Abhidhammadhikara*, the first seven chapters are included while the last six chapters are given in the second part named *Bhavanadhikara*.

The well-known texts like *Abhidharmakosa* of Sanskrit traditions and *Visuddhimagga* of *Buddhaghosa*, encyclopaediatic works of Pali tradition are included can be regarded as most important sources of this compendium.

Using a bigger number of chapters for the explanation of *Abhidhamma* and the use of different meters in the composition of last verses are among the special characteristics of this text.

Preface given here is a brief introduction to the present text and the introduction comprises of six subtopics. In the first chapter named 'Authorship, Date and contemporary *Abhidhamma* Literature, facts on the author, time of composition and the nature of the text are discussed. In the second named 'Comparison between *Abhidhammatthasangaha* and *Namarupaparicchedo* the similarities and differences of two texts as compendium are discussed. The third 'Summary of the Content' summaries the contents of thirteen chapters. The fourth chapter 'Style of Language' discusses the linguistic characteristics and the influence of contemporary Sanskrit poetics and prosody on the text.

The fifth chapter named 'Ola-leaf Manuscripts and Editions Consulted' describes basically the nature of different Ola-leaf and printed copies of *Sinhalese*, *Burmese*, *Thai* traditions and the copy obtained from Pali Text Society. The sixth 'Methodology and Sources' explain the methodology used in this edition, which consulted fifteen different copies.

It is inferred here, that texts like this; ancient Sri Lanka would have generated a physically and psychologically healthy population with contentment and concentration of mind, which made them inheritants of a great culture.

Hence this is a book of the nature of a handbook of which the Buddhist philosophy is enclosed and would enable to counsel the present society to discipline the mind and body for a contented living.