

## Readings in the *Madhyama-āgama*

An e-learning online course by Bhikkhu Anālayo  
Numata Center for Buddhist Studies  
University of Hamburg

### Course held in 2011: Purification, Ethics and Karma in Early Buddhist Discourse

The lectures held during the summer semester of 2011 covered the first twenty discourses of the *Madhyama-āgama*. Audio files of the lectures can be audited or downloaded as mp3 files, together with the respective lectures notes as pdfs, at the links given below for each lecture.

[Lecture 1 audio file](#)  
[pdf notes to lecture 1](#)

Lecture 1 covers the first two discourses, MĀ 1 and MĀ 2:

MĀ 1 Discourse on Wholesome Qualities (善法經)  
Pāli Parallel: Discourse on [Being One Who] Knows the Dharma (AN 7.64), *Dhammaññū-sutta*, PTS ed. AN IV 113  
please consult Bhikkhu Bodhi (Numerical Discourses) pp. 1080-1083 (given as discourse no. 68)

MĀ 2 Discourse on the [Celestial] Coral Tree (晝度樹經)  
Pāli Parallel: Discourse on the [Celestial] Coral Tree (AN 7.65), *Pāricchattaka-sutta*, PTS ed. AN IV 117,  
please consult Bhikkhu Bodhi (Numerical Discourses) pp. 1083-1085 (given as discourse no. 69)

[Lecture 2 audio file](#)  
[pdf notes to lecture 2](#)

Lecture 2 covers MĀ 3 and MĀ 4:

MĀ 3 Discourse on the Simile of the [Border] Town (城喻經)  
Pāli Parallel: Discourse on the Simile of the Citadel (AN 7.63), *Nagaropama-sutta*, PTS ed. AN IV 106

please consult Bhikkhu Bodhi (Numerical Discourses)  
pp. 1075-1080 (given as discourse no. 67)

MĀ 4 Discourse on the Water Simile (水喻經)  
Pāli Parallel: Discourse on the Water Simile (AN 7.15),  
*Udakūpama-sutta*, PTS ed. AN IV 11  
please consult Bhikkhu Bodhi (Numerical Discourses)  
pp. 1004-1006

[Lecture 3 audio file](#)  
[pdf notes to lecture 3](#)

Lecture 3 covers MĀ 5, MĀ 6 and MĀ 7:

MĀ 5 Discourse on the Simile of the Heap of Wood (木積  
喻經)  
Pāli Parallel: Discourse on the Simile of the Heap of Fire  
(AN 7.68), *Aggikkhandhopama-sutta*, PTS ed. AN IV 128,  
please consult Bhikkhu Bodhi (Numerical Discourses)  
pp. 1090-1094 (given as discourse no. 72)

MĀ 6 Discourse on the Destination of a Good Person (善人  
往經)  
Pāli Parallel: Discourse on the Destination of a Person (AN  
7.52), *Purisagati-sutta*, PTS ed. AN IV 70,  
please consult Bhikkhu Bodhi (Numerical Discourses) pp.  
1048-1051 (given as discourse no. 55)

MĀ 7 Discourse on [Sources of] Worldly Merit (世間福經)  
no Pāli Parallel

[Lecture 4 audio file](#)  
[pdf notes to lecture 4](#)

Lecture 4 covers MĀ 8:

MĀ 8 Discourse on Seven Suns (七日經)  
Pāli Parallel: Discourse on Seven Suns (AN 7.62),  
*Sattasūriya-sutta*, PTS ed. AN IV 100  
please consult Bhikkhu Bodhi (Numerical Discourses) pp.  
1071-1075 (given as discourse no. 66)

[Lecture 5 audio file](#)  
[pdf notes to lecture 5](#)

Lecture 5 covers MĀ 9:

MĀ 9 Discourse on Seven Chariots (七車經)

Pāli Parallel: Discourse on the Relay of Chariots (MN 24),  
*Rathavinīta-sutta*, PTS ed. MN I 145

please consult Bhikkhu Bodhi (Middle Long Discourses) pp.  
240-245

A lecture by Bhikkhu Bodhi on the Pāli version can be  
found here: [MN 24](#)

[Lecture 6 audio file](#)

[pdf notes to lecture 6](#)

Lecture 6 covers MĀ 10:

MĀ 10 Discourse on the Cessation of the Influxes (漏盡經)

Pāli Parallel: Discourse on All the Influxes (MN 2),  
*Sabbāsava-sutta*, PTS ed. MN I 6

please consult Bhikkhu Bodhi (Middle Long Discourses) pp.  
91-96

Lectures by Bhikkhu Bodhi on the Pāli version can be found  
here:

[MN 2a](#), [MN 2b](#), [MN 2c](#), [MN 2d](#)

[Lecture 7 audio file](#)

[pdf notes to lecture 7](#)

Lecture 7 covers MĀ 11:

MĀ 11 Discourse on the Simile of the [Grain] of Salt (鹽喻  
經)

Pāli Parallel: Discourse on the Grain of Salt (AN 3.99),  
*Loṇakaphala-sutta*, PTS ed. AN I 249,

please consult Bhikkhu Bodhi (Numerical Discourses)  
pp. 331-335 (given as discourse 100)

[Lecture 8 audio files](#)

[pdf notes to lecture 8](#)

Lecture 8 covers MĀ 12, MĀ 13 and MĀ 14:

MĀ 12 Discourse to Vappa (𤝵破經)

Pāli Parallel: Discourse to Vappa (AN 4.195), *Vappa-sutta*,  
PTS ed. AN II 196,

please consult Bhikkhu Bodhi (Numerical Discourses) pp. 572-575

MĀ 13 The Discourse on [Tenets to be] Transcended (度經)  
Pāli Parallel: Discourse on Tenets (AN 3.61),  
*Titthāyatanāni-sutta*, PTS ed. AN I 173,  
please consult Bhikkhu Bodhi (Numerical Discourses) pp. 266-270

MĀ 14 Discourse to Rāhula (羅云經)  
Pāli Parallel: Discourse on an Advice to Rāhula at  
Ambalaṭṭhikā (MN 61), *Ambalaṭṭhikārāhulovāda-sutta*, PTS  
ed. MN I 414,  
please consult Bhikkhu Bodhi (Middle Long Discourses) pp. 523-526  
A lecture by Bhikkhu Bodhi on the Pāli version can be  
found here: [MN 61](#)

[Lecture 9 audio files](#)  
[pdf notes to lecture 9](#)

Lecture 9 covers MĀ 15 and MĀ 16:

MĀ 15 Discourse on Intention (思經)  
Pāli Parallel: Discourse on the Body Made of Deeds (AN 10.208), *Karajakāya-sutta* (alternative title in PTS trsl.: The Brahma-moods) PTS ed. AN V 299,  
please consult Bhikkhu Bodhi (Numerical Discourses) pp. 1541-1543 (given as discourse no. 219)

MĀ 16 Discourse to the Kālāmas (伽藍經)  
Pāli Parallel: *Kesamutti-sutta* (AN 3.65), PTS ed. AN I 188  
please consult Bhikkhu Bodhi (Numerical Discourses) pp. 279-283  
A lecture by Bhikkhu Bodhi on the Pāli version can be  
found here: [AN 3.65](#)

[Lecture 10 audio files](#)  
[pdf notes to lecture 10](#)

Lecture 10 covers MĀ 17 and MĀ 18:

MĀ 17 Discourse to Gāmaṇi (伽彌尼經)

Pāli Parallel: *Asibandhakaputta-sutta*, (SN 42.6),  
(alternative title in PTS ed.: *Pacchābhūmako-sutta*), PTS ed.  
SN IV 311,  
please consult Bhikkhu Bodhi (Connected Discourses) pp.  
1336-1338

MĀ 18 Discourse to Sīha (師子經)  
Pāli Parallel: *Sīha-sutta* (AN 8.12), PTS ed. AN IV 179,  
please consult Bhikkhu Bodhi (Numerical Discourses) pp.  
1130-1136

[Lecture 11 audio files](#)  
[pdf notes to lecture 11](#)

Lecture 11 covers MĀ 19 and MĀ 20:

MĀ 19 Discourse on the Nigaṇṭhas (尼乾經)  
Pāli Parallel: *Devadaha-sutta* (MN 101), PTS ed. MN II  
214,  
please consult Bhikkhu Bodhi (Middle Long Discourses) pp.  
827-838

MĀ 20 Discourse to Pāṭaliya (波羅牢經)  
Pāli Parallel: *Pāṭaliya-sutta*, (SN 42.13), PTS ed. SN IV  
340,  
please consult Bhikkhu Bodhi (Connected Discourses) pp.  
1359-1371