

C310611 : MAJOR PHILOSOPHY

KEY WORD: DEATH / REBIRTH / THERAVADA / VAJRAYANA

VILAILUCK SAISANE : A COMPARTIVE STUDY OF THE CONCEPTS OF DEATH
AND REBIRTH IN THERAVADA AND VAJRAYANA BUDDHISM. THESIS ADVISOR :
SOMPARN PROMTA, Ph.D. 108 pp. ISBN 974-584-081-5

Concerning the Comparative Study of the Concepts of Death and Rebirth in Theravada and Vajrayana Buddhism, there is an important difference in this issue. In Theravada doctrine, there is only spontaneous rebirth after death. But Vajrayana Buddhism believes in the existence of the intermediate state after death; one must be, for a while, in an intermediate state before rebirth. This different concept is derieved from their different notions of liberation. According to Vajrayana, there are two kinds of liberation : Self - dependent liberation and external-power-dependent liberation. However in Theravada, the liberation is based only on self-dependence.