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A  
SHORT HISTORY

OF THE

TWELVE JAPANESE BUDDHIST SECTS.

TRANSLATED FROM THE ORIGINAL JAPANESE

『十二宗』

BY

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TOKYO:

BUKKYŌ-SHO-EI-YAKU-SHUPPAN-SHA.

MEIJI 19TH YEAR.

Carpenter

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## PREFACE.

The aim of the following work is defined by its title; it is a short history, not of Buddhism in general, but of the twelve Japanese Buddhist sects. It is a translation of a Japanese Ms, which consists of an introduction and twelve chapters written separately by nine living Japanese priests within the last seven months. When I was requested by Mr. S. Sano to undertake this work in May last, the Ms. was not yet complete. As my translation was going on, the writers, gradually sent me their respective Ms. from various parts of the country, saying that they wrote in a great hurry. Their style of composition is not always the same, and this has given me a special difficulty to render their words exactly into the English language, with which I am not at all very well acquainted. Moreover the subject itself is of course a very hard one though I have already spent many years in studying it. Whenever the original text is too complicated, I have been obliged to make it short, or to leave certain portions untranslated.

The following are the names of the writers of the text, and some other matters : —

The introduction and the fifth, sixth and eighth chapters on the sects of San-ron, Ke-gon and Shin-gon were written by my friend the Rev. Kō-chō



Ogurusu of the Shin-shū. The first chapter on the Ku-sha-shū was written by the Rev. Shū-zan Emura of the Shin-shū. Another and longer text on the same sect was written by the Rev. Kyoku-ga Sai-i of the Shin-gon-shū, but it was too late to be used for this translation. The second and third chapters on the sects of Jō-jitsu and Ritsu are the productions of the Rev. Shō-hen Ueda of the Shin-gon-shū. The writer of the fourth chapter on the Hossō-shū is the Rev. Dai-ryō Takashi of the Shin-gon-shū, and that of the seventh chapter of the Ten-dai-shū is the Rev. Kyō-zwan Uemura of that sect. Another text on the San-ron-shū was written by the Rev. Sō-ken Ueno of the Shin-gon-shū; and that on the Ke-gon-shū, by the Rev. Jitsu-ben Kazuyama of the Ji-shū. But these were also too late to be used for this work. The Revs. Gyō-zai Fukuda, Ken-kō Tsuji, Ren-jō Akamatsu and Ze-jun Kobayashi have each written a chapter on their own sect. Their subjects are the Jō-do-shū (the 9th chapter), the Zen-shū (10th), the Shin-shū (11th) and the Nichi-ren-shū (12th) respectively.

The text is full of proper names and technical terms, which I have mostly restored to their Sanskrit forms, adding the Japanese sound of the Chinese translation or transliteration, and also giving an English translation.

For the orthography of the Sanskrit names and

terms, Professor Max Müller's missionary alphabet has been adopted, as it avoids the use of diacritical marks. It has this peculiarity that italic *k* and *g* are employed to represent *ch* and *j* as usually pronounced in English. This is because these palatal sounds are derived from gutturals.

For the orthography of the Japanese sound of the Chinese and Japanese names and terms, the alphabet of the Rō-ma-ji-*wa*i or 'Roman Letter Society' has been adopted.

I greatly regret that the scale of the present work has hindered me from giving in detail the authorities for every statement. In the original text, the authorities are not given, and I have also had no time to look through even the principal books of the twelve sects, during the progress of this work, as my time has been much occupied by professional duties. Nevertheless I have done my best, though the work be very imperfect indeed.

I have now only most sincerely to thank Dr. W. S. Bigelow for his kindness in correcting some parts of this translation, and Professor Chamberlain for similar assistance with regard to certain others.

Bunyii Nanjio.

Asakusa, Tōkyō, Japan :

6th December, 19th year of Meiji (1886).



## VIII

### INTRODUCTION.

Those whose minds are confused are called the ignorant. Those whose minds are enlightened are called Buddhas.

Among the confused, there are insects whether flying quickly or moving slowly, such as wasps and caterpillars. There are animals of the scaly tribes, and those covered with shells or crusts. There are animal tribes which are either hairy or naked. Some are one-horned, and others two-horned. Some are two-footed, and others many-footed. Some have wings with which they fly, and others have talons with which they seize their prey. There are large animals called whales; the ferocious are tigers and wolves; the poisonous are vipers and water-bugs; and the cunning are foxes and badgers. There are horned owls which eat their mothers. There are some animals called owl-cats which eat their fathers. Thus there are several different kinds of animals, of which the weaker are always injured by the stronger. Such is the state of the beings who have entered into the nature of animals (Tiryag-yoni-gata, or Chiku-shō-dō, or Eō-shō-shu).

There are Pretas (Ga-ki) or 'departed spirits,' whose bellies are as large as a hill, while their mouths are as small as the eye of a needle; so that

they can neither eat nor drink. There are Pretas, for whom water is always changed into fire, as soon as they desire to drink; so that they can never satisfy their thirst. There are Pretas, who eat nothing but excrements and matter. There are Pretas, whose bodies are pierced by their own hairs, the points of which are as sharp as swords. Again there are Pretas, who eat their own children. Such is the state of the Pretas. This state is not seen by human eyes; but among mankind there is often seen something like the above.

The eight hot hells are the states of blazing fire, and the eight cold hells are those of freezing water. The former eight are called *Samgîva* (Tō-kwatsu), *Kâlasūtra* (Kōu-jō), *Samghâta* (Shu-gō), *Raurava* (Kyō-zwan), *Mahâ-raurava* (Dai-kyō-zwan), *Tapana* (Shō-netsu), *Pratâpana* (Dai-shō-netsu), and *Avîki* (Mu-ken). The latter eight are called *Arbuda* (A-bu-da), *Nirarbuda* (Ni-ra-bu-da), *Aṭata* (A-se-ta), *Apapa* (Ko-ko-ba), *Hâhâdhara* (Ko-ko-ba), *Utpala* (U-ha-ra), *Padma* (Ha-do-ma), and *Mahâ-padma* (Ma-ka-ha-do-ma). No words can sufficiently express the several kinds of sufferings in these hells. Such are the states of the beings in these hells (*Nârakas*). Both the blazing fire and freezing water are not made by any other being, but by their own thought alone.

Not only the beings who have entered into the



nature of the above three states of the lower animals, departed spirits, and those in the various hells, are confused or perplexed; but also the Devas or heavenly beings, Nâgas or serpents, and the other eight classes of beings (Ten-ryū-hachi-bu) are the same. They are called Mahoragas ('great serpents'), Kinnaras (lit. 'what sort of men?'), Garudas, Râhu ('the seizer'), Asuras, Gandharvas, Râksasas, Yakshas, Nâgas ('serpents'), Visvakarman ('all-doer'), Sûrya ('the sun'), Soma ('the moon'), Mariki, Mahesvara, Śakra Devânâm Indra ('the king of gods named Śakra'), Mahâbrahman, beings of the four Dhyâna-gokaras (Shi-zen-ten), and the four Arûpas (Shi-mu-shizi). Though their pains and pleasures are somewhat different from each other, being themselves either holy or ignorant; yet they all belong to the three worlds of desire, form, and formlessness, and are not free from confusion.

Among the beings of the three worlds, men are more thoughtful than all others. Thinking is their mental faculty. Being thoughtful, they are confused. Being thoughtful, they are enlightened, Being thoughtful, they become rich and noble. Being thoughtful, they become poor and mean. Being thoughtful, they keep peace. Being thoughtful, they begin to fight. Being thoughtful, they plan to strengthen themselves. Being thoughtful, they fear to be weakened by others. Thus, whether their thinking be skillful or not, some people are flourishing, while others

are put to shame.

There are wise princes and clever ministers. There are rebellious ministers and villainous sons. Some people are appointed to high office, given large salaries and intrusted with the power of government. Some people are always picking up things which are rejected or useless. Some dwell in splendid houses and halls, and eat excellent food at every meal. Some live in the dilapidated houses, wear torn clothes, and suffer hunger. Some are in fear of assassins; and others in dread of epidemic disease. Some are in dread of inundation and conflagration; and others are afraid of thieves and robbers. Some are drowned in the water, and others are hanged by the neck. There are people either deaf, dumb, or blind. Thus greatly do they differ in happiness and unhappiness; some being joyful, and others sorrowful. This difference depends only on the goodness and badness of their thinking; and they are the effects of the causes of the former existence.

In short, all those who are only careful for the present life and can not see into the future, are called the confused, whether they be wise or ignorant, rich or poor. It is quite impossible for human power to cause every man in the world to become rich and noble, wise and healthy, and long-lived. No religion except the doctrine of Buddha can place all beings in the true state of permanence, joy, self and purity



(Jō-rau-ga-jō, i. e. the four virtues of Nirvâna). This Buddhism does out of compassion, being itself independent of all the troubles of the three worlds.

Buddha Sâyamuni appeared in the world to perform the most important thing, namely, to cause beings to become enlightened. There are many different accounts given of his life. We shall give here an outline of one of these accounts.

### LIFE OF BUDDHA.

Buddha was born in the kingdom of Kapila-vastu (Ka-bi-ra-e) in Central India, on the eighth day of the fourth month of the twenty fourth year of the reign of the king Shō of the Shū (Chow) dynasty in China, 1027 B. C. At the moment of his birth, he said : ‘I alone, of all beings in heaven above and under the heavens, am worthy of honour.’ His father was the Mahâ-râga or ‘great king’ Suddhodana (Jō-bon Dai-ō), and his mother was the Devî or ‘queen’ Mâyâ (Maya Bu-nin).

At the age of seven he was thoroughly acquainted with astronomy, geography, arithmetic and military science. At ten he surpassed other princes in shooting through seven iron targets. At fifteen he was formally recognised as heir-apparent. At seventeen he was married to Yasodharâ (Ya-shu-da-ra). At eighteen he began to think of leaving home, because he perceived how existence was traversed by the



pains of birth, old age, disease and death. On the seventh day of the second month of his nineteenth year, he entered the forest in order to study the perfect way.

On the seventh day of the second month of his thirtieth year, he awoke to perfect knowledge, while sitting under the Bodhi tree. Buddha had three bodies, viz., 1. Dharma-*ka*ya (Hosshin) or the 'law-body,' which is colourless and formless; 2. Sambhoga-*ka*ya (Hō-shin) or 'the compensation-body,' by which Buddha appears before the Bodhisattvas of the Dasabhūmis (Jū-ji) or ten stages; and 3. Nirmāṇa-*ka*ya (Ō-jin, or Ke-shin) or the 'transformed body,' by which he appears before the Pratyekabuddhas, Srāvakas, Devas and men. This is the reason why Buddha Sâkṣyamuni was seen differently by the hearers of the Mahâyâna and Hînayâna doctrine during his whole life.

After his enlightenment, Buddha sat for seven days absorbed in meditation, and felt the pleasure of the Law.

In the second week, he preached the Buddhâvatamsaka-mahâvaipulya-sûtra (Ke-gon-gyō)<sup>1</sup> in nine assemblies held at seven different places. This is called the first period of Ke-gon by Ten-dai Dai-shi.

On the thirtieth day of the second month (i. e. the

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<sup>1</sup> Nos. 87,88.

4<sup>th</sup> week), Buddha converted the Nâgarâga or 'snake king' Makilinda (Mon-rin Ryū-ō). On the seventh day of the third month, he converted Devapâla (? Dai-i-ha-ri). On the following day, he went to Vârânasî, where Kaundinya and others were converted. At the age of thirty-one, he converted the Sresht<sup>thin</sup> or wealthy merchant Yasas (Ya-sha Chō-ja). Then he went to the kingdom of Magadha and converted Uruvilvâ-ksâsyapa and others. Then, going to Râgagriha, he converted King Bimbisâra and his retainers. In the same year, the Sresht<sup>thin</sup> Kâlya (? Ka-ryō Chō-ja) presented to Buddha the monastery of Venuvana (Chiku-rin-shō-ja) or the 'bamboo grove.' At the age of thirty-two, he converted Nâgas (Ryū) or snakes and Yakshas (? Ki) or demons, at mount Gajasîrsha (Zō-dzu) or the 'elephant's head.' At thirty-three, Sâriputra and Mahâmaudgalyâyana became his disciples. At this time the disciples who attained to Arhatship numbered twelve hundred and fifty. In the same year, Mahâkâsyap became a disciple of Buddha. He presented to Buddha a robe valued at one hundred thousand taels. At thirty-four, Buddha was in Vaisâli and established the rules of morality. After this year, he constantly added to the number of these rules. At thirty-five, the Sresht<sup>thin</sup> Sudatta (Shudatsu Chō-ja) of Srâvastî together with the Prince Geta, presented to Buddha the Geta-vana Anâtha-



pindada-ârâma (Gi-ju Gikko-dokun-on) or Geta's grove and Anâthapindada's garden known as the Gi-on-shō-ja. In this year, Buddha went back to Kapilavastu, when his father King Suddhodana sent his retainers and subject people to meet him at a distance of forty miles. The king also selected five hundred rich men to wait upon Buddha, so that he was as splendid as a phoenix flying towards Mount Sumeru. At thirty-six, Buddha preached the Pratyutpanna-buddhasammukhāvasthita-sūtra (Han-ju-kyō),<sup>2</sup> in Godhanya (Ku-ya-ni). At thirty-seven, Ânanda became his disciple, when he was eight years old. In this year, Buddha converted a younger brother of Kinnara-râga Druma (Jun Shin-da-ra-ō) on Mount Ryū. At thirty-eight, Râhula became his disciple, when he was nine years old. At thirty-nine, Buddha went to Magadha and converted King Pushya (? Hōkka-sha-ō). In this year, a 'votive altar' (Kai-dan) was erected on the south-east of the Gi-on. At forty, Buddha preached to Maitreya (Mi-roku) the Abhinishkramana-sūtra (Hon-gi-kyō).<sup>3</sup> At forty-one, he returned to Kapilavastu a second time and preached the Buddhadhyâna-samâdhi-sâgara-sūtra (Kwan-butsu-san-maikyō),<sup>4</sup> to his father the king. In this year, his aunt Mahâpragâpatî left home and became a Bhikshunî. During the above twelve years, Buddha spoke for the

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<sup>2</sup> No. 73. <sup>3</sup> No. 509. <sup>4</sup> No. 430.

most part the Hinayâna doctrine. This is called the second period of Roku-on (*Mriga-dâva* or 'deer park') or A-gon (*Âgama*) by Ten-dai Dai-shi.

At the age of forty two, Buddha preached the *Vimala-kîrtti-nirdesa-sûtra* (*Yui-ma-zitsu-kyō*)<sup>5</sup> in the city of Vaisâlî. At forty-three, he preached the *Viseshakintâ-brahma-pariprikkhâ-sûtra* (*Shi-yazubon-den-sho-mon-gyō*).<sup>6</sup> At forty-four, he preached the *Laṅkāvatâra-sûtra* (*Ryō-ga-kyō*)<sup>7</sup> on mount *Laṅkā* in the Southern sea. In this year he also spoke the *Suvarṇa-prabhâsa-sûtra* (*Kon-kō-myō-kyō*)<sup>8</sup> and the *Srîmâlâ-devî-simhanâda-sûtra* (*Shō-mangyō*).<sup>9</sup> From the age of forty-five to forty-nine, Buddha preached the *Mahâvaipulya-mahâ-samnipâta-sûtra* (*Dai-hō-dō-dai-shikkyō*)<sup>10</sup> to Buddhas and Bodhisattvas assembled from ten different regions, by a great stair-case made between the world of desire and that of form. He also preached to Ânanda the *Sûrâṃ gama-samâdhi-sûtra* (*Shu-ryōgon-gyō*).<sup>11</sup> The above eight years are called the third period of Hō-dō (*Vaipulya*) by Ten-dai Dai-shi.

During the next twenty-two years from the age of fifty to seventy-one, Buddha preached the *Pragñâ-pâramitâ-sûtra* in sixteen assemblies (*Jū-roku-e*) held

<sup>5</sup> Nos. 146, 247, 149. <sup>6</sup> Nos. 189, 190. <sup>7</sup> Nos. 175, 176, 177. <sup>8</sup> Nos. 126, 127, 130. <sup>9</sup> No. 59. <sup>10</sup> No. 61.

<sup>11</sup> No. 399.





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# HISTORY

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one to seventy-nine, Buddha preached for the most part the *Saddharma-pundarîka-sûtra* (Ho-ke-kyō).<sup>13</sup> He also preached the *Amitâyur-dhyâna-sûtra* (Kwan-mu-ryō-ju-kyō)<sup>14</sup> to Queen Vaidehî in the city of Râ-gagriha. At the age of seventy-five, his father the king died. At seventy-eight, he spoke the *Samantabhadra-bodhisattva-karyâ-dharma-sûtra* (Fu-gen-bo-satsu-gyō-bō-kyō)<sup>15</sup> in the city of Vaisâlî. At the age of seventy-nine, that was the fifty-first or fifty-third year of King Bozu of the Shū (Chow) dynasty in China, 949 B. C., Buddha ascended to the *Trayastimsa* heaven (Tō-ri-ten) and preached to his mother Queen Mâyâ.<sup>16</sup> Coming down from it, he preached the *Nirvâna-sûtra* (Ne-han-gyō)<sup>17</sup> and the *Sukhâvatîvyûha* (A-mi-da-kyō),<sup>18</sup> etc. At midnight on the fifteenth day of the second month, he entered *Parinirvâna*, lying down in an avenue of *Sâla* trees near the city of Kushi. All the Devas and all mankind mourned the departure of their Great Teacher. This is called the fifth period of Ho-ke and Ne-han by Ten-pai Dai-shi.

Thus we have arranged Buddha's preachings in a chronological order. But this is not at all complete. For the true state of Buddha is not perfectly understood by the Bodhisattvas, Pratyekabuddhas, *Srâvakas*, Devas and men. The appearance of Buddha in

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<sup>13</sup> Nos. 134. 138. 139. <sup>14</sup> No. 198. <sup>15</sup> No. 394.

<sup>16</sup> No. 153. <sup>17</sup> Nos. 113, 114. <sup>18</sup> No. 200.

the world is free from any ordinary form and speech. Therefore he can put countless Kalpas in one thought, and make his transformed body appear at several different places at the same time, just as the *Kintâmani* (Nyo-i-hō-shu) or fabulous gem yields its possessor all desires, and the sun and moon are reflected in the water of rivers, lakes and wells at one and the same time. In short, Buddha leads those who are not yet enlightened, teaching them the doctrine which he has perfectly understood. The dispositions of beings are various, so that the teachings for them are also divided into several manners. Accordingly there are different classes of doctrines, greater and lesser, partial and complete, temporary and true, apparent and hidden. Though there are numerous doctrine, yet the object is only one, that is, to perceive the truth. If they are confused, all beings on the three worlds are ignorant. If enlightened, the ten different worlds are full of nothing but Buddhas.

### BUDDHISM IN INDIA.

There were two schools in India after Buddha's entry into Nirvâna, namely, 1. the Sthaviras (Jō-zabu), and 2. the Mahâsamghikas (Dai-shu-bu). In the former there were five succeeding teachers, whose names are Kâsyapa, Ânanda, Madyhântika, Sanavâsa and Upagupta. They are equally revered as patriarchs by the followers of the Hinayâna and Mahâyâna schools. In the Ten-daisect, twenty-



three patriarchs are enumerated, with Kâsyapa as the first. Kâsyapa is also the first of the twenty-eight patriarchs of the Zen sect. At the assembly in which Buddha preached the Nirvâṇa-sûtra (Ne-han-gyō), Kâsyapa was intrusted with the transmission of the teaching of Buddha's whole life. When the Mahâbrahma-râga-pariprikkhâ-sûtra (Dai-bonnō-mon-butsumetsu-gi-kyō) was spoken, the secret of the eye of right Law (see chapter 10) was also intrusted to Kâsyapa.

For a hundred years after Buddha, while the five teachers succeed each other as patriarchs, the two schools were harmonious. After that, they began to quarrel. Two centuries after Buddha, the Mahâsamghikas were divided into nine schools. A century later, the Sthaviras were also divided into eleven schools. These are called the twenty schools of the Hīnayāna. Of these, the Sarvāstivāda school was the most flourishing. It depended upon one chief Sâstra and on its so-called 'six feet.' The latter are: 1. Sâriputra's Samgîti-paryâya-pâda (Shūimon-soku-ron),<sup>19</sup> 2. Mahâmaudgalyâyana's Dharmaskandhapâda (Hō-un-soku-ron),<sup>20</sup> 3. Kâtyâyana's (or Mahâmaudgalyâyana's) Pragñapti-pâda (Shi-setsusoku-ron),<sup>21</sup> 4. Devasarman's Vigñâna-âya-pâda (Shiki-shin-soku-ron),<sup>22</sup> 5. Vasumitra's Prakarana-

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<sup>19</sup> No. 1276. <sup>20</sup> No. 1396. <sup>21</sup> No. 1317. <sup>22</sup> No. 1381.

pâda (Hon-rui-soru-ron),<sup>23</sup> and 6. Dhātu-ruâya-pâda (Kai-shin-soru-ron).<sup>24</sup> These six Sâstras are called the 'six feet,' of which the first three were composed during Buddha's life-time; the fourth was produced a century, and the last two, three centuries after Buddha. The chief Sâstra is Kâtyâyana's *Gñâna-prasthâna-sâstra* (Hot-chi-ron),<sup>25</sup> which also dated from three centuries after Buddha. A century later, five hundred Arhats who were disciples of Kâtyâyana, compiled the *Mahâ-vibhâshâ-sâstra* (Dai-bi-ba-sha-ron).<sup>26</sup> This is a commentary on the last Sâstra. Nine centuries after Buddha, Vasubandhu (Se-shin) composed the *Abhidharma-ruosa-sâstra* (Ku-sha-ron),<sup>27</sup> in which the author sometimes adopts the principles of the *Sautrântikas* (Kyô-bu). *Samghabhadra* (Shu-gen) then composed the *Nyâyânusâra-sâstra* (Jun-shô-ri-ron)<sup>28</sup> and refuted the last mentioned work. This may show that the flourishing state of the *Sarvâstivâda* school lasted for some time in India.

Eight hundred and ninety years after Buddha, there was an Indian named Harivarman, who was a disciple of Kumârila-bhatta (?) of the *Sarvâstivâda* school, and composed the *Satya-siddhi-sâstra* (Jô-jitsu-ron).<sup>29</sup> This book was much studied in India.

The above is an outline of the history of the Hina-

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<sup>23</sup> No. 1217. <sup>24</sup> No. 1282. <sup>25</sup> No. 1275. <sup>26</sup> No. 1263.

<sup>27</sup> Nos. 1267, 1269. <sup>28</sup> No. 1265. <sup>29</sup> No. 1274.



yâna schools in India.

Though the doctrine of the Mahâyâna was transmitted by Kâsyapa and Ânanda, it lost its power, when the doctrine of the Hînayâna became flourishing. Six centuries after Buddha, Asvaghosha (Me-myō) composed the Mahâyâna-sraddhotpâda-sâstra (Dai-jō-ki-shin-ron)<sup>30</sup> and promulgated the Mahâyâna. A century later, Nâgârguna (Ryū-ju) composed the Mahâbhaya-sâstra (Dai-mu-i-ron),<sup>31</sup> the Mahâpragñâ-pâramitâ-sâstra (Dai-chi-do-ron),<sup>32</sup> the Madhyamaka-sâstra (Chū-ron),<sup>33</sup> and other works; with which he explained the apparent doctrine. Finding the iron tower in South India, he also expounded the hidden doctrine.<sup>34</sup> At that time, the Mahâyâna school was as bright as the rising sun. Nine centuries after Buddha, Asamga (Mu-jaku) asked the Bodhisattva Maitreya to discourse the Yogâkârya-bhûmi-sâstra (Yu-ga-ron).<sup>35</sup> He himself composed the Mahâyâna-samparigraha-sâstra (Shō-dai-jō-ron),<sup>36</sup> on which his younger brother Vasubandhu (Se-shin) compiled a commentary.<sup>37</sup> The latter also composed the Amitâyus-sûtropadesa (Jō-do-ron),<sup>38</sup> the Buddha-gotra-sâstra (Bus-shō-ron),<sup>39</sup> the Saddharma-pundarikâ-sûtra-sâstra (Hokke-ron),<sup>40</sup> the Nirvâna-sâstra

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<sup>30</sup> Nos. 1249, 1250. <sup>31</sup> This has not yet been translated into Chinese. <sup>32</sup> No. 1169. <sup>33</sup> No. 1179. <sup>34</sup> See Chapter 8. <sup>35</sup> No. 1170. <sup>36</sup> Nos. 1183, 1184. <sup>37</sup> No. 1171. <sup>38</sup> No. 1204. <sup>39</sup> No. 1220. <sup>40</sup> Nos. 1232, 1233.



(Ne-han-ron),<sup>41</sup> the *Vagrakkhedikâ sūtra-sāstra* (Kongō-han-nya-ron),<sup>42</sup> and the *Dasabhūmika-sāstra* (Jū-ji-ron).<sup>43</sup> He also composed thirty verses of the *Vidyāmātra-siddhi-tri-dasa-sāstra* (or *trimsakkhāstra*) - *zârizâ* (Yui-shiz-i-san-jū-ju),<sup>44</sup> on which ten *Sāstra*-teachers each compiled a commentary.<sup>45</sup> The works of Vasubandhu are said to number one thousand in all. The doctrine of the Mahâyâna has become flourishing, owing to the influence of the two teachers Nâgârguna and Vasubandhu. Therefore every succeeding generation has looked up to them with deep veneration.

### BUDDHISM IN CHINA.

In the tenth year of the Ei-hei period, in the reign of the Emperor Mei (Ming) of the Latter Kan (Han) dynasty, 67 A. D., i. e. one thousand and sixteen years after Buddha, the two Indian priests Kâsyapa Mâtan̄ga (Ka-shōMa-tō) and Chiku Hō-ran (Dharmaraksha?) bringing with them an image of Buddha and some sacred books, arrived in Raku-yō, the capital of China. The Emperor then ordered them to live in the Haku-ba-ji, or 'White horse monastery.' This was the first time that Buddhism was known in the Far-East. During the period of the

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<sup>41</sup> No. 1206. <sup>42</sup> No. 1168. <sup>43</sup> No. 1194. <sup>44</sup> No. 1215.

<sup>45</sup> No. 1197, i. e. Jō-yui-shiz-i-ron, consists of extracts made by the translator Gen-jō from the ten different commentaries.

Latter or Eastern Kan dynasty (25-220 A. D.) and of the San-goꝝu or 'Three Kingdoms' (220-265 A. D.), it was not yet very flourishing. After the Western Shin (Tsin, 265-316 A. D.), or the Eastern Shin (317-420 A. D.), the scholars of the Tripitaka (San-zō-hos-shi) came to China from India one after another, and translated the sacred books into Chinese. From that time, the three trainings in the higher morality, thought and learning became greatly prosperous. China is a vast country and its people are numerous; so that we can not minutely here give the history of Buddhism there, except an outline of the following thirteen sects:—

1. The San-ron-shū, or 'Three Sâstra sect' (see chapter 5). In 409 A. D., Kumâragîva finished his translation of the Three Sâstras.<sup>46</sup> His four principal disciples Dō-shō, Sō-jō, Dō-yū and Sō-ei, generally called Shō Jō Yū Ei for brevity, expounded these books. This sect was firmly established by Kichi-zō of the Ka-jō monastery under the Zui (Sui) dynasty, 589-618 A. D.

2. The Jō-jitsu-shū, or 'Satya-siddhi-sâstra-sect' (see chapter 2). Kumâragîva translated the Jō-jitsuron,<sup>47</sup> which was extensively taught by the priests of succeeding ages.

3. The Ne-han-shū, or 'Nirvâṇa-sūtra-sect.' In 423 A. D., Dharmaraksha (Don-mu-sen) translated

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<sup>46</sup> Nos. 1179, 1186, 1188. <sup>47</sup> No. 1274.





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the Ne-han-gyō.<sup>48</sup> E-<sub>z</sub>wan of the Sō (Sung) dynasty (424–453 A. D.) divided the doctrines into five classes with reference to their chronological order, and called the doctrine of the Nirvâṇa-sûtra the fifth doctrine of permanence.

4. The Ji-ron-shū, or 'Dasa-bhûmika-sâstra-sect.' In 508 A. D., Bodhiruki translated the Jū-ji-ron,<sup>49</sup> which was extensively taught by the priests of succeeding ages.

5. The Jō-do-shū, or 'Pure Land sect' (see chapter 9). Bodhiruki translated the Jō-do-ron or 'Pure Land Sâstra,' i. e. the Amitâyus-sûtropadesa,<sup>50</sup> on which Don-ran of the Gi dynasty (386–534 A. D.) compiled a commentary. At the time of Dō-shazū and Zen-dō (both lived about 600–650 A. D.), this sect was firmly established.

6. The Zen-shū, or 'Dhyâna sect' (see chapter 10). In 520 A. D., the twenty-eighth patriarch Bodhidharma arrived in China, and transmitted the seal of thought to E-ka. It passed through Sō-san, Dō-shin and Kō-nin successively. After Kō-nin, the sect was divided into five schools.

7. The Shō-ron-shū, or 'Mahâyâna-samparigraha-sâstra-sect.' In 563 A. D., Paramârtha (Shin-dai) translated the Shō-dai-jō-ron,<sup>51</sup> which was extensively taught by the priests of succeeding ages.

8. The Ten-dai-shū, or 'Mount Ten-dai sect' (see

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<sup>48</sup> No. 113. <sup>49</sup> No. 1194. <sup>50</sup> No. 1204. <sup>51</sup> No. 1183.



chapter 7). In 551 A. D., E-mon understood the doctrine of Buddha through the Ho-ze-kyō, i. e. Saddharma-puṇḍarīka-sūtra.<sup>52</sup> He was succeeded by E-shi and Chi-ki. The latter, who is better known by his posthumous title of Chi-sha Dai-shi of Ten-dai (died 597 A. D.), caused this sect to become firmly established.

9. The Ke-gon-shū, or 'Avatamsaka-sūtra-sect' (see chapter 6). In 418 A. D., Buddhābhaddra (Kazugen) translated the Ke-gon-gyō<sup>53</sup> in sixty volumes. Under the Chin dynasty, 557–589 A. D., To Jun expounded it and was succeeded by Chi-gon. At the time of Hō-zō (Gen-ju Dai-shi, died 712 A. D.) this sect was firmly established.

10. The Hossō-shū, or 'Dharma-lakshana sect' (see chapter 4). In 645 A. D., Gen-jō (Hiouen-thsang) returned from India to China and translated many Sūtras and Śāstras. He had three thousand disciples; of whom Ki-ki (Ji-on Dai-shi) was the principal one, and who made this sect flourish in China.

11. The Bi-don-shū, or 'Abhidharma-sect' (see chapter 1). In 391 A. D., Gautama Saṃghadeva translated the Hosshō-bi-don, i. e. Abhidharma-hri-daya-sāstra,<sup>54</sup> which was extensively taught by the priests of succeeding ages. But the flourishing state of this sect dates from the time of Gen-jō (about 650 A. D.), when the Ku-sha or Abhidharma-za, <sup>55</sup> the

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<sup>52</sup> No. 134. <sup>53</sup> No. 87. <sup>54</sup> No. 1288. <sup>55</sup> No. 1267.

Ba-sha or Mahāvibhāshā<sup>56</sup> and other Sāstras were translated into Chinese.

12. The Kai-ritsu-shū, or 'Vinaya sect' (see chapter 3). In 410 A. D., Buddhayasas translated the Shi-bun-ritsu, or 'Vinaya of four divisions,' i. e. the Dharmagupta-vinaya.<sup>57</sup> There were three great commentators on this book under the Tō (T'ang) dynasty, 618-907 A. D. Among them, Dō-sen of the Nan-zan or Mount Shū-nan is considered the orthodox teacher of this sect.

13. The Shin-gon-shū, or 'Mantra sect' (see chapter 8). In 716 A. D., Subhakarasiṃha (Zen-mu-i) arrived in China and greatly promulgated the hidden doctrine. He was succeeded by Vagrabodhi (Kongō-chi) and Amoghavajra (Fu-kū).

The above thirteen sects are those which existed up to the time of the Tō (T'ang, 618-907 A. D.) and Sō (Sung, 960-1280) dynasties. Since the accession of the Gen (Yuen) dynasty, 1280-1368 A. D., there has been added one sect more, namely, the doctrine of R-ṃ, or Lāmaism, of Tibet. In 1873, I went to Peking, and ascended Mount Go dai (Wu-tai) in the following year. Two years later I visited Mount Ten-dai (Tien-tai), and also went through Sei-ko, Nan-king, Bu-shō and Kan-kō. Thus I examined the religions of the people of that vast country, and found out that there were three, viz., 1.

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<sup>56</sup> No. 1263. <sup>57</sup> No. 1117. <sup>58</sup> Mr. Ogurusu.



Confucianism (Ju), 2. Buddhism (Butsu), and 3. Taoism (Dō).

There are two great divisions of Buddhism in China at present, namely, the Blue robe sect (Sei-i-ha) and the Yellow robe sect (Kō-i-ha). The Emperor Tai-sō (627-649 A. D.) gave one of his daughters called Bun-sei Kō-shu in marriage to Sampu of To-ban or Tibet. Then the whole of Tibet became a field for Buddhist labourers. Afterwards Sampu frequented India and promulgated the doctrine of Buddha. Lâmaism is a part of the hidden doctrine, and its followers in China form the Yellow robe sect.

The Blue robe sect consists of the priests of the old Chinese sects. They have established the names of Shū or principle, Kyō or teaching, and Ritsu or discipline. The Dhyâna or contemplation is their principle, the doctrines of the Ke-gon or Avatamsaka-sûtra and the Hoxke or Saddharma-pundarîka-sûtra, etc. are their teachings, and the Vinaya of the Four Divisions or the Dharmagupta-vinaya is their discipline. Therefore each monastery is possessed of these three. The priests in the monasteries on Mount Go-dai belong to the Shō-ryō-shū, i. e. Ke-gon, but they also practise contemplation and discipline. Similarly those on Mount Ten-dai belong to the Chi-sha-shū, i. e. Ten-dai, but they also practise contemplation and discipline. The Chinese



Buddhists seem, therefore, to unite all different sects so as to make one harmonious sect.

### BUDDHISM IN JAPAN.

The twelve sects treated of in this book include the principal Japanese Buddhist sects, though the number of different schools might be increased, if we were to count minutely the original and secondary divisions. We shall now try to divide the twelve sects into three periods, namely : —

1. The earliest period includes the first six sects. In the thirteenth year of the reign of the Emperor Kim-mei, 552 A. D., i. e. fifteen hundred years after Buddha, the king of Kudara, one of the three ancient divisions of Korea, presented to the Japanese Court an image of Buddha and some sacred books. In 625 A. D., E-swan came to Japan from Koma, another division of Korea, and became the founder of the Jō-jitsu and San-ron sects (chapter 2 and 5). At that time, the Prince Imperial Shō-toku (died 621 A. D.) had already promulgated the doctrine of Buddha. In 653 A. D., Dō-shō went to China and studied under Gen-jō and transmitted the doctrine of the Hossō sect to Japan (chap. 4). In 658 A. D., Chi-tsū and Chi-tatsu went to China and also became disciples of Gen-jō and transmitted the doctrines of the Hossō and Ku-sha sects (chaps. 1 and 4). In 703 A. D., Chi-hō and Chi-ran went to China, and so did Gen-bō in 716 A. D. They all transmitted the doctrine of

the Hossō sect. Thus there are four different dates of this transmission. In 736 A. D., a Chinese priest named Dō-sen came to Japan and established the Kegon sect (chap. 6). In 754 A. D., another Chinese priest named Gan-jin arrived in Japan and became the founder of the Ritsu sect (chap. 3). The above may be called the ancient sects, being called the six sects of the Nan-to or Southern Capital, i. e. Nara, where they were established in the earliest period. They are generally enumerated in the order of Ku-sha, Jō-jitsu, Ritsu, Hossō, San-ron and Kegon.

2. The mediæval sects are two, namely, the Tendai (chap. 7) and the Shin-gon (chap. 8). These are called the two sects of Kyō-to. In 804 A. D., Saichō and Kūkai went to China. Having returned to Japan, the former established the Ten-dai sect on Mount Hi-ei; and the latter founded the Shingon sect on mount Kō-ya. In these sects there have been many eminent priests.

3. The modern sects are the remaining four. In 1174 (or 1175) A. D., Gen-kū founded the Jō-do-shū (chap. 9). In 1191 A. D., Ei-sai established the Zen-shū (chap. 10). In 1224 A. D., Shin-ran founded the Shin-shū (chap. 11). In 1253 A. D., Nichi-ren founded the Nichi-ren-shū (chap. 12).

It seems to me that as the ancient sects were flourishing in the ancient period only, so were those





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# A SHORT HISTORY OF THE TWELVE JAPANESE . BUDDHIST SECTS.

## CHAPTER I.

The Ku-sha-shū, or Abhidharma-kosa-sâstra-sect.

### 1. A history of the sect.

The term Ku-sha is a transliteration of the Sanskrit word Kosa or 'store,' in the title of the principal book of this sect or school, the Abhidharma-kosa-sâstra,<sup>1</sup> or the 'Book of the treasury of metaphysics.' It was composed by Vasubandhu (Se-shin), who lived in India about nine centuries after Buddha. The Sâstra is divided into nine chapters, in which the author refers not only to the principal books of the Sarvâstivâdins, one of eighteen schools of the Hînayâna doctrine, but also makes a selection of different views of other schools. The composition is so excellent that it is said to have been praised in India as an 'Intelligence-making Sâstra' (Sō-meiron).

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<sup>1</sup> No. 1267 in the Min-zō-mokuroku, or Catalogue of the Chinese Translation of the Buddhist Tripitaka, by Bunyiu Nanjio, Oxford, 1883. Similar numbers hereafter refer to those in the same Catalogue.



Although the names of eighteen schools of the Hinayâna are mentioned in the sacred books, yet the doctrines of two of them only are handed down to us at present as subjects of study. These two schools are the Sautrântikas (Kyō-bu) and the Sarvâstivâdins (U-bu). The former is somewhat approximated to by the jō-jitsu-shū, and the latter is represented by the Kū-sha-shū. The character of the Abhidharma-kośa-sâstra is, however, very impartial, including the best of all the doctrinal views of the other schools. The doctrine of this Sâstra is free from inclination to either the peculiar views of the Sarvâstivâdins or those of the Sautrântikas.

The Sarvâstivâdins have many books which belong to the Abhidharma-piṭaka (Ron-zō), the last division of the Tripiṭaka, or the three collections of the sacred books. Among them there are one chief and six secondary works in the following order : —

1. *Gñâna-prasthâna-sâstra* (Hot-chi-ron),<sup>2</sup> by Kâtyâyana. This is the chief book, and the following six works are called the Shatpâda or the 'six feet' of the chief book.

2. *Dharma-skandha-pâda* (Hō-un-sou-ron),<sup>3</sup> by Mahâmaudgalyâyana.

3. *Samgîti-paryâya-sâstra* (Shū-i-mon-sou-ron),<sup>4</sup> by Sâriputra.

4. *Vigñâna-râya-pâda* (Shiu-shin-sou-ron),<sup>5</sup> by

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<sup>2</sup> No. 1275. <sup>3</sup> No. 1296. <sup>4</sup> No. 1276.



Devasarman.

5. *Pragñapti-pâda* (Shi-setsu-sou-ron),<sup>6</sup> by Mahāmaudgalyāyana.

6. *Prakarana-pâda* (Hon-rui-sou-ron),<sup>7</sup> by Vasumitra.

7. *Dhātu-kāya-pâda* (Kai-shin-sou-ron),<sup>8</sup> by the same as before.

Besides these, there is a work entitled *Mahā-vibhāshā-sāstra* (Dai-bi-ba-sha-ron),<sup>9</sup> which was compiled by five hundred Arhats, and is a commentary on Kātyāyana's *Gñāna-prasthāna-sāstra*.

In 563 A. D. an Indian named Paramārtha (Shin-dai) translated Vasubandhu's *Sāstra* into Chinese (A-bi-datsu-ma-ku-sha-shau-ron),<sup>10</sup> Afterwards, in 654 A. D. under the Tō (T'ang) dynasty, Gen-jō (known as Hiouen-thsang in Europe), made another and better translation (A-bi-datsu-ma-ku-sha-ron).<sup>11</sup> His disciples Fu-kō and Hō-hō each compiled a commentary on the *Sāstra*. Besides them, Jin-dai and En-ki also compiled a commentary.

In 658 A. D., two Japanese priests, Chi-tsū and Chi-tatsu, went to China, became disciples of Gen-jō, and brought his new translation of the Kosa or Ku-sha over to Japan. Thus this *Sāstra* was first known in the Empire. Though they did in fact never form an independent sect, being themselves members of

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<sup>5</sup> No. 1281. <sup>6</sup> No. 1317. <sup>7</sup> No. 1277. <sup>8</sup> No. 1282.

<sup>9</sup> No. 1263. <sup>10</sup> No. 1269. <sup>11</sup> No. 1267.



the Hossō sect, the doctrine taught in the *Sâstra* has always been studied by the learners of all the Buddhist sects in Japan till the present day.

## II. The doctrine of the sect.

In the *Abhidharma-kośa-sâstra*, there are many technical terms, such as the five *Skandhas* (*Un*) or ‘collections,’ the twelve *Âyatanas* (*sho*) or ‘places,’ the eighteen *Dhâtus* (*Kai*) or ‘elements,’ and the seventy-five *Dharmas* (*Hō*) or ‘things.’ All these terms are used for explaining things, both *Samskrîta* (*U-i*) or ‘compounded,’ and *Asamskrîta* (*Mu-i*) or ‘immaterial.’ There are also the terms of the four *Satyas* (*Tai*) or ‘truths,’ and the twelve *Pratîtya-samutpâdas* (*En-gi*) or ‘chains of causation,’ and so forth.

Now, let us see what the seventy-five *Dharmas* are, and how they are grouped together.

1. *Samskrîta-dharmas* (*U-i-hō*) or ‘compounded things.’ These are the first seventy-two, the remaining three being *Asamskrîta* (*Mu-i*) or ‘immaterial.’ The 72 compounded things are grouped under the following four heads.

( 1 ) *Rûpas* (*Shiki*) or ‘forms,’ eleven in number, viz ;

1. *Kakshus* (*Gen*) or the ‘eye,’ that sees ;
2. *Srotra* (*Ni*) or the ‘ear,’ that hears ;
3. *Ghrâna* (*Bi*) or the ‘nose,’ that smells ;
4. *Gihvâ* (*Zetsu*) or the ‘tongue,’ that tastes; and



5. Kâya (Shin) or the 'body,' that touches objects.

These five are the Indriyas (Kon) or 'organs of sense,' which have an eminent and vigorous actions

- 6. Rûpa (Shiki) or 'form,'
- 7. Sabda (Shō) or 'sound,'
- 8. Gandha (Kō) or 'smell,'
- 9. Rasa (Mi) or 'taste,' and
- 10. Sparsa (Sōzu) or 'touch.'

These five are called the Vishayas (Kyō) or 'objects of sense,' on which the organs of sense act.

11. Avigñapti-rûpa (Mu-hyō-shiki) or 'unapparent form.' This is a peculiar one. Though it is in reality formless, yet it is called form; because its character has some reference to speech and deed, but not to thought. When an action either good or bad is apparent, something will follow it within the actor, which is nevertheless quite unapparent. Hence this object is made distinct.

(2) Kitta (Shin) or 'mind,' also called Manas (I) or 'thought' and Vigñâna (Shiki) or 'knowledge.' The Manas is explained by comparison to the pith of a tree, which unites all the branches, leaves, flowers and fruits in one body. If it follows the five organs of sense and thought, it is accounted to be of six kinds. But the Kitta itself is only one, so that it cannot appear in two or more different places at one



and the same moment. Therefore the Abhidharma-kośa-sāstra speaks of the subject as only one, yet with the names of six different kinds of *Vigñāna* (*Shiki*) or 'knowledge,' namely ;

1. *Kakshur-vigñāna* (*Gen-shiki*) or 'eye knowledge,'

2. *Srotra-vigñāna* (*Ni-shiki*) or 'ear knowledge,'

3. *Ghrāna-vigñāna* (*Bi-shiki*) or 'nose knowledge,'

4. *Gihvā-vigñāna* (*Zetsu-shiki*) or 'tongue knowledge,'

5. *Kāya-vigñāna* (*Shin-shiki*) or 'body knowledge,' and

6. *Mano-vigñāna* (*I-shiki*), or 'mind knowledge,' It is also called the *Mano-rāga* (*Shinnō*) or 'mind-king,' because it thinks of every object which appears before it, just as a monarch has the supreme control of every kind of affairs, though the mind or thought itself is also after all one of the seventy-five Dharmas without *Âtman* or self.

(3) *Kaitta-dharmas* (*Shin-jo-u-hō*) or 'mental qualities.' There are forty-six different qualities, which are again grouped under six heads.

(a) *Mahā-bhūmika-dharmas* (*Dai-ji-hō*) or 'qualities of great ground.' These are ten in number, which always accompany the 'mind' or 'thought.'

1. *Vedanā* (*Ju*) or 'perception,'

2. *Samgñā* (*Sō*) or 'name,'





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are six in number, which always accompany the mind when it is not pure.

1. Moha (Mu-myō) or 'ignorance,'
2. Pramāda (Hō-itsu) or 'carelessness,'
3. Kausīdya (Ke-dai) or 'indolence,'
4. Asrāddhya (Fu-shin) or 'unbelief,'
5. Styāna (Kon-jin) or 'idleness,' and
6. Auddhatya (Jō-ko) or 'arrogance.'

(d) Akusala-mahābhûmika-dharmas (Dai-fu-zen-ji-hō) or 'qualities of great ground of badness.' These are two in number, which always accompany the mind when it is not good.

1. Ahrīkatā (Mu-zan) or 'absence of shame,' and
2. Anapatrapā (Mu-gi) or 'absence of bashfulness.'

(e) Upaklesa-bhûmika-dharmas (Shō-bon-nō-ji-hō) or 'qualities of ground of secondary passions.' These are ten in number, which do not accompany the mind altogether at one and the same moment like ignorance, etc., but only one after another; so that they are called 'secondary passions.'

1. Krodhā (Fun) or 'anger,'
2. Mraksha (Fuxu) or 'hypocrisy,'
3. Mâtsarya (Ken) or 'selfishness,'
4. Îrshyâ (Shitsu) or 'envy,'
5. Pradâsa (Nō) or 'vexation,'
6. Vihîmsâ (Gai) or 'hurting,'
7. Upanâha (Kon) or 'enmity,'



8. Mâyâ (Ten) or 'deceit,'
9. *Sâthya* (Ō) or 'dishonesty,' and,
10. Mada (Kyō) or 'vanity.'

(f) Aniyata-bhûmika-dharmas (Fu-jō-ji-hō) or 'qualities of uncertain ground.' These are eight in number, which accompany the mind at any time.

1. Vitarka (Jin) or 'reflection,'
2. Vikâra (Shi) or 'investigation,'
3. Kaukritya (Aku-sa) or 'repentance,'
4. Middha (Sui-men) or 'somnolence,'
5. Râga (Ton) or 'greediness,'
6. Pratigha (Shin) or 'anger,'
7. Mâna (Man) or 'pride,' and
8. Vikikitsâ (Gi) or 'doubt.'

The above forty-six are mental qualities (Shin-jō).

(4) *Kitta-viprayukta-samskâras* (Shin-fu-sō-ō-bō) or 'conceptions separated from the mind.' There are fourteen in all.

1. Prâpti (Tozu) or 'attainment,'
2. Aprâpti (Hi-tozu) or 'non-attainment,'
3. Sabhâgatâ (Dō-bun) or 'commonness,' i. e. that which makes living beings equal ;
4. *Asamgñika* (Mu-sō-kwa) or 'namelessness,' i. e. the state of one who is born in the *Asamgñika* heaven, where his mind and mental faculties are in rest during a hundred great kalpas or periods ;
5. *Asamgñi-samâpatti* (Mu-sō-jō) or 'attainment



of namelessness' by the venerable men,

6. Nirodha-samâpatti (Metsu-jin-jō) or 'attainment of destruction' by the heretics,

7. *Gîvita* (Myō-kon) or 'life,'

8. *Gâti* (Shō) or 'birth,'

9. *Sthiti* (Jū) or 'existence,'

10. *Garâ* (I) or 'decay,'

11. *Anityatâ* (Metsu) or 'non-eternity,' i. e. death.

The above four (8-11) are called the four forms of the compounded things (Shi-u-i-sō).

12. *Nâma-çâya* (Myō-shin) or 'name,'

13. *Pada-çâya* (Ku-shin) or 'word,' and

14. *Vyañgana-çâya* (Mon-shin) or 'letter.'

Thus there are seventy-two compounded things, all of which belong to the five *Sandhas* or collections.

The following three complete number of the seventy-five *Dharmas* explained in the *Abhidharma-çôsh-sâstra*. They are not included in the five collections, being immaterial in their nature.

II. *Asamkrîta-dharmas* (Mu-i-hō) or 'immaterial things.'

1. *Pratisamkhyâ-nirodha* (Chaçu-metsu) or 'conscious cessation of existence.'

2. *Apratisamkhyâ-nirodha* (Hi-chaçu-metsu) or 'unconscious cessation of existence.'

3. *Âçâsa* (Ko-ku) or 'space.'

The above seventy-five *Dharmas* are, as we have seen, divided into two classes, compounded things



and immaterial things. The former include all things that proceed from a cause. This cause is Karma, to which every existing thing is due, Space (Âkâsa) and Nirvâna (Nirodha) alone excepted. Again, of the three immaterial things, the last two are not subjects to be understood by the wisdom not free from frailty. Therefore the 'conscious cessation of existence' is considered as the goal of all the effort by him who longs for deliverance from misery.

According to the doctrine of the Abhidharma-kośa-sâstra, there is a division into three Yânas or vehicles of the Srâvakas (Shō-mon), Pratyekabuddhas (Engaku) and Bodhisattvas (Bo-satsu), which help to destroy doubt and make the truth understood. The Srâvakas meditate on the cause and effect of every thing. If they are acute in understanding, they become free from confusion after three different births. But, if they are dull, they pass sixty kalpas; before they attain to the state of enlightenment. The Pratyekabuddhas meditate on the twelve chains of causation (Jū-ni-innen), or understand the non-eternity of the world, while gazing upon the falling flowers and leaves. Thus they become enlightened, either after passing through four different births, or after a hundred kalpas according to their ability. The Bodhisattvas practise the six Pâramitâs (Rokudo) or 'perfections' and become Buddhas, after three Asamkhyâ or 'countless' kalpas. The six Pâramitâs



are the perfect exercise of the same number of principal virtues by a Bodhisattva, as a preliminary to, and indeed a condition of, his attaining Buddhahood. They are as follow: 1. Dāna-pāramitā, or 'perfect practice of almsgiving,' 2. Śīla-, or 'morality,' 3. Kṣhānti-, or 'patience,' 4. Vīrya-, or 'energy,' 5. Dhyāna-, or 'meditation,' and 6. Praññā-, or 'wisdom.'

The reason why all things are so minutely explained in this Śāstra is to drive away the idea of self (Ātman), and to show the truth, in order to make living beings reach Nirvāṇa.

Those who may wish to know more of this doctrine, should study the Abhidharma-kosa-śāstra, by the help of the two Chinese commentaries of Fukō and Hō-hō. After that, they might study the other Śāstras of the Sarvāstivādins, which we have already mentioned.



## CHAPTER II.

The Jō-jitsu-shū, or Satya-siddhi-sâstra-sect.

I. The doctrine of the sect.

The principal book of this sect is entitled the Jō-jistu-ron, or Satya-siddhi-sâstra,<sup>1</sup> literally meaning the 'Book of the perfection of the truth.' This book contains selections from and explanations of the true meaning of the Tripitaka, or Three Baskets (San-zō) of the Hinayâna doctrine preached by the Tathâgata. It is the work of an Indian named Harivarman ('lion armour'), a disciple of Kumânila-bhatta (? Ku-ma-ra-da), who was a scholar of the Sarvâstivâda school (U-bu), and lived about nine centuries after Buddha. Harivarman not satisfied with the narrow views of his teacher, made selections of the best and broadest interpretations current in the several different schools of the Hinayâna. Therefore it is not certain to which school he originally belonged. Some say that it was the Bahu-srutikas (Ta-mon-bu), others that it was the Sauntrântikas (Kyō-bu). others again say that it was the Dharmaguptas, (Don-mu-tozu-bu), or the Mahîsâsakas (Ke-ji-bu). All these different versions are equally without proof. It is therefore better to consider the book indepently as simply eclectic and owning to unite all that was best in each of the Hinayâna schools.

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<sup>1</sup> No. 1274.



Again Ten-dai, Ka-jō and Kumâragîva (Ra-jū) agreed in taking the *Sâstra* of this sect as that of the Hinayâna; and Hō-un, Chi-zō and Mon-bin, who were called the three great teachers of the Ryō dynasty (502-557 A. D.), took it as that of the Mahâyâna. These opinions are still one sided. The Vinaya teacher Nan-zan, however, said that the doctrine of the *Sâstra* is the Hinayâna, but that its explanations are applicable to the Mahâyâna also. This opinion would perhaps be right. The knowledge of the author of the *Sâstra* was so clear, that he was able to explain the deep meaning of the Tripiṭaka, and express the unreal character of all human knowledge as taught in the Mahâyâna.

What is the best meaning of all the schools of the Hinayâna, selected in the *Satya-siddhi-sâstra*? It is of two kinds of emptiness or unreality, and which as many kinds of meditation are established. The first is the Meditation on emptiness or unreality. As an empty jar, there is not anything to be called Âtman or self in the five Skandhas or collections (which constitute what we should call the consciousness of an intelligent subject). This is therefore the Meditation on the emptiness or unreality of Âtman or self. The second is the Meditation on unselfishness. As the nature of the jar itself is unreal, all things in the five Skandhas are names only. This is the Meditation on Dharmas or things. Thus the





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‘temporariness done by causes’ (In-jō-ke). The names of things are made temporarily by the comparison of this and that. This is called the ‘temporariness of comparison.’ Thus all things are temporary like bubbles, so that they are empty and fleeting. To look upon living beings with the view of the above enumerated three kinds of temporariness is called the ‘emptiness of being or self.’ This is not the same as the opinion of the Abhidharma school on this subject; because in that school, self is denied on the Śāndhas only. Ignorant people and heretics do not know these two kinds of emptiness of the Âtman and Dharma, and have the false idea of seeing and thinking, by which they suffer the misery of transmigration. If one understands the meaning of the two kinds of emptiness, and practises the meditation on them, all his passions will be cured.

This emptiness of the two kinds is not that of nature itself, but that by breaking or destroying the Âtman or self and Dharma or thing. This is one of the differences between the Mahâyâna and the Hînayâna. Again it is said in the Sâstra that ‘one can obtain enlightenment by one Satya (Tai) or ‘truth’ only, which is the Nirodha (Metsu), or ‘destruction of pain.’ This is the third of the four holy truths (Shi-shō-tai). It differs from the views of the Abhidharma school, which says that those of the three Yânas or vehicles of the Śrâvakas, Pratyekabuddhas



and Bodhisattvas, see the truth in the same way, and that they attain to the Path by understanding the four truths. Accordingly there are two ways of explaining the title of the Satya-siddhi-sâstra (Jō-jitsuron), or 'Book of the perfection of truth.' The first is that it is called so, because it explains perfectly the true meaning of the two kinds of emptiness. The second is that it expounds the reality of the four truths.

This is only an outline of this doctrine.

## II. A history of the sect.

According to the Kai-gen-roku,<sup>2</sup> a Catalogue of the Buddhist Books compiled in the Kai-gen period, 730 A. D., Kumâragîva translated the Sâstra of this school, under the Shin dynasty of the Yō family, in 411-412 A. D. But the Nai-den-roku,<sup>3</sup> another and earlier catalogue, compiled about 667 A. D. puts the date of the translation five years earlier, 406 A. D.

The Sâstra is divided into sixteen or twenty volumes and two hundred and two chapters. When the translation was made, Kumâragîva ordered his-disciple Sō-ei to lecture on it; and all his disciples three thousand in number studied and expounded it.

In the period of the Sō dynasty, 420-479 A. D.; Sō-dō and Dō-kō each compiled a commentary, and the three great teachers already alluded to taught the doctrine of this school under the Ryō dynasty,

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<sup>2</sup> No. 1485. <sup>3</sup> No. 1483.



502-557. Hō-zei compiled another commentary on the *Sâstra* in twenty volumes, under the Chin dynasty, 557-589, and was flourishing under the Zui dynasty, 589-618, and in the earliest period of the Tō dynasty; 618-907. But after Gen-jō's return to China from his famous journey to India, 629-645, the doctrines of the Ku-sha and Ho-ssō schools became more flourishing in China.

Buddhism was first introduced into Japan from Korea in 552 A. D. Thirty years later, the Prince Imperial Shō-tozu was born, who, when grown up, became a great promulgator of Buddhism. He studied the doctrines of the San-ron and Jō-jitsu schools, under the instruction of the Korean priests E-ji, E-sō and Kwan-rozu. Therefore, in his commentaries on the three Sûtras *Saddharma-pundarîka* (Hok-ke<sup>4</sup>), *Srîmâlâ* (Shō-man<sup>5</sup>), and *Vimalakîrtti-nirdeśa* (Yui-ma<sup>6</sup>), the Prince Imperial depends on the explanations of Kō-tazu, who was a teacher of the Jō-jitsu school, and also a promulgator of the Mahâyâna doctrine. In 625, E-zwan came to Japan from Korea. Like Kwan-rozu who had already been in Japan, he was a scholar of the San-ron school. Before he left Korea for Japan, he went to China and became a pupil of Ka-jō, the founder of that school. The doctrine of the Jō-jitsu school was therefore made known in Japan at the same time as that of the

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<sup>4</sup> No. 134. <sup>5</sup> No. 59. <sup>6</sup> No. 146.



San-ron by Kwan-roku and E-kwan. For this reason, the Jō-jitsu school was hereafter always a branch of the San-ron. The scholars of this school always used a great commentary on the *Sâstra* compiled by the Korean priest Dō-zō in sixteen volumes. Besides this there are two other commentaries, the Jō-jitsu-gi-sho in 23 volumes, and the Jō-jitsu-gi-rin in 2 volumes. The reason why the scholars of the San-ron especially studied the Jō-jitsu-ron is this, that Ka-jō, the founder of the San-ron school, constantly refutes the doctrine of the *Sâstra* in his works, in order to make the teaching of the Mahâyâna on emptiness or unreality clear.

The two schools of the Ku-sha and Jō-jitsu have never become independent, the former being a branch of the Hossō, and the latter of the San-ron. Kū-kai, Kō-bō Dai-shi of the Shin-gon sect, said in his last instructions that his followers should study the doctrines of the Hossō and San-ron. If so, they ought also to know the doctrine of the Jō-jitsu. At present, however, the San-ron school is already almost extinct; how much less could the Jō-jitsu school continue to exist? It is hoped that there may be a person, who thinks of this and renews the study of it, in order to understand more clearly the distinctions of the Mahâyâna and Hinayâna.



## CHAPTER III.

The Ris-shū, or Vinaya sect.

I. The doctrine of this sect.

This sect was founded by the Chinese priest Dō-sen, Chō-shō Dai-shi, who lived on Mount Shū-nan at the beginning of the T'ang or Tō dynasty (618-907 A.D.). He was well acquainted with the Tripitaka, and especially versed in the Vinaya, or discipline. He himself practised the Vinaya, of the Dharmagupta school, according to the Shi-bun-ritsu<sup>1</sup>, or Vinaya of Four Divisions, and taught others by it. There is a work entitled Kyō-zai-gi, or 'Rules of Instruction,' written by him for novices. In the preface to it, he says: 'If man does not practise the Dhyâna and Samâdhi (Zen-na and San-mai), i. e. meditation and contemplation, he cannot understand the truth. If he does not keep all the good precepts, he cannot accomplish his excellent practice.' This shows that the wisdom of meditation is produced by keeping the moral precepts.

Moreover the power of Vinaya or precepts also causes the Law of Buddha to exist long in this world. If Buddha's doctrine continues to exist, there will be no calamity in the country, where the people can therefore get salvation. It is the root of all good things. Not only the men of the Hînayâna keep it,

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<sup>1</sup> No. 1117.



but also those of the mahâyâna do so without any distinction. Accordingly it is called the learning of the Mahâyâna in the *Srîmâlâ-sûtra* (Shō-man-gyō),<sup>2</sup> In the *Mahâpragñâ-pâramitâ-sâstra* (Dai-chi-do-ron),<sup>3</sup> eighty parts (of the Vinaya recited by Upâli on as many occasions in three months of the summer immediately following Buddha's Nirvâna) are called the *Sîla-pâramitâ*, or 'perfection of morality.' There is no separate Samgha, or priesthood, consisting of Bodhisattvas, in the doctrine of Sâkyamuni. Those who are ignorant of the meaning of the doctrine do not practise the precepts kept by the Hinayâna, saying that they are men of the Mahâyâna. This is extremely wrong. Dō-sen refuted this view in his works. In the *Gō-sho*, or 'Work on Action' (Karman), he establishes three doctrinal divisions, viz.

1. The School of True Dharma (Jippō [Jitsu-hō]-shū) i. e. the Sarvâstivâda school, by which Rûpa (Shiki), or form, is considered as the substance of *Sîla*, or morality.

2. The School of Temporary Name (Ke-myō-shū), i. e. the Dharmagupta school, by which the substance of the *Sîla* is considered neither to be form nor thought. The latter is therefore deeper in meaning than the former.

3. The School of Complete Doctrine (En-gyō-shū),

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<sup>2</sup> No. 59. <sup>3</sup> No. 1169.



i. e. the meaning of the two Sûtras *Saddharma-pundarika* (Hozze)<sup>4</sup> and the *Mahâparinirvâna* (Ne-han),<sup>5</sup> by which the temporary vehicle, such as the Hînayâna, is determinately understood as the means to approach the true path. In the two Sûtras above mentioned, the three Yânas or vehicles are admitted, yet they are after all altogether put into one vehicle, i. e. the Mahâyâna. This is technically called Kai-e, literally, 'opening or admitting and uniting.' Dōsen depended on this principle, and led his disciples to the Complete Doctrine. This is the characteristic of the Vinaya expounded by him, and it is the teaching of the Vinaya sect in Japan.

Although the Dharmagupta-vinaya (Shi-bun-ritsu) of the Hînayâna is used by the sect, the doctrine itself is complete and sudden (En-don) in its character, without any distinction between the larger and smaller vehicles, as well as the three learnings (San-gaku) of morality, meditation and wisdom. It is very high and very deep being the same as the true nature (Jissō) explained in the *Saddharma-pundarîka-sûtra* (Hozze),<sup>4</sup> or permanence (Jō-jū) as explained in the *Mahâparinirvâna-sûtra* (Ne-han),<sup>5</sup> and the *Dharma-dhātu* (Hokku), or 'state of things,' in the *Avatamsaka-sûtra* (Ke-gon).<sup>6</sup>

The Vinaya of all the different schools may equally be said to have the meaning of Kai-e already

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<sup>4</sup> No. 134. <sup>5</sup> Nos. 113, 114. <sup>6</sup> Nos. 87, 88.





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doctrines of meditation and wisdom, including the morality taught by Buddha during his whole life.

Now the Vinaya of the Four Divisions (Shi-bun-ritsu) is a part of the Doctrine of the Emptiness of Nature. But Dō-sen judged it from his own thought as the Doctrine of the Completion of the Only Knowledge, because the three learnings of morality, meditation and wisdom (Kai-jō-e san-gaku) are in fact completely reconciled to each other (Ennyū-mu-ge). Though he made these several divisions, yet he took nothing but completion and quickness as the principle of his doctrine. This is his excellent view.

Moreover, if the learning of *Sīla* or morality of the Doctrine of Completion is spoken of with regard to reason, any *Sīla* includes the Three Collective Pure *Sīlas* (San-ju-jō-zai), viz., 1. the *Sīla* of good behaviour, 2. the *Sīla* of collecting or holding good deeds, 3. the *Sīla* of benevolence towards living beings. But, if it is spoken of with regard to form, there are two ways of receiving it, viz. thoroughly and partially. Receiving it thoroughly (Tsū-ju) is to receive the Three Collections above enumerated. Receiving it partially (Betsu-ju) is to receive only the first of the Three, viz., the *Sīla* of good behaviour. Now the doctrine of *Sīla* of Completion in Meaning (En-i-zai) established by Dō-sen, is the latter kind of receiving by a Bodhisattva. In this doctrine, there is an action called Bya-zu-shi-kom-ma, or Ichi-bya-zu-



san-kom-ma, literally, 'once stating (his wish and) thrice (repeating) an action or *zarman*.' That is to say, one who wishes to receive *Sila* has to state his wish before a chapter of monks, and then three times he repeats the *karmavakana*, or ritual, which his teacher teaches him. After that, he receives the *Sila* of the Bodhisattva. This is what is called 'Receiving thoroughly.'

At present, therefore, the learners of the Vinaya sect prepare both forms of Receiving thoroughly and partially upon the ceremonial platform (*Dan-jō*), and keep the *Sila*, according to the Vinaya of the Four Divisions (the *Hinayāna-vinaya*) and the *Brahma-gāla-sūtra* (*Bon-mō-kyō*, i. e. the *Mahāyāna-vinaya*).<sup>7</sup> The terms 'Receiving thoroughly and partially' originated in the Hossō sect, and they were adopted by Dō-sen in the most active sense. Who could have thus established his doctrine, unless he were a holy person? *Bozu-sō*, an Emperor of the T'ang or T'ō dynasty, who reigned from 821 to 824 A. D., praised him with a verse. The Devas and Spiritual Leaders (such as *Vaisramana* or *Bi-shamon*) are said to have always guarded and praised him and offered him heavenly food; so that if he had a doubt about any thing, the heavenly beings answered his questions. Last of all, the holy Bhikshu *Pindola* (*Bin-dzu-ru*) appeared before

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<sup>7</sup> No. 1087.



him and praised him, saying that Dō-sen was the best man who had promulgated the Vinaya after Buddha. He is therefore worthy to be honoured and to be believed in by the learners of his doctrine.

## II. A history of the sect.

During fifty years, the Tathâgata Śâkyamuni preached the Vinaya, whenever any circumstance required a rule of discipline. After Buddha's entering Nirvâṇa, his disciple Upâli, sitting upon a high seat, collected or recited the Vinaya-piṭaka, which is called the Vinaya of Eighty Recitations (Hachi-jū-ritsu).<sup>8</sup> In the first century after Buddha, there were five teachers in succession without any different views. Their names are Mahâkâśyapa (Ma-ka-ka-shō), Ânanda (A-nan), Maḍhyântika (Maden-ji), Saṃavâsa (Shō-na-wa-shu), and Upagupta (U-ba-ri-ku-ta). After the first century, the faithful diverged into two, five, and twenty different schools each possessing the text of the Tripitaka. Among the Vinaya-piṭaka of the twenty schools, four Vinayas and five Śâstras only were transmitted or translated into Chinese. The Vinaya of the Four Divisions (Shi-bun-ritsu),<sup>9</sup> one of the four Vinayas, is the text of the Dharmagupta school, and has been translated into Chinese in sixty volumes (Kwan). This work was first recited by the Arhat Dharmagupta, one of the five disciples of Upagupta. The

<sup>8</sup> No. 1115. <sup>9</sup> No. 1117.



names of the five disciples (or rather of their schools) are Dharmagupta (Don-mu-toku), Sarvâstivâda (Sappa-ta), Kâsyapîya (Ka-shō-bi), Mahî sâsaka (Mi-sha-soku), and Vâstîputrîya (Ba-so fu-ra).

In the period of the Gi dynasty of the Sō family, 220-265 A. D., Dharmakâla, or Hō-ji, began to teach the Vinaya in China; and in 405, Buddhayasas, or Kaku-myō, first translated the full Vinaya (Shi-bun-ritsu),<sup>10</sup> under the Shin dynasty of the Yō family. These are the dates of the transmission of the Vinaya in China. Sixty years later, there was a Chinese Vinaya-teacher named Hō-sō, who was well acquainted with the Mahâsamghîka-vinaya (Ma-ka-sō-gi-ritsu).<sup>11</sup> But this Vinaya was not in harmony with that of the Dharmagupta school, which had been adopted in China ever since Dharmakâla; so that he began to teach the Vinaya of the Four Divisions instead of that of the Mahâsamghikas. From this time down to the Tō (or T'ang) dynasty which lasted from 618 to 907 A. D., the Chinese Buddhists unanimously followed the Vinaya of the Dharmagupta school. This may have been the result of the labours of Hō-sō.

But Dō-sen Nan-zan Dai-shi was the founder of the Vinaya sect in China. Among his works, there are the so called Three Great Books of Vinaya (Ritsu-san-dai-bu), viz., 1. Kai-sho, or Commentary on the Sila or Morality, in eight volumes; 2. Gossho,

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<sup>10</sup> No. 1117. <sup>11</sup> No 1119



or Commentary on the Karman or Action, in eight volumes; 3. Gyō-jī-shō, or Record of the Daily Practice, in twelve volumes. There is a catalogue of his works compiled by the Vinaya teacher Gwan-jō.

Dō-sen was succeeded by the second patriarch named Shū, whose successor was Dō-kō. The fifteenth patriarch was Gwan-jō, who was accorded the laudatory name of Dai-chi ('great wisdom'). He was a very learned man, and compiled a commentary on each of the Three Great Books of this sect. Thus the doctrine of Dō-sen was greatly promulgated by him, so that he may be called the re-founder of the Vinaya sect.

Buddhism was introduced into Japan in 552 A. D. But two centuries passed before the doctrine of Vinaya was fully known in this country. In the reign of Shō-mu (724-748), two Japanese priests, Ei-ei and Fu-shō, went to China, and saw the Upādhyāya (Wa-jō, or Kwa-shō, i. e. teacher) Gan-jin in the Dai-myō monastery of Gō-shū. The latter then consented to their request to promulgate the Vinaya in the East. Gan-jin together with Shō-gen and others eighty in number, promised to come to Japan. They arrived here in 753, having unsuccessfully attempted the journey five times, and having spent twelve years on the sea without approaching Japan. In the following year, the Empress Kō-ken invited him to live in the Eastern Great Monastery (Tō-dai-ji) in Nara,



the capital of Japan at that time, and intrusted him with the ordination service, teaching the *Sīla* or moral precepts, according to the *Vinaya*.

Before this, the ex-Emperor Shō-mu, while still on the throne, had by the advice of the venerable Rō-ben, caused a bronze image of Vairokana Buddha (Bi-ru-sha-na Butsu), the lord of the *Sīla-pâramitâ*, or perfection of morality, to be made, one hundred and sixty feet in height, and to be installed in the Eastern Great Monastery. After Gan-jin's arrival, both the ex-Emperor and his daughter, the reigning Empress, took the vow to practise the *Sīla* of the Bodhisattvas (Bo-satsu-zai), ascending the Kai-dan, or '*Sīla-terrace*,' built of earth before the temple of Vairokana. The Empress consort and the Prince Imperial as well as many hundreds of priests all followed their example. Afterwards, a separate building of the '*Sīla terrace*' (Kai-dan-in) was built to the west of the temple. The earth with which this high terrace was formed, was that which had been used for the terrace of the Emperor; and this earth is said to be that of the *Geta-vana-vihâra* (Gi-on-shō-ja) in India, and of Mount Shū-nan in China. The three stories of the '*Sīla terrace*' represent the Three Collective Pure *Sīlas* (San-ju-jō-zai). There is placed a tower above it, in which the images of *Sâkya-muni* and *Prabhûtaratna* (Ta-hō) are enshrined; because the excellent meaning of the one vehicle and



the deep sense of the secret Dharma-dhātu are included in this doctrine. Therefore, if one takes the vow to practise the moral precepts on this terrace, he is said to keep the *Sîla* of all the hidden and apparent doctrines.

In 759, the Empress Kō-ken ordered Gan-jin to found a monastery called Tō-shō-dai-ji. The 'Sîla terrace' was built therein, where the Empress took the vow. After this, both priests and laymen continually follow her example.

In 762, the following resolution was carried out by Imperial order:— A 'Sîla terrace' was built in two monasteries, Yaku-shi-ji in the province of Shimotsuke and Kwanon-ji in Chikuzen. The former was the place of taking the vow to practise the *Sîla* for the people of the ten eastern provinces; and the latter, for those of the nine western provinces. Both Places, being in remote regions from the capital, a chapter of five monks was held in the ceremony. The people of all the other provinces received instruction in the *Sîla*-at the 'Sîla-terrace' within the Eastern Great Monastery in Nara. A chapter of ten monks was regularly held there. There were these three Kai-dan, or 'Sîla terraces,' in Japan. This shows that how greatly the Imperial care was exercised for the sake of the people's religion.

Gan-jin was a successor of two lines of patriarchs, called the lines of Nan-zan and Sō-bu. In the form-





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## CHAPTER IV.

The Hossô shū, or Dharma-lakshana-sect, i. e. the sect or school that studies the nature of Dharmas or things (i. e. the Yoga school).

## I. A history of the sect.

The Tathâgata (Nyo-rai) Sâkyamuni preached the clear meaning of the truth of the 'middle path' of the Vidyâ mâtra (Yui-shiki) or the 'only knowledge'—the principle of the doctrine of this sect—in six Sûtras, such as the Avatamsaka-sûtra (Ke-gon-gyō),<sup>1</sup> Sandhi-nirmokana-sûtra (Ge-jin-mitsu-kyō)<sup>2</sup> and others. Nine centuries after Buddha, Maitreya (Mi-rozu or Ji-shi) came down from the Tushita heaven to the lecture hall in the kingdom of Ayodhya (A-yu-sha) in Central India, at the request of the Bodhisattva Asamga (Mu-jazu), and discoursed five Sâstras (1. Yogâkârya-bhûmi-sâstra (Yu-ga-shi-ji-ron),<sup>3</sup> 2. Vibhâga-yoga (?) -sâstra (Fun-betsu-yu-ga-ron),<sup>4</sup> 3. Mahâyânâlaṅkāra-or Sûtrâlaṅkāra-sâstra (Dai-jō-shō-gon-ron),<sup>5</sup> 4. Madhyânta-vibhâga-sâstra or -grantha (Ben-chū-ben-ron),<sup>6</sup> and 5. Vagrakkhedikâ-pragñâpâramitâ-sâstra (Kon-gō han-nya-ron).<sup>7</sup> After that, the two great Sâstra-teachers Asamga and Vasubandhu (Se-shin), who were brothers, composed

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<sup>1</sup> No. 87. <sup>2</sup> No. 247. <sup>3</sup> 1170. <sup>4</sup> This has not yet been translated into Chinese <sup>5</sup> No. 1190 ? <sup>6</sup> No. 1244, or No. 1245 ? <sup>7</sup> No. 1231 ?



many *Sâstras* (Ron) and cleared up the meaning of the Mahâyâna. Especially the *Vidyâ-mâtra-siddhi-sâstra-zâri-zâ* (Jō-yui-shiki-ron)<sup>8</sup> is the last and most careful work of Vasubandhu, as it is perfect in composition and meaning. There were ten great teachers beginning with Dharmapâla (Go-hō), each of whom compiled a commentary. But Dharmapâla's commentary is considered to contain the right meaning of the doctrine. His disciple *Sîlabhadra* (Kai-gen) lived in the Nâlanda monastery in Magadha in Central India. He was the greatest master of his day, being well versed in the secret meaning of the *Sâstras* Yoga and *Vidyâ-mâtra* (Yui-shiki), as well as in those of the *Hetu-vidyâ* (In-myō) or 'science of cause,' i. e. the Indian logic or rhetoric, and the *Sabda-vidyâ* (Shō-myō) or 'science of sound,' i. e. grammar. This is the history of the doctrine of this sect in India.

In 629 A. D., when he was in his twenty-ninth year, the famous Chinese pilgrim Gen-jō (Hiouen-thsang) went to India and studied the several *Sâstras* and Sciences above alluded to, under the instruction of *Sîlabhadra*. Having mastered all these subjects, he came back to China in 645. Five months later, he began his great work of translation under the imperial order, in the monastery of Gu-fuku-ji. He continued the work for nineteen years. Thus he

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<sup>8</sup> No. 1215.



greatly promulgated the doctrine of this sect in China. His principal disciple was Ki-ki, who was very clever and wise. He is said to be the author of a hundred commentaries on several Sûtras and Sâstras, and was called Ji-on Dai-shi, or the 'great teacher of the Ji-on monastery.' In his works, he generally gives what he had learned by oral instruction from his master Gen-jō. Therefore, most of his works are called Jukki, or 'Records of transmission.' Ki-ki had a disciple named E-shō, (Shi-jū Dai-shi), whose disciple was Chi-shū, (Bozu-yō Dai-shi). They each wrote some works and made the doctrine of this sect known in China.

There are four different dates of transmission of this doctrine into Japan, of which the following two dates are clearer and called the Northern and Southern transmission. In 653 A. D., a Japanese priest named Dō-shō of Gwan-gō-ji went to China and became a fellow-disciple of Ki-ki, receiving the instruction from Gen-jō. When he returned to Japan, he transmitted the doctrine to Gyō-gi. This is the transmission of the so-called Northern monastery, Gwan-gō-ji, being at Asuka in the province of Yamato. Afterwards, in 712 A. D., Gen-bō went to China and studied the doctrine of the Hossō sect, following Chi-shū. Having come back, Gen-bō transmitted it to Zen-ju. This is the transmission of the Northern monastery, Kō-boku-ji, in Nara on the north of Asuka. Since



that time, the doctrine has been successively handed down by various learned men.

## II. The doctrine of the sect.

### (a) The doctrinal division.

According to the *Sudhi-nirmokana-sûtra* (Ge-jin-mitsu-kyō), this sect divides the whole preachings of the Tathâgata Sâkya-muni into the three periods of 'existence' (U), 'emptiness' (Kū), and the 'middle path' (Chū-dō). All the doctrines of the Mahâyâna and Hinayâna, to the number of eighty thousand, are included in these three divisions. In the first period, ignorant people falsely believed in the existence of their own Âtman (Ga) or 'self,' and were accordingly sunk in the sea of transmigration. For such people, the first division of the doctrine of existence was taught by Buddha on purpose, to the effect that every living being was unreal, but that the Dharmas or things were existing. The doctrine preached in the four Âgamas (A-gon)<sup>9</sup> and other Sûtras of the Hinayâna

<sup>9</sup> These are, 1. Madhyamâgama (Magghima-nikâya), Chū-a-gon, collection of middle sûtras, No. 542.

2. Ekottarâgama (Aṅguttara-nikâya) Zō-ichi-a-gon, miscellaneous Sûtras in divisions the length of which increases by one, No. 543.

3. Samyuktâgama (Samyutta-nikâya), Zō-a-gon, collection of joined Sûtras, No. 544.

4. Dîrghâgama (Dîgha-nikâya), Jō-a-gon, collection of long Sûtras, No. 545.



is of this character.

In the second period, though people of small intellect could destroy the false idea of the existence of 'self,' and escape from continual re-births, following the doctrine of the first period; yet they still believed in the 'real existence of Dharmas or things.' Thus they were not able to see the truth. The second division of the doctrine of the 'emptiness of all things' was then taught by Buddha still on purpose in the *Mahâ-pragñâ-pâramitâ-sûtra* and similar works. By this doctrine, the false idea of the 'existence of things' was removed, but it caused man to believe in the 'real emptiness of all things.' Thus there were two kinds of people, one of whom believed in the 'existence or reality of things,' and the other, in the 'emptiness or unreality.'

In order to destroy their false ideas, Buddha in the third period preached the middle path, neither existence nor emptiness. The doctrine of this period shows that the *Parikalpita-lakshana* (Hen-ge-sho-shū-shō) or the 'invented nature' is unreal, but that the *Paratantra-lakshana* (E-ta-ki-shō) or the 'subservient nature,' and the *Parinishpanna-lakshana* (En-jō-jitsu-shō) or the 'completed nature,' are both real. In the *Avatamsaka-sûtra* (Ke-gon-gyō) and the *Sandhi-nirmokana-sûtra* (Ge-jin-mitsu-kyō), there are given several technical expressions, such as *San-gai-yui-shin*, or Three worlds (of *Kâma* [Yoku] or 'desire,' *Rûpa*



[Shiki] or 'form,' and Arûpa [Mu-shiki] or 'formless') are the only mind; and the eight Vigñânas (Shiki) or 'knowledges,' and the three Lakshanas (Shō) or 'natures.'

However, the doctrine is in fact of one and the same tendency, without much difference between the three periods. The human beings are of three classes, viz, those of the highest, those of middle, and those of the lowest intellect, for whom the systems of teaching are necessarily of as many kinds. Those of the highest intellect can understand the true nature of the middle path, which is neither 'existence' nor 'emptiness.' But those of the middle and lowest intellect are unable to understand it at once, only knowing the one side of 'existence' or 'emptiness.' They are called the Bodhisattvas of gradual or slow understanding. At first they know only the existence of things, then the emptiness of them, and finally enter the middle path of 'true emptiness and wonderful existence' (Shin-kū-myō-u).

The three periods are explained in the following two ways. If the three periods are spoken with regard to those of gradual understanding, they are in the order of time. The three words Sho or 'beginning,' Shaku or 'formerly,' and Kon or 'now,' are respectively used for these three periods in the Sandhi-nirmokana-sūtra. But if the division of all teachings of Buddha is made according to the meaning of 'ex-



istence, emptiness and the middle path,' then the three periods are the collections of similar meaning: thus the *Avatamsaka-sûtra* (Ke-gon-gyō) is put in the third period as it explains the middle path, though it is the first preaching of Buddha; while the *Sûtra of the Last Instruction* (Yui-kyō-gyō)<sup>10</sup> is included in the first period from its character.

(b) An outline of the doctrine.

This school explains the five ranks or groups of a hundred Dharmas, according to the middle path of the *Vidyâ-mâtra-siddhi-sâstra* (Jō-yui-shiki-ron). They are, 1. *Kitta-râgas* (Shinnō) or 'mind-rings,' 2. *Kaitta-dharmas* (Shin-jo-hō) or 'mental qualities,' 3. *Rûpa-dharmas* (Shiki-hō) or 'things having form,' 4. *Kitta-viprayukta-dharmas* (Shin-fu-sō-ō-bō) or 'things separated from the mind,' and 5. *Asamskrîta-dharmas* (Mu-i-hō) or 'immaterial things.' Though these five groups are enumerated, there is nothing but the *Kitta* (Shin) or mind only. There are eight *Kitta-râgas* or 'mind-rings,' namely, 1. *Kakshur-vigñâna* (Gen-shiki) or 'eye-knowledge,' 2. *Srotra-vigñâna* (Ni-shiki) or 'ear-knowledge,' 3. *Ghrâna-vigñâna* (Bi-shiki) or 'nose-knowledge,' 4. *Gihvâ-vigñâna* (Zetsu-shiki) or 'tongue-knowledge,' 5. *Kâya vigñâna* (Shin-shiki) or 'body-knowledge,' 6. *Mano-vigñâna* (I-shiki) or 'mind-knowledge,' 7. *Klisha-mano-vigñâna* (Zenna-i-shiki or Ma-na-shiki)

<sup>10</sup> No. 122.





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real nature, being formed temporarily upon the part of the mind, mental qualities and forms. The 'immaterial things' (Mu-i-hō) are not any thing made to appear by the mind, being the abstract reason free from birth and death. But they are not separated from the mind, being the true nature of it.

That is to say, things which suffer constant changes of birth and death, or production and destruction, appear according to causes and combination of circumstances; but the abstract reason of the true nature of things itself is permanent and not apparent only.

But, if there is no reason, no compounded things ever come to exist. In other words, if there is the reason of production and destruction, then things appear. Therefore *Asamskrīta-dharmas*, or 'immaterial things,' are those on which *Samskrīta-dharmas*, or 'compounded things' depend. Yet they are, of course, not separated from each other, so that the 'only knowledge' (Yui-shiki) includes all compounded and immaterial things.

A hundred Dharmas enumerated in the *Sâstra* of this sect are subdivisions of the five ranks as already mentioned. They are the eight *Kitta-râgas*, or 'mind-kings,' the fifty-one *Kaitta-dharmas*, or 'mental qualities,' the eleven *Rûpa-dharmas*, or 'things that have form,' the twenty-four *Kitta-viprayukta-dharmas*, or 'things separated from the mind,' and the six *Asamskrīta-dharmas*, or 'immaterial



things.' These are the hundred Dharmas of the Vidyâ-mâtra-siddhi-sâstra(Jō-yui-shiki-ron), in which they are also called the two Dharmas of 'matter or thing' (Ji) and 'reason' (Ri). Again, they are altogether inclusively called the 'only mind' (Yui-shin). In the Yōga-sâstra, there are six hundred and sixty Dharmas enumerated.

(c) The doctrine of meditation (Kwan-mon).

In explaining this doctrine, we have to investigate the nature of the object and subject of meditation. In the first place, the object of meditation includes all things compounded and immaterial, and of three different natures. There are five technical expressions on this point, viz. :

1. Ken-ko-zon-jitsu-shiki, or the 'knowledge of rejecting untruth and preserving truth,' is to reject the 'invented nature' (Hen-ge-sho-shū-shō) as emptiness, and to preserve the 'subserveint (E-ta-ki) and completed (En-jō-jitsu) natures' as existing or real.

2. Sha-ran-ru-jun-shiki, or the 'knowledge of rejecting confusedness and preserving pureness,' is to reject objects which may be confused as being both internal and external, and to preserve the mind only that is purely internal.

3. Shō-matsu-ki-hon-shiki, or the 'knowledge of putting away the end, and arriving at the beginning,' is to put away the 'divisions of forming and seeing' (Sō-bun and Ken-bun, i. e. imagination and per-



ception?) as the end, and to arrive at their beginning, the 'division of understanding' (Ji-tai-bun, or Ji-shō-bun).

4. On-retsu-ken-shō-shiki, or the 'knowledge of concealing inferiority and showing superiority,' is to conceal mental qualities (Shin-jo) as inferior to the mind-ing (Shinnō) which is superior.

5. Ken-sō-shō-shō-shiki, or the knowledge of rejecting forms and understanding the nature,' is to reject the matters or things (Ji) as forms, and to see to understand the abstract reason that is the nature.

• This nature is called the Ji-shō-shō-jō-shin, or 'Self (-existing) natural pure mind,' in the *Srîmâla-sûtra* (Shō-man-gyō). The above five terms explain the object of meditation.

Now the nature of the subject of meditation is *Pragñâ* (E) or 'wisdom,' one of the mental qualities of a group called the different states' (Betsu-kyō).

This is the wisdom which appears in the meditation.

At what time after passing stages and destroying passions, can one who practises the meditation on the 'only knowledge' (Yui-shiki-kan), attain the state of Buddha? Since first raising his thoughts towards Bodhi or 'enlightenment' deeply and firmly, according to the powers of certain causes and the advice of good friends, he has to pass three great *Asamkhyā* or 'countless' kalpas, constantly practising this meditation. Thus, passing through several



stages and destroying the two obstacles of passions and cognisable things (Klesa-âvarana and *Gñeya-âvarana*, or Bon-nō-shō and Sho-chi-shō), he obtains four kinds of wisdom, and truly attains to the perfect enlightenment (Parinirvâna). The fullest explanations of this doctrine are given in the principal *Sâstra* of this sect, the Jō-yui-shiki-ron.



## CHAPTER V.

The San-ron-shū, or Three Sâstra sect (i. e. the Madhyamika school).

## I. A history of the sect.

The principal books of this sect are three, viz., 1. the Madhyamaka-sâstra (Chū-ron) or 'Middle Book,'<sup>1</sup> 2. the Sata-sâstra (Hyau-ron) or 'Hundred Books,'<sup>2</sup> and 3. the Dvâdasa-nikaya (or-mukaha)-sâstra (Jū-ni-mon-ron) or 'Book of Twelve Gates.'<sup>3</sup> Hence the name of San-ron-shū. These Sâstras explain thoroughly the teachings of Buddha's whole life.

The sect is therefore, also called Ichi-dai-kyō-shū, or 'Sect of the Teachings of Buddha's Whole Life.'

Accordingly it differs much from all other sects which latter are founded on a certain Sûtra or other sacred books. Those who select a Sûtra are liable to become narrow in opinion, and speak about the comparative excellence of other Mahâyâna doctrines; thus the Avatamsaka-sûtra (Ke-gon-gyō)<sup>4</sup> is regarded by one sect as the principal Sûtra, looking at all the other Sûtras as its branches, while the Saddharma-pundarîka-sûtra (Ho-ke-kyō)<sup>5</sup> is revered by another sect just in the same way.

This arises from ignorance of Buddha's original thought, which was to make others understand the

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<sup>1</sup> No. 1179. <sup>2</sup> No. 1188. <sup>3</sup> No. 1186. <sup>4</sup> Nos. 87,88.

<sup>5</sup> No. 134.



truth. As the dispositions of living beings are of several kinds, the system of teaching for them is also necessarily various. All the doctrines of Mahâyâna have, however, one and the same object without any difference, that is, to cause beings to attain to the middle path. So, any Sûtra or doctrine which suits hearers may be preached to them with advantage.

A physician gives his patient a medicine, for the purpose of curing the disease. Who then disputes about the comparative excellence of drugs? The Mahâyâna doctrines are altogether Sâkya's principal teachings, which are thoroughly explained by the three Sâstras of this sect.

There are two lines of transmission of the doctrine of this sect, viz., the line of Ka-jō and of Gen-ju.

The former is as follows: The first patriarch in India was the Boddisattva Nâgârguna (Ryū-ju), the author of the Chū-ron and Jū-ni-mon-ron, two of the three Sâstras. He transmitted the doctrine to the Bodhisattva Deva (Dai-ba), the author of the Hyaku-ron. He was succeeded by Râhula (Ra-gora), whose successor was Nîlanetra (Shō-moku, lit. 'blue eye'). After this, there was a prince of the country of Kharakar (Ki-ji), Sûryasoma by name, who was well versed in the Three Sâstras and taught the doctrine to Kumâragîva (Ra-jū). In his sixty-third year, Kumâragîva arrived in China, and reached Chō-an, the capital, when he was eighty-one years



old. There he translated the Three *Sâstras* into Chinese and became the founder of this sect in China. His disciples numbered three thousand, of whom the four greatest (*Shi-tetsu*) were *Dō-shō*, *Sō-jō*, *Dō-yū* and *Sō-ei*. *Dō-shō* transmitted the doctrine to *Don-sai*, *Dō-rō*, *Sō-rō*, *Hō-rō*, and *Kichi-zō* of the monastery of *Ka-jō-ji* successively. This last named made the doctrine of this sect perfect.

His disciple *E-zwan* came from Korea to Japan in 625 A. D., and was appointed to *Gwan-gō-ji*. He once lectured on the Three *Sâstras* as prayers to procure rain with success, and was appointed *Sō-jō* or Bishop. He is considered to be the first patriarch of this sect in Japan. He transmitted the doctrine to *Fuku-ryō*, who came from *Go* in China. *Fuku-ryō* transmitted it to *Chi-zō*, who went over to China and became a disciple of *Kichi-zō*, known as *Ka-jō Dai-shi*. After that, *Dō-ji*, *Zen-gi*, *Gon-sō* and *An-chō*, etc. successively transmitted this doctrine, and made it flourish in this country.

The other line is that of *Nīlauetra* (*Shō-moku*) *Bhavaviveka* (*Shō-ben*), *Gñānaprabha* (*Chi-zō*) and *Divākara* (*Nichi-shō*), who were all Indians. *Divākara* transmitted the doctrine to *Hō-zō*, better known by his posthumous title of *Gen-ju Dai-shi*, who died in 712 A. D. After *Hō-zō*, there was no successor in China.

Of the above two lines of transmission, the *Ka-jō*





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the words which come out from this right meditation. The words themselves are the two kinds of truth. Truth by general consent (Zoku-tai) is explained for the Nâstikas, who believe that there is nothing. The true truth (Shin-dai) is expounded for the Astikas who believe that there is something. Thus they are equally made to understand the middle path. There are twenty-seven chapters in the Madhyamaka-sâstra. The first twenty-five chapters refute the confused ideas of the learners of the Mahâyâna doctrine; and the last two, those of the Hînayâna.

The Dvâdasa-nikâya-sâstra (Jū-ni-mon-ron) is divided into twelve parts and refutes the confusion of the men of the Mahâyâna. Generally speaking, this Sâstra also consists of the words of the two kinds of truth, by which the later confusion is refuted.

The two Sâstras, Madhyamaka and Dvâdasa-nikâya, are the works of Nâgârjuna. Did Indians ever believe his works? They did indeed. The people of the sixteen great provinces into which India was formerly divided, unanimously called Nâgârjuna 'Buddha without his characteristic marks' (Mu-sō-gō-butsum), and respected his works as if they had been the Sûtras of Buddha's own words. This respect of the people perhaps originated in the prophecy spoken by Buddha in the Laṅkāvatâra-sûtra (Ryō-ga-kyō),<sup>6</sup> which is as follows:

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<sup>6</sup> Nos. 175, 176, 177.



‘After the Nirvâna of the Tathâgata,  
 There will be a man in the future,  
 Listen to me carefully, O Mahâmati (Dai-e),  
 A man who will hold my Law.  
 In the great country of South,  
 There will be a venerable Bhikshu,  
 The Bodhisattva Nâgârguna by name,  
 Who will destroy the views of Astikas and  
     Nâstikas,  
 Who will preach unto men my Yâna (‘vehicle’),  
 The highest Law of the Mahâyâna,  
 And will attain to the Pramuditâ-bhûmi (‘stage  
     of joy’),

And go to be born in the country of Sukhâyatî.’

Now there may be a man who asserts the following  
 opinion. The Lañkâvatâra is one of the Mahâyâna-  
 sûtras, and these Sûtras are not Buddha’s words, but  
 come from the hands of men of later periods.  
 Buddha entered Nirvâna on the fifteenth day of the  
 second month, and two months after, on the fifteenth  
 day of the fourth month, Mahâkâsyapa collected the  
 Tripitaka at the Sapta-parva (‘seven leaves’) cave.  
 Besides this collection, there are not any other  
 Sûtras containing Buddha’s words. None of the  
 Mahâyâna-sûtras are genuine, so that they are said  
 to have been discovered either in the dragon palace  
 beneath the sea, or in the iron tower in India, etc.  
 Thus they are not worth while to be believed in.



We shall now answer him, so as to make him understand clearly, just as the obstinate clouds are blown away by the strong wind. The Indians who doubted about the genuineness of the Mahâyâna doctrine were of two kinds. Some entertained the doubt, not being free from vulgar and rude customs. The others know the invincibleness of the Mahâyâna doctrine, yet obstinately uttered these disrespectful words against it.

In ancient times, there were four divisions of people in India (i. e. the four castes). They were 1. Kshatriyas (Setsu-tei-ri), or the royal race, 2. Brâhmanas (Ba-ra-mon), or the military class, 3. Vaisya (Bi-sha), or the merchants, and 4. Sûdras (Shu-da), or the husbandmen.<sup>7</sup> Besides them, there was a mixed tribe called *Kandâlas*. The men of a higher class looked upon those of a lower, as on the lower animals. For the purpose of destroying this rude custom, Buddha showed them the great path or doctrine, by which they could freely attain to Buddhahood, because they were equally possessed of the nature of enlightenment. But, after Buddha entered Nirvâna, he people still did not quite forget their old rude

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<sup>7</sup> According to the Manu, the four castes are Brâhmanas, or the priestly class; Kshatriyas, or the military class; Vaisya, or men whose business was agriculture and trade; and Sûdras, or the servile tribe.



customs, and believed only that they might attain to the state of *Srâvakas* or *Pratyekabuddhas*, but not to Buddhahood, which latter would be reached only by a person like *Sâkyamuni* in this universe. So that they doubted about the *Mahâyâna* doctrine, which taught that all beings would become Buddhas. It is just as a *Preta* (*Ga-ki*), or departed spirit, cannot see the water but only sees the fire while looking at the real water.

There were three different collections of the *Tripitaka* made after Buddha's entry into *Nirvâna*. The first was the collection made within the cave of seven leaves near *Râgagriha*, the capital of *Magadha*. This is called the *Tripitaka* of the *Sthavira* school (*Jō-za-bu*). The second was that made without the cave. This is the *Tripitaka* of the *Mahâsamghika* school (*Dai-shu-bu*). The third was the collection made by *Mañgusrî* and *Maitreya*. This is the collection of the *Mahâyâna* books. Though it is as clear or bright as the sun at midday, yet the men of the *Hinayâna* are not ashamed at their inability to know them, and speak evil of them instead, just as the *Confucianists* call Buddhism a law of barbarians, without reading the Buddhist books at all.

There was an event to add some *Mahâyâna-sûtras* to the *Tripitaka* of the *Hinayâna* one hundred and sixteen years after Buddha's *Nirvâna*. If there were no *Mahâyâna-sûtras*, whence were they brought then?



Moreover, two centuries after Buddha, the following Sûtras were also added to the Tripitaka, namely the Avatamsaka (Ke-gon),<sup>8</sup> Nirvâna (Ne-han),<sup>9</sup> Srîmâlâ-devi-simhanâda (Shō-man),<sup>10</sup> Vimalakîtti-nirdeśa (Yui-ma),<sup>11</sup> Suvarṇa-prabhâsa (Kon-kō-myō),<sup>12</sup> Pragñâ-pâramitâ (Han-nya),<sup>13</sup> and others. At that time, neither Asvaghosha (Me-myō) nor Nâgârjuna (Ryū-ju) was yet born in India. Who can then still say that the Avatamsaka-sûtra (Ke-gon-gyō) is a work of Nâgârjuna?

At that period, the Ekavyahârîka school (Ichisetsu-bu) of the Hinayâna believed in the Mahâyâna doctrine, but the Lokottaravâda school (Shus-se-bu) did not. In the former school, there were perhaps very old men who had heard Buddha's preaching, so that their school was faithful to the Mahâyâna. Two centuries after Buddha's Nirvâna, Shi-he-e (?) came down from the Himâlaya mountains, and Mahâkâtyâyana (Dai-ka-sennen) from the Anavatapta lake (Anu-tat-chi). They both were old Sramanas (Sha-mon), being Buddha's immediate disciples, and somewhat united the Mahâyâna with the Hinayâna. Their schools were called Bahusrutika (Ta-mon) and Bahusrutika-vibhagya (Ta-mon-fun-betsu). It will be seen that some men of the Hinayâna did not abuse the Mahâyâna.

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<sup>8</sup> Nos. 87, 88. <sup>9</sup> Nos. 113, 114. <sup>10</sup> No. 59. <sup>11</sup> Nos. 146, 147, 149. <sup>12</sup> Nos. 126, 127, 130. <sup>13</sup> Nos. 1-15 or 22.



We shall now give a clear proof in order to show the genuineness of the Mahâyâna doctrine from the Mâyâ-sûtra, one of the Hinayâna-sûtras, which are not doubted by the men of the latter school. It reads as follows: —

‘The correct Law of the Tathâgata will last for five centuries. In the first century, Upagupta will preach the Law and teach the people. In the second century, the Bhikshu Sîlananda will do the same. In the third century, the Bhikshu Nîlapadmanetra (Shō-ren-ge-gen, lit. ‘blue-lotus-flower-eye’) will do so. In the fourth century, the Bhikshu Gomukha (Go-ku, lit. ‘cow-mouth’) will preach the doctrine. In the fifth century, the Bhikshu Ratnadeva (Hō-ten, lit. ‘gem-god’) will preach the Law and convert the people to Buddhism. Then the correct Law will come to an end. In the sixth century, heretical views, as many as ninety-six different kinds, will arise and endeavour to destroy the Law of Buddha. But the Bhikshu Asvaghosha (Me-myō) will smash these heretics to atoms. In the seventh century, there will be a Bhikshu named Nâgârguna (Ryū-jū), who will preach the Law with good means, light the torch of the correct Law, and destroy the banner of the unjust views.’

Thus in the Hinayâna-sûtra, Buddha clearly foretold the actions of Nâgârguna seven centuries after him. Who can doubt it? Even an ordinary



person is ashamed of making a counterfeit thing. How much less would a great man like Nâgârguna do such a thing? Moreover there is no reason to prophesy a man of such a low character in the sūtras of the both Yânas. After all some Indians perhaps produced a false report, which was then exaggerated by jealous and abusive men. But the true Buddhists do not believe in such a thing.

We shall now examine the origin of the Sata-sâstra (Hyaku-ron). At the time of the Bodhisattva Deva, a king of South India, who governed many countries, believed in a heretical doctrine and not in Buddhism. Deva said: 'If the root of the tree is not cut off, its branches will not be bent; so, if a king is not converted, the doctrine will not be heard everywhere.' Thus saying, he became a guard of the palace. Holding a spear he commanded the soldiers, regulated the ranks of the army, and made the words of command clear and short. So all the soldiers gladly obeyed him, and the king was very pleased and asked him what to wish to do. Deva said: 'I am a man of all knowing, who want to debate with several scholars of all directions in the presence of Your Majesty.' The king granted his petition. Thereupon Deva caused a high seat to be spread at a cross-road and proposed his theme with the following words:—

‘Among all the holy men,





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truth is nothing but the state where thoughts come to an end. The right meditation is to perceive this truth. He who has obtained this meditation is called Buddha. This is the doctrine of the San-ron sect.



## CHAPTER VI.

The Ke-gon-shū, or Avatamsaka-sūtra sect.

I. A history of the sect.

(a) The translation of the principal Sūtra.

This sect depends on the Ke-gon-gyō, or Avatamsaka-sūtra,<sup>1</sup> so that it is called the Ke-gon-shū. There are said to be six different texts of the Sūtra. The first is called the Gō-hon, or 'Constant text,' and the second, the Dai-hon, or 'Great text.' These two texts have been kept by the power of the Dharani or 'holding' of the great Bodhisattvas, and not written down upon palm-leaves. The third is the Jō-hon, or 'Highest or longest text, and the fourth, the Chū-hon, or 'Middle text.' These two are secretly preserved in the 'dragon palace' (Ryū-gu) under the sea, and not kept by the men of Gambudvîpa (En-bu-dai), this world. The fifth is the Ge-hon, or 'Lowest or shortest text,' which is said to contain a hundred thousand verses or as many words in thirty-eight chapters. The Bodhisattva Nâgârguna (Ryū-ju) obtained it from the dragon palace and transmitted it in India.

The sixth is the Ryaku-hon, or the 'Abridged text,' which has been translated into Chinese. Under the Eastern Shin dynasty, 317-420 A. D., Buddhabhadra translated thirty-six thousand verses of the former

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<sup>1</sup> Nos. 87,88,89.



part of the fifth text in sixty volumes.<sup>2</sup> Afterwards, in the period (695–699) of the Tō (T'ang) dynasty (618–907), Sikshānanda translated forty-five thousand verses of the former part of the same text as before in eighty volumes.<sup>3</sup> At the same time, Pragñā made a separate translation of one chapter entitled Dharma-dhâtvavatâra (Nyū-hō-zai). It consists of forty volumes.<sup>4</sup>

What is the 'Constant text,' that is not to be written down? Even at the point of one grain of dust of immeasurable and unlimited worlds, there are innumerable Buddhas, who are constantly preaching the Ke-gou-gyō, throughout the three states of existence, past, present and future; so that the preaching is not at all to be collected. The one thought of Sâkyamuni is nothing but the truth (Shin-nyo). This truth fills up all the ten directions throughout the three states of existence. The one thought that is not separated from the truth also fills up the same sphere. While remaining in this one thought, Sâkyamuni preaches his doctrine, so much so that all things in the ten directions throughout the three states of existence do preach at the same time. Even one Buddha does so. How much more all Buddhas constantly do the same. So, there is no means to collect their preachings completely.

(b) The transmission of the doctrine.

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<sup>2</sup> No. 87. <sup>3</sup> No. 88. <sup>4</sup> No. 89.



The first patriarch Asvaghosha (Me-myō) composed the Mahâyâna sraddhotpâda-sâstra (Dai-jō-ki-shin-ron),<sup>5</sup> or 'book on raising faith in the Mahâyâna.'

The second patriarch Nâgârguna (Ryū-ju) composed the Mahâkintya-sâstra (Dai-fu-shi-gi-ron), or 'book on the great inconceivableness.' There is now a translation of one part of this book, with the title of Dasabhlâmi-vibhâshâ-sâstra (Jū-jū-bi-ba-sha-ron),<sup>6</sup> or 'book on the ten stages fully explained.'

The above two patriarchs were the Indian Bodhisattvas, and the following five were the great Chinese teachers.

The third, To-jun Dai-shi; whose family name was To and his personal name Hō-jun, first established the terms of the 'five doctrines' (Go-kyō), and wrote two works, the Go-kyō-shi-zwan and the Hō-kai-kwan-mon.<sup>7</sup>

The fourth, Shi-sō Dai-shi, whose family name was Chō and his personal name Chi-gon, produced the Sō-gen-ki and the Ku-moku-shō.

The fifth, Gen-ju Dai-shi, whose family name was Kō and his personal name Hōzō, wrote the Go-kyō-sho, Tan-gen-ki, and some other works, and perfected the doctrine of this sect. When he lectured on the sūtra, there rained some wonderful heavenly flowers; and rays of white light came

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<sup>5</sup> Nos. 1249, 1250. <sup>6</sup> No. 1180. <sup>7</sup> No. 1596.



out from his month. The Empress Sozu-ten of the Tō dynasty (reigned 684-705 A. D.) gave him the posthumous title of Gen-ju Bosatsu.

The sixth, Shō-ryō Dai-shi, whose family name was Ka-kō and his personal name Chō-zwan, lived on Mount Go-dai and compiled the Dai-sho-shō,<sup>8</sup> a great commentary on the Ke-gon-gyō in eighty volumes.

The seventh, Kei-hō Zen-ji, whose family name was Ka and his personal name Shu-mitsu, lived in the Sō-dō monastery on Mount Shū-nan and promulgated the doctrine.

In 136 A. D., a Chinese Vinaya teacher, Dō sen, came to Japan, and first brought the works of this sect. Four years later, Ryō-ben reported to the Emperor Shō-mu, and caused a Korean priest Shin-shō to lecture on the Ke-gon-gyō of sixty volumes, in the Kon-shō ('golden bell') hall of the Tō-dai-ji, or the 'Eastern great monastery.' On the opening day, there was seen a cloud of purple colour, which the Emperor admired very much. The lecturer went through twenty volumes a year, and thus completed his task at the end of three years. After that, lecturing on the Sūtra has become one of the yearly services of the Tō-dai-ji.

## II. The doctrine of the Sect.

### ( a ) The time of Buddha's preaching the

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<sup>8</sup> Nos. 1589, 1890.



## Ke-gon-gyō and its title.

After Sâkyamani attained to Buddhahood, he was silent for seven days. During that period, he meditated on the doctrine which he understood, and also contemplated upon the dispositions of beings, and upon the law to be preached to them. This is called the Sâgara-mudrâ-samâdhi (Kai-in-san-mai), or 'sea-seal-meditation.' As the four troops of the Asuras ('evil spirits') appear upon the great sea, as if it were sealed, so all things including the doctrines and beings appeared upon the wisdom of Buddha, the perfectly enlightened one. He preached his doctrine just as it had appeared in the first meditation, but in accordance with the dispositions of hearers. These preachings numbered more than three hundred 'assemblies' or times, which are characterized as the five doctrines of 'smallness (Shō), beginning (Shi), end (Jū), Suddenness (Ton), and completion' (En).

In the second week after his enlightenment, Buddha preached the Ke-gon-gyō, which was therefore the beginning of the preachings of his whole life. This preaching took place at seven different places, where eight assemblies were held, two of which were in the same room. Three of the seven places were in the human world, but the rest in the heavens. It is, however, not to be thought of, that he actually went to so many different places and meetings to discourse. He did not rise from the Jaku-metsu-dō-jō (the place



where he became Buddha), yet he preached in those seven places ; because he spoke the doctrine of non-impediment of every thing and endlessness of degrees. Again some might doubt that this Sûtra would not have been preached by Buddha as early as the second week after his attainment ; because in the eighth assembly, the *Srâvakas* such as *Sâriputra* (Sha-ri-hotsu) and *Mahâmaudgalyâyana* (Dai-mo-ku-ken-ren) who became Buddha's disciples sometime later, were present. But this was done so by the power of the *Dhâranî* or holding of Buddha. It is said in the Sûtra, that 'all Kalpas of the past are placed in the future, and those of the future are turned to the past.' Therefore it was the power of Buddha's *Dhâranî*, which caused *Sâriputra* and *Maudgalyâyana*, the later converts, to appear in the assembly of the second week.

The *Ke-gon-gyō* is the original sūtra of Buddha's teachings of his whole life. All his teachings, therefore, sprang from this sūtra. If we attribute, all the branches to the origin, we may say that there is no teaching of Buddha for his whole life, except this sūtra. Now, we shall explain the title of the sūtra in the easiest way, in order to show the outline of the whole work, as the title is said to be a sign of the book. The title of the sūtra in question consists of the seven characters, *Dai-hō-kō-butsu-ke-gon-gyō*, i. e. *Buddhāvataṃsaka* (*Butsu-ke-gon*)-*mahā* (*Dai*)-*vaiplyā* (*hō-kō*)-sūtra (*kyō*). The first





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chapters' preached in the seven places and eight assemblies contain nothing but those in which Buddha became enlightened, just as a garland is made up beautiful by collecting immeasurably excellent flowers. Therefore the Sûtra is called the Dai-hō-kō-but-su-ke-gon-gyō, i. e. the 'Sûtra of Buddha's garland of great largeness.'

(b) The division of the Five Doctrines (Go-kyō).

As we have seen already, Buddha preached the perfect Sûtra in the second week after his enlightenment. But those of weak intellect, such as Sâriputra and Maudgalyâyana, were like deaf and dumb people, and unable to understand even a word. Accordingly Buddha preached the doctrine of Hînayâna ('small vehicle') with good means. He explained the four truths (Shi-tai) to the Srâvakas (Shōmon), and the twelve chains of causation (Jū-ni-innen) to the Pratyekabuddhas (En-gaku). He also spoke of a long practice for three Asamkhyā or 'countless' kalpas to the Bodhisattvas (Bo-satsu) of small intellect. This is only the means of calling in those of weak understanding, just as if it were to make a mirage appear in the space of three hundred Yoganās in order to attract the people to one's own purpose. This is the first of the five doctrines, characterised as 'smallness.'

The second doctrine is described as 'the beginning' (Shi). This is the doctrine which Buddha taught



to those who had just entered the Mahâyâna, coming out from the Hinayâna. There are two kinds of this doctrine, namely, that of 'emptiness' (Kū) and of 'form' (Sō). The former (Kū-shi-kyō) is the teaching in which all things are said to be empty or unreal, in order to destroy the false idea of the existence of things (Hō or Dharma) of the Hīnayâna. This is the doctrine related in the *Pragñâ-sūtra* (Han-nya-kyō), the three *Sâstras* (San-ron), and similar works. The other (Sō-shi-kyō) is the doctrine which teaches to practise disciplines profitable both for oneself and others, for attaining to Buddhahood. It increases the six kinds of *Vigñâna* or knowledge of the Hinayâna into eight, and also the seventy-five Dharmas into a hundred. (For these, see Chapters 1 and 4, i. e. the *Ku-sha-shū* and *Hossō-shū*.) This is the doctrine of the *Sandhi-nirmokana-sūtra* (Ge-jin-mitsu-kyō), the *Yogākârya-bhūmi-sâstra* (Yu-ga-ron), and the like.

The third doctrine is called 'the end' (Jū), that is to say, the extremity of the Mahâyâna. This doctrine speaks of the causation from the Tathâgata-garbha (Nyo-rai-zō) or the 'Tathâgata's womb;' but not of the Bhûta-tathatâ (Shin-nyo) or the 'true suchness' or truth. It also asserts that all can become Buddhas but not that men are of five different kinds in their nature (the latter views being those of the Hossō sect). It is the doctrine that is expounded



in the Laṅkāvatāra-sūtra (Ryō-ga-kyō),<sup>9</sup> the Mahāyāna-sraddhotpāda-sāstra (Ki-shin-ron), and other works.

The fourth doctrine is characterised as 'Suddenness.' It teaches that when a thought does not rise, it is called Buddha. The nature or truth is not to be explained in words. If a false thought be cut off, then the true nature appears, the state of which is called Buddha. Therefore in this doctrine, there is neither division nor rank. At the one thought of his great understanding, one becomes Buddha in the present body as quickly as an image appears in a mirror. From the older times, this doctrine is compared to the Contemplative sect (Zen-shū) founded by Bodhidharma.

The fifth and last doctrine is described as 'completion.' It is called so, because 'one and many are mutually joined; free and without any obstacles.' The fourth doctrine of 'Suddenness' speaks of becoming Buddha at one thought, but it does not yet know the meaning of the non-impediment of every thing of the state of Buddha. In the whole preachings of Buddha, the Ke-gon Sūtra only expounds the doctrine of 'completion.'

There are two kinds in the Ekayāna (Ichi-jō) or the 'one vehicle.' The one is the 'one vehicle of a special doctrine (Betsu-kyō-ichi-jō), that is the Ke-gon Sūtra.

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<sup>9</sup> Nos. 175, 176, 177.





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## CHAPTER VII.

The Ten-dai-shū, or the sect founded on Mount Tendai in China.

## I. The doctrine of the sect.

The doctrine of this sect is to encourage all men, whether quick or slow in understanding, to exercise the principle of 'Completion and Suddenness' (En-don), with four doctrinal divisions; one or all of which are taught to men, according to their ability. The object of the doctrine is to make men get an excellent understanding, practise the good discipline, and attain to the great fruit of enlightenment. Thus they can become a benefit to their country.

The principle of Completion and Suddenness is the meditation on the middle path. This path is called the inconceivable state. If one understands this principle, all things are in completion. Though beings were originally in the state of completion, they once sank into confusion and began to suffer misery of existence, without knowing truth. Out of compassion, therefore, Buddha appeared in the world, and preached the truth in several doctrines according to the circumstances of time and place. There are the four doctrinal divisions of 'Completion (En), Secrecy (Mitsu), Meditation (Zen), and Moral Precept (Kai);' which are the means of knowing the principle of Completion.



The following is the regular order of the four doctrinal divisions: 1. The Moral Precept of Completion and Suddenness (En-don- $\epsilon$ ai), 2. the Action of Meditation (Shi- $\epsilon$ wan-gō), 3. the Action of Vairokana (Sha-na-gō), and 4. the Transmission of the Law of Bodhidharma (Daru-ma-fu-hō).

First, the Moral Precept of Completion and Suddenness is the general character of this sect. So instruction is given on this point as soon as a person enters the sect. Then there is no fixed order as to which of the two Actions should be first undertaken. The Law transmitted from Bodhidharma is again quite a different transmission. It is independent of the order of time, as it is taught to a competent man with a special ceremony.

. The Moral Precept of Completion and Suddenness is to receive the perfect and good qualities of Buddha. This is called Ju- $\epsilon$ ai, or 'receiving the moral precepts,' which are  $\epsilon$ nown as the Trividha-sila (San-ju-jō-kai), or 'threefold pure precepts.'

. The first is the Sambhâra-sila (Shō-ritsu-gi- $\epsilon$ ai), or 'Precept of good behaviour,' which prohibits evil. There is no evil that is not destroyed by this precept. When ignorance and passion come to an end by  $\epsilon$ eeping this precept, the state of the Dharma- $\epsilon$ âya (Hosshin) or 'spiritual body' of Buddha is attained to. This is called the virtue of destruction (Dan-to $\epsilon$ u).



The second is the Kusala-saṃgrāha-sīla (Shō-zen-bō-zai), or 'precept of collecting or holding good deeds,' which causes men to practise good works. There is no good that is not collected in it. This is explained as signifying to raise wisdom, to practise all good works both worldly and religious, neither to take nor to abandon several practices such as the six Pāramitās or 'perfections,' and to practise good devices (Hō-ben). Then the Saṃbhoga-rāya (Hō-shin) or 'compensation-body' of Buddha is attained to. This is called the virtue of wisdom (Chi-tozu).

The third is the Sattvārtha-kriyā-sīla (Shō-shujō-kai), or 'precept by benevolence towards beings,' which profits beings. There is no being that is not saved by this precept. When all living beings were led to the path of Buddha (or made to follow the doctrine of Buddha), the Nirmāṇa-rāya (Ō-jin, or Ke-shin) or 'transformed body' is attained to. This is called the virtue of benevolence (On-dozu).

These three precepts are the three kinds of the seeds or causes of Buddha. All the Dharmas or 'things' are comprehended in these. Buddha has accomplished all the three, so that he is possessed of perfectly good qualities. These qualities were collected by him for the purpose of giving them to beings.

Therefore it is said in a Sūtra that if beings receive the precepts of Buddha, they at the same time





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The gradual (Zen), (3) The secret (Hi-mitsu), (4) The indeterminate (Fu-jō), (5) Collection (Zō), (6) Progress (Tsū), (7) Distinction (Betsu), and (8) Completion (En).

Thirdly, the Action of Vairokana is the doctrine of the highest Yâna or vehicle of the Yoga or union. Those who practise the great doctrine of secrecy of the form and reason, perfect the Sidlhi (Shitsu-ji) or 'success,' and benefit the country, are accomplisners of this Law.

This action is the secret performance practised in accordance with the ability of votaries, who wish to understand the perfect way quickly. Therefore it is called the Ji-mitsu or 'secret of matters or forms.' If they understand the meaning of the secrecy of both the form and reason, and reach the state of enlightenment, at the stage of agreement of reason and wisdom, they are quite certain to attain to Buddhahood in the present life.

Fourthly, the Transmission of the Law of Bodhidharma requires only one thought and three rules. Those who begin this practice have to enter at once the spiritual world, and cultivate their mind, wishing to obtain the highest active power of wisdom. Finally, if they were considered to be competent men for the transmission, they are given a sealed diploma in the special ceremony.

## II. A history of the sect.



First, the transmission of the Moral Precept of Completion and Suddenness was first received by *Sâkṣyamuni* from *Vairokṇa* (Dai-nichi) Buddha, by whom in turn it was given to the Bodhisattva *Agita* (A-it-ta, i. e. Maitreya or Mi-roku). Thus it passed through more than twenty Bodhisattvas. *Kumârâgîva* arrived in China on the twentieth day of the twelfth month of the year corresponding to 401 A. D., and transmitted this doctrine to his Chinese disciples. Afterwards *E-shi* of Nan-gaku and *Chi-ki* of Ten-dai, whose posthumous title is *Chi-sha Dai-shi*, greatly revered it, both receiving the secret transmission, called the *Tō-chū-sō-jō*, or 'transmission within the tower.' The successor of *Chi-sha* was *Kwan-jō* of *Shō-an*. Some generations after, there was the *Upādhyāya* (*Wa-jō*) or 'teacher' *Dō-sui* of *Rō-ya*. At his time, *Sai-chō* (*Den-gyō Dai-shi*) and *Gi-shin* (*Shu-zen Dai-shi*) went to China from Japan. In 805 A. D., they together with twenty others received the transmission of this doctrine from *Dō-sui*, and returned to Japan. *Sai-chō* transmitted it to *En-nin* (*Ji-kaku Dai-shi*). This is the origin of the transmission of the *Sam-mon* or *En-ryaku-ji* (*Hi-ei-zan*). *Gi-shin* transmitted it to *En-chin* (*Chi-shō Dai-shi*). This is the origin of the transmission of the *Ji-mon* or *On-jō-ji* (*Mi-i-dera*). After these, it was widely spread over the whole country, and divided into many different schools.

Secondly, the transmission of the Action of Medi-



tation passed through twenty-three patriarchs in India after *Sâkṣyamuni*. In China, E-mon (550 A. D.) followed the views of the Bodhisattva *Nâgârguna* (Ryū-ju), the thirteenth Indian patriarch, and understood the doctrine of the 'One thought and Three kinds of meditation' (Isshin-San-gwan). He was succeeded by E-shi (Nan-gaku Dai-shi, who died 577 A. D.) and Chi-ki (Ten-dai or Chi-sha Dai-shi, who died 597 A. D.). The latter greatly expounded the doctrine, and it is called the transmission of the Spiritual mountain (Ryō-zen, i. e. the *Grīdhra-rūta* (Gi-sha-rutsu) in India, where *Sâkṣyamuni* preached the *Saddharma-puṇḍarīka*, the principal Sūtra of this sect). Then it passed through five teachers, from Shō-an Dai-shi to Kei-zei Dai-shi.

In 804 A. D., Den-gyō Dai-shi went to China by Imperial order, and received the transmission of this doctrine from Dō-sui, who was the principal disciple of Kei-kei. After his return to this country, Den-gyō Dai-shi taught it specially to En-chō (Jak-kō Dai-shi) and En-nin (Ji-saku Dai shi). This is the transmission of the Sam-mon. In 851 A. D., Chi-shō Dai-shi went to China by Imperial order, and learned the hidden meaning of the doctrine of this sect, under the instruction of Ryō-sho, a successor of Ten-dai Dai-shi in the ninth generation. When he came back to Japan, Chi-shō Dai-shi taught it to Ryō-yū, and completed the system of the doctrine. Since that





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Siddha (Shit-tan) or Sanskrit alphabet, and made clear what had not been known clearly. More especially was he initiated into the secret rites of the great doctrine of Yoga or union. He followed Hō-zen, Gwan-jō and Gi-shin, who were the disciples of the Indian teacher Zen-mu-i's pupil, and received the doctrinal rank of Dai-kyō-ō, or 'great doctrinal king.' In 847, A. D. he came back to this country and became the founder of the Tai-mitsu, i. e. 'secret (Mitsu) doctrine transmitted by the Ten-dai sect.' In some respects, it is far superior to the similar doctrine handed down by the two great teachers (Dai-shi) Den-gyō and Kō-bō. In 854, A. D. it was transmitted to Anne and others. It has since diverged into several schools. This is the transmission of the Sam-mon,

In 853, A. D. Chi-shō Dai-shi went to China, and became the disciple of Hō-zen, and was given two things, viz., a pestle, or a kind of brass mace (Sho or Kine), and a bell (Rei or Suzu), in token of his complete acquirement of the teachings of all the Buddhas. He brought back with him several books and other things. Especially was he granted permission by the Emperor to promulgate the 'meditation according to true words' (Shin-gon-shi-kan). Thus he perfected the meaning of complete secrecy (En-mitsu). Though their genealogical line so far as the Indian and Chinese patriarchs are concerned is the



same, Chi-shō Dai-shi was the disciple, in all the three great Laws, of the Âkârya Hō-zen, who praised him greatly and taught him all that was most important. After he came back to Japan, he handed the Laws down to Shū-ei, Kō-sai and others. There is also a school of the transmission of the Siddhi or Sanskrit letters, and some others which belong to the doctrine of Yoga.

Fourthly, the line of the Transmission of the Law of Bodhidharma passed through twenty-eight Indian and seven Chinese patriarchs. In 736, A. D., Dō-sen came to Japan from China and transmitted this Law to Gyō-hyō, who in turn handed it down to Dengyō. In 804, Den-gyō again received instruction in this Law from Shō-nen in China, and taught it to Ji-xa-u, who transmitted it to Chō-i, and so on. There are not any different lines in the transmission of this Law among the San-mon and Ji-mon.



## CHAPTER VIII.

The Shin-gon-shū, or True Word (Mantra) sect.

1. A history of the sect.

The doctrine of this sect is a great secret law. It teaches us that we can attain to the state of the 'Great Enlightened,' that is the state of 'Buddha,' while in the present physical body which was born of our parents (and which consists of six elements, Earth, Water, Fire, Wind, Ether and Knowledge), if we follow the three great secret laws regarding Body, Speech and Thought.

The Tathâgata Mahâvairokâna (Dai-nichi Nyorai) in the state of his Dharma-râya or 'spiritual body,' preached the doctrine of the secret Mantras or true words (Shin-gon) to his own subjects, in order to show the truth understood by him. This doctrine is recorded in the sūtras such as the Mahâva'rokanâbhisambodhi-sūtra (Dai-nichi-kyō,)<sup>1</sup> and the Vagrasekhara-sūtra (Kon-gō-chō-kyō),<sup>2</sup> etc. Although there are numerous words in these sūtras, yet the essential point is nothing but the Mandala or the 'circle' of the Two Parts (Ryō-bu) of Vagra-dhātu (Kon-gō-kai) and Garbha-dhātu (Tai-zō-zai). The Mandala is, therefore, the body or substance of the doctrine of this sect. In the assembly called Ji-shō-e ('self-nature-assembly') in which Ruddha preached the law, Vagrasattva (Kon-

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<sup>1</sup> No. 530. <sup>2</sup> No. 534.





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the Sei-ryū-ji was his disciple, who like his master was a very learned man, well versed in the Tripitaka and the Two Parts. Thus he propagated this doctrine throughout the Chinese empire.

In 804 A. D., Kū-kai, better known by his posthumous title Kō-bō Dai-shi, went to China from Japan, and became the disciple of Kei-kwa. The latter was very pleased to see him, and said: 'I have waited for you coming here a long time.' During two months after his arrival there, Kū-kai received secret instruction concerning the Two Parts. In the fourth month, Kei-kwa gave him the Abhisheka, or 'sprinkling water on the head' (Kwan-jō), as the sign of successorship, and said: 'The Bhagavat, or the Blessed one, gave the secret key to the truth to Vajrasattva, who transmitted it to Nāgārjuna, and so on till myself. Now, because I see you are indeed a man well qualified for this learning, I give you the key to the secret great doctrine of the Two Parts. You should propagate it in your native country.' In 806 A. D., he came back to Japan. The Emperor Hei-zei received him cordially, and ordered him to teach it to the people at large.

Thus, from the Tathâgata Mahāvairocana to Ku-kai, there were eight patriarchs who were the successors in the Law. Besides them there is another series of so-called eight patriarchs who transmitted



the Law. Their names are Nâgârguna (Ryū-myō), Nâgabodhi (Ryū-chi), Vagrabodhi (Kon-gō chi), Subhakarasiṃha (Zen-mu-i), Amoghavagra (Fu-kū-kon-gō), Kei-kwa, Ichi-gyō and Kū-zai.

Kū-zai had ten great disciples, but two of them were the true successors, namely, Jichi-e and Shin-ga. Gen-nin succeeded them and transmitted the Law to Yaku-shin and Shō-bō. Shō-bō was the founder of the O-no school; and Yaku-shin, of the Hiro-sawa school.

A genealogical table of the succeeding Patriarchs.  
India.

1. Mahāvairokṇa (Dai-nichi), ‘Sâzyamuni’s self and inner enlightened body’ (Sha-ka-ji-nai-shō-shin).

2. Vagrasattva (Kon-gō-satta).

3. Nâgârguna,

4. Nâgabodhi.

China.

5. Vagrabodhi.

6. Amoghavagra.

7. Kei-kwa.

Japan.

8. Ku-zai, Kō-bō Dai-shi.

Jichi-e and Shin-ga.

Yaku-shin, of the Hiro-sawa school.

Shō-bō, of the O-no school.



## II. The doctrine of the sect.

(a) The doctrinal divisions.

According to this sect, there are two ways of classifying all the doctrines of Buddha. First, as the 'Ten Stages of Thoughts' (Jū-jū-shin), when the doctrines are tabulated and considered consecutively, or lengthwise, of the table. Secondly, as two doctrines, hidden and apparent (Ken-mitsu Ni-kyō), a division which cuts the table across the middle. In the latter division, all the Laws preached by Sâkyamun are called apparent doctrine (Ken-gyō); and those delivered by the Dharma-râya (Hosshin), or the spiritual body, hidden or secret doctrine (Mitsu-kyō). The Dharma-râya is the inner enlightened body of Buddha. It is considered by the adherents of the apparent doctrine formless and speechless; but in the hidden doctrine, the Dharma-râya is said to have a form and to preach the Law. The apparent doctrine is that which is adapted to the hearers, like formal conversation with honoured guests. The hidden doctrine, on the other hand, is the Law understood secretly by Buddha and given to his own disciples, like familiar conversation among relatives. This division is, therefore, used to explain the differences of depth and shallowness of the doctrines of this sect and four others, viz., the Hossō, San-ron, Ten-dai and Ke-gon.

The 'Ten Stages of Thoughts' are originally enumerated in the Chapter on the 'Stages of Thoughts,'





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This first Stage of Thought is the gradual cause of pure thought; and when this is once got rid of, the good thought in the second stage is to be substituted.

2. The Gu-dō-ji-sai-shin (lit. 'stupid-boy-holding-fasting-thought') is the characteristic of mankind.

The darkness of ignorance of common people is compared with the state of mind of a stupid boy. The fasting is a Sila, or moral precept, to keep the body and speech from disorder. If a man keeps the moral precept, according to the instruction of the teacher and friends, and cultivates his good thought, his state is as the flourishing state of trees and grasses in the spring time. Again, in the case of the practiser of the Shin-gon sect, this is the first state of the Samaya, or meditation, in which he performs the practice of the Three Secrets, regarding Body, Speech and Thought. The five cardinal virtues and the five relationships of Confucianism, and the five precepts of Buddhism are included in this Stage of thought.

3. The Ei-dō-mu-i-shin (lit. 'infant-boy-without-fear-thought') is the characteristic of the heavenly state. The weakness of ignorant people is compared with that of an infant. When they meet good friend, hear the excellent Law, and practise the ten precepts, they will be free from the pains of the three evil states for a time. Hence the name 'mu-i' or 'without



fear.' In the practiser of the Shin-gon sect, it is the state of gradual advance in his practice of the Three Secrets. The opinions of Brahmanism and the ten precepts of Buddhism are included in this Stage of Thought.

4. The Yui-un-mu-ga-shin (lit. 'only-collection-without-self-thought') is the characteristic of the Srâvakas (Shō-mon), or hearers. There is no self that possesses the supreme power within a living being, which consists of the five Skandhas (Go-un), or collections, namely, Rûpa (Shiki) or form, Vedanâ (Ju) or perception, Samgñâ (Sō) or name, Samskâra (Gyō) or conception, and Vigñâna (Shiki) or knowledge. The Tripitaka of the Hinayâna is altogether included in this Stage of Thought; and it is the meaning of the doctrine of the Ku-sha sect.

5. The Batsu-gō-in-shu-shin (lit. 'extracting-action-cause-seed-thought') is the characteristic of the Pratyekabuddhas (En-gaku, or Dou-kaku), or 'singly enlightened'. The 'Gō' or action in the term is passion, the 'In' or cause means the twelve causes, and the 'Shu' or seed is the Avidyâ or darkness. From this seed of darkness, passion is raised and an action follows, so that the twelve causes are produced as a link. The Pratyekabuddhas contemplate on these causes and become enlightened, hence the name of 'extracting the seeds or causes of actions.' If these fourth and fifth Stages of Thought are reached,



the practiser of the Shin-gon sect is in the state of meditation, in which any object is contemplated as having no nature, like an image in a mirror, or the reflection of the moon in the water.

6. The Ta-en-dai-jō-shin (lit. 'other-relation-great-vehicle-thought') is the characteristic of the Hos-sō sect. Having understood the truth that there is nothing but thought, one raises an unlimited compassion, and transfers beings to the other shore of Nirvâna.

7. The Kaku-shin-fu-shō-shin (lit. 'understanding-thought-without-production-thought') is the characteristic of the San-ron sect. The Kaku-chin, or understanding thought, means to know that the impure thought of passion itself is originally pure. The 'Fu-shō,' or without production, is the first of eight negative terms to explain the middle path. Taking the first, the other seven are understood. It is said that if the cloud of the false idea of eight confusions is blown away by the wind of the excellent reason explained by eight negations, then the sky of the middle path or truth is clear and calm. If these sixth and seventh stages of Thoughts are reached, the practiser of the Shin-gon sect is in the state of freedom of thought in the meditation of Yoga or union.

8. The Ichi-dō-mu-i-shin (lit. 'one-path-without-





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stands the source and bottom of his own thought, and knows the secret of becoming Buddha by the present body. This is called the true meaning of showing virtue.

(b) The Two Parts of the Vagra-dhātu and Garbhadhātu.

The *mandala*, or circle, of the Two Parts represents the nature of the reason and wisdom of Buddhas, and also the truth of the form and thought of living beings. The reason why the *mandala* is established in this sect is to show that the form and thought of Buddhas and of other living beings, who are not enlightened, equally consist of six elements. In the term Vagra-dhātu, or Kon-gō-kai (lit. 'diamond element'), the word Vagra has the two senses of hardness and utility. In the former sense it is understood to be compared with the secret truth which is always in existence and not to be broken. In the latter sense, it implies the power of wisdom of the enlightened that destroys the obstacles of passions. The Garbha-dhātu, or Tai-zō-kai (lit. 'womb element'), means to take hold of. It is compared with the state of things that are taken hold of within the original body of beings, just as a child is within the body of his mother. These two divisions of the Dhātus are representations of the nature of form and thought, the



one from reason and the other from wisdom, being the principles of this sect. They are, therefore, never to be sought outside of the thought of beings, within which they are really in existence. The important object of the Two Parts of the Vajra and Garbha-dhātu is to know truly the origin or bottom of one's own thought, and understand the measure or constituents of one's own body.

Although the Two Parts are originally one, yet they are so divided according to the treatment of reason and wisdom. Then the Vajra-dhātu is the wisdom not separated from reason, and it is that which benefits one's own self. The Garbha-dhātu is the reason not separated from wisdom, and it is that which benefits others. Again the Garbha-dhātu consists of the three things of the great meditation, wisdom and compassion, which are Buddha, Vajra and Padma or lotus respectively. These three are technically called Tathāgtānubhāva (Butsu-bu) or Buddha class, Vajrānubhāva (Kon-gō-bu) or diamond class, and Padmānubhāva Ren-ge-bu or lotus flower class. The Buddha class corresponds to the Tathāgata Mahāvairocana, (Dai-nichi Nyorai), meaning the perfection of enlightenment. The Vajra class represents the wisdom possessed by Vajra-sattva, which wisdom, being firm in nature can destroy all passions



even though it has been sunken in the mud of transmigration for a very long time. The Padma class represents the compassion of Avalokitesvara, showing that there is the pure thought within all living beings, which is neither destroyed nor defiled throughout the transmigration in six states of existence, like a lotus flower in mud.

The Vagra-dhātu explains the five kinds of wisdom (see below), and consists of five classes. These are the Ratnânubhâva (Hō-bu) or 'gem-class' and Karmânubhâva Katsu-ma-bu or 'action class, together with the three classes of the Garbha-dhātu. The Karma class means to accomplish all the actions, and the Ratna class shows the unlimitedness of virtue and happiness within the perfection of Buddha's enlightenment.

Moreover there is the Mandala or circle of nine assemblies in the Vagra-dhātu, which circle means the perfectness. This Mandala is of four kinds, namely, 1. Mahāmandala, the bodies of all the objects worshipped; 2. Samaya-mandala, the sword and other things held by the worthies; 3. Dharma-mandala, their Vîga, (Shu-ji) or 'seed' i. e. the mystical letter or syllable forming the essential part of a Mantra, and 4. Karma-mandala, their actions.

The Mandala of nine assemblies of the Vagra-dhātu is as follows:—





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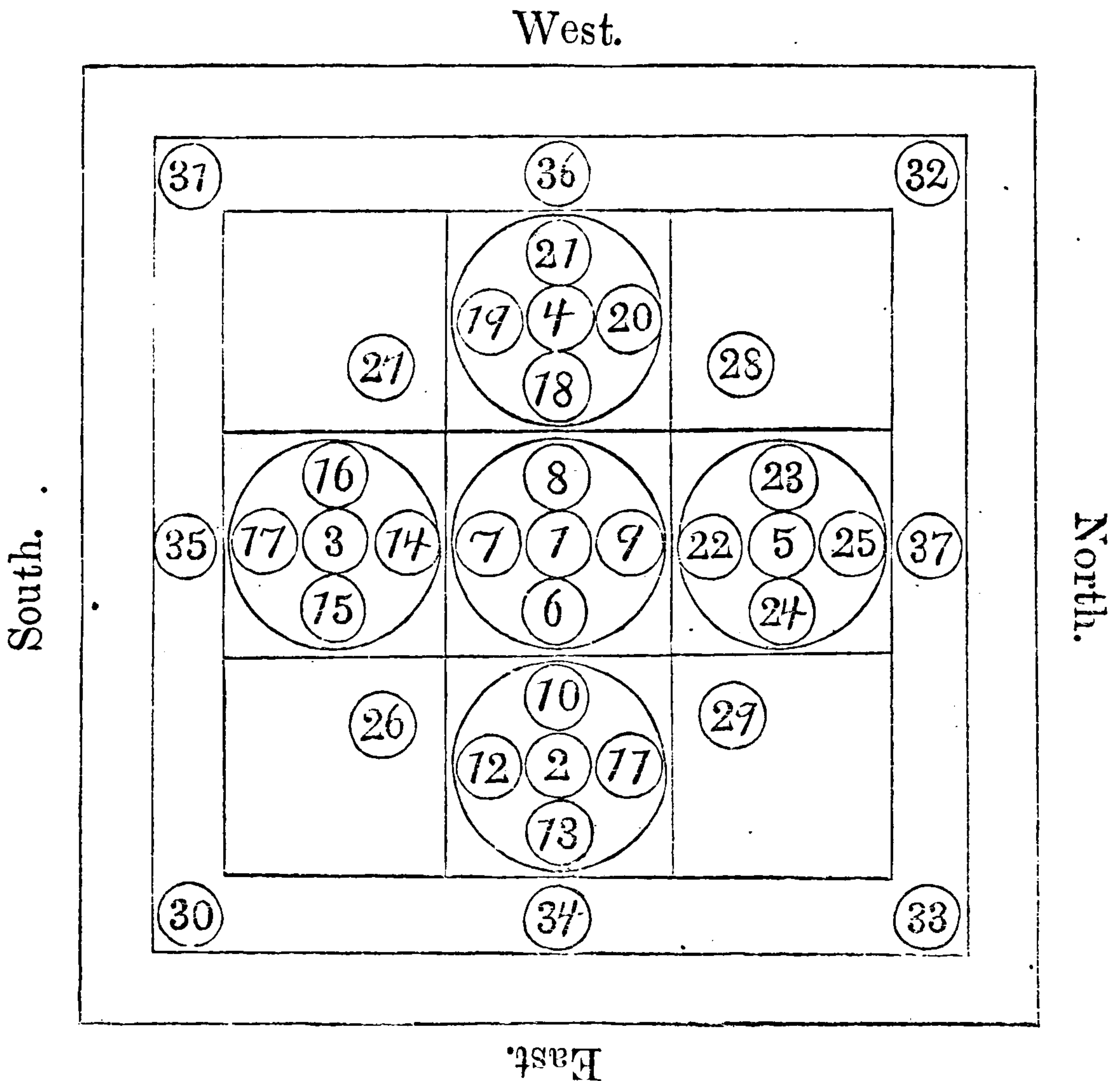
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No. 1. Mahāvairokana, or Dai-nichi (‘great sun’), who holds the Mudrā or seal of the fist of wisdom.

No. 2. Akshobhya, or Ashuku (‘immoveable’), who represents the firmness of the thought of Bodhi or perfect wisdom.

No. 3. Ratnasambhava, or Hō-shō (‘gem-birth’), who governs virtues and happiness.



No. 4 Amitâbha, or Amida (‘immeasurable light’), who rules over the act of preaching the Law and destroying doubts.

No. 5. Amoghasiddhi, or Fu-kū-jō-ju (‘unfailing completion’), i. e. *Sâṣyamuni*, who rules over the accomplishment of the action of Nirvâṇa.

The above five are Buddhas, and the following are Bodhisattvas.

Nos. 6. Sattva-vaḡra (‘being diamond’), 7. Ratna-vaḡra (‘gem d.’), 8 Dharma-vaḡra (‘law d.’), 9. Karma-vaḡra (‘action d.’); 10. Vaḡra-sattva (‘diamond being’), 11. Vaḡra-râḡa (‘d. king’), 12. Vaḡra-râḡa (‘d. affection’), 13. Vaḡra-sâdhu (‘d. pleasing’); 14. Vaḡra-ratna (‘d. gem’), 15. Vaḡra-teḡas (‘d. light’). 16. Vaḡra-ṣetu (‘d. banner’), 17. Vaḡra-hâṣa (‘d. laughing’); 18. Vaḡra, dharma (‘d. law’), 19. Vaḡra-tîkṣṇa (‘d. sharp (thing)’), 20. Vaḡra-hetu (‘d. cause’), 21. Vaḡra-vâḡ (‘d. speech’); 22. Vaḡra-ṣarma (‘d. action’), 23. Vaḡra-raṣha (‘d. protection’), 24. Vaḡra-yaṣha (‘d. tooth (?)’), 25. Vaḡra-sandhi (‘d. firt (?)’); 26. Vaḡra-lâṣa (‘d. sport’), 27. Vaḡra-mâli (‘d. garland’), 28. Vaḡra-gîti (‘d. song’), 29. Vaḡra-nṛiti (‘d. dancing’); 30. Vaḡra-dhûpa (‘d. incense’), 31. vaḡra-pushpa (‘d. flower’). 32. Vaḡrâ-loṣa (‘d. light’), 33. Vaḡra-gandhi (‘d. smearing perfume’); 34. Vaḡrâṅkusa (‘d. hook’), 35. Vaḡra-bandha (‘d. tie’), 36.



Vagra-sphota ('d. chain'), and 37. Vagra-ghantâ ('d. bell').

In the above list, Nos. 10-25 are called the sixteen worthies of wisdom, and Nos. 6-9 and 26-37 are those of meditation.

2. The Samaya-parshad, (San-mai-ya-e) or 'agreement assembly' corresponds to the Samaya-mandala. The worthies of this assembly, make the appearance of weapons and Mudrâs or seals, etc., according to their original vow.

3. The Sûkshma (?) -parshad, (Mi-sai-e) or 'minute assembly' corresponds to the Dharma-mandala. This represents the minute virtues such as five kinds of wisdom of the worthies.

4. The Mahapûgâ-parshad, (Dai-ku-jō-e) or 'great-worshipping-assembly' corresponds to the Karma-mandala. In this assembly each of the worthies worships mahāvairokâna with gem diadem and wreath, etc.

In each of the above three assemblies (2-4) there are 73 worthies. 四印會

5. The Katur-mudrâ-parshad, (Shi-in-e) or four 'seal-assembly' shows the four Mandalas together in this one assembly, in which there are 13 worthies.

In the above five assemblies mahāvairokâna (Dai-nichi) is placed in the middle, showing that the cause itself is the effect.





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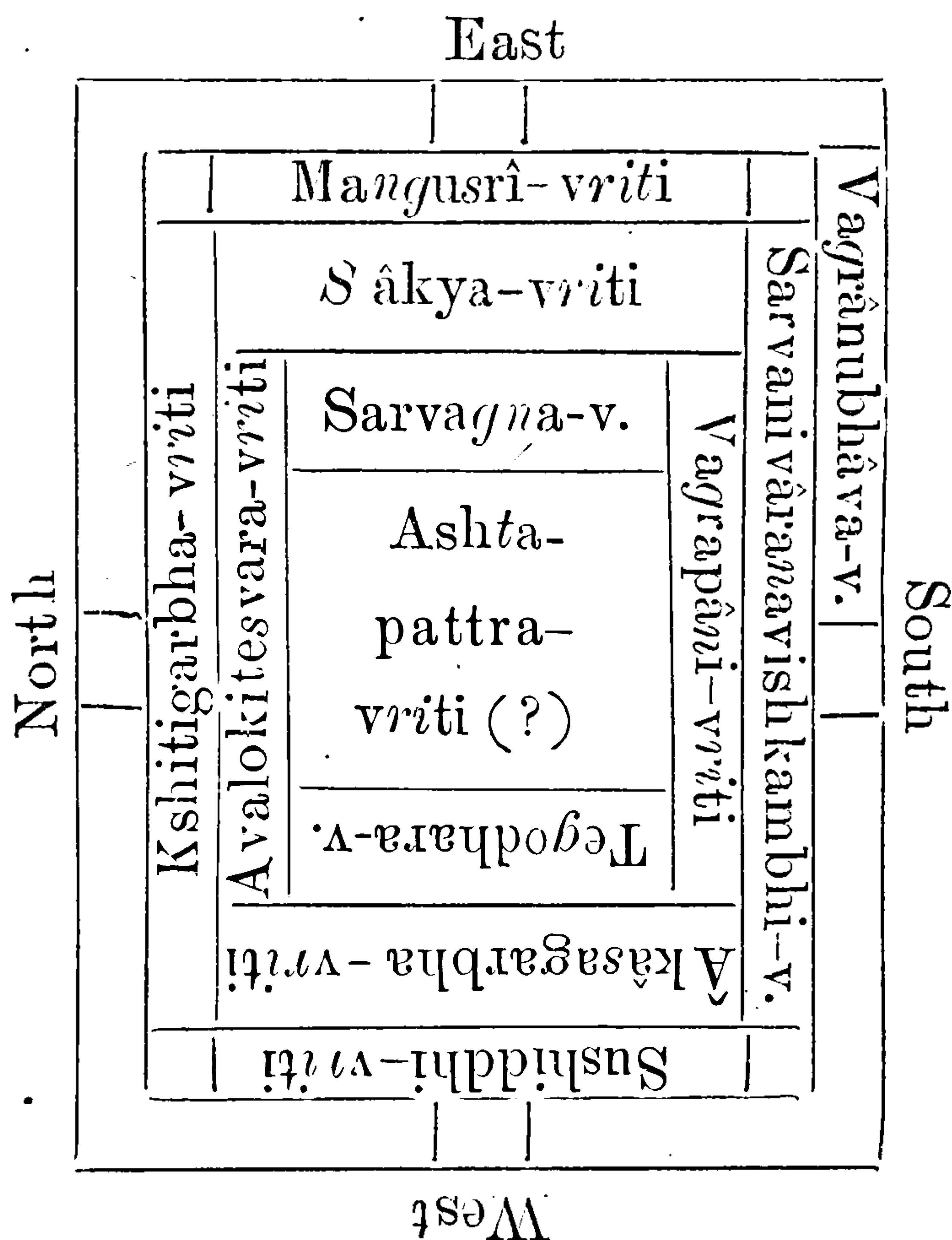




first, and the Karma-parshad is the end. The former order is from the self-enlightenment to subjugation, and the latter from subjugation to the self-enlightenment.

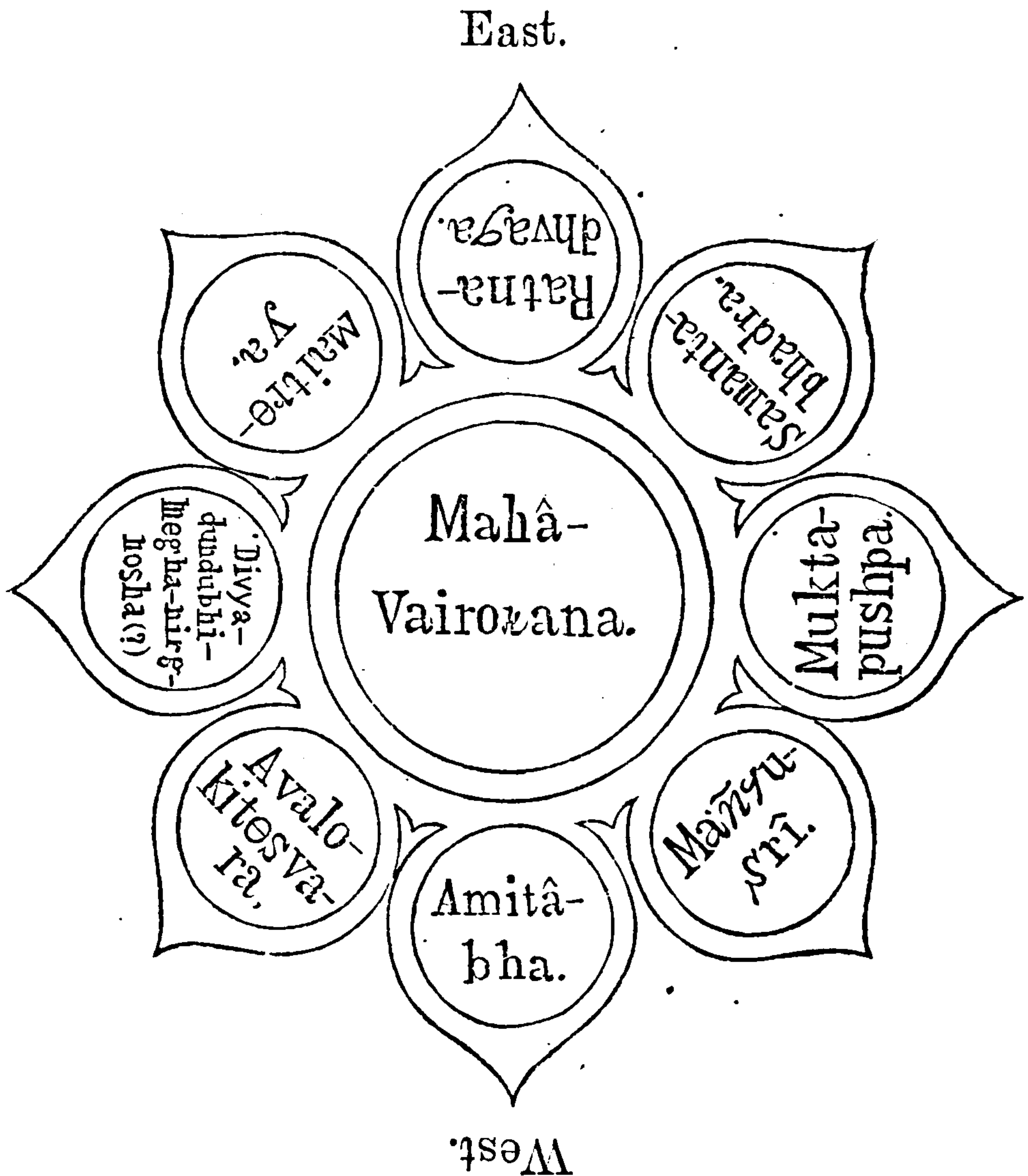
Thus (437) worthies are counted in the Vagra-dhātu. But in fact there are innumerable objects worshipped, which are all omitted.

Next the Garbha-dhātu ('womb element') is called 13 great enclosures (Mahâ-vritis?) The following *Mandala*, however, omits the shi-dai-go-in ('four-great-protection-enclosure'); so that there are twelve enclosures only:—





1. The middle Ashta-pattra-vṛiti, (Hachi-yōin) or 'eight-leaf-enclosure' is like the following:—



This represents Hridaya, or 'heart,' of beings. If they meditate on the lotus flower of their heart, eight petals of the flower are burst open and five Buddhas and four Bodhisattvas appear on them, Mahāvairocana being in the middle. Thus in the middle 'eight-leaf-enclosure,' there



are 9 worthies.

2. The *Sarvagñā-vṛiti* (Hen-chi-in) or 'all-knowing-enclosure' on the top contains 7 worthies.

3. The *Avalokitesvara-vṛiti* (Kwan-on-in) or 'looking-on-sound-enclosure' on the north contains 37 worthies.

4. The *Vagrapāṇi-vṛiti* (Kon-gō-shu-in) or 'diamond-hand-enclosure' on the south also contains 37 worthies.

5. The *Tegodhara-vṛiti* (Ji-miyō-in) or 'holding-light-enclosure' on the bottom contains 5 worthies.

6. The *Sākyā-vṛiti* (Sha-ka-in) or 'able-one-enclosure' on the top contains 39 worthies.

7. The *Mangusrî-vṛiti* (Mon-ju-in) or 'lucky-enclosure' on the top contains 35 worthies.

8. The *Sarvanivâraṇavishkambhi-vṛiti* (Jo-gai-shō-in) or 'removing-covering-obstacle-enclosure' on the south contains 9 worthies.

9. The *Kshitigārbha-vṛiti* (Ji-zō-in) or 'earth-womb-enclosure' on the north contains 9 worthies.

10. The *Âkâsagarbha-vṛiti* (Ko-ku-zō-in) or 'sky-womb-enclosure' on the bottom contains 28 worthies.

11. The *Susiddhi-vṛiti* (So-shitsu-ji-in) or 'well-perfection-enclosure' on the bottom contains 8 worthies.

12. The outside *Vagrâṇubhâva-vṛiti* (Kon-gō-bu-in) or 'diamond-class-enclosure' on the four sides contains altogether 205 worthies.





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the element ether, being the wisdom to become the substance of things. 2. The Âdarsana-gñâna, or Dai-en-kyō-chi ('great-round-mirror-wisdom'), corresponds to the element earth, manifesting the images of all things just as in the mirror. 3. The Samatâ-gñâna, or Byō-dō-shō-chi ('even-equal-nature-wisdom') corresponds to the element fire, making no distinction between this and that, while looking at the things. 4. The Praty-avekshana-gñâna, or Myō-kwan-zatsu-chi ('well-looking-considering-wisdom') corresponds to the element water, being the wisdom that governs the act of preaching the Law and destroying doubts, and that distinguishes clearly what is right or wrong. 5. The Krityânushthâna-gñâna, or Jō-sho-sa-chi ('wisdom of accomplishing what is to be done') corresponds to the element air, being the wisdom of completing the good action of helping both one's own self and others. This comparison is however not permanent.

The unimpeded state of these elements one with another is compared with the rays of light of many different lamps. The six elements of Buddha are not hindered by those of unenlightened beings. Therefore there is no being besides Buddha, and no Buddha besides being. Such is the unimpeded state of the six elements.

(d) The Yoga or union of the three secrets (San-mitsu-sō-ō).



The three secrets are the three actions of body, speech and thought. These are originally even and equal. Body is equal to speech, and speech is equal to thought. They all exist everywhere in the Dharma-dhātu, or element of things, and are called the three secrets even and equal to all Buddhas. Speaking briefly of the form of the Dharma-dhātu, the apparent form of all things is that of the five elements; and it is the secret of body. This form or body produces sound, and it is the secret of speech. This form has the power (Kō-nō) and it is the secret of thought. These three secrets exist in things both animate and inanimate. Therefore if the wind blows trees, waves beat rocks, and a man raises hands, moves feet, speaks and keeps silence, all are in the three secrets. But these are the states understood by Buddha only, and not approached by an ordinary man; so that they are called secrets. Buddha taught us the rules of Mudrās or seals and Mantras or True Words, etc., in order to cause ignorant people unite with the state of Buddha. This is the meaning of union (Yoga). It makes no difference between the 'equal' three secrets of Buddha and the 'distinct' three secrets of beings. The three secrets are originally equal without distinction, but ignorant people make distinction of them falsely. Therefore Buddha adds his three secrets to those of beings. This addition is however not that of two



different things. The nature of the secrets of beings are originally not different from those of Buddha's. But ignorant people do not know it. So Buddha teaches them to understand and meditate on this. Such meditation and understanding are those of Buddha, so that there is the meaning of adding the three secrets of Buddha to the three actions of beings. If our practice is ripe in imitating the action of Buddha and becomes equal to the three secrets of Buddha, then there is the meaning of union (Yoga). It is said: San-mitsu-sō-ō-sozu-shin-jō, or 'Three secrets united, the present body becomes (Buddha).'

(e) The attainment to the state of Buddha by the present body (Soku-shin-jō-butsu).

There are three kinds of explaining this subject, viz, Ri-gu ('reason-completed'), Ka-ji ('adding-holding'), and Ken-tōzu ('apparent-obtaining'). The first is explained in the following word: The true form of body and thought of all living beings is the Mandala, or circle, of the Two Parts of Vajra and Garbha-dhātu. The flesh body is the reason of the first five elements, and it is the Garbha-dhātu; while the thought is the wisdom of the sixth element, knowledge, and it is the Vajra-dhātu. These wisdom and reason are originally completed in all living beings. This is technically called Ri-gu-sozu-shin-jō-butsu, or 'the attainment of Buddhahood by the present body completed in reason.'





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## CHAPTER IX.

The Jō-do-shū, or Pure Land sect.

1. A history of the sect.

Buddhism was first introduced into China from India, in 67 A. D. In 252 A. D., an indian scholar of the Tripitaka, Samghavarman (Kō Sō-gai) by name, came to China and translated the great Amitâyus-sûtra (Mu-ryō-ju-kyō)<sup>1</sup> or Larger Sukhâvatî-vyûha in two volumes. This is the first and longest of the three sacred books of this sect. This Sûtra gives a history of the Tathâgata Amstâbha from the first spiritual impulses which led him to the attainment of Buddhahood in remote Kalpas down to the present time when he dwells in the western world called Sukhâvatî (Goku-raku, or 'happy'), where he receives all living beings from every direction, helping them to turn away from confusion and to become enlightened.

In 400 A. D., Kumâragîva (Ra-jū) came to China from the kingdom of Kharachar (Ki-ji) and produced a translation of the small Amitâyus-sûtra (A-mi-dakyō)<sup>2</sup> or Smaller Sukhâvatîvyûha in one volume. This is the shortest of the three sacred books. It is taught in this Sûtra that if man keeps in his memory the name of Buddha Amitâbha one day or seven days, the Buddha together with Bodhisattvas will come

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<sup>1</sup> No. 27. <sup>2</sup> No. 200.



and meet him at the moment of his death in order to let him be born in the Pure Land Sukhâvatî; and that this matter has equally been approved by all other Buddhas of ten different directions.

In 424 A. D., Kâlayasas (Kyō-ryō-ya-sha) arrived in China from India and translated the Amitâyus-dhyâna-sûtra (Kwan-mu-ryō-ju-kyō)<sup>3</sup> in one volume. This is the second longest of the three sacred books. An outline of this sûtra is as follows: Vaidehî, consort of king Bimbisâra of Magadha, seeing the wicked actions of her son Agâtasatru, began to feel weary of this world Sahâ (Sha-ba, or 'enduring'). Sâkyamuni then taught her how to be born in the Pure Land Sukhâvatî instructing her in the method of being born in that world, enumerating three kinds of good actions. The first is worldly goodness, which includes good actions in general, such as filial piety, respect for elders, loyalty, faithfulness, etc. The second is the goodness of Sila or morality, in which there are differences between the priesthood and the laity. In short, however, all that do not oppose the general rule of reproofing wickedness and exhorting to the practice of virtue are included in this goodness. The third is the goodness of practice, which includes that of the four Satyas or truths and the six Pâramitâs or perfections. Besides these all other pure and good actions such as the reading and recital of the Mahâ-

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<sup>3</sup> No. 198.



yâna-sûtras, persuading others to hear the Law, and thirteen kinds of goodness to be practised by fixed thought are comprised in this. Towards the end of the Sûtra Buddhā says: 'Let not one's voice cease, but ten times complete the thought, and repeat Namō'mitâbhâya Buddhâya (Na-mu-a-mi-da-butsu), or adoration to Amitâbha Buddha.' This practice is the most excellent of all.

Buddha teaches us in his doctrine the truth of cause and effect from his right wisdom and understanding. Bad seed produces bad fruit, and good seed produces good fruit, just as red pepper is pungent and sugar-cane sweet according to their own seeds. This is quite natural. No one doubts about it. Therefore the Sûtra is quite true when it says that the right cause of the three kinds of goodness gains the right fruit of nine different stages in the Pure Land Sukhâvatî.

Depending on the three Sûtras above mentioned, there were three patriarchs in India, who preached the doctrine of the Pure Land. They were Asva-ghosha (Me-myō), Nâgârguna (Ryū-ju) and Vasu-bandhu (Se-shin), who were born in India six, seven and nine hundred years after Buddha respectively.

In China, E-on (died 416 A. D.) of the Shin dynasty, Don-ran (d. 542) of the Gi dynasty, and Dō-shaku and Zen-dō (both lived about 600-650) of the Tō (T'ang) dynasty chiefly taught this doctrine.





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ed the precepts. Then his name was changed to Gen-ku. In his eighteenth year he retired to Kurodani, and five times read through the five thousand volumes of the Tripitaka. He did this for the purpose of finding out the way for the ordinary and ignorant people of the present day to escape from misery. Taking this opportunity he studied Zen-do's commentary already alluded to. He repeated his examination altogether eight times. At last he noticed a passage in it, beginning with the words 'Chiefly remember or repeat the name of Amitâbha with a whole and undivided heart' (Is-shin-sen-nen-mi-da-myō-gō), etc. Then he at once understood the thought of Zen-dō, who taught in his work that whoever at any time practises to remember Buddha or calls his name only once, will gain the right effect of going to be born in the Pure Land after death. Gen-kū then abandoned all sorts of practices, which he had hitherto followed for years; and began to repeat the name of Buddha Amitâbha sixty thousand times a day. This event occurred in 1175 A. D., when Gen-kū was in his forty-third year. The name of Jō-do-shū or Pure Land sect was first known in Japan in this year. This account is given in the Chōzu-shu-den, or Life of Gen-kū compiled by Imperial Order, and the Sen-jazu-shū, that is Gen-kū's own work.

Gen-kū was very famous in his life-time. He



became the spiritual preceptor of the three Emperors Taza-ura, Go Shira-awa, and Go To-ba. After his death, his biography was compiled in forty-eight volumes, by Imperial Order. It was copied by three other Emperors Fushi-mi, Go Fushi-mi, and Go Ni-jō.

Before Gen-kū, there were eminent priests in Japan, such as Kū-ya, Ei-zwan, and E-shin also called Gen-shin, who all preached this doctrine, but had no successors. Gen-zu had hundreds of disciples. Among them, Shō-kō of Chin-zei and Zenne of Sei-zan were the principal ones. At present there are myriads of monasteries and priests of this sect in the Empire.

## II. The doctrine of the sect.

Dō-shaku says in his work, the An-rau-shū, that there are two divisions in the teaching of Sākya-muni, namely, Mahâyâna (Dai-jō) and Hînayâna (Shō-jō). In the former again, there are two gates, viz., the Holy Path (Shō-dō) and the Pure Land (Jō-do). The Hinayâna is the doctrine by which the immediate disciples of Buddha, and those of the period of five hundred years after Buddha, practised the three Śikshâs (San-gaku) or trainings of Adhisîla (Kai) or 'higher morality,' Adhikitta (Jō) or 'higher thought,' and Adhipragñâ (E) or 'higher learning,' and obtained in their present life the four holy fruits of Srota-âpanna, Sakrid-âgâmin, Anâgâmin, and



Arhat. The gate of the Mahâyâna is also the doctrine by which man practises the three trainings above mentioned; and in his present life, he understands the three virtues of Dharma-râya (Hosshin) or 'spiritual body,' Pragñâ (Han-nya) or 'wisdom,' and Moksha (Ge-datsu) or 'deliverance.' The man who is able to do this is no ordinary one, but has natural vigour, and is supposed to possess merit produced from good actions performed in a former state of existence. The firmness of this man's heart is as hard as a rock, and his fearlessness of any obstacles is like a brave soldier's crushing his enemy. The doctrine which causes man to do so, is called the gate of the Holy Path, and the man is called one who enters the holy state in this world. During fifteen hundred years after Buddha, there were such personages in the world from time to time. The flourishing state of Buddhism at that period and the lives of those eminent priests are to be seen from several compilations of their memoirs.

Now, as the present time belongs to the Latter Day of the Law (Mappō), people become insincere, their covetousness and anger daily increase, and their contentions yearly arise. The three trainings already alluded to are the correct causes of deliverance; but if people think them as useless as last year's almanac, when can they complete their deliverance? Gen-kū, therefore, deeply thinking of this, shut up the gate of





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wonderful exhibition of supernatural power. Then there appeared to him in a dream every night a dignified priest, who gave him instruction on the division of the text in his first volume. Therefore the author (Zen-dō) treats his own work, as if it were the work of Buddha; and says that no one is allowed either to add or take away even a word or sentence of the book. This is the reason why Gen-kū quotes the three Sūtras and Zen-dō's commentary as the texts in his own work, the Sen-jaku-shū.

If one wants to know the doctrine of the Pure Land, he must believe in the words of Buddha. Śākyamuni was the sage who perceived the three times, past, present and future, which are just as yesterday, to-day and to-morrow. Among the Indian heretics, there were some who spoke of the future, but their account of it was not accurate; and there was none who spoke of the past. Now the modern people speak of the present life only, and do not know the past and future. Buddha alone knows the three without any mistakes.

The Pure Land is the western world where Buddha Amitâbha lives. It is perfectly pure and free from faults. Therefore it is called the Pure Land. Those who wish to go there, will certainly be born there; but otherwise they will not. This world Sahâ (Shaba), on the contrary, is the effect of the actions of all beings, so that even those who do not wish to be born



here, are also obliged to come. This world is called the path of pain, because it is full of all sorts of pains, such as birth, old age, disease, death, etc. This is therefore a world not to be attached to, but to be disgusted with and separated from. One who is disgusted with this world Sahâ and who is filled with desire for that world Sukhâvatî will after death be born there. Not to doubt about these words of Buddha even in the slightest degree is called the deep faith; but if one entertains any doubts, he will not be born there. For this reason, Ryū-ju said: 'In the great sea of the Law of Buddha, faith is the only means to enter.' This is an outline of the doctrine of this sect.



## CHAPTER X.

The Zen-shū or Contemplative sect.

I. A doctrine of the sect.

The word Zen is a shortened form of the term Zen-na, which is a transliteration of the Sanskrit word Dhyâna, or contemplation.

The general character of the doctrine of this sect is briefly explained by the eight Chinese words, Kyō-ge-betsu-den-fu-ryū-mon-ji, or Special transmission independent of a common teaching and not established on any letter or word. Besides all the doctrines of the Mahâyâna and Hînayâna, whether hidden or apparent, there is, therefore, one distinct line of transmission of a secret doctrine, which is not subject to any utterance at all. According to this doctrine, one is directly to see the so-called key to the thought of Buddha or the nature of Buddha, by his own thought, being free from the multitude of different doctrines, the number of which is said to reach eighty-four thousand. In short, it is the truth made apparent by one's own thought.

II. A history of the sect.

( a ) The transmission of the doctrine.

When the Bhagavat (Se-son, or 'Blessed') Sâkyamuni was at the assembly on Mount Grîdhrakûta (Ryō-zen) or 'vulture's peak,' there came the heavenly king Mahâbrahman (Dai-bon), who offered Buddha





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13. Kapimala (Ka-bi-mo-ra).
14. Nâgârguna (Na-gya-a-ra-ju-na).
15. Kânadeva (Ka-na-dai-ba).
16. Râhulata (Ra-go-ra-ta).
17. Samghanandi (Sō-gya-nan-dai).
18. Samghayasas (Ka-ya-sha-ta).
19. Kumârata (Ku-mo-ra-ta).
20. Gayata (Sha-ya-ta).
21. Vasubandhu (Ba-shu-han-dzu).
22. Manura (Ma-do-ra).
23. Haklenayasas (Kazu-rozu-na).
24. Simha (Shi-shi).
25. Vasasuta (Ba-sha-shi-ta).
26. Punyamitra (Fu-nyo-mit-ta).
27. Pragñâtara (Han nya-ta-ra).
28. Bodhidharma (Bo-dai-daru-ma).

Bodhidharma was the third son of a king of the Kâshis, in South India. Thinking that the time of teaching his doctrine of contemplation in the East had come, he arrived in China, in the first year of the Fu-tsū period under the Ryō dynasty, 520 A. D. Bodhidharma then taught the Emperor Bu the secret key of Buddha's thought, who was, however, not yet able to understand it. So leaving there, he crossed the river Yō-shi, and entered the dominion of the Northern Gi. In the Shō-rin-ji (the name of a monastery) on Mount Sū he sat down cross-legged in meditation, with his face to a wall, for nine



years. During that period, people did not know him, and called him simply the Wall-gazing Brâhmana.

Afterwards he had a number of disciples, but they had different views, that are called the transmission of either skin, flesh, or bone of the teacher. Only one of them, E-ka by name, got the whole body of his teaching. The fifth patriarch from Bodhidharma was Kō-nin. Among his disciples, there were two worthy men, E-nō and Jin-shū. The latter taught the doctrine to his followers in the northern part of China, and established the Northern sect. E-nō did so in the southern part, founding the Southern sect.

The Southern sect was soon divided into five schools known as Rin-zai, Gi-gō, Sō-tō, Un-mon and Hō-gen. In the first school Rin-zai, there were two subdivisions, namely, Yō-gi and O-ryū. All these are collectively called the five houses and seven schools of the Southern sect. There was no division of the Northern sect.

As to the propagation of this doctrine in Japan, Dō-sen, a disciple of one of Jin-shū's pupils, came over from China to this country, in 729 A. D. He lived in the Dai-an-ji, and handed down the doctrine of the Northern Contemplation to Gyō-hyō, who transmitted it to Sai-chō, the establisher of the Tendai sect in Japan.



The Southern branch of the Contemplative sect was first transferred to Japan by Ei-sai, of the Ken-nin-ji. He went to China in 1168 A. D., and became the disciple of Kyo-an, of the Man-nen-ji. By him the Rin-zai sect was first established in the Empire. After that, the successors of the Rin-zai school became numerous. Shō-ichi of the Tō-fukū-ji and But-kō of the En-gaku-ji were both the disciples of Yō-gi's ninth generation. Shō-ichi had a disciple named Dai myō, who had the Nan-zen-ji built. Mu-sō of the Ten-ryū-ji was taught by a pupil of But-kō. Dai-za'u of the Ken-chō-ji was a disciple in the tenth generation of Yō-gi, and Dai-tō of the Dai-tozu-ji, the eleventh. The latter had an active disciple named Kwan-zan, who founded the Myō-shin-ji.

Thus the Ken-nin-ji, Tō-fukū-ji, En-gaku-ji, Nan-zen-ji, Ten-ryū-ji, Ken-chō-ji, Dai-tozu-ji, Myō-shin-ji, together with the Sō-zoku-ji, are called the nine principal monasteries of the Rin-zai sect.

The Sō tō sect was established here by Dō gen of the Ei-hei-ji, who went to China in 1223 A. D., and became a disciple of Nyo-jō of Ten-dō. When he returned to Japan, the Emperor Go-Sa-ga paid great respect to him, gave him a purple robe as a gift, and addressed him by the title of Buppō Zen-ji, or the Teacher of Contemplation in the Law of Buddha.





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bowl of Sâkyamnni, transmitted through the Indian and Chinese patriarchs, as the symbols of the right-ful successor. Then the venerable Jin-shū, the head of seven hundred disciples, composed the following verses:—

“The body is like the knowledge tree.

The mind is like a mirror on its stand.

It should be constantly and carefully brushed,

Lest dust should be attracted to it.”<sup>1</sup>

His teacher recognized it and said: ‘If men in future should practise their religion according to this view, they would have an excellent reward.’ This is the origin of the Northern sect.

The venerable E-nō was then only a servant, employed to clean rice in a mortar, the pestle of which was worked by the foot. Hearing of Jin-shū’s verses secretly, he remarked that it was very beautiful, but not perfectly good. So saying, he wrote verses as follow:—

“There is no such thing as a knowledge tree.

There is no such thing as a mirror stand.

There is nothing that has a real existence.

Then how can dust be attracted?”<sup>1</sup>

On seeing these verses, the teacher Kō-nin at once gave him the symbols of the cloaks and bowl. This is the origin of the Southern sect. The doctrine of this sect is a most sublime one of thought transmitted

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<sup>1</sup> Dr. Edkins, Chinese Buddhism, p. 162.



by thought, being entirely independent of any letters or words. It is in later period called the Patriarch's Contemplation (So-shi-zen), because it contains the key of the thought of the Indian patriarch Bodhidharma. But it is a mistake that some call the doctrine of the Northern sect the Tathâgata's Contemplation (Nyo-rai-zen).

Thus in China there have been the two divisions of the Southern and Northern sects and the former was subdivided into five houses and seven schools as before said. Three schools of the Southern sect exist in Japan at present. But all these are the descendants of Bodhidharma, and the principle of their doctrine is only to show what appears in one's own thought. If one wishes to understand the true meaning of the doctrine, he must study it under the instruction of a right teacher. There are however numerous works containing the instructive words of the teachers of different schools. They are called *Go-roku*, or 'Records of sayings,' which may be serviceable in understanding the doctrine of this sect.



## CHAPTER XI.

The Shin-shū, or True sect.

1. A history of the sect.

The full name of the sect is Jō-do-shin-shū, or 'True sect of the Pure Land.' The Pure Land is the term antithetical to that of the Shō-dō or Holy Path. The object of the followers of this sect is to be born in the Pure Land Sukhâvatî of Amitâbha. The third word Shin or 'True' is used to show the antithesis to the Gon-ke-hō-ben, or 'Temporary expedients.' Among those who follow the doctrine of the Pure Land, there are several different systems of teaching, which are as follow:— Some say that we should practise various good works, bring our stock of merits to maturity, and be born in the Pure Land. Others say that we should repeat only the name of Amitâbha Buddha, in order to be born in his Pure Land, by the merit produced from such repetition. These doctrines are all considered as yet the temporary expedients. To rely upon the power of the Original Prayer of Amitâbha Buddha with the whole heart and give up all idea of Ji-rixi or 'self power' is called the truth. This truth is the doctrine of this sect. Therefore it is called the Shin-shū, or True sect.

Shin-ran, the founder of the sect, makes in his work a clear distinction of four systems with as





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Prayers of Amitâbha, the eighteenth of which is the foundation of the doctrine of the 'crosswise passing-over' (Ō-chō).

This doctrine was transmitted at various times and in different places by the so-called 'Seven High Priests' (Shichi-kō-sō), who were the patriarchs of the three countries of India, China and Japan. They were the two Bodhisattvas Nâgârguna (Ryū-ju) and Vasubandhu (Ten-jin) of India, Don-ran, Dō-shaku and Zen-dō of China, and Gen-shin and Gen-kū of Japan. Their works are most minute in explaining the doctrine of the sect, for which reason the authors are reckoned as patriarchs. The seventh patriarch Gen-kū also called Hō-nen was the teacher of Shin-ran, the founder of the sect.

Shin-ran was a scion of the Fuji-wara family (born 1173 and died 1262 A. D.). He was a descendant of Uchi-marō, and son of Ari-nori, who was an official belonging to the palace of the Empress Dowager. As a boy he went to mount Hi-ei, where he studied the doctrine of the Ten-dai sect. In his twenty-ninth year, he became the disciple of Hō-nen, from whom he received the tradition of the doctrine of the Pure Land. Although there were many fellow-disciples, he was especially favoured by his teacher. Afterwards he compiled a book with the title of Kyō-gyō-shin-shō-mon-rui, or 'Collection of Maxims concerning the Doctrine, Practice, Faith



and Enlightenment. In this work he showed the important meaning of the doctrine, as taught by the master. This is therefore the standard book of this sect.

## II. The doctrine of the sect.

As has already been stated, the foundation of the doctrine of this sect is the Original Prayer of Amitâbha Buddha. Therefore its faith and practice have for their only object to follow the 'Other Power of the Original Prayer' (Hon-gwan-ta-rixi), and to go to be born in the Pure Land of the Buddha. The Original Prayer is the eighteenth of his forty-eight prayers, which is as follows: — 'If any of living beings of the ten regions, who have believed in me with true thoughts and desire to be born in my country, and have even to ten times repeated the thought (of my name), should not be born there, then may I not obtain the perfect knowledge.'

This Original Prayer sprang from his great compassionate desire, which longed to deliver living beings from suffering. With this Original Prayer, he practised good actions during many kalpas, intending to bring his stock of merits to maturity for the sake of other living beings. All his actions, speeches and thoughts were always pure and true, so that he accomplished his great compassionate desire. It is also called the great and wide wisdom of Buddha. This Prayer and Practice excelled those of all other



Buddhas. The state of Buddha which is the fruit of such a cause is called Amida, or Amitâbha and Amitâyus, that is, 'Immeasurable Light' and 'Immeasurable Life. It also means the perfection and unlimitedness of wisdom and compassion. Therefore he can take hold of the faithful beings within his own light and let them go to be born in his Pure Land. This is called the 'Other Power of the Original Prayer.'

The creed of the sect is explained as the believing thought which follows the Original Prayer, and is in correspondence with the wisdom of Buddha. This is the same as the therefold faith enumerated in the Original Prayer, namely, 1. the true thought, 2. the belief, and 3. the desire to be born in the Pure Land. Though these are reckoned as three, the substance is only one, that is called the 'believing thought,' or the 'one thought.' If we examine our own heart, it is far from being pure and true, being bad and despicable, false and hypocritical. How can we cut off all our passions and reach Nirvâna by our own power! How can we also form the threefold faith! Therefore knowing the inability of our own power, we should believe simply in the vicarious Power of the Original Prayer. If we do so, we are in correspondence with the wisdom of Buddha and share his great compassion, just as the water of rivers becomes salt as soon as it enters the sea. For this reason,





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essential in this sect. Consequently even the priests of the sect are allowed to marry and eat flesh and fish, while those of all other Buddhist sects are strictly prohibited from doing so.

Those who belong to this sect are recommended to keep to their occupation properly, and to discharge their duty, so as to be able to live in harmony. They should also cultivate their persons and regulate their families. They should keep order and obey the laws of the government, and do the best for the sake of the country. Buddha says in the Great Sûtra (i. e. the larger Sukhâvatîvyûha): 'You should separate yourselves from all evil, and select and practise what is good, thinking and considering well.' The followers of this sect are already in correspondence with the Original Prayer of Amitâbha Buddha, so that they are also in harmony with the instruction of Śâkyamuni, and the general teaching on morality. This is the *Samvriti-satya* (Zoku-tai), or truth by general consent, a part of the doctrine of this sect, which has reference to the distinction of good and evil in conduct in this world.

Now, as to the *Paramârtha-satya* (Shin-dai), or 'true truth,' which refers to the distinction of belief and doubt in the mind, what benefits do the believers derive by their putting faith in Buddha? In the present life, they become the members of the *Samyaktva-râsi* (Shō-jō-ju), or 'mass of absolute truth.'



In the next life they attain to Nirvâṇa (Metsu-do).

In the first place, the mass of absolute truth means the class of beings who will certainly be born in the Pure Land of Amitâbha Buddha, and attain to Nirvâṇa there in the next life. They are taken hold of within the light of Amitâbha Buddha, joyful in heart, practising always the great compassion of Buddha, and suffer transmigration no more. Therefore they are called Avaivartikas (Fu-tai-ten), or 'those who never return again.' They derive this benefit at the moment of their putting faith in Buddha.

In the second place, to attain to Nirvâṇa means to join the state of enlightenment of Amitâbha Buddha, as soon as they are born in his Pure Land. The cause of their going there, is to receive the great mercy and wisdom of Buddha; so that they can most assuredly attain to the state of Buddha (or Nirvâṇa), in which both the mercy and wisdom are full and perfect. The cause and effect are quite natural indeed. Those who belong to several schools of the Holy Path have to practise the three trainings of the higher morality, thought and learning, with their own power, and destroy all human passions, in order to attain to Nirvâṇa. Those of the other schools of the doctrine of the Pure Land are said to attain to Buddhahood, having practised good works for a long time in the Pure Land, where they are born



from here. But in the True sect, the difference is explained by the term *Ō-jō-sōku-jō-butsu*, or 'going to be born (in the Pure Land) is becoming Buddha.' That is to say, when the believers abandon the impure body of the present life (i. e. die) and are born in that Pure Land, they at once accomplish the highest and most excellent fruit of *Nirvâna*. This is because they simply rely upon the Other Power of the Original Prayer.

In this sect, neither spells nor supplications to Buddhas or other objects worshipped are employed for avoiding misfortunes, because misfortunes are originated either in the far causes of previous existences, or in those of the present life. The latter kind of causes should be carefully avoided; so that the believers in this doctrine, following Buddha's instruction, may become free from the present causes of misfortunes. But the far causes, having been originated in previous existences, cannot be stopped. As to the past, reproof is useless; but the future may be provided against. This is the reason why anything like a spell is not at all used in this sect. Moreover the principle of Buddhism is to obtain release from the state of transmigration and enter that of *Nirvâna*. Then, no happiness or misfortune of this world can disturb the thoughts of the believers. But when they turn their thoughts towards the good of others, the peace of the world should of course be desired by





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## CHAPTER XII.

The Nichi-ren-shū, or Nichi-ren sect.

I. A history of the sect.

(a) The origin of the establishment of the sect.

Although *Sâkyamuni*'s manners of teaching are numbered by thousands of myriads, such as the *Hîna-yâna* and the *Mahâ-yâna*, temporary and true, apparent and hidden, subordinate and original, etc., yet his object is nothing but to leâd living beings to the highest state of *Nirvâna* by the way of gradual teaching. Therefore, in the last period of his life, *Sâkyamuni* preached the *Saddharma-pundarîka-sûtra* (*Hoke-kyô*),<sup>1</sup> or 'Sûtra of the Lotus of the Good Law.' In this Sûtra, he compared all the Sûtras preached in the three periods past, present and future; and called the *Saddharma-pundarîka* the best of all. This judgment was made by him according to the rules of preaching of all Buddhas past, present and future; so that even *Mañgusrî* and *Kâsyapa* dared not say a word against it.

As *Sâkyamuni*'s own preaching was in this order, all the Buddhist teachers in the later periods followed that order, through the Three Periods of the Law, viz., the Period of the Right Law (*Shô-bô*), of the Image Law (*Zô bô*), and of the Latter Day Law (*Mappô*). During the two thousand years of the first

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<sup>1</sup> No. 134.



two periods, therefore, all the great teachers promulgated the Law, either the Hina or the Mahâ-yâna the temporary or the true, according to Sâkyamuni's command. Now, the Period of the Latter Day of the Law came, when the original or primitive doctrine of the Saddharma-pundarîka was to be expounded. In 1252 A. D., when all the other sects had already been established, Nichiren, founder of the sect, began to promulgate the doctrine of the Saddharma-pundarîka only. He did so, following the rules of Sâkyamuni's teaching, and explaining the doctrine taught by Sâkyamuni himself. This excellent doctrine, giving benefits to the people of the present period, had never been known, during two thousand two hundred and twenty years since Sâkyamuni entered Nirvâṇa. For Nichiren was most probably an incarnation of the Bodhisattva Visishtakâritra (Jō-gyō, lit. 'eminent conduct'), who had been a 'primitive convert' (Honke)<sup>2</sup> of Sâkyamuni, and received special instruction from the latter, in the chapter on the Transcendent Power of the Tathâgata,<sup>3</sup> amidst the so called 'Sûy

<sup>2</sup> For this Bodhisattva, see the 15th and 21st chapters of the Ho-ke-kyō, i. e. Kumâragîva's Chinese translation, and also the 14th and 20th chapters of Kern's English version of the Saddharma-pundarîka, Sacred Books of the East, Vol. XXI.

<sup>3</sup> I. e. the 21st chapter of Kumâragîva's version, and the 20th of Kern's.



Assembly' at Mount *Grīḍhrakūṭa*. This Bodhisattva was born in Japan under the name of Nichi-ren, at the proper time for promulgating the doctrine, which had been transmitted to him from *Sâṣyamuni*. Thus Nichi-ren first established this sect in Japan, expecting to make his doctrine known in the world at large, during the ten thousand years of the Period of the Latter Day of the Law.

The sect is, therefore, either called *Hōṣṣe-shū* or 'Saddharma-pundarīka-sect,' after the title of the principal *Sūtra*, or Nichi-ren-shū, after the name of the founder. Though this sect adopts the *Saddharma-pundarīka* as the principal *Sūtra*, like the Ten-dai sect, yet the substance of the doctrine is very different from the latter; so that it is also called Nichi-ren-hōṣṣe-shū, or Nichi-ren's *Saddharma-pundarīka* sect.

The following are the principal *Sūtras* and commentaries of this sect:

1. *Myō-hō-ren-ge-kyō* ( *Saddharma-pundarīka-sūtra*),<sup>4</sup> eight volumes, translated by Kumāragīva, under the Shin dynasty of the Yō family, 384–417 A. D.

2. *Mu-ryō-gi-gyō* (*Amitārtha-sūtra*),<sup>5</sup> translated by Dharmagātayasas, under the Northern Sei dynasty, 479–502 A. D.

3. *Kwan-fu-gen-kgō* ( *Samantabhadra-dhyāna-sūtra*),<sup>6</sup> translated by Dharmamitra, under the Sō

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<sup>4</sup> No. 134. <sup>5</sup> No. 133. <sup>6</sup> No. 394.





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dzū-hon, i. e. Jin-riki hon, the 20th chapter of the Sanskrit text and the 21st of the Chinese version), namely : —

*Sâkyamani Buddha.*

*Visishtakâritra Bodhisattva (Jō-gyō Bosatsu).*

*Nichi-ren Dai-bo-satsu.*

Though the outer form of the doctrine of this sect depends on that of the Ten-dai sect, the principle is absolutely in harmony with the principal Sûtra; so that the internal transmission is much more correct than the external one.

## II. The Doctrine of the sect.

(a) An outline of the Saddharma-pundarîka-sûtra.

The Saddharma-pundarîka-sûtra contains the doctrine which is characterized by the term Gon-jitsu-hon-jaku-ai-e, i. e. 'open comprehension of temporary and true (doctrines), and that of original and subordinate (states of Buddha).' The 'temporary' (Gon) doctrine is that of all the Sûtras spoken by Buddha during the first forty years of his career, before he spoke the Saddharma-pundarîka-sûtra, which alone contains the 'true' (Jitsu) doctrine. The 'original' (Hon) or primitive state of Buddha means the 'original enlightenment' (Hon-gaku) of the very remote time when Buddha was in his primitive stage (Hon-ji). The 'subordinate' (Shaku, lit. footprint) or secondary state of Buddha is the 'first enlightenment' (Shi-jaku) of Buddha's life-time in this world (Sui-



shazū). The 'open comprehension' (Kai-e) means to show the final truth, as the object of the appearance of *Sâkyamuni* in this world.

In the first place we shall explain the 'open comprehension of the temporary and true doctrines' (Gonjitsu-zai-e). When *Sâkyamuni* appeared in this world, there were three classes of beings concerning the power of their understanding. The lowest class was called *Srâvakas* (Shō-mon) or 'hearers;' the middle, *Pratyekabuddhas* (En-gaku) or 'singly enlightened;' and the highest, *Bodhisattvas* (Bo-satsu) or 'beings of wisdom.' Buddha taught the *Srâvakas* to destroy passions, separate from transmigration, and attain to the state of Arhat (A-ra-kan). He instructed those who were capable of becoming *Pratyekabuddhas*, to attain to that state. The *Bodhisattvas* were taught to make the great vow and prayer to save all beings and become Buddhas like *Sâkyamuni* himself, when their meritorious actions had been completed. These three classes were called *Tri-yâna* (San-jō) or 'three vehicles,' the first two being the *Hîna-yâna* (Shō-jō) or 'small vehicle,' and the last, the *Mahâ-yâna* (Dai-jō) or 'great vehicle.' One who attained either to the state of Arhat or *Pratyekabuddha*, according to the *Hîna-yâna*, did not become Buddha of the *Mahâyâna*; and vice versâ. One person could not comprehend two ways at once. They were, therefore, taught to practise any of the three vehicles at their



pleasure. So, there were three distinct classes of people, who became the sages of as many vehicles. This is called the doctrine of temporary expedient.

Thus, during the first forty years, Buddha spoke several Sûtras, observing the distinctions of three vehicles. But in the Saddharma-pundarîka, he declared that all his speeches of the first forty years were expedients, and that there was only one vehicle (Eka-yâna) and not three. Farther he said: 'The Srâvakas and Pratyekabuddhas are also the Mahâyâna and able to become Buddhas. Even the *Ikkhantis* (Is-sen-dai) or 'unfaithful men' and women are able to attain to Buddhahood. All living beings are possessed of the nature of Buddha; so that there is reason to believe that every one without exception can become enlightened. This is my true doctrine, which should not be doubted. However the temporary doctrine of expedients has been spoken by me for the purpose of leading men to the true path of the Saddharma-pundarîka. Therefore the temporary doctrine itself is true in some respects. The temporary doctrine is like the lotus flower, and the true doctrine is like the fruit or seeds of the lotus. The flower is truly the expedient for the fruit. The expedient and the truth are unseparable. No expedient exists without truth. No truth appears without expedient. They are almost one, though numbered two. This is called the Lotus of the Good Law.'





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porary' teaching of the first forty years, Sâkyamuni spoke of himself as he first attained to Buddhahood in this world as it appeared to be so. But when he spoke the Saddharma-pundarîka, he manifested his real state of 'original enlightenment,' as he was the Buddha of permanency and the lord of the whole universe. But no 'original enlightenment' is manifested unless the 'first enlightenment' has been attained here, just as the flowers and the moon of the former days can be understood only after we see those of to-day. Again we can know the Buddhas of the ten regions by seeing one Buddha only, and recognise that we ourselves are already Buddhas by hearing the state of other Buddhas. All Buddhas of the subordinate state are like the images of the moon reflected upon several waters, and only the Buddha of the original state is like the real moon in the sky. The 'subordinate' state is shown by the 'original' one, and vice versâ. Though they are different from each other, their virtue is one and the same. This is called the Lotus of the Good Law.

When Buddha preached this doctrine, the whole assembly of living beings of ten different worlds, who were present in the Dai-ko-kū-e, or 'Great Sky Assembly,' upon Mount Grîdhrakûta (Ryō-zen), attained to the state of Buddha. This is the form of preaching of the 'original doctrine' (Hōn-mon) of the Saddharma-pundarîka.



In short, the character of the 'subordinate doctrine' (Shakū-mon) is to sum up all his speeches, and explain the original intention of his appearance in the world, which is to cause all men and women, whether good or bad, strong or weak in understanding, to join Buddhism. It is also to make the distinctions of several teachings even, and show the wisdom of the one vehicle of Buddha which is just and equal. But the character of the 'original doctrine' (Hon-mon) is to show the origin of all beings, and the real state of enlightenment of the Buddhas of the three times, past, present and future. It also explains that all laws are good and all beings are Buddhas.

The Bhagavat did not teach this excellent law of the original doctrine to the ordinary Bodhisattvas such as Mañgusrî, Bhaishagya-râga (Yaku-ō) and others. How much less did he teach it to the inferior disciples? He carefully instructed in this doctrine the Bodhisattva Visishtakâritra (Jō-gyō) and some others who appeared on the earth. The place in which they were appointed to promulgate the law is this world Sahâ (Sha-ba) or Gambudvîpa; and the time is called either the Period of the Latter Day of the Law, the World of evil and corruption, or the Last 500 years. This is called the Special Instruction in the Original Doctrine of the Soddharma-pundarîka.



## (b) The Three Great Secret Laws.

The important points of the doctrine of Nichi-ren's sect are called the Three Great Secret Laws or Doctrines, which include all rules of Buddhism. In the chapter on the Duration of the Life of the Tathâgata (Ju-ryō-hon) in the Saddharma-pundarîka, Buddha spoke of the permanency of the three bodies of Buddha, namely, 1. Dhârma-kâya (Hosshin) or the 'spiritual body,' 2. Sambhoga-kâya (Hō-shin) or the 'body of compensation,' and 3. Nirmâna-kâya (Ō-ge-shin) or the body capable of transformation. This doctrine is the essence of the Sûtra and the object of the appearance of Buddha in the world; so that it is taken to be the substance of the Three Great Secret Laws. In the Sûtra there occurs the term 'the Tathâgata's Secret Supernatural Power' (Nyō-rai-hi-mitsu-jin-dzū-shi-riki), whence the name of the Three Great Secret Laws.

The Three Laws are the Hon-zon, Dai-moku, and Kai-dan of the Hon-mon, i. e. the chief Object of Worship, the Title of the sūtra, and the Place for learning the Śīla or moral precepts, all of which belong to the Original Doctrine. The substance of these is contained in the title of the Sûtra which consists of the five Chinese characters, Myō-hō-ren-ge-kyō (Saddharma-pundarîka-sûtra). We remember in our mind the chief object of worship, recite with our mouth the title of the Sûtra, and keep in our body the place of





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Buddha of three bodies that do nothing' (Mu-sa-san-jin-no-hon-but-su).

The ten worlds from the world of Buddhas down to that of hells, are all transformations of this original Buddha. The chief object of worship (Hon-zon) is the representation of this Buddha, so that the five characters of Myō-hō-ren-ge-kyō (Saddhama-pundarîka-sûtra) are written down in the middle, around which the forms of the ten worlds are added to show the nature of the original Buddha.

Now Sâkyamuni said of himself, in the chapter on the duration of the Tathâgata's life, that he was really this original Buddha. But not only was Sâkyamuni so, but even we ourselves are the same. This is the way of meditating on the chief object of worship.

Secondly, the five characters Myō-hō-ren-ge-kyō form the title of the Sûtra, so that the name of Daimoku or 'title' is given to them. To these five characters, two more viz No-mu (Namas, or 'adoration') are added. Thus we repeat Na-mu-myō-hō-ren-ge-kyō (Namah Saddharmapundarîkâya Sûtrâya), or 'adoration to the Sûtra of the Lotus of the Good Law.' This is to believe in the Good Law of the heart with the heart of the Good Law. The title of the Sûtra which consists of five characters, is the essence of the whole Sûtra as well as of the holy teaching of Buddha's whole life, the principle of all



things, the truth of eternity, and the secret importance of Buddha's original state and of the virtue of his enlightenment. It is quite beyond the reach of explanation and reasoning, except in so far as one may say that it is inexplicable and inconceivable. It is not understood even by the subordinate Buddhas and the highest Bodhisattvas. How much less can it be known by the inferior beings? It is simply to be believed in, and not to be understood at all. This is the title of the original doctrine.

Thirdly, the Kai-dan, or 'place for receiving instruction in *Sīla* or moral precepts,' of the original doctrine is explained as follows: To keep the *Sīla* is the most important matter of all the divisions of Buddha's doctrine, whether of the great or small vehicle of the true or of the temporary. Therefore there is in the original doctrine the first true *Sīla* which is held by Buddha permanently. The Kai-dan is the Bodhi-manda (*Dō-jō*) or 'place for the way,' where the ceremony to receive instruction in the *Sīla* is to be accomplished. The place is now mentioned instead of the law which is to be observed there.

The substance of this *Sīla* is the title of the five characters *Myō-hō-ren-ge-kyō*. One who believes in this title and observes it, is said to be the holder of the excellent *Sīla* of the original doctrine. The place where he keeps and holds it, is the Pure Land



of the Calm Light (Jak-kō-jō-do), i. e. the Kai-dan.

In short one should remember that his own body is the Original Buddha (Hon-zon), thought is the Good Law (Dai-mōkoku), and the dwelling-place is the Pure Land of Constantly Calm Light (Kai-dan). Thus he should dwell in the Dharmadhātu, or 'spiritual state,' of his own thought.

Though the rules of practice of Buddhism are various, the three trainings (San-gakku) of the higher morality (Kai), thought (Jō) and learning (E) are the most important. By the higher morality one keeps off the bad conduct of his body; by the higher thought, he tranquilizes his mind; and by the higher learning, he becomes free from confusion and attains to enlightenment. There is no Buddhist sect which does not take these three trainings as the principle of their practice, though each sect possesses its own peculiar excellence.

So this sect is the same. The Three Great Secret Laws are the three trainings of the sect. The Kai-dan is of course the morality (Kai). The meditation or thought (Jō) is to believe in the chief object of worship (Hon-zon) and to meditate on the Good Law. The learning (E) is to repeat the title of the Sūtra (Dai-mōkoku), which contains the wisdom of all Buddhas, and to show the excellence of the wisdom.

If one keeps these Three Secret Laws, the three





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Page	Line	
2	25	for ' sâstra ' read ' pâda '
10	8	for ' deat a ' read ' death '
13	18	for ' ohers ' read ' others '
18	7	for ' Ho-ssō read ' Hosō
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27	13	for ' Mahāsamghika read ' Mahasam- ghika '
28	6	for ' Dō-kō ' read ' Dō-gō '
"	20	for ' Gō-shū read ' Yō-shū '
30	21	' the Sila-at ' to be left out.
37	9	for ' systems ' read ' manners '
43	2	for ' Klesa-' read ' Klesa-'
45	2	for ' system...is ' read ' manners...are
46	6	for the second ' Sō-rō ' read ' Sō-sen '
"	26	for ' Af ter ' read ' After '
52	11	for ' Ekavyahârika ' read ' Ekavyava- hârîka '
55	8	for ' Svore ' read ' swore '
65	26	for ' Suddhas ' read ' Buddhas '
72	24	for ' Fina-lly ' read ' Final-ly '
86	14	for ' chin ' read ' shin '
94	15	for ' Dai-ku-jō-e ' read ' Dai-ku-yō-e '
105	6	for ' Amitâyus-' read ' Amitâyui-'









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