

【Grant-in-Aid for Scientific Research(S)】
Humanities and Social Sciences (Humanities)



Title of Project : The Creation of Bauddhakosa: A Treasury of Buddhist Terms and Illustrative Sentences

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Research Area : Indian Philosophy and Buddhist Studies

Keyword : Indian Philosophy, Buddhist Studies and the History of Buddhism

【Purpose and Background of the Research】

An enormous number of technical terms appear in Buddhist scriptures and treatises. While based on Sanskrit and Middle Indo-Aryan languages, many of these were translated into other languages, especially Chinese, and became established as terms that have been widely accepted in the world of East Asian Buddhism down to the present day.

Nonetheless, an attempt to reexamine the meaning of these many terms in their respective contexts and then gather together the wisdom of many experts with a view to bringing these terms to life in the contemporary languages might be a quite important task.

The objective of this research is to take up for consideration the important scriptures and treatises that were composed in India, [extract the definitions \(or rules about usage\) of terms](#) used in these works, and, as well as comparing these, [establish standard translations](#), on the basis of which one could raise some substantial questions directed towards a full-scale examination by academia as a whole.

【Research Methods】

This project is carried out by the research team composed of a chief investigator, A. Saito, and five research scholars who have their own allotted tasks. The research is further supported by several related scholars as well as graduate students belonging to the each institute of the above research members.

As a methodological example, the chief investigator published in 2011 a booklet entitled *Bauddhakosha: A Treasury of Buddhist Terms and Illustrative Sentences*, in which the seventy-five elements (*dharma*) of Sarvastivada in the *Abhidharmakosabhasya* and related works were examined in detail. The above preliminary research was executed by the effective use of [XML \(Extensible Markup Language\)](#).

This project applies the above method to the other Buddhist terms, approximately 500 in total, related to the fields of [Early Buddhism](#), [Yogacara](#), [Madhyamika](#), [Buddhist Logic](#) and

[Epistemology](#), [Esoteric Buddhism](#), and [Tibetan Buddhism](#).

【Expected Research Achievements and Scientific Significance】

The research project provides us with a [reliable modern Japanese-English glossary of Buddhist terms as well as illustrative sentences](#) in which those terms are used.

The result of this research enables us to have pertinent understanding of Buddhist terms and thoughts which have long influenced the language, literature, philosophy, and culture in general in East Asia.

Besides, the research result can be shared by many people interested in Buddhist thoughts since it is [opened to the public not only in a booklet but also in the Website](#).

It could be also supposed that with an international cooperation, the research is highly expected to complete in Japan since the works primarily or secondarily related are written in different languages such as Sanskrit, Pali, Tibetan, Chinese and Japanese.

【Publications Relevant to the Project】

Saito, A. et al., *Bauddhakosha: A Treasury of Buddhist Terms and Illustrative Sentences*, Bibliotheca Indologica et Buddhologica 14, Tokyo: The Sankibo Press, 2011.

Takahashi, K., "Problems in Creating the Collection of Buddhist Terms by means of TEI P5" (in Japanese), *Jinbun-kogaku no Kanosei (Possibility of Human-Technology)*, Jinmonkon 2010, Tokyo Institute of Technology, 2010, pp.125-130.

【Term of Project】 FY 2011-2015

【Budget Allocation】 81,700 Thousand Yen

【Homepage Address and Other Contact Information】

http://www.l.u-tokyo.ac.jp/intetsu/start_index.html