

Research Title: A Comparative Analysis of Vedana (Feeling) according to the Opinions of Buddhadasa Bhikkhu and a Buddhist scholar

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ABSTRACT

The research entitled “A Comparative Analysis of Vedana (Feeling) according to the Opinions of Buddhadasa Bhikkhu and a Buddhist Scholar” is of the following objectives : 1) to study the meanings of Vedana in the opinion of Buddhadasa Bhikkhu, 2) to study the meanings of Vedana in the viewpoint of Phra Brahmaganabhorn (P.A. Payutto), and 3) to compare the sensation as perceived by Buddhadasa Bhikkhu and Phra Brahmaganabhorn (P.A. Payutto).

It was found that

1. For the sensation in the concept of Buddhadasa Bhikkhu, it is seen that he is free in giving the meanings of sensation, that is not based on the principles of Scripture. He thinks and analyses the implication from the Scripture and doing applied analysis that Vedana is mental science that occurs from feelings which are analyzed by data sources causing 3 sensual cravings i.e. Kamatanha Bhavatanha and Vibhavantha in the stream of Dependent Origination

It can be concluded that Man nowadays doesn't know that feeling is fearful, but they are afraid of poverty, unhonouredness and undignifiedness which are causing the conflicts among the people.

2. For the Sensation in the concept of Phra Brahmaganabhorn (P.A. Payutto), it is seen that he presents the meaning of Vedana according to the principles as mentioned in Buddhist Scriptures. To him, Vedana is the consumption of sense-objects or experiences through sense-fields which are the sources of happiness and suffering of human beings.

For the different issues, Buddhadasa Bhikkhu had independent ideas which were not dependent upon principles of sensation in the Buddhist texts. He analyzes Vedana by means of

the application from the Scriptures. The most important and prominent teachings of Buddadasa Bhikkhu are the words such as “Self”, “This is mine”, “Nirvana can be attained immediately”, and “Free mind”. In addition to this, he also interpreted Nirvana that it is mental freedom from suffering which can be reached even here and now. For PhraBrahmagunabhorn (P.A. Payutto), he emphasizes his teachings upon Buddhama. He is accurate in Buddhist Scriptures, so he is like “Living Tripitaka” of Thailand.

For similar issues, it can be concluded that their teachings are schools of “Wisdom” and generally accepted among the Thai people and Buddhist foreigners around the world.