



The Relationship between Buddhist Worldviews and Contemplative Practices

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Message from the Guest Editor

Articles included in this Special Issue will explore how diverse conceptual models influence contemplative practices of culturally and historically different Buddhist traditions, how they are built into the fabric of those practices, and how they are used by Buddhist practitioners when explaining their respective practices as well as experiences and insights achieved as their result.

The authors will analyze four types of models involved in Buddhist meditation: philosophical models of such systems as Abhidharma, Yogācāra, and Madhyamaka; mind models involving such topics as types of consciousness and mental processes; body models addressing gross and subtle bodies; and path models providing different perspectives on the nature of the Buddhist path and its results. They will show how these models and related elements are incorporated into several representative traditions of Buddhist meditation, including the cultivation of mindfulness, contemplative absorptions, and insight meditation in Theravāda; Zen practices focusing on kōans and “just sitting”; Tibetan stages of the path systems; and tantric practice, including Mahāmudrā and Dzokchen.





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