

VOL. 2
The Group
of Linked
Discourses
Beginning
With
Causation

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 Causation” is named after the first and longest section, which deals with the core Buddhist teaching of Dependent Origination. Dependent origination presents a series of conditional links laying bare how suffering originates and how it ends. Integrating psychological and existential aspects of suffering, it shows how when bound by attachment we make choices that bind us to transmigrating into future lives, thus explaining how rebirth takes place without having to invoke metaphysical concepts such as a “soul.” The remaining nine 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

VOLUME 2

SN 12–21

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Nidānavaggasaṃyutta

