

Thesis Title A CRITICAL STUDY OF THE METHODS OF
INTELLECTUAL DEVELOPMENT: BUDDHIST
AND SCIENTIFIC APPROACHES

Name CHAINAPOL APINATTALEELA

Degree MASTER OF ARTS (COMPARATIVE RELIGION)

Thesis Supervisory Committee Pinit Ratanakul, Ph.D.
Boon Ketutassa, MA.
Sathian Pantharangsi, MA.

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ABSTRACT

Buddhism and Science have discovered that human-beings have the potential to develop himself to achieve supreme happiness through his own intelligence. Both provide guidelines for intellectual development although certain differences exist in their basic attitudes and goal.

According to Buddhism life is psycho-physical process consisting of mind and body. In this process the mind, or sometimes called consciousness is the most dominant element in the process being both the center and perceiver of all experience. Mind cultivation is therefore the most effective means to overcome defilements and thus attain the Buddhist ideal of perfection; i.e. the release from the will of life and death.

On the other hand science conceives of life in term of electro-chemical process. These processes are nourished by material consumption; therefore, physical development of human being is the most basic goal of science.

While physical development is much needed for the

well being of man, it is insufficient to happiness which depends mostly on his mind. Hence mental development must go hand in hand with the physical one.

This research attempts to explain that despite differences in their approaches of intellectual development; both Buddhism and Science are not contradictory to each other. Each supplements what the other lacks. The use of both methods will greatly enhance to process of learning and at the same time increase it's efficiency.