Suppāraka which is identified with Supārā or Sopārā in the Thana district in Bombay in western India. However this Sasanavaṃsa statement should be the result of a Burmese attempt at identifying Indian place names with various locations in Burma and other Buddhist countries in South East Asia.

Regarding the services of the Elder Yonakadhammarakkhita in Aparantaka, the Mahavamsa (12.34-36) states that the Elder, who was an expert in what is right and wrong, made the assembled 37,000 people to drink the ambrosial Dhamma by preaching the Aggikkhandhopama Sutta- Discourse on the Mass of fire-amidst the people. At this a thousand men and even a greater number of women from the K śastriya Clan alone left home and were ordained. The commentary, according to some manuscripts3, gives the number of women ordained to be six thousand. But significantly, unlike in the case of the introduction of Buddhism to Sri Lanka, the chronicle does not reveal the name of the bhikkhuni responsible for the ordination of women, for the Elder Dhammarakkhita could not have achieved this task without the services of a bhikkhuni.

The Sammohavinodani, commentary to the Vibhaiga of the Abhidhamma Pitaka (p.389; SHB.xxxiii. 273) also refers to an Elder by the same name, Yonakadhammarakkhita, who lived in India and attracted students to himself from even foreign lands. A Buddhist monk named Punabbasuku tum-bhikaputta Tissa of Sri Lanka went cross to India to study under him. Concluding his studies 1, the monk Tissa took leave of his teacher, and was on his way back to Sri Lanka, when at the sea port realized that he has doubts regarding a certain word and decided to cut short his journey and return immediately to his teacher. Walking back, a distance of one hundred leagues, he revealed his problem to a certain householder he met on the way. Quite pleased with the monk, the lay devotee presented him with a blanket worth a hundred thousand pieces of money. Back with his teacher he, in his turn, presented the blanket to him. The teacher, in his turn, cut up the blanket and made a seat cover with it. The Elder did this out of compassion for future generations who he thought would, considering the path followed by him, make an effort to follow a principled life as fellows of the noble life. Having cleared his doubt the monk Tissa returned home to Sri Lanka. Others later realized him to be a person free from attachment. Since he lived at a time when

Buddhism was well established in Sri Lanka he could not be the same Yonkadhammarakkhita, the missionary monk who propagated Buddhism in Aparantaka.

C.Witanachchi

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YONISO MANASIKĀRA stands for a form of "attention" that is "thorough" and "penetrative", and therefore also "wise". To explore the connotations of yoniso manasikāra, the present article will begin by examining the terms yoniso and manasikāra individually, followed by surveying passages that are of relevance to the implications of the expression yoniso manasikāra, and to its importance in the thought world of the Pāli canon.

Yoniso

The term *yoniso* derives from *yoni*, which stands for a "womb", a "matrix", or a "place of origin". Thus *yoniso* can convey the sense of doing something "thoroughly" or "penetratively", in the sense of going "down to its origins". The idea of doing something in a penetrative manner can be seen in a simile that describes how examining a lump of foam in a manner that is *yoniso* leads to the realization that this lump of foam is empty of any substance (S. III, 140). In the context of this simile, *yoniso* conveys the idea of penetrating through the outer surface of phenomena — in this case the surface of a lump of foam — and realizing the true nature of what is found beneath this surface.

The nuance of thoroughness, in the sense of doing something intensively, seems to be prominent in a description of someone who is stirred by the prospect of disease or death and thereon "thoroughly" endeavours, sanwiggo yoniso padahati, in order to progress on the path to liberation (A. II, 115). Another example would be a verse, which proclaims that the

deathless can be attained even today by those who "thoroughly" apply themselves, amatam ajjāpi ca labhanīyam idam, yo yoniso payuājati (Thig. 513). A monk who in this way "thoroughly" endeavours, will reach the destruction of - dukkha, yoniso padaham bhikkhu, khayam dukkhassa pāpuņe (lt. 10). The idea of thoroughness would also be relevant for an occurrence of yoniso in a verse that compares "thoroughly" restraining the mind to a mahout who controls an elephant, cittam ... tad ajj'aham niggahessāmi yoniso, hatthippabhinnam viya aṅkusaggaho (Dhp. 326).

At times, yoniso can also convey the sense of "proper" or "appropriate". This meaning underlies a passage where a king finds out that the Buddhist monks make good use of robe material given to them, as once their robes become worn, they employ the cloth as mattress coverings, foot-wipers etc., and the shreds left over after such usage are kneaded with mud and used for construction work. This convinces the king that the monks make use of the cloth they receive in a "proper" manner, yoniso upanenti (Vin. II, 292). The nuance of appropriateness could also be relevant to a passage in the Bhūmija Sutta, according to which it is not beneficial to live the holy life in an "improper" manner, ayoniso brahmacariyam carati (M. III, 138).

Besides the nuances of thoroughness and appropriateness, yoniso often conveys the idea of doing something in a "wise" manner. This sense of the term becomes particularly evident with a set of similes, where the opposite term ayoniso stands for doing something in an "unwise" or even "foolish" manner. One of these similes describes a woman wondering if the child she is pregnant with will be a male and thus become the heir to the family's wealth. In order to find out, she takes a knife and cuts open her own belly. As a result, she passes away together with the embryo. Such a way of acting is to seek for an inheritance in an "unwise" manner, like fools would do, yathā tam bālā ... ayoniso dāyajjam gavesanti (D. II, 331). The same imagery of seeking for something in an unwise manner, ayoniso, recurs in another simile which describes how a group of villagers tries to find the sound of a trumpet by speaking to the trumpet, shaking it and hitting it (D. II, 337). A third instance of the same imagery involves making a fire. Here someone tries to kindle a fire by just chopping up the fire sticks, a rather "unwise" manner, ayoniso, of searching for fire (D. II, 341). These three similes employ ayoniso in a way

that clearly suggests the nuance of "wisely" for the opposite term *yoniso*.

The meaning of "wisely" as a central implication of the qualification yoniso can be seen in several occurrences of the term itself. Thus to put questions in a way that is yoniso, or to answer them in such a way, is the hallmark of a wise person, a pandita (A. I, 103). In contrast, one who is not capable of asking questions in such a manner will be reckoned a fool (D. I, 118). Another type of context involves "wisely" reflecting on the import of the teachings one has heard, yoniso paccavekkhisam (Thag. 347). To investigate the teachings in a manner that is yoniso leads to purification and wisdom, yoniso vicine dhammam, evam tattha visujjhati (S. I, 34); yoniso vicine dhammam, paññāyattham vipassati (A. IV, 3). Thus yoniso can qualify the type of wise mental investigation that leads to liberation, vicinantiyā yoniso (Thig. 85); or stand for wisely seeing with insight the true characteristics of reality, aniccam dukkan 'ti vipassa yoniso, suññam anattā 'ti (Thag. 1117).

In sum, then, yoniso in its early canonical usage conveys a sense of doing something "thoroughly", in an "appropriate" manner, and "wisely". These nuances cannot be neatly separated from each other and, even though at times one of these meanings may be more prominent, in other instances it would be difficult to decide on any of them. Thus the above selection of instances only intends to reflect the range of nuances conveyed by yoniso, without thereby implying that each occurrence has to necessarily correspond to only one of these three related meanings. An example for the convergence of these three nuances would be a verse that describes how a monk reached liberation after having practised in a yoniso manner, yoniso paṭipajjitvā (Thag. 158). His practice would have to have been "thorough", must have been "proper", and certainly was "wise".

Manasik āra

Translated literally, manasi karoti means to "do" or to "make" something "in the mind". Being one of the constituents of nāma (M. I, 53), manasikāra is an ever-present aspect of the mind. As such, manasikāra lies at the origin of all experienced phenomena, manasikārasambhavā sabbe dhammā (A. IV, 339); since once attention arises, phenomena will arise, manasikārasamudayā dhammānaṃ samudayo (S. V, 184).

Given that manasikāra is present in all states of mind, the crucial question is: to what object and in what manner is this faculty of attention directed? If, for example, manasikāra focuses on the feature of physical beauty, lust will invade the mind, subhanimittassa manasikārā rāgo cittam anuddhamsessati (M. I. 26). Or else, if manasikāra dwells on the bad qualities of another person, anger will arise (A. III, 187). Taking into account the need of avoiding the dire consequences of wrongly directed manasikāra, the Buddha would teach his disciples how attention should be directed, evam manasikarotha, mā evam manasākattha (D. I, 214). This "how" of directing attention, as one might well suspect from the thrust of the present article, should be yoniso, that is: "wise", "thorough" and "appropriate".

The implications of yoniso manasikāra

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Yoniso manasikāra is thus a form of "attention" purposely directed in a manner that is "wise" and at the same time "thorough" and "appropriate".3 A central task of yoniso manasikāra, in line with its nature as a form of attention that goes to the very origin of things,4 is to explore the conditioned nature of phenomena. A case in point can be seen in the description of the process of mental development that preceded the awakening of Vipassī bodhisattva. His understanding of the dependent arising of each of the links of paticca samuppāda - old age and death, birth, etc. - took place through yoniso manasikāra (D. II, 31 or S. II, 5). Yoniso manasikāra performed the same role in relation to the awakening of other previous Buddhas, including Gotama Buddha, who similarly developed insight into the links of paticca samuppāda with the help of yoniso manasikāra (S. II, 9-10; See also S. II, 104).

In all these cases, yoniso manasikāra was instrumental in arousing the wisdom that led to realization, yoniso manasikārā ahu paññāya abhisamayo. Since Buddhas awaken on their own, without being taught the way to liberation by others, the potential of yoniso manasikāra in preparing the ground for the arising of liberating insight can hardly be overestimated. That yoniso manasikāra performed a rather crucial role in relation to Gotama Buddha's attainment of supreme liberation is also reflected in another discourse, which highlights that the Buddha's awakening took place through yoniso manasikāra and through striving that was similarly directed in a yoniso

manner, yoniso manasikārā yoniso sammappadhānā anuttarā vimutti anuppattā (Vin. I, 22 or S. I, 105).

The practical implications of yoniso manasikāra in relation to paţicca samuppāda are spelled out in several discourses, which clarify that such wise and penetrative attention focuses on the specific conditionality of phenomena: "when this is, that comes to be, with the arising of this, that arises" etc., imasmiṃ sati idaṃ hoti, imassa uppādā idam uppajjati (e.g. S. II, 95).

Paticca samuppāda is, however, certainly not the only object of yoniso manasikāra, a mental quality which much rather is of relevance to the entire field of insight. Yoniso manasikāra directed to the impermanent nature of the five aggregates of clinging, in particular, has a considerable potential of leading to the destruction of lust and therewith to liberation (S. III, 52). It goes without saying that a similar outcome can also be attained if yoniso manasik āra is directed to the impermanent nature of the senses or their objects (S. IV, 142). Besides awareness of impermanence, the range of yoniso manasikāra also comprises giving attention to the five aggregates of clinging as something that is unsatisfactory, a disease, a tumour, a dart, a misery, an affliction, alien, disintegrating, empty and not-self (S. III, 167).

Yoniso manasikāra as a form of attention directed to the true nature of phenomena stands in direct contrast to ayoniso manasikāra, which according to the Vibhaṅga can be characterized as 'mis'-taking what is impermanent for permanent, anicce 'niccan'ti ayoniso manasikāro, or mistaking what is unsatisfactory for being satisfactory, what is not-self for being self, and what is not beautiful for being beautiful (Vibh. 373).

Cultivated in this way, voniso manasikāra can become a powerful tool for de-conditioning the way to perception, saññā, misinterprets the world of experience. Such misinterpretations are traditionally listed as the vipallāsas, corresponding to the four types of ayoniso manasikāra listed in the Vibhaṅga passage above. The operational mechanism of such perceptual misinterpretations through ayoniso manasikāra is based on the very nature of saññā, whose task is to match information received through the sense doors with mental labels and concepts, leading to various associations and memories. Such

concepts and associations are only too often tinged by desire, aversion and delusion, being the outcome of habitual reactions under the influence of defilements. Such habits have been built up throughout the past and continue to be fortified in the present, whenever such reactions recur. Due to the influence of these habitual reactions and associations, whatever is experienced will be apprehended together with the subjective notions the mind projects onto the data of the senses. Both come together in an almost inextricable mix, and the perceiver is mostly unaware of the degree to which his or her experience is influenced by preconceived notions and thereby mirrors and confirms subjective prejudices.

Ayoniso manasikāra as a form of unwise and perhaps also somewhat 'superficial' attention perpetuates this state of affairs, where the falsification of data through sañāā remains unquestioned. The remedy here is yoniso manasikāra, a wise and penetrative form of attention that goes beyond the superficial appearance of things in order to come to know their true nature, however much disappointing this may be. Continuous training in yoniso manasikāra will eventually change the way perception apprehends the world, whereby awareness of the true characteristics of reality will gradually become as ingrained in perceptual appraisal as the earlier habitual reactions.

In view of this potential, it comes as no surprise that *yoniso manasikāra* is a central condition for the arising of the awakening factors, just as its opposite *ayoniso manasikāra* is responsible for the arising of the hindrances (S. V, 94 and S. V, 84). The discourses express this by reckoning *yoniso manasikāra* the "nutriment", *āhāra*, for the awakening factors (S. V, 104). That is, "attention" that is "thorough" or "wise" quite literally "nourishes" the arising and establishment of those mental conditions that are directly responsible for awakening.

In particular, yoniso manasikāra directed to the distinction between what is wholesome and what is unwholesome nourishes the awakening factor of investigation-of-phenomena, dhammavicaya; yoniso manasikāra aimed at exertion and effort nourishes the awakening factor of energy; yoniso manasikāra in regard to tranquillity of body and mind nourishes the awakening factor of tranquillity; and yoniso manasikāra directed to the characteristic of tranquillity

and collectedness of the mind nourishes the awakening factor of concentration (S. V, 104). In the case of the awakening factors of mindfulness, joy and equanimity, yoniso manasikāra should be aimed at whatever constitutes a basis for these awakening factors, their respective sambojjhanga thāniyā dhammā.

Besides standing in a close relationship to the development of the awakening factors, *yoniso manasikāra* is also relevant for examining if the factors of awakening are well established in one's mind (S. V, 76), or if the mind of another is ripe for attaining any of the four levels of awakening (D. III, 107).

The imagery of providing a "nutriment" for certain mental qualities or factors also applies to the hindrances. Here *yoniso manasikāra* has the task of attending in such a way as to deprive the hindrances of nourishment. This takes place by directing *yoniso manasikāra* to the absence of beauty, to loving kindness, to exertion and effort, to peacefulness of the mind, and to the distinction between what is wholesome and what is unwholesome in order to "denourish", as it were, the hindrances of sensual desire, ill-will, sloth-and-torpor, restlessness-and-worry, and doubt (S. V, 105).

In a more general way, the task of yoniso manasikāra comprises overcoming all three roots of evil. By wisely and thoroughly attending to the absence of beauty, the root defilement of lust, rāga, will no longer arise in the mind. Attending to loving kindness with yoniso manasikāra will lead to overcoming the root defilement of anger, dosa; and by dint of simply developing yoniso manasikāra as such it will be possible to overcome delusion, moha (A. I, 200). It is notable that just yoniso manasikāra itself is the chief factor responsible for avoiding delusion, which further reinforces the importance of its role as a "wise" form of attention that leads to liberating insight.

A practical example of how one should deal with unwholesome mental qualities through *yoniso manasikāra* can be found in a discourse that describes a monk whose mind is full of thoughts related to sensuality, ill-will and harming. A *deva*, who has become aware of the monk's condition, admonishes him (S. I, 203). The *deva* tells the monk that his condition is due to *ayoniso manasikāra* and advises him that he should give up such unwise forms of thinking, *ayoniso patinissajja*. Instead, he should direct

his thoughts in a more appropriate manner, yoniso anucintaya. This he could do by recollecting his teacher, the teaching, the community, or his own virtue. Directing his thoughts in such a yoniso manner, joy will arise and lead him onwards on the path to liberation from dukkha.

A whole range of practical examples for *yoniso manasikāra* can be found in the *Sabbāsava Sutta*, whose exposition presents a series of activities that lead to overcoming the influxes. According to the introductory statement in this discourse, the destruction of the influxes requires knowing and seeing, and such knowing and seeing comes about through *yoniso manasikāra*. (M. I, 7). Thus *yoniso manasikāra* serves as a heading for all the methods listed in the *Sabbāsava Sutta*.

Of the altogether seven methods for overcoming the influxes listed in the Sabbāsava Sutta, the first requires developing a vision of the four noble truth. Such vision stands in contrast to unwisely attending, ayoniso manasikāra, to meaningless questions of the type "am I at present?" etc. (M. I, 8). The other six methods involve "reflecting wisely", patisankhā voniso, in order to: establish sense-restraint; properly use one's requisites; patiently endure vicissitudes of climate etc.; avoid dangerous situations such as encountering wild animals etc.; remove unwholesome thoughts from the mind; and develop the factors of awakening. The range of activities assembled here reflects the compass of yoniso manasikāra, which covers proper use of requisites just as much as developing the mental qualities required to experience awakening. Whether one is wisely reflecting that food should not be taken for amusement, but only in order to maintain the body, or whether the factors of awakening are developed in such a manner that the mind inclines towards cessation and letting go - all such activities fall under the heading of yoniso manasikāra, developed for the sake of removing the influxes.

The presentation given in the Sabbāsava Sutta shows that yoniso manasikāra can take place at a reflective conceptual level of the mind as well as during deep meditation. Several discourses show how a more reflective type of yoniso manasikāra can serve as a transition from hearing teachings to engaging in actual practice. Yet, yoniso manasikāra is also part of the practice itself, since it includes the wise form of

attention that is present during deeper stages of insight contemplation

The importance of yoniso manasik āra

The importance of voniso manasik ara for progress on the path to liberation can be gauged from its appearance in several listings of the factors that are required for reaching stream-entry. A rather brief listing speaks of two main factors for arousing right view: the voice of another and voniso manasik āra (M. I, 294 or A. I. 87). Elsewhere in the discourses, the same theme is treated in more detail by listing altogether four factors of stream-entry. These comprise association with superior human beings and listening to the proper teachings, followed by yoniso manasikāra and practice undertaken according to these teachings (e.g. D. III, 227). The listing clearly follows a temporal sequence, delineating the main steps that lead up to the attainment of stream-entry. The obvious and most basic requirement is to come in contact with a superior human being who transmits the type of proper teachings that, on being put into practice, lead to liberation. Another basic requirement is to be willing to listen to such teachings. Given that much, one needs to listen to the teachings without being mentally distracted, avikhittacitto dhamma m sunāti, in order to be able to develop single-minded voniso manasikāra on such an occasion (A. III, 175).

Additional detail on this series of steps leading up to stream-entry can be gathered from some discourses, which depict a progression from listening to the proper teachings via the establishment of "faith" or "confidence", saddhā, to yoniso manasikāra (e.g. A. V, 115). The inner confidence or faith gained from listening to the proper teachings thus serves as a "nutriment" for yoniso manasikāra, since the inspiration developed in such way quite literally nourishes the development and maintainence of wise and thorough attention (A. V, 115). To be able to rouse such inspiration requires overcoming three adverse conditions: forgetfulness, thoughtlessness, and confusion (A. V, 145).

Once that much has been achieved, yoniso manasikāra plays its crucial role in bridging the transition from passive reception of the teachings to their active application. In this way, yoniso manasikāra can become the basis for overcoming sensuality and other unwholesome qualities; for

tranquillizing any gross type of activity by way of body, speech and mind; and for developing insight into what is wholesome and what is unwholesome (*D.* II, 214).

The directional input provided by *yoniso* manasikāra for undertaking practice is comparable to the early morning dawn. Just as the early morning dawn is the harbinger of the rising of the sun, so *yoniso* manasikāra is the harbinger of the noble eightfold path (S. V, 31) and of the seven factors of awakening (S. V, 79). Yoniso manasikāra is of such importance in relation to these two sets, that some discourses declare no other mental quality to be more helpful for arousing the noble eightfold path (S. V, 35), or for developing the awakening factors (S. V, 101).

In short, all wholesome qualities have their root in yoniso manasikāra (S. V, 91), and the proper directional input given by yoniso manasikāra is the decisive factor for undertaking wholesome deeds (A. V, 87). Thus yoniso manasikāra is the factor par excellence for arousing wholesome qualities and for overcoming unwholesome qualities (A. I, 13), thereby leading to great benefit and ensuring the endurance of the teachings (A. I, 18). Besides, the development of yoniso manasikāra also constitutes a source of delight, joy and happiness, yonisomanasikaroto pāmojjaṃ jāyati, pamuditassa pīti jāyati, pītimanassa ... sukhaṃ vedeti (D. III, 288).

As a form of actual practice, voniso manasikāra is of continuous relevance all the way from the first steps of practice to final liberation, a progressive development during which what initially was a form of reflection on teachings one has heard grows into a silent attention directed to the true nature of reality during deeper stages of meditation. As a form of attention present during deeper stages of insight, yoniso manasikāra directed to the impermanent, unsatisfactory and selfless nature of the five aggregates of clinging is a form of meditation practice that is relevant to the stage of a worldling as well as to an arahant (S. III, 167). That is, independent of what level of liberation someone may have already reached, yoniso manasikāra developed in this way constitutes the path to the next higher stage. For those who have completed the path, the fully awakened ones, yoniso manasikāra is still of continuous relevance, since it provides a pleasant abiding in the present moment and because it engenders mindfulness and clear comprehension.

The importance of yoniso manasikāra as a form of attention that leads to various stages of awakening is also reflected in the Theragatha, where verses related to the attainment of liberation repeatedly indicate how on that occasion yoniso manasikāra arouse in the mind, tato me manasīkāro yoniso udapajjatha. In such contexts, the task of yoniso manasikāra is to reveal the true nature of experience and thereby cause the arising of utter disenchantment. Examples are the verses of Nāgasamāla, who attained liberation when directing yoniso manasikāra to the vision of a dancing girl giving a performance (Thag. 269); Sundarasamudda, who faced temptation by a courtesan with yoniso manasikāra (Thag. 464); Candana, who maintained yoniso manasikāra when encountering his former wife (Thag. 301); Rājadatta, who kept to yoniso manasikāra when contemplating a corpse (Thag. 318); Bhagu, who was full of yoniso manasikāra after struggling to overcome torpor (Thag. 273); and Sappadāsa, who was saved from committing suicide by yoniso manasikāra (Thag. 409).

In the majority of these cases, *yoniso manasikāra* appears to be directed to the absence of beauty in particular, *asubha*, whereby not only the hindrance of sensual desire can be overcome, but even, as these instances show, the goal of final liberation can be won. But struggle with sensuality is clearly not the only occasion when *yoniso manasikāra* can unfold its awakening potential, as the above examples show that it can also serve its purpose when having to confront torpor or being under the influence of suicidal intentions.

In sum, then, yoniso manasikāra as a "wise" and at the same time "thorough" and "appropriate" type of attention has a remarkably broad scope within the context of early Buddhist mental training, ranging from attention given to the proper attitude towards food and similar requisites, or from attending single-mindedly to the oral delivery of teachings, all the way up to the penetrative type of attention that heralds the breakthrough to awakening. Given its range of applicability, yoniso manasikāra thus stands out as one of the key aspects of the early Buddhist path to liberation, a quality whose gradual development offers a substantial contribution to various aspects of the path to deliverance. In sum:

"Wise attention - this is one factor that conduces to distinction.

Unwise attention - this is one factor that conduces to ruin".

Yoniso manasikāro - ayam eko dhammo visesabhāgiyo.

Ayoniso manasikāro - ayam eko dhammo hānabhāgiyo (D. III, 273).

Anālayo

815

References

- Cf. also It. 30, which indicates that to be stirred and to thoroughly endeavour are two conditions that are a source of abundant happiness here and now, and that lead to the destruction of the influxes. According to Dhs. 234, these two - samvigga and yoniso padhāna - stand for the four aspects of right effort (i.e. preventing the arising of unwholesome states, removing arisen unwholesome states, arousing unarisen wholesome states, and strengthening arisen wholesome states).
- The Abhidhammattha Sangaha 2.2 expresses the by reckoning manasikāra sabbacittasādhārana, a mental factor that is common to any state of mind.
- Cf. also DA. II, 643, which glosses yoniso manasikāra as upāyamanasikāra.
- 4 The idea of attending to something in a penetrative manner, down to its very origins, can also be seen in a literal manner when Mahāmoggallāna directs voniso manasikāra to his own body in order to find out what is afflicting his bowels (M. 1, 332).

YUAN-CHUANG See HSUAN TSANG

YUGANADDHA SUTTA is the title of a discourse found among the Fours of the Anguttara Nikāya (A. II, 157). The Yuganaddha Sutta takes its title from the third of altogether four modes of arriving at awakening, described in this discourse. These four approaches are:

- (1) insight preceded by tranquillity, samathapubbangama vipassanā
- preceded by insight, (2) tranquillity vipassanāpubbangama samatha
- (3) tranquillity and insight conjoined, samathavipassana yuganaddha

(4) (overcoming) restlessness in regard to the teachings, dhamm'uddhacca

Each of these four modes leads to the experience of the path, maggo sañj āyati, which the commentary explains to refer to the attainment of stream-entry, pathamo lokuttaramaggo nibbattati (AA. III, 142). Further development and practice of this path, tam maggam āsevati bhāveti bahulīkaroti (A. II, 157), leads to the removal of the fetters and underlying tendencies. According to the introduction to the discourse, all those who have made declarations of final liberation in the presence of Ananda, have done so following one or the other of these four approaches.

The importance of this exposition is reflected in the circumstance that the Patisambhidāmagga dedicates a whole chapter to it, which begins by quoting the entire discourse (Ps. II, 92). According to the Paţisambhidāmagga's explanation, the first mode of developing insight preceded by tranquillity involves insight contemplation practised after previous establishment of a basis in meditative concentration. Such concentration stands for one-pointedness of the mind and absence of distraction, cittassa ekaggat ā avikkhepo samādhi, whereas insight here refers to contemplating the three characteristics of anicca, dukkha and anatta (Ps. II, 93).

The second mode of undertaking tranquillity preceded by insight then begins straightaway with contemplation of the three characteristics. This is followed by developing concentration through letting go, vossagga, perhaps as a result of the detachment brought about by insight (Ps. II, 96).

According to the commentary on the Yuganaddha Sutta, the third mode of practicing tranquillity and insight conjoined, yuganaddha, refers to insight practiced in alternation with the attainment of a jhāna. The commentary gives the example of attaining the first jhāna, emerging from it to contemplate its constituents, then attaining the second jhāna, then emerging from it to contemplate the constituents of the second jhāna, then attaining the third jhāna, etc. (MA. III, 142). The Patisambhidāmagga treats the yuganaddha mode of practice from altogether sixteen perspectives (Ps. II, 97). The basic point of its presentation seems to be to highlight the role of tranquillity and insight during the experience of the supramundane path, where the two are conjoined in the sense of converging on cessation, nirodha.

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