

## 3972139122 : MAJOR PHILOSOPHY

KEY WORD: THERAVADA BUDDHISM / DETERMINISM / FREE WILL / MORAL RESPONSIBILITY / COMPATIBILISM

Mr. Sutat Pungsiripattana : Free Will and Determinism in Theravada Buddhism. ( Free Will and Determinism in Theravada Buddhism) THESIS ADVISOR : PROF. Preecha Changkhwanyuen, THESIS COADVISOR : [NO], 65 pp. ISBN 974-333-915-9.

In comparing Theravade Buddhism with determinism, free will and the other involving philosophical views such as compatibilism. It is found that Buddhism is consistent with free will theory.

Determinism regard human's behavior as causally determined. Man has no power of choice and his actions are not controlled by himself. Buddhism optionally agrees with free will since man sometimes has power to choose and control his actions within some limits.

A controversy between determinism, free will and the other involving theories is on moral responsibility. All of the above views cannot reconcile with the common sense. Buddhist teachings of karma and its result gives rise to the new interpretation on moral responsibility, namely moral responsibility is a natural process. Certainly, Buddhism does not try to find any agreement with the common sense. So Buddhism neither encounters the problems of free will nor the problems of determinism.

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