

## Abstract No 28

### **The *Trikāya* Concept as a Primary Aspiration of *Mahāyāna***

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*Mahāyāna* as a great vehicle is one of the two main existing schools of Buddhism a term for classification of Buddhist philosophies and practices. *Mahāyāna* is the larger of two major tradition of Buddhism existing today, the being *Theravāda*. The *Mahāyāna* Buddhism can be found in China, Tibet, Japan and Korea etc... not only in the East but also in the West as its practical teachings. According to main teachings of *Mahāyāna* aspirations, they obviously believe the Buddha was fulfilled with the three bodies. It is called as the concept of “*Trikāya*”(Trinity). It views that the Buddha manifests in three different bodies *Dharmakāya* (truth body), *Sambhogakāya* (bliss body) and *Nirmānakāya* (emanation body). This *Trikāya* concept was developed with the demise of the *Sākyamuni* Buddha until about the 4th century CE. *Nirmānakāya* means the transformation body of the Buddha. However, the Buddha also has *Sambhogakāya* and *Nirmānakāya* forms as well. It is revealed that the Buddha primordially enlightened in the form of *Dharmakāya*, but He manifests in various *Nirmānakāya* forms-not necessarily as a “Buddha” to teach the way to enlightenment. However, *Mahāyāna* Buddhism has been influenced from the *Theravāda* Buddhism, Jainism and Hinduism. Some scholars emphasized that *Trikāya* concept developed with various kinds of reasons and facts. The main objective of this paper is to suggest how the *Trikāya* concept was developed. It is emphasized to us the Primary Buddhist and secondary sources.

**Keywords:** *Contemporary Mahāyāna, Buddhism, Mahāyāna, Theravāda, Trikāya concept*