

Panel: Pali Literature in the Second Millenium: Southeast Asia

Section: Early Buddhism,

A Suggestion for Lesson Material. A Manual of the Excellent Man, Uttampurisa Dīpanī, Mahāthera Ledi Sayadaw, Aggamahāpaṇḍita, D.Litt

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I wish to address and suggest suitable lesson materials for school and University to provide an easier understanding of Buddha, Dhamma and Sangha for the young generation. I will use one of the many works of the Mahāthera Ledi Sayadaw. The Mahāthera is believed to have revived paṭipatti (practice) and pariyatti (theory) in Burma, when they were almost lost. The Ledi Dīpanī Propagation Society mentioned that the Sayadaw wished to widely distribute his dīpanīs, at home and abroad. The Sayadaw said that it was high time to propagate the teaching of the Buddha and have them translated into various languages. The first dīpanī was concluded in the year 1880, this dipani here in focus in the year 1901. Before he became famous only a few monks practiced insight meditation, and even fewer lay people. The Sayadaw's central theme is that no amount of academic learning will save one from rebirth in the lower realms, or in hell, if the wrong view of a belief in a permanent self, soul, or ego is not uprooted by the practice of insight meditation. The Sayadaw wrote for those lay Buddhist, who were learned. The text is not easy to read for the beginner. That is why I condensed it to six pages. It is hoped that in this way it might be good lesson material for teachers.