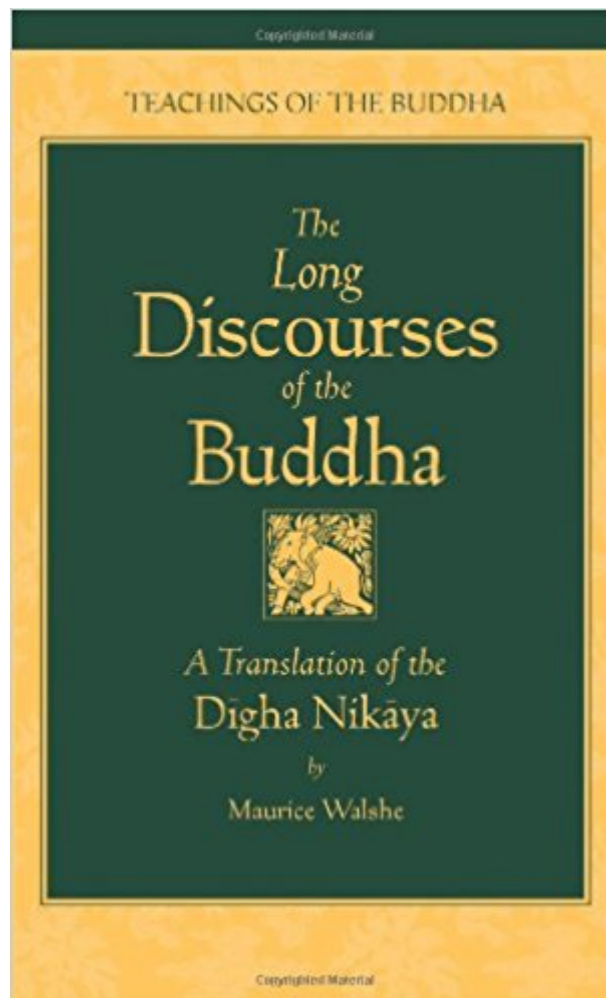




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The Long Discourses Of The Buddha: A Translation Of The Digha Nikaya (The Teachings Of The Buddha)



Synopsis

This book offers a complete translation of the Digha Nikaya, the long discourses of the Buddha, one of the major collections of texts in the Pali Canon, the authorized scriptures of Theravada Buddhism. This collection--among the oldest records of the historical Buddha's original teachings, given in India two and a half thousand years ago--consists of thirty-four longer-length suttas, or discourses, distinguished as such from the middle-length and shorter suttas of the other collections. These suttas reveal the gentleness, compassion, power, and penetrating wisdom of the Buddha. Included are teachings on mindfulness (Mahasatipatthana Sutta); on morality, concentration, and wisdom (Subha Sutta); on dependent origination (Mahanidrana Sutta); on the roots and causes of wrong views (Brahmajala Sutta); and a long description of the Buddha's last days and passing away (Mahaparinibbana Sutta); along with a wealth of practical advice and insight for all those travelling along the spiritual path. Venerable Sumedho Thera writes in his foreword: "[These suttas] are not meant to be 'sacred scriptures' that tell us what to believe. One should read them, listen to them, think about them, contemplate them, and investigate the present reality, the present experience, with them. Then, and only then, can one insightfully know the truth beyond words." Introduced with a vivid account of the Buddha's life and times and a short survey of his teachings, The Long Discourses of the Buddha brings us closer in every way to the wise and compassionate presence of Gotama Buddha and his path of truth.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

This translation of the Digha Nikaya, a collection of 34 sutras and a companion volume to The Middle Length Discourses (below), deals with a variety of topics such as the rewards of monastic life, early Buddhist philosophy, and the duties of laypersons. Copyright 1999 Reed Business Information, Inc.

"This is an amazing work that speaks to us across 2500 years... Each person who undertakes to read and study The Long Discourses of the Buddha will, I believe, open up new paths of thought and new and precious insights into the depths of Buddhist history and thought." (Mountain Record)"These teachings... unfold in fascinating procession of scenarios that show the Buddha in living dialogue with people from the many different strata of ancient Indian society... Replete with drama, with reasoned argument, and with illuminating parables and similes, these discourses exhibit the Buddha in the full range of his wisdom, majestic sublimity, and compassionate humanity." (Branches of Light)

Repays endless study. I started reading this book 15 years ago, and I still pick it up and read formerly unread parts, as well as re-reading parts I've already read. It may not be for everyone, but I love it. The book consists of word-by-word accounts of lessons given by the Buddha himself. There are several thousand pages of these, in this book and others. For years I thought that Buddhism was something mysterious that you had to intuit the meaning of. I thought hardly anything was directly known of the man himself. I was wrong on both counts. This is a complex book, hundreds of pages long, but it is the first book in the series of books that traditional Buddhists consider their "Scriptures." For someone who wants increased knowledge about the Buddha and his ideas, this is a great starting place. But, I must admit, it takes patience and study - though they are amply rewarded over time.

I started my study of the Buddha's teachings with the Middle Length Discourses. I recommend to start with that collection before moving to this collection of the Long Discourses. Since all of this came from an oral tradition and was not written down for hundreds of years after the passing of the Buddha, it stands to reason that the shorter more simplistic discourses might be more accurate with less embellishment and closer to the reality of the Buddha.

Yep! If you have a real practice.. almost all the nikayas should be read..Lots of the most important

suttas are in the one - I can't speak about the translation as I can't read Pali and never read the original palm leaves - but it is true good dhamma.

No need to look any further, it doesn't get much better than this. This along with the four other Nikayas and the Vinaya are a precious gift of infinite value to the human race and will bring its earnest practitioner to the deathless lands. Recommended to all lovers of truth.

This large chunk of the Pali canon, in its recent translation, is full of startling revelations and details and wisdom. Right up there with the Christian Bible for must-reads in a modern world. Better IMO to read this near-to-the-source translation than a lot of the stuff online about Buddhism, which has morphed itself in strange ways from this original material. The Buddha was an awesome being with superior insights, compassion, and clarity of thought, and it all still rings through in these discourses. Highly recommended.

Satisfied. The book received was in excellent state. I'm studying and learning very much from the original noble, precious teachings of the Buddha translated in English. Really appreciate the efforts of the translator.

The Digha Nikaya is a gem and Maurice Walshe is the gem cutter who brings out the brilliance in a masterful translation. His choice of words and tone are inviting and pleasant. Of all the Nikayas in the Wisdom Publications catalog the DN is the easiest to read. Walshe trims away much of the repetition and presents this important work in a concise fashion that flows from beginning to end.

Excellent translation. Maybe not as revised as the ones edited or translated by Bhikkhu Bodhi, but very modern wording uses and incredible work and diligence put into the best translation available at that time and at this time. Any practitioner, scholar, or just enthusiast should pick it up.

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