

Udomlak Rapeesaeng 2014: An Analytical Study of the Terms Narrating the Attainments of Dharma in the Buddhist Literature: A Case Study of the Dharmapada Commentary (Thai Version). Doctor of Philosophy (Thai Language), Major Field: Thai Language, Department of Thai Language. Thesis Advisor: Associate Professor Pratuang Dinnaratna, Ph.D. 734 pages.

The present thesis had purpose to study the forms and the strategy of presentation of the stories in Dharmapada Commentary by the way which the researcher was based on Burlingame's concept. Another purpose was to analyze the language used by Venerable Buddhaghosha to narrate the attainments of Dharma appearing in the Dharmapada Commentary. The researcher confined the scope and process of study by collecting the data from the book of Khuddaka Nikaya Commentary, the Dharmapada (Thai Version) that was published on the occasion of the 200th anniversary of Chakri Dynasty as the main material. Besides, the original eight parts of Pali textbooks of Dhammapadatthakatha were also consulted together with other related books and documents. The contents of this study were the 302 stories of the Dharmapada Commentary composed in Pali language by Venerable Buddhaghosa, an Indian Buddhist scholar and translated into Thai by a number of Thai scholars.

It was found in the result that there are two types of presentation forms; the first type consists of the stories of six components, i.e. the beginning verse, a reference to the person who was mentioned in the story, story proceeding, the full verse, the verse explanation, and a conclusion. The said type consists of 258 stories or 85.43%. The second type consists of eight components, i.e. the beginning verse, a reference to the person who was mentioned in the story, story proceeding, the full verse, the verse explanation, a conclusion, the stories in the past life, the roles of the characters in the past connected with those of the present life. This type consists of 44 stories or 14.57%. It was also found there are two types of the narration of the Dharma attainment; the direct narration mentioning the person who attains the Dharma directly together with the exact verbs and indicating the exact level of Dharma attained by that person; the indirect narration implying that the person had attained the Dharma already. In the former type 41 verbs of attainment were found and the verbs are partially of the past, the present and the future tenses. The latter type consists of 14 passages implying the attainment of Dharma.

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