Exemplary Qualities of a Monastic: 
The *Saṃyukta-āgama* Counterpart to the *Mahāgopālaka-sutta* and the Need of Balancing Inner Development with Concern for Others

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**ABSTRACT**

The present article offers a translation of the *Saṃyukta-āgama* parallel to the *Mahāgopālaka-sutta* of the *Majjhima-nikāya*, followed by a comparative study of the extant versions of the discourse and of its significance.

**INTRODUCTION**

For a proper assessment of the legacy of the early Buddhist discourses, a comparative study of parallel versions transmitted by other reciter lineages can bring to light interesting variations. The prolonged period of oral transmission has inevitably left an impact on the present shape of the early discourses, however much the reciters may have attempted to accurately preserve what they had received from their predecessors as the word of the Buddha.¹

Differences found between Pāli discourses and their counterparts transmitted by other reciter traditions often manifest in only minor variations, while the main import of the doctrinal teachings is usually the same. As an example of such basic similarity with some minor variations, in what follows I translate and study a discourse from the *Saṃyukta-āgama* preserved in Chinese, followed by briefly comparing it with its discourse parallels.

I have chosen this particular discourse, which presents a set of eleven exemplary qualities of a Buddhist monastic and illustrates these with the example of a cowherd, since this set of qualities reflects a central concern of progress towards liberation. This central concern is the need to balance whole-hearted dedication to one’s own...
inner development with concern for the welfare of others. This aspect of the early Buddhist teachings, it seems to me, has not yet received the attention it deserves. Hence a comparative study of a discourse that reflects this theme may be of general interest, in addition to its potential of throwing light on the nature of early Buddhist literature as the final product of oral transmission over several centuries.

The extant versions of the discourse in question are as follows:

1) the “Greater Discourse on the Cowherd” (Mahāgopālaka-sutta) in the Majjhima-nikāya;
2) the “Discourse on the Cowherd” (Gopāla-sutta), found among the Elevens of the Aṅguttara-nikāya;
3) the “[Discourse on the Cowherd]” in the Saṃyukta-āgama (T 99);
4) the first discourse in the “Chapter on the Cowherd” (放牛品) in the Ekottarika-āgama (T 125);
5) the “Discourse Spoken by the Buddha on the Cowherd” (佛說放牛經), an individual translation.

Thus besides the two Pāli versions, we have three versions preserved in Chinese translation at our disposition. The first of these, listed above as number 3, is the discourse I will be rendering into English in the present paper. This discourse stems from a Saṃyukta-āgama extant in Chinese translation that, according to modern scholarship, is probably of (Mūla-) Sarvāstivāda provenance. According to the information we possess, the translation of this collection of discourses was begun in 435 of the present era by Baoyun (寶雲), assisted by Puti (菩提) and Fayong (法勇), based on an original read out to them by the Indian Guṇabhadra. The original text appears to have been in Sanskrit.

The discourse listed above under number 4 belongs to an Ekottarika-āgama extant in the Taishō edition that seems to be the text translated into Chinese during the period 384-385 by Zhu Fonian (竺佛念), based on what probably was a Prākrit original of so far undetermined school affiliation transmitted by Dharmanandin.
The “Discourse Spoken by the Buddha on the Cowherd”, listed above as number 5, is an “individual translation” in the sense that it does not form part of a translation that covers a collection or group of discourses, but was translated on its own – “individually” – and included as a single discourse in the Taishō edition. Its translation is attributed to the famous Kumārajiva (344-409/413). 12

TRANSLATION13

[Discourse on the Cowherd]

1. Thus have I heard. At one time the Buddha was staying at Sāvatthī in Jeta’s Grove, Anāthapiṇḍika’s Park. At that time the Blessed One told the monks:

2. “If a cowherd is endowed with eleven qualities, he will not be able to rear cows or to look after and protect a great herd of cows [in a way that] brings about their well-being. What are these eleven [qualities]? They are said to be:
   - he does not know material form,
   - he does not know characteristics,
   - he does not remove pests,
   - he is not able to dress their wounds,
   - he is not able to smoke out [the cow-pens],
   - he does not know [how] to choose the way,
   - he does not know [how] to choose the place,
   - he does not know the ford,
   - he does not know the pasture,
   - he milks dry,
   - he does not skilfully take care of the leaders of the herd.

These are said to be the eleven qualities endowed with which [a cowherd] is not able to manage and protect a great herd of cows.

3. Similarly, a monk who is endowed with eleven qualities will not be able to bring peace to himself or others. What are these eleven [qualities]? They are said to be:
   - he does not know material form,
   - he does not know characteristics,
   - he is not able to remove harmful pests,14
   - he does not dress his wounds,
he is not able to smoke out,
- he does not know the right way,
- he does not know the place of tranquillity, he does not know the ford,
- he does not know the pasture,
- he milks dry,
- he does not praise the virtues of elders of much learning and seniority, who have been practising the holy life for a long time and who are praised by the great teacher, [praising them] in front of his knowledgeable and wise companions in the holy life, so that they all have reverence [towards these elders], offering them service and requisites.

4. What is said to be ‘not knowing material form’? (1) Whatever material form there is, it is all included in the four elements and in what is derived from the four elements. [Not knowing] this is said to be ‘not knowing material form’ as it really is.

5. What is [said to be] ‘not knowing characteristics’? (2) [Some] affairs and deeds have the characteristic of being faults, [other] affairs and deeds have the characteristic of being wise. Not knowing this as it really is, this is said to be ‘not knowing characteristics’.

6. What is said to be ‘not knowing [how] to remove pests’? (3) When an experience of sensuality manifests, he tolerates it, does not get out of it, does not realize [its danger], and does not extinguish it. When an experience of anger ... harmfulness manifests, he tolerates it, does not get out of it, does not realize [its danger], and does not extinguish it. [343a] This is said to be ‘not removing pests’.

7. What is [said to be] ‘not dressing wounds’? (4) [This] is said to be [when], on seeing a form with the eye, he follows after and grasps its appearance and characteristics, he does not guard the eye-faculty [against] desire and dejection in [regard to] the world, [as well as against] evil and unwholesome qualities, [so that] consequently influxes arise in the mind. He is not able to protect [the eye-faculty]. As regards the ear ... the nose ... the tongue ... the body ... the mind ... (it is also again like this).18 This is said to be ‘not dressing his wounds’.
8. What is [said to be] ‘not smoking out’? (5) He is not able to explain and clarify to others the teachings as he has heard and as he has received them. This is said to be ‘not smoking out’.

11. What is [said to be] ‘not knowing the right path’? (8) The eightfold right path, as well as the noble teaching and discipline are said to be the path. Not knowing them as they really are – this is said to be ‘not knowing the path’.

10. What is [said to be] ‘not knowing the place of tranquillity’? (7) That is, he does not obtain joy and delight in regard to the teachings that have been realized by the Tathāgata, he [does not realize their] excellence, [does not experience] renunciation and [does not derive] benefit [from them]. This is [said to be] ‘not knowing the place of tranquillity’.

9. What is [said to be] ‘not knowing the ford’? (6) That is, he does not know the discourses, the discipline, the Abhidharma, he does not, from time to time, approach those [whom he could] ask for advice [regarding:] ‘What is wholesome? What is unwholesome? What are offenses? What are not offenses? Doing what things is excellent and not evil?’ He is not able to explain succinct teachings [himself], he is not able to ask [others] detailed questions in regard to what has been expounded, and in regard to profound statements known to him, he is not able to clarify and explain them in detail [to others]. This is said to be ‘not knowing the ford’.

12. What is [said to be] ‘not knowing the pasture?’ (9) That is, the four establishments of mindfulness as well as the noble teaching and discipline are said to be the pasture. Not knowing these as they really are – this is said to be ‘not knowing the pasture’.

13. What is [said to be] ‘milking dry’? (10) [When] warriors, Brahmins and eminent householders freely give robes and blankets, food and drink, beds, medicines, and [other] requisites to the [monastic] community, and that monk knows no limit in accepting them, [then] this is said to be ‘milking dry’.

14. What is [said to be] ‘not praising the virtues of elders of great virtue, much learning and seniority etc. in front of his excellent and wise companions in the
holy life, so that they [might] respect and support [these elders], offering their service so that these obtain happiness’? (11) That is, a monk does not praise those elders … (up to)20 … so that his excellent and wise [companions] in the holy life [might] respectfully approach them in order to support them and do service by way of bodily, verbal and mental acts. This is said to be ‘not [praising] elders of much learning and seniority … (up to) … so that his excellent and wise [companions] in the holy life [might] respectfully approach them to support them and do service, so that they obtain happiness’.

15. A cowherd endowed with eleven qualities will certainly be able to rear a herd of cows or to look after and protect a herd of cows, [so as] to bring about their happiness. What are the eleven? They are said to be: he knows material form, he knows characteristics … (as clearly explained above, up to)21 … he is able to take care of the leaders of the herd from time to time, so that they obtain well-being. [343b] This is said to be a cowherd endowed with eleven things who is able to rear, look after and protect a herd of cows, [so as] to bring about their well-being.

16. Similarly, a monk who is endowed with eleven qualities will be able to bring peace and happiness to himself, and bring others peace. What are the eleven? That is, he knows material form; he knows characteristics … (up to the eleventh, as clearly explained above in full). This is said to be a monk endowed with eleven things who is able to bring peace to himself and to others.”

When the Buddha had spoken this discourse, the monks, who had heard what the Buddha said, were delighted and received it respectfully.

**STUDY**

The slightly irregular numbering of the paragraphs and of the eleven qualities in the above translation reflects the circumstance that the *Samyukta-āgama* version’s listing shows a sequential variation when compared with the two Pāli discourses, whose sixth and eighth qualities occur in the opposite places (above paragraphs 11 and 9). Such sequential variations are a relatively common occurrence in material that has been transmitted by oral means. In the present case, this variation recurs
in the other Chinese versions. The survey below presents the listing of the eleven qualities in the three Chinese versions, with a numbering that reflects the sequence in which these qualities appear in the Pāli versions:

<table>
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<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 knows four elements</td>
<td>1 knows four elements</td>
<td>1 knows four elements</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 knows fool and wise</td>
<td>2 knows fool and wise</td>
<td>2 knows fool and wise</td>
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<tr>
<td>3 removes unwholesome</td>
<td>3 removes unwholesome</td>
<td>3 removes unwholesome</td>
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<tr>
<td>4 restrains senses</td>
<td>4 restrains senses</td>
<td>4 restrains senses</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 teaches the Dharma</td>
<td>5 teaches the Dharma</td>
<td>5 teaches the Dharma</td>
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<tr>
<td>6 questions others</td>
<td>6 questions others</td>
<td>6 questions others</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7 inspired by the Dharma</td>
<td>7 inspired by the Dharma</td>
<td>7 inspired by the Dharma</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 know eightfold path</td>
<td>8 know eightfold path</td>
<td>8 know eightfold path</td>
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<tr>
<td>9 know of dharma mindfulness</td>
<td>9 know of dharma mindfulness</td>
<td>9 know of dharma mindfulness</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 know moderation</td>
<td>10 know moderation</td>
<td>10 know moderation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11 respectful to elders</td>
<td>11 respectful to elders</td>
<td>11 respectful to elders</td>
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</table>

As the above survey shows, the basic pattern and the main themes in the parallel versions are similar for the first five qualities, and again for the final three. With the sixth quality, there is a variation, which manifests not only in a sequential difference, but also in the description of this quality. In the two Pāli versions, the sixth quality is to question senior monks who are bearers of the Dharma, the discipline (vinaya) and the summaries (mātikā). In the above translated Saṇyukta-āgama version, it is the monk himself who is required to be learned, and that in relation to the discourses, the discipline and the Abhidharma (阿毘曇). Placing these two descriptions side by side, the reference to mātikā in the Pāli versions can be seen to form the counterpart to the Abhidharma mentioned in their Saṇyukta-āgama parallel. This correspondence brings to mind a suggestion voiced by a number of scholars on the significance of the mātikās/mātikās for the development of the early Abhidharma texts, in that such summaries of key terms may have played a key role in the genesis of abhidharmic listings and perhaps also abhidharmic thought.

The Ekottarika-āgama version differs further in respect to this quality, as it does not mention any elders that are to be questioned, but requires the monk to be
knowledgeable in the twelve āṇgas. The Ekottarika-āgama presentation thereby brings in the northern tradition’s counter-part to the nine āṇgas enumerated in the Pāli discourses.

While the versions surveyed so far still agree that the canonical texts should be known – whether these are referred to by way of the threefold division or by way of the āṇgas – the individual translation does not mention any texts. Its corresponding quality rather stipulates knowledge of the four [noble] truths.

The remainder of the listings in the different versions can be seen to agree again fairly well, showing a basic similarity in the overall exposition of the eleven qualities required for a monastic to become a good ‘cowherd’.

The image of the cowherd, who gains his livelihood by properly looking after cows, may well have been chosen on purpose to illustrate a recurrent theme in this listing of qualities: the need to balance gaining one’s own benefit with looking after others. The significance of this theme can best be illustrated by briefly surveying the entire list.

The listing of qualities in the parallel versions begins with two basic forms of insight, namely understanding the nature of material reality as made up of the four elements (quality 1), and knowing the difference between foolishness and wisdom (quality 2), a basic but crucial distinction in the mental realm. Next come qualities related to conduct, where the removal of unwholesome states (quality 3) spells out the basics of mental culture which, together with the practice of sense-restraint (quality 4), sets the foundations for mental cultivation. These four qualities, which in a way establish the basics of one’s own personal growth, are then balanced by mentioning the need to also teach the Dharma to others (quality 5), thereby ensuring that benefitting others will become an integral part of one’s own practice.

The next qualities, listed with the above discussed variations in the parallel versions, are related to being knowledgeable in the Dharma (quality 6) and being inspired by it (quality 7). Other forms of knowledge reflect again essential requirements for progressing in one’s practice, where the noble eightfold path (quality 8) and the practice of the four establishments of mindfulness (quality 9) need to be well
understood. These two qualities are followed by moderation in regard to the support received from others (quality 10) and respectful behaviour towards one's senior co-practitioners (quality 11), again bringing in the theme of concern for others.

The listing thus interrelates essential qualities aimed at one's own inner growth with qualities that reflect a concern for others. The higher number of qualities dedicated to one's own development clearly gives priority to self-cultivation. Nevertheless, the overall listing shows a balanced interplay between concern for oneself and regard for others.

The importance of concern for others receives an additional emphasis in the Pāli versions, as according to them lacking any of these eleven qualities a monk will be unable to come to growth in the Buddha's Dharma and discipline. This spells out more explicitly than the Saṃyukta-āgama version – which speaks of being unable to bring peace to oneself or others – that neglecting activities such as teaching the Dharma to others will obstruct one's own growth in the Dharma.

Another difference between the Pāli discourses and their Chinese parallels is the way they formulate the last quality in the list (11). While the Chinese versions mainly mention the need for respectful behaviour in regard to one's elders, the Pāli versions speak of developing loving kindness by way of body, speech, and mind towards them. This goes a step further than just being respectful and thus further enhances the emphasis in the two Pāli discourses on empathy for others.

Needless to say, such acting with respect or even developing loving kindness towards others will in turn have its wholesome effects on one's own inner development, these two aspects being, in the final count, interrelated phenomena comparable to the two sides of a coin. Similarly, the other qualities mentioned – such as for example the removal of unwholesome states (quality 3) – will inevitably have positive repercussions experienced by whoever may come into contact with such an internally purified person.

That concern for others, in addition to being a natural effect of developing oneself, is given such an explicit highlighting in the Mahāyopālaka-sutta and its parallels is
not an exceptional case among Pāli discourses. A passage in the *Aṅguttara-nikāya*, for example, reflects a similar attitude. This passage contrasts those who practice only for their own welfare to those who practice for their own welfare and the welfare of others. According to this discourse, those who only practice for their own welfare are “blameworthy” on that account, whereas those who practice for their own and others’ welfare are “praiseworthy” by comparison.34

The different versions of the Discourse on the Cowherd thus make it clear that consciously developing concern for others – represented by willingness to teach others (5), by moderation in regard to one’s supporters (10) and by respectful behaviour or even loving kindness towards elders (11) – is an integral part of one’s own growth in the Dharma. The same discourses, however, present these qualities together with other qualities not directly aimed at the welfare of others, but at one’s own meditative development. This puts caring for others into proper perspective, suggesting that it should not be given such importance as to overshadow the other qualities mentioned. In this way, the different versions of the present discourse can be seen to highlight the importance of concern for the welfare of others, while at the same time placing such concern in its proper perspective by subordinating it to the principal task of progress towards liberation.

The theme of practising loving kindness as an aspect of the path that leads to awakening recurs in a verse in the *Dhammapada*, found with minor variations in parallel verses transmitted by other traditions. The Pāli version of this verse runs:

A monk who dwells in loving kindness,
Delighting in the teaching of the Buddha,
Will realize the path of peace,
The happiness of the stilling of formations.

\[ \text{metṭāvihāri yo bhikkhu, pasanno buddhasāsane adhicacche padam santam sarīkhār upasamāṃ sukham.} \]35
### ABBREVIATIONS

- **A**: A[k]uttara-nikāya
- **B**: Burmese edition
- **C**: Ceylonese edition
- **Dhp**: Dhammapada
- **E**: PTS edition
- **EĀ**: Ekottarika-āgama (T 125)
- **MĀ**: Madhyama-āgama (T 26)
- **M**: Majjhima-nikāya
- **S**: Siamese edition
- **SĀ**: Saṃyukta-āgama (T 99)
- **T**: Taishō (CBETA)

- []: text has been supplemented
- (): explanations given in the original
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NOTES

1. That oral transmission involves some degree of uncertainty is reflected in M 76 at M I 520,6, according to which what has been transmitted orally may be well remembered or not well remembered, it could be correct, but it could also be wrong, sussutam (S′: susu-
tam) pi hoti dussutam pi hoti, tathā pi hoti aṭṭakathā pi hoti. A more detailed study of aspects
of oral transmission in early Buddhism can be found in Anālayo 2007: 2008; and 2009a,
in which I survey oral characteristics of the Pāli discourses in general, offer a case
study, and then turn to the working mechanism of memory that explains how changes
could have happened. My explorations in this respect are based on the substantial con-
tributions made by other scholars to this theme, such as by von Simson 1965; Cousins
1983; Coward 1986; Gombrich 1990; Collins 1992; von Hinüber 1994b; Allon 1997a and
1997b; and Wynne 2004.

2. In addition to these, a similar treatment can also be found in the *Mahāprajñā-pāramitā-
(upadeśā)-śāstra (大智度論, on the title cf. Demiéville 1950/ 1973: 470 note 1), T 1509 at
fragment MS 2380 50b-51a of the Schøyen collection as yet another parallel. For a list-
ing of eleven qualities of a cowherd cf. also T 201.61 at T IV 317b21 and Lévi 1908: 140-
144.


4. A 11.18 at A V 347,14-353,15, the title Gopāla-sutta is given to the discourse in B⁴ and C⁵,
and occurs in the uddānas in E⁶ and S⁵.

5. SĀ 1249 at T II 342c1-343b5, I adopt the title suggested by Akanuma 1929/ 1990: 111.

6. EĀ 49.1 at T II 794a7-795a16.

7. T 123 at T II 546a16-547b4. The qualification 佛說, “spoken by the Buddha”, appears
regularly in the titles of works in the Chinese canon, where in most cases it probably
does not render an expression found in the original, but serves as a formula of authenti-
cation of the translated scripture.

and Glass 2010.
9. 雜阿含經, T 99, which at T II 1as mentions only Gunabhadra as the translator; although a more detailed account of the translation procedure can be found in the 出三藏記集, T 2145 at T LV 13as. Forte 1984: 316 explains that every translation was "registered under the name of a single person, usually the actual guarantor of the text...This need to make one person responsible often meant that the actual contribution of other members of the team tended to be unacknowledged". Since Gunabhadra had only recently arrived in China, it seems improbable that he could already have had the language skills enabling him to translate the text himself.


13. For ease of comparison, I adopt the paragraph numbering used in the English translation of the Mahāgopālaka-sutta in Nāṇamoli 1995/2005: 313-318. For the same reason, in my translation of SĀ 1249 I employ Pāli terminology (except for anglicized terms like ‘Abhidharma’), without thereby intending to take a position on the original language of the Saṅyukta-āgama.

14. SĀ 1249 at T II 342c20: 不能除其害蟲, whereas the earlier listing in relation to the cowherd at T II 342c15 speaks just of ‘不去蟲’.

15. SĀ 1249 at T II 342c21: 不知正路, 不知止處, whereas the earlier listing in relation to the cowherd at T II 342c16 reads: 不知擇路, 不知擇處. The present and the above noted variation (note 14) reflect a penchant among Chinese translators to introduce some variation in their rendering of what in the Indic original were probably identical expressions. Zürcher 1991: 288 speaks of “a strong tendency to avoid the monotonous effect of ... verbatim repetition ... by introducing a certain amount of diversification and irregularity”, as a result of which “in the same translated scripture we often find various alternative forms and longer or shorter versions of the same cliché”.

16. These numbers are not found in the original, but are introduced by me to facilitate reference to the eleven qualities in the subsequent comparative study.

17. Abbreviations, here and below, are not my own, but are implicit in the original.

18. SĀ 1249 at T II 343a4: 亦復如是, thereby indicating that the same treatment should be applied to each of the other senses.

19. SĀ 1249 at T II 343a7: 八正道, which thus does not employ the qualification “noble”. The same is also absent from a reference to the “four truths” in T 123 at T II 547a13: 四
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諦, cf. below note 27; for a study of other occurrences of this type and of their significance cf. Anālayo 2006.

20. SĀ 1249 at T II 343a21: 乃至, counterpart to pe in Pāli discourses.

21. SĀ 1249 at T II 343a29: 如上清浄分說, 乃至.

22. M 33 at M I 223,31: “from time to time, having approached those monks who are learned, who are versed in the tradition, who are bearers of the Dharma, bearers of the discipline and bearers of the summaries, he interrogates and asks questions of them”, ye te bhikkhu therā bahussutta agatāgamā dharmadharā vinayadharā mātlkādharā te kālena kālam upasaṅkamitvā paripucchati paripaṭhāti, with a similarly worded counterpart in A 11.18 at AN V 352,9. The variation in the Siamese edition, which additionally mentions therā, neatly illustrates the type of error that can happen during transmission. This additional reference, which is not found in the same edition’s description of the negative case where someone does not approach learned monks, is quite probably influenced by the fact that the eleventh quality speaks of ye te bhikkhu therā rattanaṇī. During oral transmission or in the course of the later copying of the text, this reference has quite probably been the source for the addition of therā to ye te bhikkhu bahussutta.

23. SĀ 1249 at T II 343a11: 修多羅, 毘尼, 阿毘曇.


25. EĀ 49.1 at T II 794c29 lists 契經, 祗夜, 授決, 僕, 因緣, 本末, 方等, 營論, 生經, 說, 廣普, 未曾有法, corresponding to the discourses (sūtra), stanzas (geya), expositions (vyākaraṇa), verses (gāthā), historical narratives (nīdāna), sayings (itiyuttaka), extensive treatments (vaipulya), legends (avadāna), birth stories (jātaka), treatises (upadeśa), inspired utterances (udāna) and marvels (adbhutadharma). My correlation is based on the indications given in Nattier 2004: 194.

26. Found e.g. in M 22 at M I 133,24, where the parallel versions MĀ 200 at T I 764a14 and EĀ 50.8 at T II 813a16 also have listings of twelve aṅgas. Lamotte 1956: 263 note 2 explains that the twelve-fold presentation prevails in the Chinese Āgamas, in the Chinese Viñayás (except for the Mahāsāṅghika Vinaya), in the main treatises of the Sarvāstivāda, Sautrāntika, Vaibhāṣika, and Yogācāra schools, and in most Mahāyāna sūtras. On the aṅgas in the Pāli discourses cf. esp. Jayawickrama 1959, Kalupahanā 1965, and von Hinnüber 1994a.
27. T 123 at T II 547a12: “How does a monk know the ford? [Here] a monk knows the four truths”, 云何比丘知渡水處? 比丘知四諦.

28. The image of the cowherd is of course a familiar one in Indian thought. On its relation to the Kṛṣṇa legend cf. e.g. Vaudeville 1975.

29. The same is reflected in a simile in M 8 at M I 45, and its parallel MĀ 91 at T I 574b3, according to which someone who is drowning or sinking in the mud will be unable to pull out another who is in the same predicament. Similarly, one who has not yet fully disciplined himself or herself will not be able to discipline others. As Nāṇaponika 1964/1988: 29 points out, this image sounds a warning against premature attempts to set oneself up as a guide for others.


31. As Freiberger 2000: 41 comments, this presentation implies that neglecting to teach others hinders one’s own progress, “wer es versäumt, andere zu unterweisen ... wird dadurch in seinem Fortschritt gehindert”. For a case study of the contribution that teaching others can offer to one’s own progress towards awakening cf. Anālayo 2010.

32. SA 1249 at T II 343a21; EĀ 49.1 at T II 794b21; and T 123 at T II 546c3; cf. also T 1509 at T XXV 74b13.

33. M 33 at M I 222,9 and A 11.18 at A V 350,13. Unlike the present case, in several other instances Chinese parallel versions give more emphasis to the divine abodes than their Pāli counterparts, cf. Minh Chau 1991: 30f.

34. A 7.64 at A IV 116,22+23: gārayho and pūsanto. It is noteworthy that the Chinese parallels to this discourse treat the case of one who acts only for his or her own benefit with softer criticism, as MĀ 1 at T I 422a6 and T 27 at T I 810b22 merely indicate that those who also benefit others are superior and more excellent than those who only benefit themselves (a third parallel, EĀ 39.1 at T II 728b-729b, does not treat this case at all). A study of the Chinese parallels to this discourse can be found in Schmithausen 2004.

386 reads de), ’du byed nyer zhi pa yi, zhi ba’i go ’phang thob par ’gyur (where the third and fourth sections of the verse thus come in the opposite order); and Chinese counterparts in T 210 at T IV 572a11 and T 212 at T IV 764c27; 比丘為慈, 愛敬佛教, 深入止觀, 滅行乃安, cf. also the similarly formulated T 213 at T IV 796b18; 比丘為慈愍, 愛敬於佛教, 深入妙止觀, 滅穢行乃安, (where in each case the third part of the verse speaks instead of “deeply entering into tranquillity and insight”). Yet another version of this verse can be found in the Mahāvastu, Senart 1897: 421,18, reading: maitrīvihāri yo bhikṣu, prasanno buddhaśāsane, adhigacchati padaṃ śāntaṃ, asecanaṃ ca mocanaṃ (which thus shows a variation in regard to the fourth section by referring to the “delightful release”; cf. also Udāna(-varga) verse 32.20 in Bernhard 1965: 437, which agrees with Udāna(-varga) verse 32.21 in respect to the first three parts, but in the fourth part reads asecanakadarśanam). The formulation of Dhp 368 and its Indic parallels would not imply, pace Wiltshire 1990: 269, Maithrimurthy 1999: 69, and Gombrich 2009: 87, that loving kindness on its own leads to the final goal. The verse only highlights the important supportive function that loving kindness can offer for progress towards liberation, where the constraints of a verse quartet do not allow mentioning all the other requirements for reaching awakening. An indispensable requirement is in fact highlighted at least in the Chinese versions, namely the development of insight.