

VOL. 4
The Group of
Linked
Discourses
Beginning With
the Six Sense
Fields

LINKED DISCOURSES
BHIKKHU SUJATO

The “Linked” or “Connected” Discourses (Saṃyutta Nikāya) is a collection of over a thousand short discourses organized by either a theme of Dhamma or the person who is speaking. It is the primary source work for fundamental themes such as the five aggregates, dependent origination, the noble eightfold path, mindfulness meditation, and the four noble truths. The radical significance of these teachings is unpacked through systematic analysis leavened with parables, anecdotes, and similes.

“The Group of Linked Discourses Beginning With the Six Sense Fields” is named after the first and longest section, which deals with the core Buddhist teaching of the six sense fields. The six sense fields complement the five aggregates as the summary of the noble truth of suffering. Where the aggregates focus on the functional structure of experience as basis for views of self, the emphasis here is on how sense experience stimulates desire. The second saṃyutta on Feelings also deals with a major doctrinal topic, while the remaining eight sections deal with miscellaneous secondary themes, some organized by subject, others by person.

The wisdom of the Buddha has been preserved in a vast ocean of ancient texts. SuttaCentral offers fresh translations of these texts in the world's languages. Setting aside the boundaries of language and tradition, we let the Buddha speak for himself.

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Linked Discourses

A plain translation of the
Saṃyutta Nikāya

translated by
Bhikkhu Sujato

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Sense Fields

Saḷāyatanavaggasaṃyutta

