

Mahāsatiṭṭhāna Sutta

This is the one and only way, for the purification of beings, for the overcoming of sorrow and lamentation, for the extinguishing of suffering and grief, for walking on the path of truth, for the realisation of nibbāna!

The Buddha



Photograph of Gal Vihara at Polonnaruwa, Sri Lanka

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**In Loving Memory of
Amaravathy K.A. Simon**



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***You've Shared Our Disappointments,
Listened And Helped Us Through Difficult
Times. We Thank You For Allowing Us To
Walk Life With You, As All That Has Come
Since Then Would Never Be, You're
The Most Important Part Of Our Lives...
May You Have A Blissful Afterlife
And May You Attain Nibbāna Ultimately***



***Anumodana (Dedication of Merits)
“We Dedicate The Merits Of This Dhamma Dana
To Each And Every Sentient Being. May All Beings
Accomplish Within Their Minds The Accumulation
Of Moral Disciplines, Concentrative Meditation,
Transcendental Wisdom, And Ultimately
Attain Enlightenment And Be Freed
From The Sufferings Of Samsara.”***

PREAMBLE

The Mahasatipatthana Sutta is a fundamental sutta on meditation. It is generally regarded as the canonical Buddhist text with the fullest instructions on the system of meditation unique to the Buddha's own dispensation. The Satipatthana is wide ranging in its scope but very concise in its presentation.

The practice of Satipatthana meditation centers on the methodical cultivation of one simple mental faculty readily available to all of us at any moment. This is the faculty of mindfulness, the capacity for attending to the content of our experience as it becomes manifest in the immediate present. What the Buddha shows in the sutta is the tremendous, but generally hidden, power inherent in this simple mental function, a power that can unfold all the mind's potentials culminating in final deliverance from suffering.

To exercise this power, however, mindfulness must be systematically cultivated. This sutta shows exactly how this is to be done. The key to the practice is to combine energy, mindfulness, and clear comprehension in attending to the phenomena of mind and body summed up in the "four arousings of mindfulness": body, feelings, consciousness and mental objects.

Unlike the forms of meditation which cultivate concentration and insight sequentially, Satipatthana brings both these faculties into being together. However, in the actual process of development, concentration will have to gain a certain degree of stability before insight can exercise its penetrating function. In Satipatthana, the act of attending to each occasion of experience as it occurs in the moment fixes the mind firmly on the object. The continuous attention to the object, even when the object itself is constantly changing, stabilizes the mind in concentration.

Mahāsatipatṭhāna Sutta

Evam me sutam.

Ekam samayaṃ bhagavā kurūsu viharati kammāssadhammaṃ nāma kurūnaṃ nigamo. Tatra kho bhagavā bhikkhū āmantesi, ‘Bhikkhavo’¹ ti. ‘Bhadante’ ti te bhikkhū bhagavato paccassosum. Bhagavā etadavoca:

1. Uddeso

Ekāyano ayaṃ, bhikkhave, maggo sattānaṃ visuddhiyā, sokapariddavānaṃ samatikkamāya, dukkhadomanassānaṃ atthaṅgamāya, ñāyassa adhigamāya, nibbānassa sacchikiriyāya, yadidaṃ cattāro satipatṭhānā.²

Katame cattāro? Idha, bhikkhave, bhikkhu kāye kāyānupassī viharati ātāpī sampajāno³ satimā, vineyya loke abhijjhādomanassaṃ. Vedanāsu vedanānupassī viharati ātāpī sampajāno satimā, vineyya loke abhijjhādomanassaṃ. Citte cittānupassī viharati ātāpī sampajāno satimā, vineyya loke abhijjhādomanassaṃ. Dhammesu dhammānupassī viharati ātāpī sampajāno satimā, vineyya loke abhijjhādomanassaṃ.⁴

2. Kāyānupassanā

A. Ānāpānappabbam

Kathaṃ ca , bhikkhave, bhikkhu kāye kāyānupassī viharati?

Idha, bhikkhave, bhikkhu araṇṇagato vā rukkhamaṃlagato vā suñṇāgāragato vā nisīdanti pallaṅkaṃ ābhujitvā, ujum kāyaṃ paṇidhāya, parimukhaṃ satim upaṭṭhapetvā. So sato va assasati, sato passasati. Dīghaṃ vā assasanto ‘dīghaṃ assasāmī’ ti pajānāti,⁵ dīghaṃ vā passasanto ‘dīghaṃ passasāmī’ ti pajānāti. Rassaṃ vā assasanto ‘rassaṃ assasāmī’ ti pajānāti, rassaṃ vā passasanto ‘rassaṃ passasāmī’ ti pajānāti. ‘Sabbakāyapaṭisaṃvedī assasissāmī’ ti sikkhati, ‘sabbakāyapaṭisaṃvedī passasissāmī’ ti sikkhati. ‘Passambhayaṃ kāyasaṅkhāraṃ assasissāmī’ ti sikkhati, ‘passambhayaṃ kāyasaṅkhāraṃ passasissāmī’ ti sikkhati.

Seyyathāpi, bhikkhave, dakkho bhamakāro vā bhamakārantevāsī vā dīghaṃ vā añchanto ‘dīghaṃ añchāmī’ ti pajānāti, rassaṃ vā añchanto ‘rassaṃ añchāmī’ ti pajānāti. Evameva kho, bhikkhave, bhikkhu dīghaṃ vā assasanto ‘dīghaṃ assasāmī’ ti pajānāti, dīghaṃ vā

Chanting of the Great Discourse of Establishing Awareness

Thus have I heard:

At one time the Enlightened One was staying among the Kurus at Kammāsadhamma, a market town of the Kuru people. There the Enlightened One addressed the monks thus: “Monks,”¹ and they replied, “Venerable Sir!” Then the Enlightened One spoke as follows:

1. Introduction

This is the one and only way, monks, for the purification of beings, for the overcoming of sorrow and lamentation, for the extinguishing of suffering and grief, for walking on the path of truth, for the realisation of nibbāna: that is to say, the fourfold establishing of awareness.²

Which four? Here, monks, a monk dwells ardent with awareness and constant thorough understanding of impermanence,³ observing body in body, having removed craving and aversion towards the world [of mind and matter]; he dwells ardent with awareness and constant thorough understanding of impermanence, observing sensations in sensations, having removed craving and aversion towards the world [of mind and matter]; he dwells ardent with awareness and constant thorough understanding of impermanence, observing mind in mind, having removed craving and aversion towards the world [of mind and matter]; he dwells ardent with awareness and constant thorough understanding of impermanence, observing mental contents in mental contents, having removed craving and aversion towards the world [of mind and matter].⁴

2. The Observation of Body

A. Section on Respiration

And how, monks, does a monk dwell observing body in body?

Here a monk, having gone into the forest, or to the foot of a tree, or to an empty room, sits down cross-legged, keeps his body upright and fixes his awareness in the area around the mouth. With this awareness, he breathes in, with this awareness, he breathes out. Breathing in a deep breath, he understands properly:⁵ “I am breathing in a deep breath.” Breathing out a deep breath, he understands properly: “I am breathing out a deep breath.” Breathing in a shallow breath, he understands properly: “I am breathing in a shallow breath.” Breathing out a shallow breath, he understands properly: “I am breathing out a shallow breath.” In this way he trains himself: “Feeling the whole body, I shall breathe in.” “Feeling the whole body, I shall breathe out,” thus he trains himself. “With the bodily activities calmed, I shall breathe in,” thus he trains himself. “With the bodily activities calmed, I shall breathe out,” thus he trains himself.

Just as a skilful turner or a turner’s apprentice, while making a long turn understands properly: “I am making a long turn,” and while making a short turn, understands properly: “I am making a short turn,” just so, the monk, breathing in a deep breath, understands

passasanto ‘dīghaṃ passasāmī’ ti pajānāti, rassaṃ vā assasanto ‘rassaṃ assasāmī’ ti pajānāti, rassaṃ vā passasanto ‘rassaṃ passasāmī’ ti pajānāti. ‘Sabbakāyapaṭisaṃvedī assasissāmī’ ti sikkhati, ‘sabbakāyapaṭisaṃvedī passasissāmī’ ti sikkhati, ‘passambhayaṃ kāyasaṅkhāraṃ assasissāmī’ ti sikkhati, ‘passambhayaṃ kāyasaṅkhāraṃ passasissāmī’ ti sikkhati.

Iti⁶ ajjhattaṃ vā kāye kāyānupassī viharati, bahiddhā⁷ vā kāye kāyānupassī viharati, ajjhatabhiddhā vā kāye kāyānupassī viharati, samudayadhammānupassī vā kāyasmiṃ viharati, vayadhammānupassī vā kāyasmiṃ viharati, samudayavayadhammānupassī vā kāyasmiṃ viharati, ‘atthi kāyo’⁸ ti vā panassa sati paccupaṭṭhitā hoti. Yāvadeva ñāṇamattāya patissatimattāya⁹ anissito ca viharati, na ca kiñci loke upādiyati. Evaṃ pi kho, bhikkhave, bhikkhu kāye kāyānupassī viharati.

B. Iriyāpathapabbam

Puna ca paraṃ, bhikkhave, bhikkhu gacchanto vā ‘gacchāmī’ ti pajānāti, ṭhito vā ‘ṭhitomhī’ ti pajānāti, nisinno vā ‘nisinnomhī’ ti pajānāti, sayāno vā ‘sayānomhī’ ti pajānāti. Yathā yathā vā panassa kāyo paṇihito hoti, tathā tathā naṃ pajānāti.¹⁰

Iti ajjhattaṃ vā kāye kāyānupassī viharati, bahiddhā vā kāye kāyānupassī viharati, ajjhatabhiddhā vā kāye kāyānupassī viharati, samudayadhammānupassī vā kāyasmiṃ viharati, vayadhammānupassī vā kāyasmiṃ viharati, samudayavayadhammānupassī vā kāyasmiṃ viharati, ‘atthi kāyo’ ti vā panassa sati paccupaṭṭhitā hoti. Yāvadeva ñāṇamattāya patissatimattāya anissito ca viharati, na ca kiñci loke upādiyati. Evaṃ pi kho, bhikkhave, bhikkhu kāye kāyānupassī viharati.

C. Sampajānapabbam

Puna ca paraṃ, bhikkhave, bhikkhu abhikkante paṭikkante sampajānakārī hoti,¹¹ ālokite vilokite sampajānakārī hoti, sammiñjite pasārite sampajānakārī hoti, saṅghāṭipattacīvaradhā raṇe sampajānakārī hoti, asite pīte khāyite sāyite sampajānakārī hoti, uccārapassāvakamme sampajānakārī hoti, gate ṭhite nisinne sutte jāgarite bhāsīte tuṅhībhave sampajānakārī hoti.

properly: “I am breathing in a deep breath.” Breathing in a shallow breath, he understands properly: “I am breathing in a shallow breath.” Breathing out a deep breath, he understands properly: “I am breathing out a deep breath.” Breathing out a shallow breath, he understands properly: “I am breathing out a shallow breath.” In this way he trains himself: “Feeling the whole body, I shall breathe in.” “Feeling the whole body, I shall breathe out,” thus he trains himself. “With the bodily activities calmed, I shall breathe in,” thus he trains himself. “With the bodily activities calmed, I shall breathe out,” thus he trains himself.

Thus⁶ he dwells observing body in body internally, or he dwells observing body in body externally, or he dwells observing body in body both internally and externally.⁷ Thus he dwells observing the phenomenon of arising in the body, thus he dwells observing the phenomenon of passing away in the body, thus he dwells observing the phenomenon of arising and passing away in the body. Now his awareness is established: “This is body!”⁸ Thus he develops his awareness to such an extent that there is mere understanding along with mere awareness.⁹ In this way he dwells detached, without clinging towards anything in the world [of mind and matter]. This is how, monks, a monk dwells observing body in body.

B. Section on Postures

Again, monks, a monk while he is walking, understands properly: “I am walking”; while he is standing, he understands properly: “I am standing”; while he is sitting, he understands properly: “I am sitting”; while he is lying down, he understands properly: “I am lying down.” In whichever position he disposes his body, he understands it properly.¹⁰

Thus he dwells observing body in body internally, or he dwells observing body in body externally, or he dwells observing body in body both internally and externally. Thus he dwells observing the phenomenon of arising in the body, thus he dwells observing the phenomenon of passing away in the body, thus he dwells observing the phenomenon of arising and passing away in the body. Now his awareness is established: “This is body!” Thus he develops his awareness to such an extent that there is mere understanding along with mere awareness. In this way he dwells detached, without clinging towards anything in the world [of mind and matter]. This is how, monks, a monk dwells observing body in body.

C. Section on Constant Thorough Understanding of Impermanence

Again, monks, a monk, while going forward or backward, he does so with constant thorough understanding of impermanence;¹¹ whether he is looking straight ahead or looking sideways, he does so with constant thorough understanding of impermanence; while he is bending or stretching, he does so with constant thorough understanding of impermanence; whether wearing his robes or carrying his bowl, he does so with constant thorough understanding of impermanence; whether he is eating, drinking, chewing or savouring, he does so with constant thorough understanding of impermanence; while attending to the calls of nature,

Iti ajjhataṃ vā kāye kāyānupassī viharati, bahiddhā vā kāye kāyānupassī viharati, ajjhatabhiddhā vā kāye kāyānupassī viharati, samudayadhammānupassī vā kāyasmim viharati, vayadhammānupassī vā kāyasmim viharati, samudayavayadhammānupassī vā kāyasmim viharati, ‘atthi kāyo’ ti vā panassa sati paccupaṭṭhitā hoti. Yāvadeva ñāṇamattāya patissatimattāya anissito ca viharati, na ca kiñci loke upādiyati. Evaṃ pi kho, bhikkhave, bhikkhu kāye kāyānupassī viharati.

D. Paṭikkūlamanasikārapabbaṃ

Puna ca paraṃ, bhikkhave, bhikkhu imameva kāyaṃ, uddhaṃ pādatalā adho kesamatthakā, tacapariyantaṃ pūraṃ nānappakārassa asucino paccavekkhati: ‘Atthi imasmim kāye kesā lomā nakhā dantā taco maṃsaṃ nahāru aṭṭhi aṭṭhimiñjaṃ vakkhaṃ hadayaṃ yakaṇaṃ kilomakaṃ pihakaṃ papphāsaṃ antaṃ antaṅgaṃ udariyaṃ karisaṃ pittaṃ semhaṃ pubbo lohitaṃ sedo medo assu vasā kheḷo siṅghāṇikā lasikā muttaṃ’ ti.

Seyyathāpi, bhikkhave, ubhato mukhā mūṭoḷi pūrā nānāvihitassa dhaññaṃ, seyyathidaṃ sālīnaṃ vīhīnaṃ muggānaṃ māsānaṃ tilānaṃ taṇḍulānaṃ. Tamaṇaṃ cakkhumā puriso muñcitvā paccavekkheyya: ‘Ime sālī ime vīhī, ime muggā, ime māsā, ime tilā, ime taṇḍulā’ ti; evameva kho, bhikkhave, bhikkhu imameva kāyaṃ, uddhaṃ pādatalā adho kesamatthakā, tacapariyantaṃ pūraṃ nānappakārassa asucino paccavekkhati: ‘Atthi imasmim kāye kesā lomā nakhā dantā taco maṃsaṃ nahāru aṭṭhi aṭṭhimiñjā vakkhaṃ hadayaṃ yakaṇaṃ kilomakaṃ pihakaṃ papphāsaṃ antaṃ antaṅgaṃ udariyaṃ karisaṃ pittaṃ semhaṃ pubbo lohitaṃ sedo medo assu vasā kheḷo siṅghāṇikā lasikā muttaṃ’ ti.

Iti ajjhataṃ vā kāye kāyānupassī viharati, bahiddhā vā kāye kāyānupassī viharati, ajjhatabhiddhā vā kāye kāyānupassī viharati, samudayadhammānupassī vā kāyasmim viharati, vayadhammānupassī vā kāyasmim viharati, samudayavayadhammānupassī vā kāyasmim viharati, ‘atthi kāyo’ ti vā panassa sati paccupaṭṭhitā hoti. Yāvadeva ñāṇamattāya patissatimattāya anissito ca viharati, na ca kiñci loke upādiyati. Evaṃ pi kho, bhikkhave, bhikkhu kāye kāyānupassī viharati.

he does so with constant thorough understanding of impermanence; whether he is walking, standing, sitting, sleeping or waking, speaking or in silence, he does so with constant thorough understanding of impermanence.

Thus he dwells observing body in body internally, or he dwells observing body in body externally, or he dwells observing body in body both internally and externally. Thus he dwells observing the phenomenon of arising in the body, thus he dwells observing the phenomenon of passing away in the body, thus he dwells observing the phenomenon of arising and passing away in the body. Now his awareness is established: "This is body!" Thus he develops his awareness to such an extent that there is mere understanding along with mere awareness. In this way he dwells detached, without clinging towards anything in the world [of mind and matter]. This is how, monks, a monk dwells observing body in body.

D. Section on Reflections on Repulsiveness

Again, monks, a monk reflects on this very body, that is covered with skin and full of impurities of all kinds from the soles of the feet upwards and from the hair of the head downwards, considering thus: "In this body, there are hairs of the head, hairs of the skin, nails, teeth, skin, flesh, sinews, bones, marrow, kidney, heart, liver, pleura, spleen, lungs, intestines, mesentery, stomach with its contents, faeces, bile, phlegm, pus, blood, sweat, fat, tears, grease, saliva, nasal mucus, synovial fluid and urine."

Just as if there were a double-mouthed provision bag, full of various kinds of grains and seeds, such as hill-paddy, paddy, mung-beans, cow-peas, sesame seeds and husked rice, and as if there were a man with discerning eyes, who, after having opened that bag would examine the contents, saying: "This is hill-paddy, this is paddy, these are mung-beans, these are cow-peas, these are sesame seeds and this is husked rice"; in this same way, monks, a monk reflects on this very body, that is covered with skin and full of impurities of all kinds from the soles of the feet upwards and from the hair of the head downwards, considering thus: "In this body, there are hairs of the head, hairs of the skin, nails, teeth, skin, flesh, sinews, bones, marrow, kidney, heart, liver, pleura, spleen, lungs, intestines, mesentery, stomach with its contents, faeces, bile, phlegm, pus, blood, sweat, fat, tears, grease, saliva, nasal mucus, synovial fluid and urine."

Thus he dwells observing body in body internally, or he dwells observing body in body externally, or he dwells observing body in body both internally and externally. Thus he dwells observing the phenomenon of arising in the body, thus he dwells observing the phenomenon of passing away in the body, thus he dwells observing the phenomenon of arising and passing away in the body. Now his awareness is established: "This is body!" Thus he develops his awareness to such an extent that there is mere understanding along with mere awareness. In this way he dwells detached, without clinging towards anything in the world [of mind and matter]. This is how, monks, a monk dwells observing body in body.

E. Dhātumanasikārapabbam

Puna ca param, bhikkhave, bhikkhu imameva kāyaṃ yathāṭṭhitam yathāpaṇihitam dhātuso paccavekkhati: ‘Atthi imasmim̐ kāye paṭhavidhātu āpodhātu tejodhātu vāyodhātū’ ti.

Seyyathāpi, bhikkhave, dakkho goghātako vā goghātakantevāsī vā gāviṃ vadhitvā catummahāpathe bilaso paṭivibhajitvā nisinno assa; evameva kho, bhikkhave, bhikkhu imameva kāyaṃ yathāṭṭhitam yathāpaṇihitam dhātuso paccavekkhati: ‘Atthi imasmim̐ kāye paṭhavidhātu āpodhātu tejodhātu vāyodhātū’ ti.

Iti ajjhataṃ vā kāye kāyānupassī viharati, bahiddhā vā kāye kāyānupassī viharati, ajjhatabhiddhā vā kāye kāyānupassī viharati, samudayadhammānupassī vā kāyasmim̐ viharati, vayadhammānupassī vā kāyasmim̐ viharati, samudayavayadhammānupassī vā kāyasmim̐ viharati, ‘atthi kāyo’ ti vā panassa sati paccupaṭṭhitā hoti. Yāvadeva ñāṇamattāya patissatimattāya anissito ca viharati, na ca kiñci loke upādiyati. Evaṃ pi kho, bhikkhave, bhikkhu kāye kāyānupassī viharati.

F. Navasīvathikapabbam

Puna ca param, bhikkhave, bhikkhu seyyathāpi passeyya sarīraṃ sīvathikāya chaḍḍitaṃ ekāhamataṃ vā dvīhamataṃ vā tīhamataṃ vā uddhumākataṃ vinīlakaṃ vipubbakajātaṃ. So imameva kāyaṃ upasaṃharati: ‘ayaṃ pi kho kāyo evaṃ dhammo evaṃ bhāvī etaṃ anatīto’ ti.

Iti ajjhataṃ vā kāye kāyānupassī viharati, bahiddhā vā kāye kāyānupassī viharati, ajjhatabhiddhā vā kāye kāyānupassī viharati, samudayadhammānupassī vā kāyasmim̐ viharati, vayadhammānupassī vā kāyasmim̐ viharati, samudayavayadhammānupassī vā kāyasmim̐ viharati, ‘atthi kāyo’ ti vā panassa sati paccupaṭṭhitā hoti. Yāvadeva ñāṇamattāya patissatimattāya anissito ca viharati, na ca kiñci loke upādiyati. Evaṃ pi bhikkhave, bhikkhu kāye kāyānupassī viharati.

Puna ca param, bhikkhave, bhikkhu seyyathāpi passeyya sarīraṃ sīvathikāya chaḍḍitaṃ kākehi vā khajjamānaṃ kulalehi vā khajjamānaṃ gijjhehi vā khajjamānaṃ suvānehi vā khajjamānaṃ siṅgālehi vā khajjamānaṃ vividhehi vā pāṇakajātehi khajjamānaṃ. So imameva kāyaṃ upasaṃharati: ‘ayaṃ pi kho kāyo evaṃ dhammo evaṃ bhāvī etaṃ anatīto’ ti.

E. Section on the Reflections on the Material Elements

Again, monks, a monk reflects on this very body, however it is placed or disposed, considering it according to the characteristic of each element: "In this body, there is the earth-element, the water-element, the fire-element and the air-element."

Just as if, monks, a skilful cow-butcher or his apprentice, after having slaughtered a cow and having divided it into portions, would sit down at the junction of four roads; in the same way, monks, a monk reflects on this very body, however it is placed or disposed, considering the material elements: "In this body, there is the earth-element, the water-element, the fire-element and the air-element."

Thus he dwells observing body in body internally, or he dwells observing body in body externally, or he dwells observing body in body both internally and externally. Thus he dwells observing the phenomenon of arising in the body, thus he dwells observing the phenomenon of passing away in the body, thus he dwells observing the phenomenon of arising and passing away in the body. Now his awareness is established: "This is body!" Thus he develops his awareness to such an extent that there is mere understanding along with mere awareness. In this way he dwells detached, without clinging towards anything in the world [of mind and matter]. This is how, monks, a monk dwells observing body in body.

F. Section on the Nine Charnel-ground Observations

Again, monks, a monk, when he sees a dead body that has been thrown in a charnel-ground, dead for one, two or three days, swollen, blue and festering, regarding his own body considers thus: "Indeed, this body is of the same nature, it will become like that and cannot escape it."

Thus he dwells observing body in body internally, or he dwells observing body in body externally, or he dwells observing body in body both internally and externally. Thus he dwells observing the phenomenon of arising in the body, thus he dwells observing the phenomenon of passing away in the body, thus he dwells observing the phenomenon of arising and passing away in the body. Now his awareness is established: "This is body!" Thus he develops his awareness to such an extent that there is mere understanding along with mere awareness. In this way he dwells detached, without clinging towards anything in the world [of mind and matter]. This is how, monks, a monk dwells observing body in body.

Again, monks, a monk, when he sees a dead body that has been thrown in a charnel-ground, being eaten by crows, being eaten by vultures, being eaten by falcons, being eaten by herons, being eaten by dogs, being eaten by tigers, being eaten by leopards, being eaten by jackals and being eaten by different kinds of creatures, regarding his own body considers thus: "Indeed, this body is of the same nature, it will become like that and cannot escape it."

Iti ajjhattaṃ vā kāye kāyānupassī viharati, bahiddhā vā kāye kāyānupassī viharati, ajjhattabahiddhā vā kāye kāyānupassī viharati, samudayadhammānupassī vā kāyasmiṃ viharati, vayadhammānupassī vā kāyasmiṃ viharati, samudayavayadhammānupassī vā kāyasmiṃ viharati, 'atthi kāyo' ti vā panassa sati paccupaṭṭhitā hoti. Yāvadeva ñāṇamattāya patissatimattāya anissito ca viharati, na ca kiñci loke upādiyati. Evaṃ pi kho, bhikkhave, bhikkhu kāye kāyānupassī viharati.

Puna ca paraṃ, bhikkhave, bhikkhu seyyathāpi passeyya sarīraṃ sīvathikāya chaḍḍitaṃ aṭṭhikasāṅkhalikaṃ samamsalohitaṃ nahārusambandhaṃ. So imameva kāyaṃ upasaṃharati: 'ayaṃ pi kho kāyo evaṃ dhammo evaṃ bhāvī etaṃ anatīto' ti.

Iti ajjhattaṃ vā kāye kāyānupassī viharati, bahiddhā vā kāye kāyānupassī viharati, ajjhattabahiddhā vā kāye kāyānupassī viharati, samudayadhammānupassī vā kāyasmiṃ viharati, vayadhammānupassī vā kāyasmiṃ viharati, samudayavayadhammānupassī vā kāyasmiṃ viharati, 'atthi kāyo' ti vā panassa sati paccupaṭṭhitā hoti. Yāvadeva ñāṇamattāya patissatimattāya anissito ca viharati, na ca kiñci loke upādiyati. Evaṃ pi kho, bhikkhave, bhikkhu kāye kāyānupassī viharati.

Puna ca paraṃ, bhikkhave, bhikkhu seyyathāpi passeyya sarīraṃ sīvathikāya chaḍḍitaṃ aṭṭhikasāṅkhalikaṃ nimmaṃsalohitamakkhittaṃ nahārusambandhaṃ. So imameva kāyaṃ upasaṃharati: 'ayaṃ pi kho kāyo evaṃ dhammo evaṃ bhāvī etaṃ anatīto' ti.

Iti ajjhattaṃ vā kāye kāyānupassī viharati, bahiddhā vā kāye kāyānupassī viharati, ajjhattabahiddhā vā kāye kāyānupassī viharati, samudayadhammānupassī vā kāyasmiṃ viharati, vayadhammānupassī vā kāyasmiṃ viharati, samudayavayadhammānupassī vā kāyasmiṃ viharati, 'atthi kāyo' ti vā panassa sati paccupaṭṭhitā hoti. Yāvadeva ñāṇamattāya patissatimattāya anissito ca viharati, na ca kiñci loke upādiyati. Evaṃ pi kho, bhikkhave, bhikkhu kāye kāyānupassī viharati.

Puna ca paraṃ, bhikkhave, bhikkhu seyyathāpi passeyya sarīraṃ sīvathikāya chaḍḍitaṃ aṭṭhikasāṅkhalikaṃ apagatamaṃsalohitaṃ nahārusambandhaṃ. So imameva kāyaṃ upasaṃharati: 'ayaṃ pi kho kāyo evaṃ dhammo evaṃ bhāvī etaṃ anatīto' ti.

Thus he dwells observing body in body internally, or he dwells observing body in body externally, or he dwells observing body in body both internally and externally. Thus he dwells observing the phenomenon of arising in the body, thus he dwells observing the phenomenon of passing away in the body, thus he dwells observing the phenomenon of arising and passing away in the body. Now his awareness is established: "This is body!" Thus he develops his awareness to such an extent that there is mere understanding along with mere awareness. In this way he dwells detached, without clinging towards anything in the world [of mind and matter]. This is how, monks, a monk dwells observing body in body.

Again, monks, a monk, when he sees a dead body that has been thrown in a charnel-ground, reduced to a skeleton with some flesh and blood attached to it and held together by tendons, regarding his own body considers thus: "Indeed, this body is of the same nature, it will become like that and cannot escape it."

Thus he dwells observing body in body internally, or he dwells observing body in body externally, or he dwells observing body in body both internally and externally. Thus he dwells observing the phenomenon of arising in the body, thus he dwells observing the phenomenon of passing away in the body, thus he dwells observing the phenomenon of arising and passing away in the body. Now his awareness is established: "This is body!" Thus he develops his awareness to such an extent that there is mere understanding along with mere awareness. In this way he dwells detached, without clinging towards anything in the world [of mind and matter]. This is how, monks, a monk dwells observing body in body.

Again, monks, a monk, when he sees a dead body that has been thrown in a charnel-ground, reduced to a skeleton without any flesh but smeared with blood and held together by tendons, regarding his own body considers thus: "Indeed, this body is of the same nature, it will become like that and cannot escape it."

Thus he dwells observing body in body internally, or he dwells observing body in body externally, or he dwells observing body in body both internally and externally. Thus he dwells observing the phenomenon of arising in the body, thus he dwells observing the phenomenon of passing away in the body, thus he dwells observing the phenomenon of arising and passing away in the body. Now his awareness is established: "This is body!" Thus he develops his awareness to such an extent that there is mere understanding along with mere awareness. In this way he dwells detached, without clinging towards anything in the world [of mind and matter]. This is how, monks, a monk dwells observing body in body.

Again, monks, a monk, when he sees a dead body that has been thrown in a charnel-ground, reduced to a skeleton without any flesh or blood, held together by tendons, regarding his own body considers thus: "Indeed, this body is of the same nature, it will become like that and cannot escape it."

Iti ajjhataṃ vā kāye kāyānupassī viharati, bahiddhā vā kāye kāyānupassī viharati, ajjhatabahiddhā vā kāye kāyānupassī viharati, samudayadhammānupassī vā kāyasmim viharati, vayadhammānupassī vā kāyasmim viharati, samudayavayadhammānupassī vā kāyasmim viharati, ‘atthi kāyo’ ti vā panassa sati paccupaṭṭhitā hoti. Yāvadeva ñāṇamattāya patissatimattāya anissito ca viharati, na ca kiñci loke upādiyati. Evaṃ pi kho, bhikkhave, bhikkhu kāye kāyānupassī viharati.

Puna ca paraṃ, bhikkhave, bhikkhu seyyathāpi passeyya sarīraṃ sīvathikāya chaḍḍitaṃ aṭṭhikāni apagatanahārusambandhāni disā vidisā vikkhittāni, aññena hatthaṭṭhikaṃ aññena pādaṭṭhikaṃ aññena jaṅghaṭṭhikaṃ aññena ūraṭṭhikaṃ aññena kaṭiṭṭhikaṃ aññena piṭṭhikaṅghakaṭṭhikaṃ aññena phāsukaṭṭhikaṃ aññena uraṭṭhikaṃ aññena bāhuṭṭhikaṃ aññena aṃsaṭṭhikaṃ aññena gīvaṭṭhikaṃ aññena hanuṭṭhikaṃ aññena dantaṭṭhikaṃ aññena sīsakaṭāhaṃ. So imameva kāyaṃ upasaṃharati: ‘ayaṃ pi kho kāyo evaṃ dhammo evaṃ bhāvī etaṃ anatīto’ ti.

Iti ajjhataṃ vā kāye kāyānupassī viharati, bahiddhā vā kāye kāyānupassī viharati, ajjhatabahiddhā vā kāye kāyānupassī viharati, samudayadhammānupassī vā kāyasmim viharati, vayadhammānupassī vā kāyasmim viharati, samudayavayadhammānupassī vā kāyasmim viharati, ‘atthi kāyo’ ti vā panassa sati paccupaṭṭhitā hoti. Yāvadeva ñāṇamattāya patissatimattāya anissito ca viharati, na ca kiñci loke upādiyati. Evaṃ pi kho, bhikkhave, bhikkhu kāye kāyānupassī viharati.

Puna ca paraṃ, bhikkhave, bhikkhu seyyathāpi passeyya sarīraṃ sīvathikāya chaḍḍitaṃ aṭṭhikāni setāni saṅkhavaṇṇupanibhāni. So imameva kāyaṃ upasaṃharati: ‘ayaṃ pi kho kāyo evaṃ dhammo evaṃ bhāvī etaṃ anatīto’ ti.

Iti ajjhataṃ vā kāye kāyānupassī viharati, bahiddhā vā kāye kāyānupassī viharati, ajjhatabahiddhā vā kāye kāyānupassī viharati, samudayadhammānupassī vā kāyasmim viharati, vayadhammānupassī vā kāyasmim viharati, samudayavayadhammānupassī vā kāyasmim viharati, ‘atthi kāyo’ ti vā panassa sati paccupaṭṭhitā hoti. Yāvadeva ñāṇamattāya patissatimattāya anissito ca viharati, na ca kiñci loke upādiyati. Evaṃ pi kho, bhikkhave, bhikkhu kāye kāyānupassī viharati.

Puna ca paraṃ, bhikkhave, bhikkhu seyyathāpi passeyya sarīraṃ sīvathikāya chaḍḍitaṃ aṭṭhikāni puñjakitāni terovassikāni. So imameva kāyaṃ upasaṃharati: ‘ayaṃ pi kho kāyo evaṃ dhammo evaṃ bhāvī etaṃ anatīto’ ti.

Thus he dwells observing body in body internally, or he dwells observing body in body externally, or he dwells observing body in body both internally and externally. Thus he dwells observing the phenomenon of arising in the body, thus he dwells observing the phenomenon of passing away in the body, thus he dwells observing the phenomenon of arising and passing away in the body. Now his awareness is established: "This is body!" Thus he develops his awareness to such an extent that there is mere understanding along with mere awareness. In this way he dwells detached, without clinging towards anything in the world [of mind and matter]. This is how, monks, a monk dwells observing body in body.

Again, monks, a monk, when he sees a dead body that has been thrown in a charnel-ground, reduced to disconnected bones, scattered in all directions, here a bone of the hand, there a bone of the foot, here a bone of the ankle, there a bone of the knee, here a bone of the thigh and there a bone of the pelvis, here a bone of the spine, there a bone of the back, again there a bone of the shoulder, here a bone of the throat, there a bone of the chin, here a bone of the teeth and there a bone of the skull, regarding his own body considers thus: "Indeed, this body is of the same nature, it will become like that and cannot escape it."

Thus he dwells observing body in body internally, or he dwells observing body in body externally, or he dwells observing body in body both internally and externally. Thus he dwells observing the phenomenon of arising in the body, thus he dwells observing the phenomenon of passing away in the body, thus he dwells observing the phenomenon of arising and passing away in the body. Now his awareness is established: "This is body!" Thus he develops his awareness to such an extent that there is mere understanding along with mere awareness. In this way he dwells detached, without clinging towards anything in the world [of mind and matter]. This is how, monks, a monk dwells observing body in body.

Again, monks, a monk, when he sees a dead body that has been thrown in a charnel-ground, reduced to bleached bones of conch-like colour, regarding his own body considers thus: "Indeed, this body is of the same nature, it will become like that and cannot escape it."

Thus he dwells observing body in body internally, or he dwells observing body in body externally, or he dwells observing body in body both internally and externally. Thus he dwells observing the phenomenon of arising in the body, thus he dwells observing the phenomenon of passing away in the body, thus he dwells observing the phenomenon of arising and passing away in the body. Now his awareness is established: "This is body!" Thus he develops his awareness to such an extent that there is mere understanding along with mere awareness. In this way he dwells detached, without clinging towards anything in the world [of mind and matter]. This is how, monks, a monk dwells observing body in body.

Again, monks, a monk, when he sees a dead body that has been thrown in a charnel-ground, of bones that are piled up in a heap more than a year old, regarding his own body considers thus: "Indeed, this body is of the same nature, it will become like that and cannot escape it."

Iti ajjhattaṃ vā kāye kāyānupassī viharati, bahiddhā vā kāye kāyānupassī viharati, ajjhattabahiddhā vā kāye kāyānupassī viharati, samudayadhammānupassī vā kāyasmiṃ viharati, vayadhammānupassī vā kāyasmiṃ viharati, samudayavayadhammānupassī vā kāyasmiṃ viharati, ‘atthi kāyo’ ti vā panassa sati paccupaṭṭhitā hoti. Yāvadeva ñāṇamattāya patissatimattāya anissito ca viharati, na ca kiñci loke upādiyati. Evaṃ pi kho, bhikkhave, bhikkhu kāye kāyānupassī viharati.

Puna ca paraṃ, bhikkhave, bhikkhu seyyathāpi passeyya sarīraṃ sīvathikāya chaḍḍitaṃ aṭṭhikāni pūṭini cuṅṅakajātāni. So imameva kāyaṃ upasaṃharati: ‘ayaṃ pi kho kāyo evaṃ dhammo evaṃ bhāvī etaṃ anatīto’ ti.

Iti ajjhattaṃ vā kāye kāyānupassī viharati, bahiddhā vā kāye kāyānupassī viharati, ajjhattabahiddhā vā kāye kāyānupassī viharati, samudayadhammānupassī vā kāyasmiṃ viharati, vayadhammānupassī vā kāyasmiṃ viharati, samudayavayadhammānupassī vā kāyasmiṃ viharati, ‘atthi kāyo’ ti vā panassa sati paccupaṭṭhitā hoti. Yāvadeva ñāṇamattāya patissatimattāya anissito ca viharati, na ca kiñci loke upādiyati. Evaṃ pi kho, bhikkhave, bhikkhu kāye kāyānupassī viharati.

3. Vedanānupassanā

Kathaṃ ca pana, bhikkhave, bhikkhu vedanāsu vedanānupassī viharati?

Idha, bhikkhave, bhikkhu sukhaṃ vā vedanaṃ vediyamāno ‘sukhaṃ vedanaṃ vediyāmi’ ti pajānāti; dukkhaṃ vā vedanaṃ vediyamāno ‘dukkhaṃ vedanaṃ vediyāmi’ ti pajānāti; adukkhamasukhaṃ vā vedanaṃ vediyamāno ‘adukkhamasukhaṃ vedanaṃ vediyāmi’ ti pajānāti. Sāmisam vā sukhaṃ vedanaṃ vediyamāno ‘sāmisam sukhaṃ vedanaṃ vediyāmi’ ti pajānāti; nirāmisam vā sukhaṃ vedanaṃ vediyamāno ‘nirāmisam sukhaṃ vedanaṃ vediyāmi’ ti pajānāti. Sāmisam vā dukkhaṃ vedanaṃ vediyamāno ‘sāmisam dukkhaṃ vedanaṃ vediyāmi’ ti pajānāti; nirāmisam vā dukkhaṃ vedanaṃ vediyamāno ‘nirāmisam dukkhaṃ vedanaṃ vediyāmi’ ti pajānāti. Sāmisam vā adukkhamasukhaṃ vedanaṃ vediyamāno ‘sāmisam adukkhamasukhaṃ vedanaṃ vediyāmi’ ti pajānāti; nirāmisam vā adukkhamasukhaṃ vedanaṃ vediyamāno ‘nirāmisam adukkhamasukhaṃ vedanaṃ vediyāmi’ ti pajānāti.¹²

Thus he dwells observing body in body internally, or he dwells observing body in body externally, or he dwells observing body in body both internally and externally. Thus he dwells observing the phenomenon of arising in the body, thus he dwells observing the phenomenon of passing away in the body, thus he dwells observing the phenomenon of arising and passing away in the body. Now his awareness is established: "This is body!" Thus he develops his awareness to such an extent that there is mere understanding along with mere awareness. In this way he dwells detached, without clinging towards anything in the world [of mind and matter]. This is how, monks, a monk dwells observing body in body.

Again, monks, a monk, when he sees a dead body that has been thrown in a charnel-ground, the bones having rotted away to powder, regarding his own body considers thus: "Indeed, this body is of the same nature, it will become like that and cannot escape it."

Thus he dwells observing body in body internally, or he dwells observing body in body externally, or he dwells observing body in body both internally and externally. Thus he dwells observing the phenomenon of arising in the body, thus he dwells observing the phenomenon of passing away in the body, thus he dwells observing the phenomenon of arising and passing away in the body. Now his awareness is established: "This is body!" Thus he develops his awareness to such an extent that there is mere understanding along with mere awareness. In this way he dwells detached, without clinging towards anything in the world [of mind and matter]. This is how, monks, a monk dwells observing body in body.

3. The Observation of Sensations

How, monks, does a monk dwell, observing sensations in sensations?

Here, monks, a monk, while experiencing a pleasant sensation, understands properly, "I am experiencing a pleasant sensation"; while experiencing an unpleasant sensation, he understands properly, "I am experiencing an unpleasant sensation"; while experiencing a neither-unpleasant-nor-pleasant sensation, he understands properly, "I am experiencing a neither-unpleasant-nor-pleasant sensation." While he is experiencing a pleasant sensation with attachment, he understands properly, "I am experiencing a pleasant sensation with attachment"; while he is experiencing a pleasant sensation without attachment, he understands properly, "I am experiencing a pleasant sensation without attachment"; while experiencing an unpleasant sensation with attachment, he understands properly, "I am experiencing an unpleasant sensation with attachment"; while experiencing an unpleasant sensation without attachment, he understands properly, "I am experiencing an unpleasant sensation without attachment"; while experiencing a neither-unpleasant-nor-pleasant sensation with attachment, he understands properly, "I am experiencing a neither-unpleasant-nor-pleasant sensation with attachment"; while experiencing a neither-unpleasant-nor-pleasant sensation without attachment, he understands properly, "I am experiencing a neither-unpleasant-nor-pleasant sensation without attachment."¹²

Iti ajjhataṃ vā vedanāsu vedanānupassī viharati, bahiddhā¹³ vā vedanāsu vedanānupassī viharati, ajjhatabhiddhā vā vedanāsu vedanānupassī viharati, samudayadhammānupassī vā vedanāsu viharati, vayadhammānupassī vā vedanāsu viharati, samudayavayadhammānupassī vā vedanāsu viharati, ‘atthi vedanā’ ti vā panassa sati paccupaṭṭhitā hoti. Yāvadeva ñāṇamattāya patissatimattāya anissito ca viharati, na ca kiñci loke upādiyati. Evaṃ pi kho, bhikkhave, bhikkhu vedanāsu vedanānupassī viharati.

4. Cittānupassanā

Kathaṃ ca bhikkhave, bhikkhu citte¹⁴ cittānupassī viharati?

Idha, bhikkhave, bhikkhu sarāgaṃ vā cittaṃ ‘sarāgaṃ cittaṃ’ ti pajānāti, vītarāgaṃ vā cittaṃ ‘vītarāgaṃ cittaṃ’ ti pajānāti, sadosaṃ vā cittaṃ ‘sadosaṃ cittaṃ’ ti pajānāti, vītadosaṃ vā cittaṃ ‘vītadosaṃ cittaṃ’ ti pajānāti, samohaṃ vā cittaṃ ‘samohaṃ cittaṃ’ ti pajānāti, vītamohaṃ vā cittaṃ ‘vītamohaṃ cittaṃ’ ti pajānāti, saṅkhittaṃ vā cittaṃ ‘saṅkhittaṃ cittaṃ’ ti pajānāti, vikkhittaṃ vā cittaṃ ‘vikkhittaṃ cittaṃ’¹⁵ ti pajānāti, mahaggataṃ vā cittaṃ ‘mahaggataṃ cittaṃ’ ti pajānāti, amahaggataṃ vā cittaṃ ‘amahaggataṃ cittaṃ’¹⁶ ti pajānāti, sa-uttaraṃ vā cittaṃ ‘sa-uttaraṃ cittaṃ’ ti pajānāti, anuttaraṃ vā cittaṃ ‘anuttaraṃ cittaṃ’¹⁷ ti pajānāti, samāhitaṃ vā cittaṃ ‘samāhitaṃ cittaṃ’ ti pajānāti, asamāhitaṃ vā cittaṃ ‘asamāhitaṃ cittaṃ’¹⁸ ti pajānāti, vimuttaṃ vā cittaṃ ‘vimuttaṃ cittaṃ’ ti pajānāti, avimuttaṃ vā cittaṃ ‘avimuttaṃ cittaṃ’ ti pajānāti.

Iti ajjhataṃ vā citte cittānupassī viharati, bahiddhā¹³ vā citte cittānupassī viharati, ajjhatabhiddhā vā citte cittānupassī viharati, samudayadhammānupassī vā cittasmim viharati, vayadhammānupassī vā cittasmim viharati, samudayavayadhammānupassī vā cittasmim viharati, ‘atthi cittanti vā panassa sati paccupaṭṭhitā hoti. Yāvadeva ñāṇamattāya patissatimattāya anissito ca viharati, na ca kiñci loke upādiyati. Evaṃ pi kho, bhikkhave, bhikkhu citte cittānupassī viharati.

5. Dhammānupassanā

A. Nīvaraṇapabbhaṃ

Kathaṃ ca pana, bhikkhave, bhikkhu dhammesu dhammānupassī viharati?

Idha, bhikkhave, bhikkhu dhammesu dhammānupassī viharati – pañcasu nīvaraṇesu.

Kathaṃ ca bhikkhave, bhikkhu dhammesu dhammānupassī viharati – pañcasu nīvaraṇesu?

Thus he dwells observing sensations in sensations internally, or he dwells observing sensations in sensations externally,¹³ or he dwells observing sensations in sensations both internally and externally. Thus he dwells observing the phenomenon of arising in sensations, thus he dwells observing the phenomenon of passing away in sensations, thus he dwells observing the phenomenon of arising and passing away in sensations. Now his awareness is established: "This is sensation!" Thus he develops his awareness to such an extent that there is mere understanding along with mere awareness. In this way he dwells detached, without clinging towards anything in the world [of mind and matter]. This is how, monks, a monk dwells observing sensations in sensations.

4. The Observation of Mind

Again, monks, how does a monk dwell, observing mind in mind?¹⁴

Here, monks, a monk understands properly mind with craving as mind with craving, he understands properly mind free from craving as mind free from craving, he understands properly mind with aversion as mind with aversion, he understands properly mind free from aversion as mind free from aversion, he understands properly mind with delusion as mind with delusion, he understands properly mind free from delusion as mind free from delusion, he understands properly collected mind as collected mind, he understands properly a scattered mind as scattered mind,¹⁵ he understands properly expanded mind as expanded mind, he understands properly unexpanded mind as unexpanded mind,¹⁶ he understands properly surpassable mind as surpassable mind, he understands properly unsurpassable mind as unsurpassable mind,¹⁷ he understands properly concentrated mind as concentrated mind, he understands properly unconcentrated mind as unconcentrated mind,¹⁸ he understands properly freed mind as freed mind, he understands properly not freed mind as not freed mind.

Thus he dwells observing mind in mind internally, or he dwells observing mind in mind externally,¹³ or he dwells observing mind in mind both internally and externally. Thus he dwells observing the phenomenon of arising in mind, thus he dwells observing the phenomenon of passing away in mind, thus he dwells observing the phenomenon of arising and passing away in mind. Now his awareness is established: "This is mind!" Thus he develops his awareness to such an extent that there is mere understanding along with mere awareness. In this way he dwells detached, without clinging towards anything in the world [of mind and matter]. This is how, monks, a monk dwells observing mind in mind.

5. The Observation of Mental Contents

A. The Section on the Hindrances

Again, monks, how does a monk dwell, observing mental contents in mental contents?

Here, monks, a monk dwells, observing mental contents in mental contents, as regards the five hindrances.

How, monks, does a monk dwell, observing mental contents in mental contents, as regards the five hindrances?

Idha, bhikkhave, bhikkhu santam vā ajjhattam kāmaccandaṃ ‘atthi me ajjhattam kāmaccando’ ti pajānāti, asantaṃ vā ajjhattam kāmaccandaṃ ‘natthi me ajjhattam kāmaccando’ ti pajānāti, yathā ca anuppanna kāmaccandassa uppādo hoti taṃ ca pajānāti, yathā ca uppanna kāmaccandassa pahānaṃ hoti taṃ ca pajānāti, yathā ca pahīna kāmaccandassa āyatim anuppādo hoti taṃ ca pajānāti.

Santaṃ vā ajjhattam vyāpādam ‘atthi me ajjhattam vyāpādo’ ti pajānāti, asantaṃ vā ajjhattam vyāpādam ‘natthi me ajjhattam vyāpādo’ ti pajānāti, yathā ca anuppanna vyāpādassa uppādo hoti taṃ ca pajānāti, yathā ca uppanna vyāpādassa pahānaṃ hoti taṃ ca pajānāti, yathā ca pahīna vyāpādassa āyatim anuppādo hoti taṃ ca pajānāti.

Santaṃ vā ajjhattam thinamiddham ‘atthi me ajjhattam thinamiddham’ ti pajānāti, asantaṃ vā ajjhattam thinamiddham ‘natthi me ajjhattam thinamiddham’ ti pajānāti, yathā ca anuppanna thinamiddhassa uppādo hoti taṃ ca pajānāti, yathā ca uppanna thinamiddhassa pahānaṃ hoti taṃ ca pajānāti, yathā ca pahīna thinamiddhassa āyatim anuppādo hoti taṃ ca pajānāti.

Santaṃ vā ajjhattam uddhaccakukkuccaṃ ‘atthi me ajjhattam uddhaccakukkuccaṃ’ ti pajānāti, asantaṃ vā ajjhattam uddhaccakukkuccaṃ ‘natthi me ajjhattam uddhaccakukkuccaṃ’ ti pajānāti, yathā ca anuppanna uddhaccakukkucassa uppādo hoti taṃ ca pajānāti, yathā ca uppanna uddhaccakukkucassa pahānaṃ hoti taṃ ca pajānāti, yathā ca pahīna uddhaccakukkucassa āyatim anuppādo hoti taṃ ca pajānāti.

Santaṃ vā ajjhattam vicikiccham ‘atthi me ajjhattam vicikicchā’ ti pajānāti, asantaṃ vā ajjhattam vicikiccham ‘natthi me ajjhattam vicikicchā’ ti pajānāti, yathā ca anuppanna vicikicchāya uppādo hoti taṃ ca pajānāti, yathā ca uppanna vicikicchāya pahānaṃ hoti taṃ ca pajānāti, yathā ca pahīna vicikicchāya āyatim anuppādo hoti taṃ ca pajānāti.

Iti ajjhattam vā dhammesu dhammānupassī viharati, bahiddhā vā dhammesu dhammānupassī viharati, ajjhatabhiddhā vā dhammesu dhammānupassī viharati, samudayadhammānupassī vā dhammesu viharati, vayadhammānupassī vā dhammesu viharati, samudayavayadhammānupassī vā dhammesu viharati, ‘atthi dhammā’ ti vā panassa sati paccupaṭṭhitā hoti. Yāvadeva nānamattāya patissatimattāya anissito ca viharati, na ca kiñci loke upādiyati. Evaṃ pi kho, bhikkhave, bhikkhu dhammesu

Here, monks, a monk, whenever sense desire is present in him, he understands properly that, "Sense desire is present in me." Whenever sense desire is absent from him, he understands properly that, "Sense desire is absent from me." He understands properly, how sense desire that has not yet arisen in him, comes to arise. He understands properly, how sense desire that has now arisen in him, gets eradicated. He understands properly, how sense desire that has now been eradicated, will in future no longer arise in him.

Whenever aversion is present in him, he understands properly that, "Aversion is present in me." Whenever aversion is absent from him, he understands properly that, "Aversion is absent from me." He understands properly, how aversion that has not yet arisen in him, comes to arise. He understands properly, how aversion that has now arisen in him, gets eradicated. He understands properly, how aversion that has now been eradicated, will in future no longer arise in him.

Whenever sloth and torpor are present in him, he understands properly that, "Sloth and torpor are present in me." Whenever sloth and torpor are absent from him, he understands properly that, "Sloth and torpor are absent from me." He understands properly, how sloth and torpor that have not yet arisen in him, come to arise. He understands properly, how sloth and torpor that have now arisen in him, get eradicated. He understands properly, how sloth and torpor that have now been eradicated, will in future no longer arise in him.

Whenever agitation and remorse are present in him, he understands properly that, "Agitation and remorse are present in me." Whenever agitation and remorse are absent from him, he understands properly that, "Agitation and remorse are absent from me." He understands properly, how agitation and remorse that have not yet arisen in him, come to arise. He understands properly, how agitation and remorse that have now arisen in him, get eradicated. He understands properly, how agitation and remorse that have now been eradicated, will in future no longer arise in him.

Whenever doubt is present in him, he understands properly that, "Doubt is present in me." Whenever doubt is absent from him, he understands properly that, "Doubt is absent from me." He understands properly, how doubt that has not yet arisen in him, comes to arise. He understands properly, how doubt that has now arisen in him, gets eradicated. He understands properly, how doubt that has now been eradicated, will in future no longer arise in him.

Thus he dwells observing mental contents in mental contents internally, or he dwells observing mental contents in mental contents externally, or he dwells observing mental contents in mental contents both internally and externally. Thus he dwells observing the phenomenon of arising in the mental contents, thus he dwells observing the phenomenon of passing away in the mental contents, thus he dwells observing the phenomenon of arising and passing away in the mental contents. Now his awareness is established: "These

dhammānupassī viharati pañcasu nīvaraṇesu.

B. Khandhapabbam

Puna ca param, bhikkhave, bhikkhu dhammesu dhammānupassī viharati pañcasu upādānakkhandhesu.²⁰

Kathaṃ ca bhikkhave, bhikkhu dhammesu dhammānupassī viharati pañcasu upādānakkhandhesu?

Idha, bhikkhave, bhikkhu, 'iti rūpaṃ, iti rūpassa samudayo, iti rūpassa atthaṅgamo; iti vedanā, iti vedanāya samudayo, iti vedanāya atthaṅgamo; iti saññā, iti saññāya samudayo, iti saññāya atthaṅgamo; iti saṅkhārā, iti saṅkhārānaṃ samudayo, iti saṅkhārānaṃ atthaṅgamo; iti viññānaṃ, iti viññānaṃssa samudayo, iti viññānaṃssa atthaṅgamo' ti.

Iti ajjhataṃ vā dhammesu dhammānupassī viharati, bahiddhā vā dhammesu dhammānupassī viharati, ajjhatabhiddhā vā dhammesu dhammānupassī viharati, samudayadhammānupassī vā dhammesu viharati, vayadhammānupassī vā dhammesu viharati, samudayavayadhammānupassī vā dhammesu viharati, 'atthi dhammā' ti vā panassa sati paccupaṭṭhitā hoti. Yāvadeva ñānamattāya patissatimattāya anissito ca viharati, na ca kiñci loke upādiyati. Evaṃ pi kho, bhikkhave, bhikkhu dhammesu dhammānupassī viharati pañcasupādānakkhandhesu.

C. Āyatanapabbam

Puna ca param, bhikkhave, bhikkhu dhammesu dhammānupassī viharati chasu ajjhattikabāhiresu āyatanesu.

Kathaṃ ca pana, bhikkhave, bhikkhu dhammesu dhammānupassī viharati chasu ajjhattikabāhiresu āyatanesu?

Idha, bhikkhave, bhikkhu cakkhuṃ ca pajānāti, rūpe ca pajānāti, yaṃ ca tadubhayaṃ paṭicca uppajjati saṃyojanaṃ taṃ ca pajānāti, yathā ca anuppannaṃ saṃyojanassa uppādo hoti taṃ ca pajānāti, yathā ca uppannaṃ saṃyojanassa pahānaṃ hoti taṃ ca pajānāti, yathā ca pahānaṃ saṃyojanassa āyatim anuppādo hoti taṃ ca pajānāti.

are mental contents!" Thus he develops his awareness to such an extent that there is mere understanding along with mere awareness. In this way he dwells detached, without clinging towards anything in the world [of mind and matter]. This is how, monks, a monk dwells observing mental contents in mental contents as regards the five hindrances.

B. The Section on the Aggregates

Again, monks, a monk dwells, observing mental contents in mental contents, as regards the five aggregates of clinging.²⁰

How, monks, does a monk dwell, observing mental contents in mental contents, as regards the five aggregates of clinging?

Here, monks, a monk [understands properly]: "Such is matter, such is the arising of matter, such is the passing away of matter; such are sensations, such is the arising of sensations, such is the passing away of sensations; such is perception, such is the arising of perception, such is the passing away of perception; such are reactions, such is the arising of reactions, such is the passing away of reactions; such is consciousness, such is the arising of consciousness, such is the passing away of consciousness."

Thus he dwells observing mental contents in mental contents internally, or he dwells observing mental contents in mental contents externally, or he dwells observing mental contents in mental contents both internally and externally. Thus he dwells observing the phenomenon of arising in the mental contents, thus he dwells observing the phenomenon of passing away in the mental contents, thus he dwells observing the phenomenon of arising and passing away in the mental contents. Now his awareness is established: "These are mental contents!" Thus he develops his awareness to such an extent that there is mere understanding along with mere awareness. In this way he dwells detached, without clinging towards anything in the world [of mind and matter]. This is how, monks, a monk dwells observing mental contents in mental contents as regards the five aggregates of clinging.

C. The Section on the Sense Spheres

Again, monks, a monk dwells, observing mental contents in mental contents, as regards the six internal and external sense spheres.

How, monks, does a monk dwell, observing mental contents in mental contents, as regards the six internal and external sense spheres?

Here, monks, a monk understands properly the eye, he understands properly the visible object and he understands properly the bondage that arises dependent on these two. He understands properly how the bondage that has not yet arisen, comes to arise. He understands properly how the bondage that has now arisen, gets eradicated. He understands properly how that bondage that has now been eradicated, will in future no longer arise.

Sotaṃ ca pajānāti, sadde ca pajānāti, yaṃ ca tadubhayaṃ paṭicca uppajjati saṃyojanaṃ taṃ ca pajānāti, yathā ca anuppannassa saṃyojanassa uppādo hoti taṃ ca pajānāti, yathā ca uppannassa saṃyojanassa pahānaṃ hoti taṃ ca pajānāti, yathā ca pahīnassa saṃyojanassa āyatim anuppādo hoti taṃ ca pajānāti.

Ghānaṃ ca pajānāti, gandhe ca pajānāti, yaṃ ca tadubhayaṃ paṭicca uppajjati saṃyojanaṃ taṃ ca pajānāti, yathā ca anuppannassa saṃyojanassa uppādo hoti taṃ ca pajānāti, yathā ca uppannassa saṃyojanassa pahānaṃ hoti taṃ ca pajānāti, yathā ca pahīnassa saṃyojanassa āyatim anuppādo hoti taṃ ca pajānāti.

Jivhaṃ ca pajānāti, rase ca pajānāti, yaṃ ca tadubhayaṃ paṭicca uppajjati saṃyojanaṃ taṃ ca pajānāti, yathā ca anuppannassa saṃyojanassa uppādo hoti taṃ ca pajānāti, yathā ca uppannassa saṃyojanassa pahānaṃ hoti taṃ ca pajānāti, yathā ca pahīnassa saṃyojanassa āyatim anuppādo hoti taṃ ca pajānāti.

Kāyaṃ ca pajānāti, phoṭṭhabbe ca pajānāti, yaṃ c
a tadubhayaṃ paṭicca uppajjati saṃyojanaṃ taṃ ca pajānāti, yathā ca anuppannassa saṃyojanassa uppādo hoti taṃ ca pajānāti, yathā ca uppannassa saṃyojanassa pahānaṃ hoti taṃ ca pajānāti, yathā ca pahīnassa saṃyojanassa āyatim anuppādo hoti taṃ ca pajānāti.

Manāṃ ca pajānāti, dhamme ca pajānāti, yaṃ ca tadubhayaṃ paṭicca uppajjati saṃyojanaṃ taṃ ca pajānāti, yathā ca anuppannassa saṃyojanassa uppādo hoti taṃ ca pajānāti, yathā ca uppannassa saṃyojanassa pahānaṃ hoti taṃ ca pajānāti, yathā ca pahīnassa saṃyojanassa āyatim anuppādo hoti taṃ ca pajānāti.

Iti ajjhattaṃ vā dhammesu dhammānupassī viharati, bahiddhā vā dhammesu dhammānupassī viharati, ajjhattabahiddhā vā dhammesu dhammānupassī viharati, samudayadhammānupassī vā dhammesu viharati, vayadhammānupassī vā dhammesu viharati, samudayavayadhammānupassī vā dhammesu viharati, 'atthi dhammā' ti vā panassa sati paccupaṭṭhitā hoti. Yāvadeva ñāṇamattāya patissatimattāya anissito ca viharati, na ca kiñci loke upādiyati. Evaṃ pi kho, bhikkhave, bhikkhu dhammesu dhammānupassī viharati chasu ajjhattikabāhiresu āyatanesu.

He understands properly the ear, he understands properly sound and he understands properly the bondage that arises dependent on these two. He understands properly how the bondage that has not yet arisen, comes to arise. He understands properly how the bondage that has now arisen, gets eradicated. He understands properly how that bondage that has now been eradicated, will in future no longer arise.

He understands properly the nose, he understands properly smell and he understands properly the bondage that arises dependent on these two. He understands properly how the bondage that has not yet arisen, comes to arise. He understands properly how the bondage that has now arisen, gets eradicated. He understands properly how that bondage that has now been eradicated, will in future no longer arise.

He understands properly the tongue, he understands properly taste and he understands properly the bondage that arises dependent on these two. He understands properly how the bondage that has not yet arisen, comes to arise. He understands properly how the bondage that has now arisen, gets eradicated. He understands properly how that bondage that has now been eradicated, will in future no longer arise.

He understands properly the body, he understands properly touch and he understands properly the bondage that arises dependent on these two. He understands properly how the bondage that has not yet arisen, comes to arise. He understands properly how the bondage that has now arisen, gets eradicated. He understands properly how that bondage that has now been eradicated, will in future no longer arise.

He understands properly the mind, he understands properly the contents of the mind and he understands properly the bondage that arises dependent on these two. He understands properly how the bondage that has not yet arisen, comes to arise. He understands properly how the bondage that has now arisen, gets eradicated. He understands properly how that bondage that has now been eradicated, will in future no longer arise.

Thus he dwells observing mental contents in mental contents internally, or he dwells observing mental contents in mental contents externally, or he dwells observing mental contents in mental contents both internally and externally. Thus he dwells observing the phenomenon of arising in the mental contents, thus he dwells observing the phenomenon of passing away in the mental contents, thus he dwells observing the phenomenon of arising and passing away in the mental contents. Now his awareness is established: "These are mental contents!" Thus he develops his awareness to such an extent that there is mere understanding along with mere awareness. In this way he dwells detached, without clinging towards anything in the world [of mind and matter]. This is how, monks, a monk dwells observing mental contents in mental contents as regards the six internal and external sense spheres.

D. Bojjhaṅgapabbaṃ

Puna ca paraṃ, bhikkhave, bhikkhu dhammesu dhammānupassī viharati sattasu bojjhaṅgesu.

Kathaṃ ca pana, bhikkhave, bhikkhu dhammesu dhammānupassī viharati sattasu bojjhaṅgesu?

Idha, bhikkhave, bhikkhu santaṃ vā ajjhataṃ satisambojjhaṅgaṃ ‘atthi me ajjhataṃ satisambojjhaṅgo’ ti pajānāti, asantaṃ vā ajjhataṃ satisambojjhaṅgaṃ ‘natthi me ajjhataṃ satisambojjhaṅgo’ ti pajānāti, yathā ca anuppannassa satisambojjhaṅgassa uppādo hoti taṃ ca pajānāti, yathā ca uppannassa satisambojjhaṅgassa bhāvanāya pāripūrī hoti taṃ ca pajānāti.

Santaṃ vā ajjhataṃ dhammavicayasambojjhaṅgaṃ²¹ ‘atthi me ajjhataṃ dhammavicayasambojjhaṅgo’ ti pajānāti, asantaṃ vā ajjhataṃ dhammavicayasambojjhaṅgaṃ ‘natthi me ajjhataṃ dhammavicayasambojjhaṅgo’ ti pajānāti, yathā ca anuppannassa dhammavicayasambojjhaṅgassa uppādo hoti taṃ ca pajānāti, yathā ca uppannassa dhammavicayasambojjhaṅgassa bhāvanāya pāripūrī hoti taṃ ca pajānāti.

Santaṃ vā ajjhataṃ viriyasambojjhaṅgaṃ ‘atthi me ajjhataṃ viriyasambojjhaṅgo’ ti pajānāti, asantaṃ vā ajjhataṃ viriyasambojjhaṅgaṃ ‘natthi me ajjhataṃ viriyasambojjhaṅgo’ ti pajānāti, yathā ca anuppannassa viriyasambojjhaṅgassa uppādo hoti taṃ ca pajānāti, yathā ca uppannassa viriyasambojjhaṅgassa bhāvanāya pāripūrī hoti taṃ ca pajānāti.

Santaṃ vā ajjhataṃ pītisambojjhaṅgaṃ²² ‘atthi me ajjhataṃ pītisambojjhaṅgo’ ti pajānāti, asantaṃ vā ajjhataṃ pītisambojjhaṅgaṃ ‘natthi me ajjhataṃ pītisambojjhaṅgo’ ti pajānāti, yathā ca anuppannassa pītisambojjhaṅgassa uppādo hoti taṃ ca pajānāti, yathā ca uppannassa pītisambojjhaṅgassa bhāvanāya pāripūrī hoti taṃ ca pajānāti.

Santaṃ vā ajjhataṃ passaddhisambojjhaṅgaṃ²³ ‘atthi me ajjhataṃ passaddhisambojjhaṅgo’ ti pajānāti, asantaṃ vā ajjhataṃ passaddhisambojjhaṅgaṃ ‘natthi me ajjhataṃ passaddhisambojjhaṅgo’ ti pajānāti, yathā ca anuppannassa passaddhisambojjhaṅgassa uppādo hoti taṃ ca pajānāti, yathā ca uppannassa passaddhisambojjhaṅgassa bhāvanāya pāripūrī hoti taṃ ca pajānāti.

D. The Section on the Factors of Enlightenment

Again, monks, a monk dwells observing mental contents in mental contents, as regards the seven factors of enlightenment.

How, monks, does a monk dwell observing mental contents in mental contents, as regards the seven factors of enlightenment?

Here, monks, a monk understands properly that, when the factor of enlightenment, awareness, is present within him, "The factor of enlightenment, awareness, is present in me." He understands properly that, when the factor of enlightenment, awareness, is absent from him, "The factor of enlightenment, awareness, is absent from me." He understands properly, how the factor of enlightenment, awareness, that has not yet arisen in him, comes to arise. He understands properly, how the factor of enlightenment, awareness, that has now arisen, is developed and perfected.

When the factor of enlightenment, investigation of Dhamma²¹ is present in him, he understands properly, "The factor of enlightenment, investigation of Dhamma, is present in me." He understands properly that, when the factor of enlightenment, investigation of Dhamma, is absent from him, "The factor of enlightenment, investigation of Dhamma, is absent from me." He understands properly, how the factor of enlightenment, investigation of Dhamma that has not yet arisen in him, comes to arise. He understands properly, how the factor of enlightenment, investigation of Dhamma, that has now arisen, is developed and perfected.

When the factor of enlightenment, effort, is present in him, he understands properly, "The factor of enlightenment, effort, is present in me." He understands properly that, when the factor of enlightenment, effort, is absent from him, "The factor of enlightenment, effort, is absent from me." He understands properly, how the factor of enlightenment, effort, that has not yet arisen in him, comes to arise. He understands properly, how the factor of enlightenment, that has now arisen, is developed and perfected.

When the factor of enlightenment, rapture,²² is present in him, he understands properly, "The factor of enlightenment, rapture, is present in me." He understands properly that, when the factor of enlightenment, rapture, is absent from him, "The factor of enlightenment, rapture, is absent from me." He understands properly, how the factor of enlightenment, rapture, that has not yet arisen in him, comes to arise. He understands properly, how the factor of enlightenment, rapture, that has now arisen, is developed and perfected.

When the factor of enlightenment, tranquillity,²³ is present in him, he understands properly, "The factor of enlightenment, tranquillity, is present in me." He understands properly that, when the factor of enlightenment, tranquillity, is absent from him, "The factor of enlightenment, tranquillity is absent from me." He understands properly, how the factor of enlightenment, tranquillity, that has not yet arisen in him, comes to arise. He understands

Santaṃ vā ajjhattaṃ samādhisambojjhaṅgaṃ ‘atthi me ajjhattaṃ samādhisambojjhaṅgo’ ti pajānāti, asantaṃ vā ajjhattaṃ samādhisambojjhaṅgaṃ ‘natthi me ajjhattaṃ samādhisambojjhaṅgo’ ti pajānāti, yathā ca anuppanassa samādhisambojjhaṅgassa uppādo hoti taṃ ca pajānāti, yathā ca uppanassa samādhisambojjhaṅgassa bhāvanāya pāripūrī hoti taṃ ca pajānāti.

Santaṃ vā ajjhattaṃ upekkhāsambojjhaṅgaṃ ‘atthi me ajjhattaṃ upekkhāsambojjhaṅgo’ ti pajānāti, asantaṃ vā ajjhattaṃ upekkhāsambojjhaṅgaṃ ‘natthi me ajjhattaṃ upekkhāsambojjhaṅgo’ ti pajānāti, yathā ca anuppanassa upekkhāsambojjhaṅgassa uppādo hoti taṃ ca pajānāti, yathā ca uppanassa upekkhāsambojjhaṅgassa bhāvanāya pāripūrī hoti taṃ ca pajānāti.

Iti ajjhattaṃ vā dhammesu dhammānupassī viharati, bahiddhā vā dhammesu dhammānupassī viharati, ajjhattabahiddhā vā dhammesu dhammānupassī viharati, samudayadhammānupassī vā dhammesu viharati, vayadhammānupassī vā dhammesu viharati, samudayavayadhammānupassī vā dhammesu viharati, ‘atthi dhammā’ ti vā panassa sati paccupaṭṭhitā hoti. Yāvadeva ñāṇamattāya paṭissatimattāya anissito ca viharati, na ca kiñci loke upādiyati. Evaṃ pi kho, bhikkhave, bhikkhu dhammesu dhammānupassī viharati sattasu bojjhaṅgesu.

E. Saccapabbaṃ

Puna ca paraṃ, bhikkhave, bhikkhu dhammesu dhammānupassī viharati catūsu ariyasaccesu.

Kathaṃ ca bhikkhave, bhikkhu dhammesu dhammānupassī viharati catūsu ariyasaccesu?

Idha bhikkhave, bhikkhu ‘idaṃ dukkhaṃ’ ti yathābhūtaṃ pajānāti, ‘ayaṃ dukkhasamudayo’ ti yathābhūtaṃ pajānāti, ‘ayaṃ dukkhanirodho’ ti yathābhūtaṃ pajānāti, ‘ayaṃ dukkhanirodhagāminī paṭipadā’ ti yathābhūtaṃ pajānāti.

Dukkhasaccaniddeso

Katamaṃ ca, bhikkhave, dukkhaṃ ariyasaccaṃ?

properly, how the factor of enlightenment, tranquillity, that has now arisen, is developed and perfected.

When the factor of enlightenment, concentration, is present in him, he understands properly, "The factor of enlightenment, concentration, is present in me." He understands properly that, when the factor of enlightenment, concentration, is absent from him, "The factor of enlightenment, concentration, is absent from me." He understands properly, how the factor of enlightenment, concentration, that has not yet arisen in him, comes to arise. He understands properly, how the factor of enlightenment, concentration, that has now arisen, is developed and perfected.

When the factor of enlightenment, equanimity, is present in him, he understands properly, "The factor of enlightenment, equanimity, is present in me." He understands properly that, when the factor of enlightenment, equanimity, is absent from him, "The factor of enlightenment, equanimity, is absent from me." He understands properly, how the factor of enlightenment, equanimity, that has not yet arisen in him, comes to arise. He understands properly, how the factor of enlightenment, equanimity, that has now arisen, is developed and perfected.

Thus he dwells observing mental contents in mental contents internally, or he dwells observing mental contents in mental contents externally, or he dwells observing mental contents in mental contents both internally and externally. Thus he dwells observing the phenomenon of arising in the mental contents, thus he dwells observing the phenomenon of passing away in the mental contents, thus he dwells observing the phenomenon of arising and passing away in the mental contents. Now his awareness is established: "These are mental contents!" Thus he develops his awareness to such an extent that there is mere understanding along with mere awareness. In this way he dwells detached, without clinging towards anything in the world [of mind and matter]. This is how, monks, a monk dwells observing mental contents in mental contents as regards the seven factors of enlightenment.

E. The Section on the Noble Truths

Again, monks, a monk dwells observing mental contents in mental contents, as regards the four noble truths.

How, monks, does a monk dwell observing mental contents in mental contents, as regards the four noble truths?

Here, monks, a monk understands properly as it is, "This is suffering"; he understands properly as it is, "This is the arising of suffering"; he understands properly as it is, "This is the cessation of suffering"; he understands properly as it is, "This is the path leading to the cessation of suffering."

Exposition of the Truth of Suffering

And what, monks, is the Noble Truth of Suffering?

Jāti pi dukkhā, jarā pi dukkhā, (vyādhi pi dukkhā,)²⁴ maraṇaṃ pi dukkhaṃ, sokaparideva –dukkhadomanassupāyāsā pi dukkhā, appiyehi sampayogo pi dukkho, piyehi vippayogo pi dukkho, yampicchaṃ na labhati taṃ pi dukkhaṃ, saṅkhittena pañcupādānakkhandhā dukkhā.

Katamā ca, bhikkhave, jāti? Yā tesam tesam sattānaṃ tamhi tamhi sattanikāye jāti sañjāti okkanti nibbatti abhinibbatti khandhānaṃ pātubhāvo āyatanānaṃ paṭilābho, ayaṃ vuccati, bhikkhave, jāti.

Katamā ca, bhikkhave, jarā? Yā tesam tesam sattānaṃ tamhi tamhi sattanikāye jarā jīraṇatā khaṇḍiccaṃ pāliccaṃ valittacatā āyuno saṃhāni indriyānaṃ paripāko, ayaṃ vuccati, bhikkhave, jarā.

Katamaṃ ca, bhikkhave, maraṇaṃ? Yaṃ tesam tesam sattānaṃ tamhā tamhā sattanikāyā cuti cavanatā bhedo antaradhānaṃ maccu maraṇaṃ kālakiriyaṃ khandhānaṃ bhedo kaḷebarassa nikkhepo jīvitindriyassa upacchedo, idaṃ vuccati, bhikkhave, maraṇaṃ.

Katamo ca, bhikkhave, soko? Yo kho, bhikkhave, aññataraññatarena vyasanena samannāgatassa aññataraññatarena dukkhadhammena phuṭṭhassa soko socanā socitattaṃ antosoko antoparisoko, ayaṃ vuccati, bhikkhave, soko.

Katamo ca, bhikkhave, paridevo? Yo kho, bhikkhave, aññataraññatarena vyasanena samannāgatassa aññataraññatarena dukkhadhammena phuṭṭhassa ādevo paridevo ādevanā paridevanā ādevitattaṃ paridevitattaṃ, ayaṃ vuccati, bhikkhave, paridevo.

Katamaṃ ca, bhikkhave, dukkhaṃ?²⁵ Yaṃ kho, bhikkhave, kāyikaṃ dukkhaṃ kāyikaṃ asātaṃ kāyasamphassaṃ dukkhaṃ asātaṃ vedayitaṃ, idaṃ vuccati, bhikkhave, dukkhaṃ.

Katamaṃ ca, bhikkhave, domanassaṃ?²⁵ Yaṃ kho, bhikkhave, cetasikaṃ dukkhaṃ cetasikaṃ asātaṃ manosamphassaṃ dukkhaṃ asātaṃ vedayitaṃ, idaṃ vuccati, bhikkhave, domanassaṃ.

Katamo ca, bhikkhave, upāyāso? Yo kho, bhikkhave, aññataraññatarena vyasanena samannāgatassa aññataraññatarena dukkhadhammena phuṭṭhassa āyāso upāyāso āyāsitattaṃ upāyāsitattaṃ, ayaṃ vuccati, bhikkhave, upāyāso.

Birth is suffering, old age is suffering, (sickness is suffering),²⁴ death is suffering, sorrow, lamentation, pain, grief and distress are suffering, the association with something that one does not like is suffering, the disassociation with something that one does like is suffering, not to get what one desires is suffering; in short, the clinging to the five aggregates is suffering.

And what, monks, is birth? If there is birth for all kinds of beings in whatever kind of existence, their conception, their being born, their becoming, the coming into manifestation of their aggregates, the acquisition of their sense faculties – this, monks, is called birth.

And what, monks, is old age? If there is old age for all kinds of beings in whatever kind of existence, their getting frail and decrepit, the breaking [of their teeth], their becoming grey and wrinkled, the running down of their life span, the deterioration of their sense faculties – this, monks, is called old age.

And what, monks, is death? If there is vanishing and passing away for all kinds of beings in whatever kind of existence, their disintegration, their disappearance, their dying, their death, the completion of their life span, the dissolution of the aggregates, the discarding of the body, the destruction of their vitality – this, monks, is called death.

And what, monks, is sorrow? Whenever one, monks, is affected by various kinds of loss and misfortune, that are followed by this or that kind of painful state of mind, by sorrow, by mourning, by sorrowfulness, by inward grief, and by deep inward woe – this, monks, is called sorrow.

And what, monks, is lamentation? Whenever one, monks, is affected by various kinds of loss and misfortune, that are followed by this or that kind of painful state of mind, by wailing and crying, by lamentation, by deep wailing, by deep lamentation, by the state of deep wailing and deep lamentation – this, monks, is called lamentation.

And what, monks, is pain?²⁵ If there is, monks, any kind of bodily pain, any kind of bodily unpleasantness or any kind of painful or unpleasant sensation as a result of bodily contact – this, monks, is called pain.

And what, monks, is grief?²⁵ If there is, monks, any kind of mental pain, any kind of mental unpleasantness or any kind of painful or unpleasant sensation as a result of mental contact – this, monks, is called grief.

And what, monks, is distress? Whenever one, monks, is affected by various kinds of loss and misfortune, that are followed by this or that kind of painful state of mind, by tribulation, by distress, affliction with distress and affliction with great distress – this, monks, is called distress.

Katamo ca, bhikkhave, appiyehi sampayogo dukkho? Idha yassa te honti aniṭṭhā akantā amanāpā rūpā saddā gandhā rasā phoṭṭhabbā dhammā, ye vā panassa te honti anattakāmā ahitakāmā aphāsukakāmā ayogakkhemakāmā, yā tehi saddhiṃ saṅgati samāgamo samodhānaṃ missībhāvo, ayaṃ vuccati, bhikkhave, appiyehi sampayogo dukkho.

Katamo ca, bhikkhave, piyehi vippayogo dukkho? Idha yassa te honti iṭṭhā kantā manāpā rūpā saddā gandhā rasā phoṭṭhabbā dhammā, ye vā panassa te honti atthakāmā hitakāmā phāsukakāmā yogakkhemakāmā mātā vā pitā vā bhātā vā bhaginī vā mittā vā amaccā vā ñātisālohitā vā, yā tehi saddhiṃ asaṅgati asamāgamo asamodhānaṃ amissībhāvo, ayaṃ vuccati, bhikkhave, piyehi vippayogo dukkho.

Katamaṃ ca, bhikkhave, yampicchaṃ na labhati taṃ pi dukkhaṃ? Jātidhammānaṃ, bhikkhave, sattānaṃ evaṃ icchā uppajjati: ‘aho vata mayaṃ na jātidhammā assāma na ca vata no jāti āgaccheyyā’ ti. Na kho panetaṃ icchāya pattabbaṃ. Idaṃ pi yampicchaṃ na labhati taṃ pi dukkhaṃ.

Jarādhammānaṃ, bhikkhave, sattānaṃ evaṃ icchā uppajjati: ‘aho vata mayaṃ na jarādhammā assāma, na ca vata no jarā āgaccheyyā’ ti. Na kho panetaṃ icchāya pattabbaṃ. Idaṃ pi yampicchaṃ na labhati taṃ pi dukkhaṃ.

vyādhidhammānaṃ, bhikkhave, sattānaṃ evaṃ icchā uppajjati: ‘aho vata mayaṃ na vyādhidhammā assāma, na ca vata no vyādhi āgaccheyyā’ ti. Na kho panetaṃ icchāya pattabbaṃ. Idaṃ pi yampicchaṃ na labhati taṃ pi dukkhaṃ.

Maraṇadhammānaṃ, bhikkhave, sattānaṃ evaṃ icchā uppajjati: ‘aho vata mayaṃ na maraṇadhammā assāma, na ca vata no maraṇaṃ āgaccheyyā’ ti. Na kho panetaṃ icchāya pattabbaṃ. Idaṃ pi yampicchaṃ na labhati taṃ pi dukkhaṃ.

Sokaparidevadukkhadomanassupāyāsadhammānaṃ, bhikkhave, sattānaṃ evaṃ icchā uppajjati: ‘aho vata mayaṃ na sokaparidevadukkhadomanassupāyāsadhammā assāma, na ca vata no sokaparidevadukkhadomanassupāyāsadhammā āgaccheyyū’ ti. Na kho panetaṃ icchāya pattabbaṃ. Idaṃ pi yampicchaṃ na labhati taṃ pi dukkhaṃ.

Katame ca, bhikkhave, saṅkhittena pañcupādānakkhandhā dukkhā? Seyyathidaṃ – rūpupādānakkhandho vedanupādānakkhandho saññupādānakkhandho saṅkhārupādānakkhandho viññānupādānakkhandho. Ime vuccanti, bhikkhave, saṅkhittena pañcupādānakkhandhā dukkhā.

And what, monks, is the suffering of being associated with what one does not like? Wherever and whenever one finds unpleasant, disagreeable or disliked objects of sight, sound, smell, taste, touch or of the mind, or, whenever and wherever one finds that there are wishers of one's own misfortune, harm, difficulties or of one's own insecurity; if one gets associated, one meets, one comes into contact or gets combined with them – this, monks, is called the suffering of being associated with what one does not like.

And what, monks, is the suffering of being disassociated with what one does like? Wherever and whenever one finds pleasant, agreeable or liked objects of sight, sound, smell, taste, touch or of the mind, or, whenever and wherever one finds that there are wishers of one's own fortune, prosperity, comfort or of one's own security, like mother and father, like brother and sister, like friends and colleagues or relatives; if one gets disassociated, one does not meet, one does not come into contact or does not get combined with them – this, monks, is called the suffering of being disassociated with what one does like.

And what, monks, is not getting what one desires? In beings, monks, who are subject to birth the desire arises: "Oh, truly, that we were not subject to birth! Oh, truly, may there be no new birth for us!" But this cannot be obtained by mere desire; and not to get what one wants is suffering.

In beings, monks, who are subject to old age the desire arises: "Oh, truly, that we were not subject to old age! Oh, truly, may we not be subject to old age!" But this cannot be obtained by mere desire; and not to get what one wants is suffering.

In beings, monks, who are subject to sickness the desire arises: "Oh, truly, that we were not subject to sickness! Oh, truly, may there be no sickness for us!" But this cannot be obtained by mere desire; and not to get what one wants is suffering.

In beings, monks, who are subject to death the desire arises: "Oh, truly, that we were not subject to death! Oh, truly, may we never have to die!" But this cannot be obtained by mere desire; and not to get what one wants is suffering.

In beings, monks, who are subject to sorrow, lamentation, pain, grief and distress the desire arises: "Oh, truly, that we were not subject to sorrow, lamentation, pain, grief and distress! Oh, truly, may we not suffer from sorrow, lamentation, pain, grief and distress!" But this cannot be obtained by mere desire; and not to get what one wants is suffering.

And how, monks, in short, is clinging to the five aggregates suffering? It is as follows – clinging to the aggregate of matter is suffering, clinging to the aggregate of sensation is suffering, clinging to the aggregate of perception is suffering, clinging to the aggregate of reaction is suffering, clinging to the aggregate of consciousness is suffering. This, monks, in short, is called suffering because of clinging to these five aggregates.

Idaṃ vuccati, bhikkhave, dukkhaṃ ariyasaccaṃ.

Samudayasaccaniddeso

Katamaṃ ca, bhikkhave, dukkhasamudayaṃ ariyasaccaṃ?

Yāyaṃ taṇhā ponobbhavikā nandirāgasahagatā tatrataṭṭrābhinandinī, seyyathidaṃ, kāmataṇhā bhavataṇhā vibhavataṇhā.

Sā kho panesā, bhikkhave, taṇhā kattha uppajjamānā uppajjati, kattha nivisamānā nivisati?

Yaṃ loke piyarūpaṃ sātārūpaṃ etthesā taṇhā uppajjamānā uppajjati, ettha nivisamānā nivisati.

Kiñca loke²⁶ piyarūpaṃ sātārūpaṃ? Cakkhu loke piyarūpaṃ sātārūpaṃ, etthesā taṇhā uppajjamānā uppajjati, ettha nivisamānā nivisati. Sotaṃ loke piyarūpaṃ sātārūpaṃ, etthesā taṇhā uppajjamānā uppajjati, ettha nivisamānā nivisati. Ghānaṃ loke piyarūpaṃ sātārūpaṃ, etthesā taṇhā uppajjamānā uppajjati, ettha nivisamānā nivisati. Jivhā loke piyarūpaṃ sātārūpaṃ, etthesā taṇhā uppajjamānā uppajjati, ettha nivisamānā nivisati. Kāyo loke piyarūpaṃ sātārūpaṃ, etthesā taṇhā uppajjamānā uppajjati, ettha nivisamānā nivisati. Mano loke piyarūpaṃ sātārūpaṃ, etthesā taṇhā uppajjamānā uppajjati, ettha nivisamānā nivisati.

Rūpā loke piyarūpaṃ sātārūpaṃ, etthesā taṇhā uppajjamānā uppajjati, ettha nivisamānā nivisati. Saddā loke piyarūpaṃ sātārūpaṃ, etthesā taṇhā uppajjamānā uppajjati, ettha nivisamānā nivisati. Gandhā loke piyarūpaṃ sātārūpaṃ, etthesā taṇhā uppajjamānā uppajjati, ettha nivisamānā nivisati. Rasā loke piyarūpaṃ sātārūpaṃ, etthesā taṇhā uppajjamānā uppajjati, ettha nivisamānā nivisati. Phoṭṭhabbā loke piyarūpaṃ sātārūpaṃ, etthesā taṇhā uppajjamānā uppajjati, ettha nivisamānā nivisati. Dhammā loke piyarūpaṃ sātārūpaṃ, etthesā taṇhā uppajjamānā uppajjati, ettha nivisamānā nivisati.

Cakkhaviññāṇaṃ loke piyarūpaṃ sātārūpaṃ, etthesā taṇhā uppajjamānā uppajjati, ettha nivisamānā nivisati. Sotaviññāṇaṃ loke piyarūpaṃ sātārūpaṃ, etthesā taṇhā uppajjamānā uppajjati, ettha nivisamānā nivisati. Ghānaviññāṇaṃ loke piyarūpaṃ sātārūpaṃ, etthesā taṇhā uppajjamānā uppajjati, ettha nivisamānā nivisati. Jivhāviññāṇaṃ loke piyarūpaṃ sātārūpaṃ, etthesā taṇhā uppajjamānā uppajjati, ettha nivisamānā nivisati. Kāyaviññāṇaṃ loke piyarūpaṃ sātārūpaṃ, etthesā taṇhā uppajjamānā uppajjati, ettha nivisamānā nivisati. Manoviññāṇaṃ loke piyarūpaṃ sātārūpaṃ, etthesā taṇhā uppajjamānā uppajjati, ettha nivisamānā nivisati.

Cakkhusamphasso loke piyarūpaṃ sātārūpaṃ, etthesā taṇhā uppajjamānā uppajjati, ettha nivisamānā nivisati. Sotasamphasso loke piyarūpaṃ sātārūpaṃ, etthesā taṇhā uppajjamānā uppajjati, ettha nivisamānā nivisati. Ghānasamphasso loke piyarūpaṃ sātārūpaṃ, etthesā taṇhā uppajjamānā uppajjati, ettha nivisamānā nivisati. Jivhāsamphasso loke piyarūpaṃ

This, monks, is the Noble Truth of Suffering.

Exposition of the Truth of the Arising of Suffering

And what, monks, is the Noble Truth of the Arising of Suffering?

It is this craving that occurs again and again and is bound up with pleasure and lust and finds delight now here, now there. That is, the craving for sensual pleasures, the craving for repeated rebirth and the craving for annihilation.

But where does this craving, monks, arise and where does it get established?

Wherever in the world [of mind and matter] there is something enticing and pleasurable, there this craving arises and gets established.

But what in the world²⁶ [of mind and matter] is enticing and pleasurable? The eye in the world [of mind and matter] is enticing and pleasurable; there this craving arises and gets established. The ear ... is enticing and pleasurable; there this craving arises and gets established. The nose ... is enticing and pleasurable; there this craving arises and gets established. The tongue ... is enticing and pleasurable; there this craving arises and gets established. The body ... is enticing and pleasurable; there this craving arises and gets established. The mind in the world [of mind and matter] is enticing and pleasurable; there this craving arises and gets established.

Visible objects, material forms in the world [of mind and matter], are enticing and pleasurable; there this craving arises and gets established. Sounds ... are enticing and pleasurable; there this craving arises and gets established. Smells ... are enticing and pleasurable; there this craving arises and gets established. Tastes ... are enticing and pleasurable; there this craving arises and gets established. Touch ... is enticing and pleasurable; there this craving arises and gets established. The contents of the mind in the world [of mind and matter] are enticing and pleasurable; there this craving arises and gets established.

The eye consciousness in the world [of mind and matter] is enticing and pleasurable; there this craving arises and gets established. The ear consciousness ... is enticing and pleasurable; there this craving arises and gets established. The nose consciousness ... is enticing and pleasurable; there this craving arises and gets established. The tongue consciousness ... is enticing and pleasurable; there this craving arises and gets established. The body consciousness ... is enticing and pleasurable; there this craving arises and gets established. The mind consciousness in the world [of mind and matter] is enticing and pleasurable; there this craving arises and gets established.

The eye contact in the world [of mind and matter] is enticing and pleasurable; there this craving arises and gets established. The ear-contact ... is enticing and pleasurable; there this craving arises and gets established. The nose-contact ... is enticing and pleasurable; there this craving arises and gets established. The tongue-contact ... is enticing and

pleasurable; there this craving arises and gets established. The body-contact ... is enticing and pleasurable; there this craving arises and gets established. The mind-contact in the world [of mind and matter] is enticing and pleasurable; there this craving arises and gets established.

The sensation arising from the eye-contact in the world [of mind and matter] is enticing and pleasurable; there this craving arises and gets established. The sensation arising from the ear-contact ... is enticing and pleasurable; there this craving arises and gets established. The sensation arising from the nose-contact ... is enticing and pleasurable; there this craving arises and gets established. The sensation arising from the tongue-contact ... is enticing and pleasurable; there this craving arises and gets established. The sensation arising from the body-contact ... is enticing and pleasurable; there this craving arises and gets established. The sensation arising from the mind-contact in the world [of mind and matter] is enticing and pleasurable; there this craving arises and gets established.

The perception of visible objects, of material forms, in the world [of mind and matter] is enticing and pleasurable; there this craving arises and gets established. The perception of sounds ... is enticing and pleasurable; there this craving arises and gets established. The perception of smells ... is enticing and pleasurable; there this craving arises and gets established. The perception of tastes ... is enticing and pleasurable; there this craving arises and gets established. The perception of touch ... is enticing and pleasurable; there this craving arises and gets established. The perception of mental contents in the world [of mind and matter] is enticing and pleasurable; there this craving arises and gets established.

The mental reaction to visible objects in the world [of mind and matter] is enticing and pleasurable; there this craving arises and gets established. The mental reaction to sounds ... is enticing and pleasurable; there this craving arises and gets established. The mental reaction to smells ... is enticing and pleasurable; there this craving arises and gets established. The mental reaction to tastes ... is enticing and pleasurable; there this craving arises and gets established. The mental reaction to touch ... is enticing and pleasurable; there this craving arises and gets established. The mental reaction to mind objects, mental contents in the world [of mind and matter] is enticing and pleasurable; there this craving arises and gets established.

The craving after visible objects in the world [of mind and matter] is enticing and pleasurable; there this craving arises and gets established. The craving after sounds ... is enticing and pleasurable; there this craving arises and gets established. The craving after smells ... is enticing and pleasurable; there this craving arises and gets established. The craving after tastes ... is enticing and pleasurable; there this craving arises and gets established. The craving after touch ... is enticing and pleasurable; there this craving arises and gets established. The craving after mind objects, mental contents in the world [of mind and matter] is enticing and pleasurable; there this craving arises and gets established.

Rūpavitakko²⁷ loke piyarūpaṃ sātārūpaṃ, etthesā taṇhā uppajjamānā uppajjati, ettha nivisamānā nivisati. Saddavitakko loke piyarūpaṃ sātārūpaṃ, etthesā taṇhā uppajjamānā uppajjati, ettha nivisamānā nivisati. Gandhavitakko loke piyarūpaṃ sātārūpaṃ, etthesā taṇhā uppajjamānā uppajjati, ettha nivisamānā nivisati. Rasavitakko loke piyarūpaṃ sātārūpaṃ, etthesā taṇhā uppajjamānā uppajjati, ettha nivisamānā nivisati. Phoṭṭhabbavitakko loke piyarūpaṃ sātārūpaṃ, etthesā taṇhā uppajjamānā uppajjati, ettha nivisamānā nivisati. Dhammavitakko loke piyarūpaṃ sātārūpaṃ, etthesā taṇhā uppajjamānā uppajjati, ettha nivisamānā nivisati.

Rūpavicāro loke piyarūpaṃ sātārūpaṃ, etthesā taṇhā uppajjamānā uppajjati, ettha nivisamānā nivisati. Saddavicāro loke piyarūpaṃ sātārūpaṃ, etthesā taṇhā uppajjamānā uppajjati, ettha nivisamānā nivisati. Gandhavicāro loke piyarūpaṃ sātārūpaṃ, etthesā taṇhā uppajjamānā uppajjati, ettha nivisamānā nivisati. Rasavicāro loke piyarūpaṃ sātārūpaṃ, etthesā taṇhā uppajjamānā uppajjati, ettha nivisamānā nivisati. Phoṭṭhabbavicāro loke piyarūpaṃ sātārūpaṃ, etthesā taṇhā uppajjamānā uppajjati, ettha nivisamānā nivisati. Dhammavicāro loke piyarūpaṃ sātārūpaṃ, etthesā taṇhā uppajjamānā uppajjati, ettha nivisamānā nivisati.

Idaṃ vuccati, bhikkhave, dukkhasamudayaṃ ariyasaccaṃ.

Nirodhasaccaniddeso

Katamaṃ ca, bhikkhave, dukkhanirodhaṃ ariyasaccaṃ?

Yo tassāyeva taṇhāya asesavirāganirodho cāgo paṇinissaggo mutti anālayo. Sā kho panesā, bhikkhave, taṇhā kattha pahīyamānā pahīyati, kattha nirujjhamānā nirujjhati? Yaṃ loke piyarūpaṃ sātārūpaṃ, etthesā taṇhā pahīyamānā pahīyati, ettha nirujjhamānā nirujjhati.

Kiñca loke piyarūpaṃ sātārūpaṃ, etthesā taṇhā pahīyamānā pahīyati, ettha nirujjhamānā nirujjhati? Cakkhuṃ loke piyarūpaṃ sātārūpaṃ, etthesā taṇhā pahīyamānā pahīyati, ettha nirujjhamānā nirujjhati. Sotaṃ loke piyarūpaṃ sātārūpaṃ, etthesā taṇhā pahīyamānā pahīyati, ettha nirujjhamānā nirujjhati. Ghānaṃ loke piyarūpaṃ sātārūpaṃ, etthesā taṇhā pahīyamānā pahīyati, ettha nirujjhamānā nirujjhati. Jivhā loke piyarūpaṃ sātārūpaṃ, etthesā taṇhā pahīyamānā pahīyati, ettha nirujjhamānā nirujjhati. Kāyo loke piyarūpaṃ sātārūpaṃ, etthesā taṇhā pahīyamānā pahīyati, ettha nirujjhamānā nirujjhati. Mano loke piyarūpaṃ sātārūpaṃ, etthesā taṇhā pahīyamānā pahīyati, ettha nirujjhamānā nirujjhati.

Rūpā loke piyarūpaṃ sātārūpaṃ, etthesā taṇhā pahīyamānā pahīyati, ettha nirujjhamānā nirujjhati. Saddā loke piyarūpaṃ sātārūpaṃ, etthesā taṇhā pahīyamānā pahīyati, ettha nirujjhamānā nirujjhati. Gandhā loke piyarūpaṃ sātārūpaṃ, etthesā taṇhā pahīyamānā

The thought conception²⁷ of visible objects in the world [of mind and matter] is enticing and pleasurable; there this craving arises and gets established. The thought conception of sounds ... is enticing and pleasurable; there this craving arises and gets established. The thought conception of smells ... is enticing and pleasurable; there this craving arises and gets established. The thought conception of tastes ... is enticing and pleasurable; there this craving arises and gets established. The thought conception of touch ... is enticing and pleasurable; there this craving arises and gets established. The thought conception of mind objects, mental contents in the world [of mind and matter] is enticing and pleasurable; there this craving arises and gets established.

The rolling in thoughts of visible objects in the world [of mind and matter] is enticing and pleasurable; there this craving arises and gets established. The rolling in thoughts of sounds ... is enticing and pleasurable; there this craving arises and gets established. The rolling in thoughts of smells ... is enticing and pleasurable; there this craving arises and gets established. The rolling in thoughts of tastes ... is enticing and pleasurable; there this craving arises and gets established. The rolling in thoughts of touch ... is enticing and pleasurable; there this craving arises and gets established. The rolling in thoughts of mind objects, mental contents in the world [of mind and matter] is enticing and pleasurable; there this craving arises and gets established.

This, monks, is the Noble Truth of the Arising of Suffering.

Exposition of the Truth of the Cessation of Suffering

And what, monks, is the Noble Truth of the Cessation of Suffering?

It is the complete fading away and cessation of this very craving, forsaking it and giving it up; the liberation from it, leaving no place for it. But where may this craving, monks, be eradicated; where may it be extinguished? Wherever in the world [of mind and matter] there is something enticing and pleasurable: there this craving may be eradicated and extinguished.

But what in the world [of mind and matter] is enticing and pleasurable? The eye in the world [of mind and matter] is enticing and pleasurable; there this craving may be eradicated and extinguished. The ear ... is enticing and pleasurable; there this craving may be eradicated and extinguished. The nose ... is enticing and pleasurable; there this craving may be eradicated and extinguished. The tongue ... is enticing and pleasurable; there this craving may be eradicated and extinguished. The body ... is enticing and pleasurable; there this craving may be eradicated and extinguished. The mind in the world [of mind and matter] is enticing and pleasurable; there this craving may be eradicated and extinguished.

The objects of sight, the material forms in the world [of mind and matter], are enticing and pleasurable; there this craving may be eradicated and extinguished. The sounds ... are enticing and pleasurable; there this craving may be eradicated and extinguished. The smells

... are enticing and pleasurable; there this craving may be eradicated and extinguished. The tastes ... are enticing and pleasurable; there this craving may be eradicated and extinguished. Touch ... is enticing and pleasurable; there this craving may be eradicated and extinguished. The contents of the mind in the world [of mind and matter] are enticing and pleasurable; there this craving may be eradicated and extinguished.

The eye-consciousness in the world [of mind and matter] is enticing and pleasurable; there this craving may be eradicated and extinguished. The ear-consciousness ... is enticing and pleasurable; there this craving may be eradicated and extinguished. The nose-consciousness ... is enticing and pleasurable; there this craving may be eradicated and extinguished. The tongue-consciousness ... is enticing and pleasurable; there this craving may be eradicated and extinguished. The body-consciousness ... is enticing and pleasurable; there this craving may be eradicated and extinguished. The mind-consciousness in the world [of mind and matter] is enticing and pleasurable; there this craving may be eradicated and extinguished.

The eye-contact in the world [of mind and matter] is enticing and pleasurable; there this craving may be eradicated and extinguished. The ear-contact ... is enticing and pleasurable; there this craving may be eradicated and extinguished. The nose-contact ... is enticing and pleasurable; there this craving may be eradicated and extinguished. The tongue-contact ... is enticing and pleasurable; there this craving may be eradicated and extinguished. The body-contact ... is enticing and pleasurable; there this craving may be eradicated and extinguished. The mind-contact in the world [of mind and matter] is enticing and pleasurable; there this craving may be eradicated and extinguished.

The sensation that arises from the eye contact in the world [of mind and matter] is enticing and pleasurable; there this craving may be eradicated and extinguished. The sensation that arises from the ear contact ... is enticing and pleasurable; there this craving may be eradicated and extinguished. The sensation that arises from the nose contact ... is enticing and pleasurable; there this craving may be eradicated and extinguished. The sensation that arises from the tongue contact ... is enticing and pleasurable; there this craving may be eradicated and extinguished. The sensation that arises from the body contact ... is enticing and pleasurable; there this craving may be eradicated and extinguished. The sensation that arises from the mind contact in the world [of mind and matter] is enticing and pleasurable; there this craving may be eradicated and extinguished.

The perception of visible objects in the world [of mind and matter] is enticing and pleasurable; there this craving may be eradicated and extinguished. The perception of sounds ... is enticing and pleasurable; there this craving may be eradicated and extinguished. The perception of smells ... is enticing and pleasurable; there this craving may be eradicated and extinguished. The perception of tastes ... is enticing and pleasurable; there this craving may be eradicated and extinguished. The perception of touch ... is enticing and pleasurable;

there this craving may be eradicated and extinguished. The perception of mental contents in the world [of mind and matter] is enticing and pleasurable; there this craving may be eradicated and extinguished.

The mental reaction towards visible objects in the world [of mind and matter] is enticing and pleasurable; there this craving may be eradicated and extinguished. The mental reaction towards sounds ... is enticing and pleasurable; there this craving may be eradicated and extinguished. The mental reaction towards smells ... is enticing and pleasurable; there this craving may be eradicated and extinguished. The mental reaction towards tastes ... is enticing and pleasurable; there this craving may be eradicated and extinguished. The mental reaction towards touch ... is enticing and pleasurable; there this craving may be eradicated and extinguished. The mental reaction towards mental contents in the world [of mind and matter] is enticing and pleasurable; there this craving may be eradicated and extinguished.

The craving after visible objects in the world [of mind and matter] is enticing and pleasurable; there this craving may be eradicated and extinguished. The craving after sounds ... is enticing and pleasurable; there this craving may be eradicated and extinguished. The craving after smells ... is enticing and pleasurable; there this craving may be eradicated and extinguished. The craving after tastes ... is enticing and pleasurable; there this craving may be eradicated and extinguished. The craving after touch ... is enticing and pleasurable; there this craving may be eradicated and extinguished. The craving after mental contents in the world [of mind and matter] is enticing and pleasurable; there this craving may be eradicated and extinguished.

The thought conception of visible objects in the world [of mind and matter] is enticing and pleasurable; there this craving may be eradicated and extinguished. The thought conception of sounds ... is enticing and pleasurable; there this craving may be eradicated and extinguished. The thought conception of smells ... is enticing and pleasurable; there this craving may be eradicated and extinguished. The thought conception of tastes ... is enticing and pleasurable; there this craving may be eradicated and extinguished. The thought conception of touch ... is enticing and pleasurable; there this craving may be eradicated and extinguished. The thought conception of mental contents in the world [of mind and matter] is enticing and pleasurable; there this craving may be eradicated and extinguished.

The rolling in thoughts of visible objects in the world [of mind and matter] is enticing and pleasurable; there this craving may be eradicated and extinguished. The rolling in thoughts of sounds ... is enticing and pleasurable; there this craving may be eradicated and extinguished. The rolling in thoughts of smells ... is enticing and pleasurable; there this craving may be eradicated and extinguished. The rolling in thoughts of tastes ... is enticing and pleasurable; there this craving may be eradicated and extinguished. The rolling in thoughts of touch ... is enticing and pleasurable; there this craving may be eradicated and

nirujjhamānā nirujjhati.

Idaṃ vuccati, bhikkhave, dukkhanirodhaṃ ariyasaccaṃ.

Maggasaccaniddeso

Katamaṃ ca, bhikkhave, dukkhanirodhagāminī paṭipadā ariyasaccaṃ? Ayameva ariyo aṭṭhaṅgiko maggo, seyyathidaṃ, sammādiṭṭhi, sammāsaṅkappo, sammāvācā, sammākammanto, sammā-ājīvo, sammāvāyāmo, sammāsati, sammāsamādhi.

Katamā ca, bhikkhave, sammādiṭṭhi? Yaṃ kho, bhikkhave, dukkhe ñāṇaṃ, dukkhasamudaye ñāṇaṃ, dukkhanirodhe ñāṇaṃ, dukkhanirodhagāminiyā paṭipadāya ñāṇaṃ. Ayaṃ vuccati, bhikkhave, sammādiṭṭhi.

Katamo ca, bhikkhave, sammāsaṅkappo? Nekkhammasaṅkappo, abyāpādasāṅkappo, avihimsāsāṅkappo. Ayaṃ vuccati, bhikkhave, sammāsaṅkappo.

Katamā ca, bhikkhave, sammāvācā? Musāvādā veramaṇī, piṣuṇāya vācā veramaṇī, pharusāya vācā veramaṇī, samphappalāpā veramaṇī. Ayaṃ vuccati, bhikkhave, sammāvācā.

Katamo ca, bhikkhave, sammākammanto? Pāṇātipātā veramaṇī, adinnādānā veramaṇī, kāmesumicchācārā veramaṇī. Ayaṃ vuccati, bhikkhave, sammākammanto.

Katamo ca, bhikkhave, sammā-ājīvo? Idha, bhikkhave, ariyasāvako micchā-ājīvaṃ pahāya sammā-ājīvena jīvitam kappeti. Ayaṃ vuccati, bhikkhave, sammā-ājīvo.

Katamo ca, bhikkhave, sammāvāyāmo? Idha, bhikkhave, bhikkhu anuppannaṃ pāpakānaṃ akusalānaṃ dhammānaṃ anuppādāya chandaṃ janeti vāyamati vīriyaṃ ārabhati cittaṃ paggaṇhāti padahati; uppannaṃ pāpakānaṃ akusalānaṃ dhammānaṃ pahānāya chandaṃ janeti vāyamati vīriyaṃ ārabhati cittaṃ paggaṇhāti padahati; anuppannaṃ kusalānaṃ dhammānaṃ uppādāya chandaṃ janeti vāyamati vīriyaṃ ārabhati cittaṃ paggaṇhāti padahati; uppannaṃ kusalānaṃ dhammānaṃ ṭhitiyā asammosāya bhīyyobhāvāya vepullāya bhāvanāya pāripūriyā chandaṃ janeti vāyamati vīriyaṃ ārabhati cittaṃ paggaṇhāti padahati. Ayaṃ vuccati, bhikkhave, sammāvāyāmo.

Katamā ca, bhikkhave, sammāsati? Idha, bhikkhave, bhikkhu kāye kāyānupassī viharati ātāpī

extinguished. The rolling in thoughts of mental contents in the world [of mind and matter] is enticing and pleasurable; there this craving may be eradicated and extinguished.

This, monks, is the Noble Truth of the Cessation of Suffering.

Exposition of the Truth of the Path

And what, monks, is the Noble Truth of the Path Leading to the Cessation of Suffering? It is this, the Noble Eightfold Path, namely: right understanding, right thought, right speech, right action, right livelihood, right effort, right awareness and right concentration.

And what, monks, is Right Understanding? It is this, monks: the knowledge of suffering, the knowledge of the arising of suffering, the knowledge of the cessation of suffering, the knowledge of the path leading to the cessation of suffering. This, monks, is called Right Understanding.

And what, monks, is Right Thought? Thoughts of renunciation, thoughts that are free from aversion and thoughts that are free from violence. This, monks, is called Right Thought.

And what, monks, is Right Speech? Abstaining from lying, abstaining from slander and backbiting, abstaining from harsh words and abstaining from frivolous talk. This, monks, is called Right Speech.

And what, monks, is Right Action? Abstaining from killing, abstaining from taking what has not been given and abstaining from sexual misconduct. This, monks, is called Right Action.

And what, monks, is Right Livelihood? Here, monks, a noble disciple having given up wrong ways of livelihood earns his livelihood by right means. This, monks, is called Right Livelihood.

And what, monks, is Right Effort? Here, monks, a monk generates the will to prevent the arising of unarisen evil unwholesome mental states; he makes strong effort, stirs up his energy, applies his mind to it and strives. To eradicate those evil unwholesome mental states that have arisen in him, he generates the will, makes strong effort, stirs up his energy, applies his mind to it and strives. To develop wholesome mental states that have not yet arisen in him, he generates will, makes strong effort, stirs up his energy, applies his mind to it and strives. To maintain wholesome mental states that have arisen in him, not to let them fade away, to multiply them and bring them to full maturity and to full development, he generates will, makes strong effort, stirs up his energy, applies his mind to it and strives. This, monks, is called Right Effort.

And what, monks, is Right Awareness? Here, monks, a monk dwells ardent with awareness

sampajāno satimā, vineyya loke abhijjhādomanassaṃ, vedanāsu vedanānupassī viharati ātāpī sampajāno satimā, vineyya loke abhijjhādomanassaṃ, citte cittānupassī viharati ātāpī sampajāno satimā, vineyya loke abhijjhādomanassaṃ, dhammesu dhammānupassī viharati ātāpī sampajāno satimā, vineyya loke abhijjhādomanassaṃ. Ayaṃ vuccati, bhikkhave, sammāsati.

Katamo ca, bhikkhave, sammāsamādhī? Idha, bhikkhave, bhikkhu vivicca kāmehi vivicca akusalehi dhammehi savitakkaṃ savicāraṃ²⁷ vivekajaṃ pītisukkaṃ paṭhamajjhānaṃ upasampajja viharati, vitakkavicārānaṃ vūpasamā ajjhataṃ sampasādanaṃ cetaso ekodibhāvaṃ avitakkaṃ avicāraṃ samādhijaṃ pītisukkaṃ dutiyajjhānaṃ upasampajja viharati, pītiyā ca virāgā upekkhako ca viharati sato ca sampajāno sukkaṃ ca kāyena paṭisaṃvedeti yaṃ taṃ ariyā ācikkhanti: ‘upekkhako satimā sukhavihārī’ ti tatiyajjhānaṃ upasampajja viharati, sukhaṃ ca pahānā dukkhaṃ ca pahānā pubbeva somanassadomanassānaṃ atthaṅgamā adukkhamasukkaṃ upekkhāsati pārisuddhiṃ catutthajjhānaṃ upasampajja viharati. Ayaṃ vuccati, bhikkhave, sammāsamādhī.

Idaṃ vuccati, bhikkhave, dukkhanirodhagāminī paṭipadā ariyasaccaṃ.

Iti ajjhataṃ vā dhammesu dhammānupassī viharati, bahiddhā vā dhammesu dhammānupassī viharati, ajjhatabhiddhā vā dhammesu dhammānupassī viharati, samudayadhammānupassī vā dhammesu viharati, vayadhammānupassī vā dhammesu viharati, samudayavayadhammānupassī vā dhammesu viharati, ‘atthi dhammā’ ti vā panassa sati paccupaṭṭhitā hoti. Yāvadeva ñāṇamattāya patissatimattāya anissito ca viharati, na ca kiñci loke upādiyati. Evaṃ pi kho, bhikkhave, bhikkhu dhammesu dhammānupassī viharati catūsu ariyasaccesu.

6. Satipaṭṭhānabhāvanānisamso

Yo hi koci, bhikkhave, ime cattāro satipaṭṭhāne evaṃ²⁸ bhāveyya sattavassāni, tassa dvinnaṃ phalānaṃ aññataraṃ phalaṃ paṭīkaṅkhaṃ: diṭṭheva dhamme aññā,²⁹ sati vā upādisese anāgāmitā.³⁰

and constant thorough understanding of impermanence, observing body in body, having removed craving and aversion towards the world [of mind and matter]; he dwells ardent with awareness and constant thorough understanding of impermanence, observing sensations in sensations, having removed craving and aversion towards the world [of mind and matter]; he dwells ardent with awareness and constant thorough understanding of impermanence, observing mind in mind, having removed craving and aversion towards the world [of mind and matter]; he dwells ardent with awareness and constant thorough understanding of impermanence, observing mental contents in mental contents, having removed craving and aversion towards the world [of mind and matter]. This, monks, is called Right Awareness.

And what, monks, is right concentration? Here monks, a monk, detached from craving, detached from unwholesome mental states, enters into the first absorption, born of detachment, accompanied by initial and sustained application of the mind²⁷ and filled with rapture and bliss and he dwells therein. With the subsiding of initial and sustained application of the mind and gaining inner tranquillity and oneness of mind he enters into the second absorption, born of concentration, free from initial and sustained application of the mind, filled with rapture and bliss and he dwells therein. After the fading away of rapture he dwells in equanimity, aware with constant thorough understanding of impermanence, and he experiences in his body the bliss of which the noble ones say: "That bliss is experienced by one with equanimity and awareness." Thus he enters the third absorption and dwells therein. After the eradication of pleasure and pain and with joy and grief having previously passed away, he enters into a state beyond pleasure and pain, the fourth absorption, that is totally purified by equanimity and awareness and he dwells therein. This, monks, is called Right Concentration.

This, monks, is the Noble Truth of the Path leading to the Cessation of Suffering.

Thus he dwells observing mental contents in mental contents internally, or he dwells observing mental contents in mental contents externally, or he dwells observing mental contents in mental contents both internally and externally. Thus he dwells observing the phenomenon of arising in the mental contents, thus he dwells observing the phenomenon of passing away in the mental contents, thus he dwells observing the phenomenon of arising and passing away in the mental contents. Now his awareness is established: "These are mental contents!" Thus he develops his awareness to such an extent that there is mere understanding along with mere awareness. In this way he dwells detached, without clinging towards anything in the world [of mind and matter]. This is how, monks, a monk dwells observing mental contents in mental contents as regards the Four Noble Truths.

6. The Results of the Establishing of Awareness

Indeed, monks, whoever practises this fourfold establishing of awareness in this manner²⁸ for seven years, he may expect one of two results: in this very life highest wisdom²⁹ or, if a substratum of aggregates remains, the stage of non-returner.³⁰

Tiṭṭhantu, bhikkhave, sattavassāni. Yo hi koci, bhikkhave, ime cattāro satipaṭṭhāne evaṃ bhāveyya cha vassāni, tassa dvinnaṃ phalānaṃ aññataraṃ phalaṃ pāṭikaṅkhaṃ: diṭṭheva dhamme aññā, sati vā upādisese anāgāmitā.

Tiṭṭhantu, bhikkhave, cha vassāni...pe.
Tiṭṭhantu, bhikkhave, pañca vassāni...pe.
Tiṭṭhantu, bhikkhave, cattāri vassāni...pe.
Tiṭṭhantu, bhikkhave, tīṇi vassāni...pe.
Tiṭṭhantu, bhikkhave, dve vassāni...pe.

Tiṭṭhatu, bhikkhave, ekaṃ vassaṃ. Yo hi koci, bhikkhave, ime cattāro satipaṭṭhāne evaṃ bhāveyya sattamāsāni, tassa dvinnaṃ phalānaṃ aññataraṃ phalaṃ pāṭikaṅkhaṃ: diṭṭheva dhamme aññā, sati vā upādisese anāgāmitā.

Tiṭṭhantu, bhikkhave, satta māsāni...pe.
Tiṭṭhantu, bhikkhave, cha māsāni...pe.
Tiṭṭhantu, bhikkhave, pañca māsāni...pe.
Tiṭṭhantu, bhikkhave, cattāri māsāni...pe.
Tiṭṭhantu, bhikkhave, tīṇi māsāni...pe.
Tiṭṭhantu, bhikkhave, dve māsāni...pe.
Tiṭṭhatu, bhikkhave, ekaṃ māsaṃ...pe.
Tiṭṭhatu, bhikkhave, aḍḍhamāsaṃ...pe.

Tiṭṭhatu, bhikkhave, aḍḍhamāso. Yo hi koci, bhikkhave, ime cattāro satipaṭṭhāne evaṃ bhāveyya sattāhaṃ, tassa dvinnaṃ phalānaṃ aññataraṃ phalaṃ pāṭikaṅkhaṃ: diṭṭheva dhamme aññā, sati vā upādisese anāgāmitā.

‘Ekāyano ayaṃ, bhikkhave, maggo sattānaṃ visuddhiyā, sokapariddavānaṃ samatikkamāya, dukkhadomanassānaṃ atthaṅgamāya, ñāyassa adhigamāya, nibbānassa sacchikiriyāya yadidaṃ cattāro satipaṭṭhānā’ ti. Iti yaṃ taṃ vuttaṃ, idametam paṭicca vuttaṃ ti.

Idamavoca bhagavā. Attamanā te bhikkhū bhagavato bhāsitaṃ abhinandaṃ ti

Mahāsatiṭṭhāna-suttaṃ niṭṭhitaṃ.

Let alone seven years, monks. Should any person practise this fourfold establishing of awareness in this manner for six years, one of two results may be expected in him: in this very life highest wisdom or, if a substratum of aggregates remains, the stage of non-returner.

Let alone six years, monks...

Let alone five years, monks...

Let alone four years, monks...

Let alone three years, monks...

Let alone two years, monks...

Let alone one year, monks. Should any person practise this fourfold establishing of awareness in this manner for seven months, one of two results may be expected in him: in this very life highest wisdom or, if a substratum of aggregates remains, the stage of non-returner.

Let alone seven months, monks...

Let alone six months, monks...

Let alone five months, monks...

Let alone four months, monks...

Let alone three months, monks...

Let alone two months, monks...

Let alone one month, monks...

Let alone half a month, monks...

Let alone half a month, monks. Should any person practise this fourfold establishing of awareness in this manner for seven days, one of two results may be expected in him: in this very life highest wisdom or, if a substratum of aggregates remains, the stage of non-returner.

It is for this reason that it was said: "This is the one and only way, monks, for the purification of beings, for the overcoming of sorrow and lamentation, for the extinguishing of suffering and grief, for walking on the path of truth, for the realisation of nibbāna: that is to say, the fourfold establishing of awareness."

Thus the Enlightened One spoke. Glad in heart, the monks welcomed the words of the Enlightened One.

The End of the Mahāsatipaṭṭhāna Sutta

Notes

N.B. For clarity, the footnoted passage will be indicated in the notes by Pāli in italics followed immediately by the English translation in square brackets, e.g. *sati* [awareness]. Other Pāli words used in the notes will be followed by their equivalent terms in parentheses where appropriate, e.g. *anicca* (impermanence).

1. The word *bhikkhū* [monks] was used to address all the people who listened to the discourses given by the Buddha. Thus every meditator, everyone who is walking on the path of Dhamma, though not literally a *bhikkhu*, can benefit by following the instructions given here.

2. *Satipaṭṭhāna* [establishing of awareness] *Sati* means “awareness.” *Satipaṭṭhāna* implies that the meditator has to work diligently and constantly to become firmly established in awareness or mindfulness. Therefore we have used “the establishing of awareness,” to convey the sense that one actively strives to maintain continuous awareness of mind and body at the level of sensations, as will become clear from the rest of the discourse.

There are certain passages in the Buddha’s discourses where *sati* has the meaning of “memory.” (*Dīgha-nikāya*: VRI I. 411; II. 374; PTS I. 180; II. 292). This is especially true when he refers to the special ability of remembering past lives which is developed by means of the practice of the *jhānas* (deep absorption concentration). But in the context of *Satipaṭṭhāna*, the practice of Vipassana, leading not to the *jhānas* but to purification of mind, *sati* can only be understood to mean awareness of the present moment rather than a memory of the past (or a dream of the future).

3. The Buddha always included the term *sampajañña* [constant thorough understanding of impermanence] or *sampajāno* (the adjective form of *sampajañña*) whenever he was asked to explain *sati* (awareness). (See, for example, the definition of *sammāsati* in the Chapter on the Four Noble Truths: Truth of the Path.) As a result of the frequent association of these words, *sampajañña* has often been defined as nearly synonymous with *sati* – as “full awareness,” or “clear comprehension” – or as an exhortation to remain mindful. Another traditional translation of *sampajañña*, which is closer to the full meaning is “thorough understanding.”

In the *Sutta Piṭaka* the Buddha gave two explanations of the term. In the *Samyutta-nikāya* (VRI III. 401; PTS V, 180–1) he defines it as follows:

Kathaṅca, bhikkhave, bhikkhu sampajāno hoti? Idha bhikkhave, bhikkhuno viditā vedanā uppajjanti, viditā upaṭṭhahanti, viditā abbattham gacchanti; viditā saññā uppajjanti, viditā upaṭṭhahanti, viditā abbattham gacchanti; viditā vitakkā uppajjanti, viditā upaṭṭhahanti, viditā abbattham gacchanti. Evaṃ kho, bhikkhave, bhikkhu sampajāno hoti.

And how, monks, does a monk understand thoroughly? Here, monks, a monk experiences sensations arising in him, experiences their persisting, and experiences their vanishing; he experiences perceptions arising in him, experiences their persisting, and experiences their vanishing; he experiences each initial application of the mind [on an object] arising in him, experiences its persisting, and experiences its vanishing. This, monks, is how a monk understands thoroughly.

In the above statement it is clear that one is *sampajāno* only when one understands the characteristic of impermanence (arising, persisting and vanishing). This understanding must be based on sensation (*viditā vedanā*). If the characteristic of impermanence is not experienced at the level of *vedanā*, then one's understanding is merely an intellectualization, since it is only through sensation that direct experience occurs. The statement further indicates that *sampajañña* lies in the experience of the impermanence of *saññā* and *vitakkā*. Here we should note that impermanence understood at the level of *vedanā* actually covers all three cases since according to the Buddha's teaching in the *Ānguttara-nikāya* (VRI III. Dasakanipāta, 58; PTS V. 107):

Vedanā-samosaraṇā sabbe dhammā.

Everything that arises in the mind flows together with sensations.

The second explanation of *sampajañña* given by the Buddha emphasizes that it must be continuous. In several places he repeats the words of the *Sampajānapabbam* of *Mahāsatiṭṭhāna Sutta*, as in this passage from the *Mahāparinibbāna Sutta* (*Dīgha-nikāya* II: VRI. 160; PTS 95):

Kathaṅca, bhikkhave, bhikkhu sampajāno hoti? Idha bhikkhave, bhikkhu abhikkante paṭikkante sampajānakārī hoti, ālokite vilokite sampajānakārī hoti, samiñjite pasārite sampajānakārī hoti, saṅghāṭipattacīvaradhāraṇe sampajānakārī hoti, asite pīte khāyite sāyite sampajānakārī hoti, uccārapassāvakamme sampajānakārī hoti, gate ṭhite nisinne sutte jāgarite bhāsīte tuṅhībhāve sampajānakārī hoti.

And how, monks, does a monk understand thoroughly? Here, monks, a monk, while going forward or backward, he does so with constant thorough understanding of impermanence; whether he is looking straight ahead or looking sideways, he does so with constant thorough understanding of impermanence; while he is bending or stretching, he does so with constant thorough understanding of impermanence; whether wearing his robes or carrying his bowl, he does so with constant thorough understanding of impermanence; whether he is eating, drinking, chewing or savouring, he does so with constant thorough understanding of impermanence; while attending to the calls of nature, he does so with constant thorough understanding of impermanence; whether he is walking, standing,

sitting, sleeping or waking, speaking or in silence, he does so with constant thorough understanding of impermanence.

With proper understanding of the teaching of the Buddha, it becomes clear that if this continuous *sampajañña* consists only of the thorough understanding of the external processes of walking, eating, and other activities of the body, then what is being practised is merely *sati*. If, however, the constant thorough understanding includes the characteristic of the arising and passing away of *vedanā* while the meditator is performing these activities, then *sampajāno satimā* is being practised, *paññā* (wisdom) is being developed.

The Buddha describes this more specifically in this passage from the *Aṅguttara-nikāya* (VRI I. *Catukkanipāta*, 12; PTS II 15) in words reminiscent of *Sampajānapabbam*:

*Yataṃ care yataṃ tiṭṭhe, yataṃ acche yataṃ saye
yataṃ samiñjaye bhikkhu, yatamenam pasāraye
uddham tiriyaṃ apācīnaṃ, yāvata jagato gati,
samavekkhitā ca dhammānaṃ, khandhānaṃ udayabbayaṃ.*

Whether the monk walks or stands or sits or lies,
whether he bends or stretches, above, across, backwards,
whatever his course in the world,
he observes the arising and passing away of the aggregates.

The Buddha clearly emphasized the thorough understanding of *anicca* (impermanence) in all bodily and mental activities. Therefore, since the proper understanding of this technical term, *sampajañña*, is so critical for an understanding of this *sutta*, we have translated it as “the constant thorough understanding of impermanence,” even though this definition is less concise than the traditional “thorough understanding.”

4. In this introductory paragraph the Buddha repeats a basic verbal formula reminding us that we must continuously observe “body in body,” or “sensations in sensations,” or “mind in mind,” or “mental contents in mental contents.” Though these verbal constructs may seem unusual, they refer to the fact that this observation has to be directly experiential rather than dealing only with thought, imagination or contemplation of the object.

The Buddha emphasizes this point in the *Ānāpānasati Sutta* (*Mājjhima-nikāya* III: VRI. 149; PTS 83–4), where he describes the progressive stages of the practice of *ānāpāna* meditation. In the section where he explains how the four *satipaṭṭhānā* are brought to perfection by *ānāpāna* he says:

...kāyesu kāyaññatarāhaṃ, bhikkhave, evaṃ vadāmi yadidaṃ assāsapassāsā. Tasmātiha,

bhikkhave, kāye kāyānupassī tasmim̐ samaye bhikkhu viharati ātāpī sampajāno satimā vineyya loke abhijjhādomanassaṃ.

...Monks, when I say, 'inhalation-exhalation,' it is like another body in the body. Observing body in body in this way, monks, at that time a monk dwells ardent with awareness and constant thorough understanding of impermanence, having removed craving and aversion towards this world [of mind and matter].

This indicates that practising *ānāpāna* meditation leads directly to experiencing the body, which means feeling sensations in the body. The sensations may be related to the breath, the oxygen flowing in the blood, etc. but those details are not important. The body-in-body experience is not imagined or contemplated but felt throughout the body. More specifically, he continues:

...vedanāsu vedanāññatarāhaṃ, bhikkhave, evaṃ vadāmi yadidaṃ assāsapassāsānaṃ sādhukaṃ manasikāraṃ. Tasmātiha, bhikkhave, vedanāsu vedanānupassī tasmim̐ samaye bhikkhu viharati ātāpī sampajāno satimā vineyya loke abhijjhādomanassaṃ.

...monks, when I say, 'by proper attention to inhalation-exhalation,' it is like other sensations in the sensations. Observing sensations in sensations in this way, monks, at that time a monk dwells ardent with awareness and constant thorough understanding of impermanence, having removed craving and aversion towards this world [of mind and matter].

By equating the observation of the breath with experiencing sensations the Buddha is pointing to the critical importance of the body and the sensations in proper practice of meditation. It is the awareness of these sensations by direct experience throughout the body, while maintaining equanimity with the understanding of impermanence, that perfects the four *satipaṭṭhānas*.

It is instructive that in *Ānāpānasati Sutta* he describes the experience of body-in-body and sensations-in-sensations as one observes the breath but when he turns to the observation of mind he does not continue with the same verbal formula. Instead, he again directs our attention to the importance of *sampajañña*:

...citte cittānupassī, bhikkhave, tasmim̐ samaye bhikkhu viharati ātāpī sampajāno satimā vineyya loke abhijjhādomanassaṃ. Nāhaṃ, bhikkhave, muṭṭhassatissa asampajānassa ānāpānassatiṃ vadāmi.

...observing mind in mind, monks, at that time a monk dwells ardent with awareness and constant thorough understanding of impermanence, having removed craving and aversion towards this world [of mind and matter]. I say, monks, one who is inattentive, who is not constantly aware of impermanence, he is not one doing *ānāpāna*.

Beginning with *ānāpāna* as a starting point the practice described has led directly to Vipassana, i.e., to the practice of the four *satipaṭṭhānas*. And here we see how emphatically the Buddha states that, even while observing the mind, one is not practising properly unless there is awareness of impermanence with the direct experience of the sensations.

5. *Pajānāti* [understands properly] means, “to understand, to know deeply or intently with wisdom.” It is the result of the intensification of the verb *jānāti* (he or she knows) by the addition of the prefix *pa-*, from *paññā* (wisdom).

6. *Iti ajjhataṃ...kāye kāyānupassī viharati*. [Thus he dwells...dwells observing body in body.] This paragraph is repeated twenty-one times throughout the *Mahāsatipaṭṭhāna Sutta*, with variations according to which section of the four *satipaṭṭhānas* one has reached: body, sensations, mind or mental contents.

In this key paragraph the Buddha describes the common steps in Vipassana that all meditators must pass through no matter what section of the *sutta* one begins with. In each repetition, this paragraph focuses our attention on the essential fact that, no matter if one is observing body, sensations, mind or mental contents, one must understand the fundamental characteristic of arising and passing away. This understanding of impermanence then leads directly to the total detachment from the world of mind and matter which takes us to *nibbāna* (liberation).

7. *Bahiddhā* [externally] is sometimes translated as “outer things” or “observing another’s body.” In the following section, on the observation of sensations, it has sometimes been taken to mean “feeling the sensations of others.” While such an experience is not impossible, it would be practised only at a very high stage of development. According to the *sutta*, the meditator is asked to sit alone somewhere in a forest, under a tree or in an empty room, and start practising. In such a situation observing others would be meaningless, and the sensations of someone or something else would be of no use. For a meditator, therefore, “externally,” meaning the surface of the body, is the most practical definition of *bahiddhā*.

See also note no. 19.

8. The *Pāli atthi kāyo* [this is body] indicates that the meditator at this stage clearly understands experientially, at the level of sensations, “body” in its true nature: its characteristic of arising and passing away. Therefore the meditator neither makes any identification of “body” as male or female, young or old, beautiful or ugly, etc., nor has any attachment towards “I,” “me,” or “mine.”

In the other three sections of the *sutta*, the sensations, mind and mental contents are each identified similarly in their corresponding paragraphs: “This is sensation,” “This is mind,”

“These are mental contents,” to indicate the lack of identification of the meditator with the object, and his or her understanding of the object in its true characteristic of *anicca* (impermanence).

9. *Yāvadeva ñānamattāya paṭissatimattāya* [Thus he develops his awareness to such an extent that there is mere understanding along with mere awareness.] The mind of the meditator at this stage is absorbed in the wisdom of *anicca* (the arising and passing away of sensations), with no identification beyond this awareness. With the base of this awareness he develops understanding with his own experience. This is *paññā* (wisdom). With his awareness thus established in *anicca*, there is no attraction to the world of mind and matter.

10. This includes the changing of position as well as the four basic postures of the body. Whatever one does, an ardent meditator is always aware with wisdom: *yathā yathā vā...tathā tathā naṃ pajānāti* (whatever he does...that he understands properly).

11. *Sampajānakārī hoti* [does so with constant thorough understanding of impermanence] literally means: “He is doing (all the time) *sampajāñña*.” It is helpful to follow the progression of the Buddha’s words in Pāli: he uses “*jānāti*” (he knows), “*pajānāti*” (understands properly – intently or deeply with wisdom), and “*sampajānāti*” (he constantly and thoroughly understands the impermanent nature of his experience). Each word indicates a progressive step, that the meditator takes by following the instructions given in the *sutta*. Thus he proceeds from simple experience, to understanding based on direct experience, up to thorough and constant understanding of the impermanence, at the level of sensations, of each and every experience.

12. *Sāmisā* [with attachment] literally means: *sa-āmisā* (with-flesh); *nirāmisā* [without attachment]: means *nir-āmisā* (without-flesh). They can also be rendered as: “impure” and “pure,” “material” and “immaterial” or, “sensual” and “nonsensual.” A common interpretation is that a sensation which is *sāmisā* is related to the world of sensual pleasures and a *nirāmisā* sensation is a sensation related to the higher meditational realms.

In this context, related to the observation of sensations without any reaction of craving or aversion by the meditator, we have used “with attachment” and “without attachment.” These terms seem clearest insofar as they relate to the practice.

13. See note no. 7.

14. *Citta* [mind], in this context, is correctly translated as “mind.” The meditator experiences different states of mind and observes them in an objective and detached manner. It might be misleading to translate *citta* here as “thought.”

Citte cittānupassī [mind in mind] refers to the experiential nature of the observation required (see note no. 4).

15. *Saṅkhittaṃ* [collected] and *vikkhittaṃ* [scattered] correspond to mental states either scattered because of the *pañca nīvaraṇā*, the “five hindrances,” or collected when the hindrances are not manifesting their respective effects. (See the following Section 5A, The Hindrances.)

16. *Mahaggaṭaṃ cittaṃ* [expanded mind] means literally: “mind having become great;” i.e., by the practice and development of the *jhānas* (the practice of absorption *samādhi*). It refers to a mind expanded by the practice of these deep *samādhis*, rather than the stage transcending mind and matter. *Amahaggaṭaṃ cittaṃ* [unexpanded mind] thus means a mind not having become expanded in this way.

17. *Sa-uttaraṃ* [surpassable] means: “having something higher than that” or “not superior.” This type of mind is still connected with the mundane field. *Anuttaraṃ* [unsurpassable], correspondingly, is a mind that has reached a very high stage of meditation, where nothing is superior. Therefore “surpassable” and “unsurpassable,” though not very precise, seem to be the nearest translations.

18. *Samāhitaṃ* [concentrated] and *asamāhitaṃ* [unconcentrated] are related to the type of *samādhi* (concentration) that one has gained; states of concentration that are called: *upacāra* (neighbourhood concentration, i.e. approaching a level of absorption) and *appanā samādhi* (absorption, or attainment, concentration). *Asamāhitaṃ cittaṃ* therefore describes a mental state without that depth of concentration.

19. *Iti ajjhataṃ...bahiddhā...ajjhatabhiddhā vā citte cittānupassī viharati* [Thus he dwells observing mind in mind internally... externally...both internally and externally]. Applied to the mind (and in the next section, the mental contents) this sentence has sometimes been interpreted to mean that the meditator observes his own mind (internally) and the mind of others (externally). This can be done only by a very highly developed meditator, therefore it is not a practical instruction for most people.

In this section the meditator is asked to experience directly the mind in mind (*citte cittānupassī*). This can be done only by observing whatever arises in the mind. As the body was experienced by means what arises on the body (i.e., sensation); the mind is experienced only when something arises in the mind (i.e., the mental contents). When the mind is observing the internal objects – its own internal mental states – it is observing the mind in mind internally.

To observe the mind and mental contents externally means to observe experientially that any object which comes in contact with the mind-body through any of the six sense doors (that

is, an external stimulus) causes an internal reaction. Any sight, sound, taste, smell, touch or thought results in a sensation and the mind feels it. Of course, internal mental states and sensation resulting from contact with external objects will all mix and flow together.

Therefore, again, we see the importance of the Buddha's statement:

Vedanā-samosaraṇā sabbe dhammā.

Everything that arises in the mind flows together with sensations. (*Āṅguttara-nikāya*: VRI III. *Dasakanipāta*, 58; PTS V. 107)

Whether the object is internal or external, if the mind remains within the body observing the sensations, then it is directly experiencing the mind and mental contents in a tangible way that easily allows the meditator to experience the impermanent nature of the entire mind-matter phenomenon.

20. *Pañca upādānakkhandhā* [the five aggregates of clinging] consist of: *rūpakkhandha* (the material aggregate) connected with *kāya* (body) and the four *nāmakkhandhā* (aggregates of mind), which are: *viññāṇakkhandha* (the aggregate of consciousness); *saññākkhandha* (the aggregate of perception); *vedanākkhandha* (the aggregate of feeling of sensations on the body) *saṅkhārakkhandha* (the aggregate of reaction).

The *pañca upādānakkhandhā* are aggregates of clinging, or attachment, in two ways. They are the basic objects to which we cling because of our illusion that the five together make up "I," "me." In addition, the continual arising of the aggregates – with the attendant suffering that goes with the cycle of becoming – is due to the clinging toward this illusory "I." Aggregates and clinging always go together, except in the case of an *arahant*, who has *pañca khandhā*, the five aggregates, but no clinging towards them; no *upādāna* (attachment or clinging) is possible for such a person.

21. Here *dhamma* has to be understood as the law of nature, the nature of the law in its totality. At a superficial level *dhammavicaya* [investigation of Dhamma] can be understood to mean intellectual investigation of the law. But to become a factor of enlightenment *dhammavicaya* must become an experiential investigation – direct experience of the phenomenon of arising and passing away at the level of sensations.

22. *Pīti* [rapture] is difficult to translate into English. It is often translated as: "joy," "delight," "bliss" or "thrill." Each of these words conveys at least partially the meaning of mental and physical pleasantness. For *pīti* to become a factor of enlightenment it must be experienced in its true nature as ephemeral, arising and passing away. Only then can the meditator avoid the danger of becoming attached to the pleasantness of this stage.

23. As with the previous factor of enlightenment, *passaddhi* [tranquillity], becomes a factor of enlightenment only when it is experienced as impermanent, *anicca* – arising and passing away. The danger for the meditator here is that this stage of deep tranquillity might be mistaken for the final goal of *nibbāna*. This deep illusion (*moha*) is removed by the experience of *anicca* as one experiences this tranquillity.

24. In the texts *byādhi* [sickness] is sometimes included, sometimes omitted.

25. Here it is very clear that the word *dukkha* [pain] is related to the body, and *domanassa* [grief] to the mind. Correspondingly, *sukha* (bodily pleasure) is related to the body, *somanassa* (mental pleasure) to the mind and *adukkhamasukha* (neither painful nor pleasant) as neutral, to both body and mind.

26. The word *loke* [world] has a wide spectrum of meaning: “universe,” “world,” “region,” “people.” In this entire section it is used in connection with everything that one experiences at any of the six senses, and the entire process of the contact between the senses and their respective objects. So in this context *loke* is to be understood as the “world” of the mind-body phenomenon. Therefore the entire “world” can be directly experienced at the level of the sensations in the body that result from any of these interactions.

27. *Vitakko* [thought conception] refers to the initial application of the mind to an object. This is contrasted with *vicāro* [rolling in thoughts] in the next paragraph, which refers to a sustained application of the mind on an object.

In the later section, dealing with the *jhānas* (see pp. 72,73), the translation reflects this relationship more directly since the context is one of deep absorption in the object of meditation rather than one where mental impurities are arising.

28. *Evam* [in this manner], as explained throughout the entire *sutta*, is *ātāpī sampajāno satimā* (ardent with awareness of mind and body at the level of sensations and with constant thorough understanding of impermanence). In order to achieve these guaranteed results the continuity should be *sampajaññaṃ na riñcati* ([the meditator] does not lose the constant thorough understanding of impermanence even for a moment).

29. The final stage of liberation of an *arahant*.

30. The stage of an *anāgāmī* [non-returner] is the third and next-to-last stage of liberation.

Source: The Pali Tipitaka, Vipassana Research Institute.

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