

Special Issue

Buddhism and Moral Psychology

Message from the Guest Editor

Papers for this Special Issue might approach moral psychology in Buddhism from a number of perspectives: evolutionary psychology (how does the Buddhist analysis of the human condition resonate with what we know of human origins? What is the Buddhist analysis of the nature of emotions such as empathy, guilt, anger, shame, disgust, awe, which evolved to aid in survival?); cognitive sciences (what does brain research tell us about emotions and their control?); ethical theory (what is the moral psychology of deontological, consequentialist, or virtue ethics?); descriptive (what kind of moral reasoning is used by Buddhists of a particular type in a particular place?); classical Buddhist training (how does one develop virtues?); philosophy (how might Buddhists approach the “Trolley Problem” or other ethical conundrums?); Moral Foundation Theory (Haidt and Joseph); moral development (comparing the movement of a Buddhist practitioner from one ethical basis to another to the stages of moral development by Kohlberg, et al).

Guest Editor

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Deadline for manuscript submissions

closed (15 January 2021)



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Fresh developments in the disciplines that consistently make significant contributions to our understanding of religious personality, authority, devotion, and community – disciplines ranging from psychology, sociology, and anthropology to history, art history, philosophy, literary criticism, and political science – fuel general, as well as scholarly, interest in the world's religions.

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