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A Study on the Abhidhammic Analysis of the Buddhist Concept of Education

By

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Abstract

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The purpose of this research is to carry out an analysis of the Buddhist concept of education, mainly with reference to the Abhidhammic interpretations related to our subject, since our main field of study is the analysis of the psychological aspects in the educational process.

The early sources of Buddhism define education as the moral and psychological training of the human intellect and behavior. According to Buddhist philosophy, human personality is a co-existence of mental and material elements. This interpretation is applicable to the basic teaching of the five aggregates viz. form, sensation, perception, dispositions and consciousness.

The entire compilation of seven texts that composes the *Abhidhamma Piṭaka* serves as an auxiliary to meditation and the entire framework for human psychology and

emotional conditions that underlie human awareness. The aim of *Abhidhamma* and therefore its focus is the overcoming of attachments, offering in their place a road map which directs us to the ending of suffering.

How this psychology based educational approach has been implemented in *Abhidhamma*. Then, the term education in Buddhist context necessarily refers not only to mental development but also to the restraint of the physical senses, coupled with suitable environmental factors. They will have been covered in this thesis.