

The “Linked” or “Connected” Discourses (*Samyutta 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 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 on the Path” is the last and largest of the five books of the Linked Discourses. It consists of twelve section, almost all of which deal with an aspect of Buddhist practice, or the path. The first of these, indeed, is the “Section on the Path” (*Maggasamyutta*), and in the northern canons the book as a whole is referred to as the “Book of the Path” (*Maggavagga*). The first seven sections are our primary source for the familiar set of seven groups of factors on Buddhist practice known to the later traditions as the “qualities leading to awakening”. Subsequent sections deal with the path from different perspectives, while the final two deal with stream-entry and the four noble truths respectively.

*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.*



VOL. 5  
The Group of Linked  
Discourses on the  
Path

LINKED DISCOURSES BHIKKHU SUJATO



# Linked Discourses

## A plain translation of the *Samyutta Nikāya*

*translated by*

Bhikkhu Sujato

VOLUME 5  
SN 45–56  
The Group of Linked Discourses on the Path  
*Mahāvaggasamyutta*

