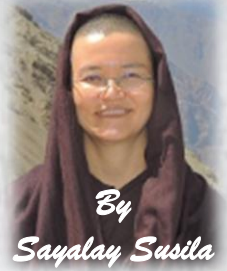




**DHAMMA
ESSENCE**

THE COUNTERFEIT OF THE TRUE DHAMMA

KASSAPA SAMYUTTA IN SAMYUTTA Nikāya



Question 1: *What is the counterfeit of the True Dhamma, now that the counterfeit of the True Dhamma has arisen in the world?*

Answer: Any sutta other than the authentic words of the Buddha is grouped as a counterfeit of the True Dhamma.

Question 2: *Why are these suttas grouped as a counterfeit of the True Dhamma?*

Answer: Because the teachings of all these suttas are not consistent with the teaching of the Buddha whose aim is to uproot, eliminate or destroy the defilements. The aim of the Buddha's teaching is to eradicate craving, the cause of all sufferings.

Question 3: *And what is the cause of all sufferings?*

Answer: Craving.

Question 4: *Craving for what?*

Answer:

1. Craving for Sensuality - Craving for the 6 external sense-objects & internal sense-bases is a cause for rebirth.
2. Craving for Becoming - Craving for life is a cause for rebirth.
3. Craving for Non-Becoming - This false view of annihilation (uccheda-diṭṭhi) is a cause for rebirth.

And these are the 3 causes or origins of suffering. The aim of the Buddha teaching is to help us eliminate all types of craving. So if there is any sutta that encourages enjoyment in sensuality, more life (eternalism) or no life (annihilation), then it is a counterfeit of the True Dhamma.

Question 5: *What is the True Dhamma?*

Answer: 1) Pariyatti - **learning** of the Dhamma. 2) Patipatti - **practice** of the Dhamma . 3) Pativedha - **realisation** of the Dhamma.

Question 6: *And what are the 5 detrimental practices that lead to the decay and disappearance of the True Dhamma?*

Answer: They are when the bhikkhus, bhikkhunis, male lay-followers, female lay-followers **dwelt without reverence, deference and deep respect** to the:

1. **Buddha** (9 qualities) 2. **Dhamma** (6 qualities) 3. **Sangha** (4 kinds of ariya-sangha)
4. **Three trainings** (sīla, samādhi [4 kinds of rūpa jhānas] & pañña) 5. **Concentration** (4 kinds of arūpa jhānas).

Question 7: *And what are the 5 benevolent practices that lead to the longevity of the True Dhamma, to its non-decay and non-disappearance?*

Answer: They are when the bhikkhus, bhikkhunis, male lay-followers & female lay-followers **dwelt with reverence, deference and deep respect** towards the: 1. Buddha 2. Dhamma 3. Sangha 4. Trainings 5. Concentration.

Summary: The long lasting of the True Dhamma depends on 4 groups of people: the **bhikkhus, bhikkhunis, male lay followers & female lay followers**. We all share equal responsibility for the non-decay and non-disappearance of the True Dhamma. Please take serious note !

The disappearance of the True Dhamma is a great lost to us, and we are equally responsible.