

Fundamental Knowledge of Abhidhamma

Lesson – 20 – Unwholesome Mental Factors

Collected By Ven.Paññādhikālaṅkāra

(2) *Akusala-cetasika* – Unwholesome factors – 14

<p><i>Moha-catukka</i> (Delusion quartet)– 4</p>	<p>1. Moha – Delusion 2. <i>Ahirika</i> – Shamelessness of wrong doing 3. <i>Anottappa</i> – Fearlessness of wrong doing 4. <i>Uddhacca</i> – Restlessness / agitation</p>	<p>Four factors occur in all twelve unwholesome consciousness</p>
<p><i>Lobha-tri</i> (Greed triad)– 3</p>	<p>5. Lobha – Greed 6. <i>Diṭṭhi</i> – Wrong view 7. <i>Māna</i> – Conceit</p>	<p>Three factors occur only in <i>Lobhamūla</i>.</p>
<p><i>Dosa-catukka</i> (Hatred quartet)– 4</p>	<p>8. Dosa – Hatred 9. <i>Issā</i> – Envy 10. <i>Macchhariya</i> – Avarice / Stinginess 11. <i>Kukkucca</i> – Worry / Remorse</p>	<p>Four factors occur only in <i>Dosamūla</i>.</p>
<p><i>Other</i> – 3 (Sloth dyad and Doubt alone)</p>	<p>12. <i>Thina</i> – Sloth 13. <i>Middha</i> – Torpor 14. <i>Vicikicchā</i> – Doubt</p>	<p>Two factors are related to the prompted cittas of <i>Lobhamūla</i> and <i>Dosamūla</i>. <i>Vicikicchā</i> is related to only Mohamūla.</p>

Akusala-sādhāraṇa –
(Four Universal Unwholesome Factors)
The Four factors lead by *Moha*

- These four factors occur in all twelve unwholesome cittas, for every unwholesome *citta* involves
- a mental blindness to the danger in evil (i.e. delusion), -
 - a lack of shame and
 - moral dread, and
 - an underlying current of agitation (i.e. restlessness). {p.95}

(*Akusala-sādhāraṇa* – Four Universal Unwholesome Factors)**The Four factors lead by *Moha***

<i>Moha</i> – Delusion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A synonym for <i>Avijjā</i>, ignorance (as a root of all unwholesome) - Hide the true nature of things - The opposite of <i>Amoha</i> (non-delusion), <i>Ñāṇa</i> (knowledge), <i>Paññindriya</i> or <i>Paññā</i> (wisdom) <p>(the characteristic of Mental blindness or unknowing, <i>Aññāṇa</i>)</p> <p>{ - compared to <u>darkness</u>)</p>
<i>Ahirika</i> – Shamelessness of wrong doing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Lack of respect for oneself is the cause. (the characteristic of the absence of disgust at bodily and verbal misconduct) <p>{- compared to <u>village pig</u> which is not disgusted with eating excrement)</p>
<i>Anottappa</i> – Fearlessness of wrong doing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Not being afraid of the consequences - Lack of respect for other is the cause. (the characteristic of the absence of dread on bodily and verbal misconduct) <p>{-compared to <u>moth</u> which is not afraid of the flame)</p>
<i>Uddhacca</i> – Restlessness / agitation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mental restlessness, not still, distraction (being not firmly on the object) - {it makes the mind not to be stuck to the object} <p>(the characteristic of disquietude) – like <u>water</u> whipped up by the wind</p>

Lobha-tri (Greed triad)– 3

The three factors lead by *Lobha*

<i>Lobha</i> – Greed	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- First unwholesome root, covers all degrees of selfish desire, longing, attachment, and clinging.- Craving (<i>Taṇhā</i>) (the characteristic = grasping an object) {compared to a sticky substance, monkey-glue}
<i>Diṭṭhi</i> – Wrong view	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- <i>Diṭṭhi</i> – just view or seeing (<i>Micchā</i> – wrong & <i>Sammā</i> – right)- (when it is used alone, it mostly means wrong view)- Seeing wrongly. (things to be permanent, to be satisfactory, to be an atman, etc.) (the characteristic = unwise (unjustified) interpretation of things)
<i>Māna</i> – Conceit	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- A kind of mental madness , wants to be on the top of other people- Sometimes it may be overestimation of oneself (the characteristic = haughtiness) {-compared to a flag up in the air}

***Dosa-catukka* (Hatred quartet)– 4**

The Four factors lead by *Dosa*

<i>Dosa</i> – Hatred	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Second unwholesome root, comprises all kinds and degrees of aversion, ill-will, anger, irritation, annoyance, and animosity - Depression and sorrow are also the modes of <i>Dosa</i>. (the characteristic = Ferocity) {-compared to a snake (a cobra) hit by the stick
<i>Issā</i> – Envy	<p>(the characteristic = being jealous (<i>proximate cause is others' success – wealth, appearance, beauty, etc...</i>)</p>
<i>Macchhariya</i> – Avarice / Stinginess	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Not being able to bear sharing one's own properties with others - Always arises with Dosamūla citta, never arises with Lobhamūla citta. (the characteristic = concealing one's own success when it has been or can be obtained.) (<i>proximate cause is one's won success</i>)
<i>Kukkucca</i> – Worry / Remorse	<p>-worry or remorse after having wrong done wrong. (the characteristic = subsequent regret) (<i>proximate cause is what has and what has not been done</i> (i.e. wrongs of commission and omission)</p>

The three factors (Others)

<i>Thina</i> – Sloth	- Sluggishness or dullness of mind (<i>citta</i>) (the characteristic = lack of driving power)
<i>Middha</i> – Torpor	- The morbid state of the mental factors (the characteristic = unwildness)
<i>Vicikicchā</i> – Doubt	- (spiritual) Doubt – the inability to place confidence in the Buddha, the Dhamma, the Sangha and the training, One of the mental hindrances. - Not every doubt is <i>Vicikicchā</i> ❖ <i>Vī</i> – (no) + <i>cikicchā</i> (remedy or curing) ❖ <i>Vici</i> – (investigating) + <i>kicchā</i> (getting tired) (the characteristic = doubting)

Sloth and torpor always occur in conjunction, and are opposed to energy (***Vīriya***).

Sloth is identified as sickness of consciousness (***Citta-gelaṇṇā***),

Torpor as sickness of the mental factors (***Kāya-gelaṇṇā***). (***Kāya*** = ***Ñāmakāya***)

As a pair they constitute one of the five hindrances, which is overcome by initial application (***Vitakka***).

➤ Argument about ***Middha*** to be included under Materiality or Mentality –