

Research Title : An Analytical Study of the Asannakamma (Proximate Kamma) in Theravada Buddhism

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ABSTRACT

The purpose of this research work is to study the concept the Asannakamma (Proximate Kamma) in Theravada Buddhism.

The research finds that kamma or action in the Tipitaka, playing an important role on designating and continuing a circle of human life as far as it is not destroyed absolutely by the knowledge of the destruction of mental intoxication, covers both wholesome and unwholesome actions, but neither -wholesome-nor-unwholesome action of an arahanta (perfected one) never gives birth to any result subject to rebirth due to the lack of clinging (Upadana) in the action. Also it finds that the commentaries by the venerable Buddhaghosa of the Tipitaka mention twelve kammas (actions) being classified into three classifications -1)classification in line with the time of ripening, 2)classification in line with function, and 3)classification in line with the order of ripening, all based on the above mentioned wholesome and unwholesome actions.

The Asanna Kamma in this research is classified in the classification in line with the order of ripening and given two definitions- 1) any action performed at the death time, and 2) any long past action recollected at the death time. The definitions cover the Asanna Kamma, both wholesome and unwholesome. From the research, the Asanna Kamma is found that it bridged this life and life after death, immediately and inevitably giving birth to new life. By this reason, a man is able to choose his or her new life on the main ground of the Asanna Kamma.

Keywords : Kamma Law of Kamma Proximate Kamma Theravada Buddhism Rebirth