

# **BUDDHA INSIDE BUDDHA IMAGE, DHAMMAGA AND BUDDHIST WISDOM**

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## **ABSTRACT**

The Buddha image is a common holy object for worshipping of Buddhist practitioners. In Southeast Asia, where there are numerous Buddhist people, there are many Buddha images. An interesting rare Buddha image is the “Buddha inside buddha image”, which has been found at in Mandalay region of Myanmar. This kind of Buddha image reflects the specific belief of Dhammagaya principle. The more in depth analysis can show the secret wisdom under the style of the “Buddha inside buddha image”.

**KEYWORDS:** Buddha, Image, Dhamma, Wisdom.

## **INTRODUCTION**

The Buddha image is a common holy object for worshipping of Buddhist practitioners. In Southeast Asia, where there are numerous Buddhist people, there are many Buddha images. In fact, analysis of Buddha image can give useful academic information. For example, the analysis of Buddha image and scriptures can provide ancient pharmacy wisdom [1]. At present, there are several forms of Buddha image seen around the world. An interesting rare Buddha image is the “Buddha inside buddha image”, which has been found at in Mandalay region of Myanmar. This kind of Buddha image reflects the specific belief of Dhammagaya principle, which is an interesting belief seen in Indochina. In this article, the author discussed on the depth analysis can show the secret wisdom under the style of the “Buddha inside buddha image”.

## **INTERESTING BUDDHA IMAGES, “BUDDHA INSIDE BUDDHA IMAGE”**

“Buddha inside buddha image” has been found only in Mandalay region of Myanmar. The specific site that the Buddha image can be seen is at the Kyauksetownship where the long history exists. Many hundred years of history results in abundances of ancient Buddhist sites in this specific township. In the township, there are only two ancient Buddhist pagodas that there are the “Buddha inside buddha image”. Of interest, both pagodas have just discovered the “Buddha inside buddha image” for a few years. The first pagoda is namely TamoteShweGugyi where the Buddha image has just been discovered for a few years. In the past, this pagoda is a small Buddhist pagoda with a small hill. Accidentally, the hill was dug off and the huge ancient pagoda was discovered and in that discovered ancient pagoda, the specific “Buddha inside buddha image” was discovered (Figure 1).

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Image at TamoteShweGugyi (Photography by Wiwanitkit, August 2017)

**Figure 1. "Buddha inside buddha image" seen in Myanmar**

The second pagoda is namely Shin PinsetTwar where there is an ancient stupa. Accidentally, it was recently found that there is a secret tunnel at that stupa and there is a "Buddha inside buddha image" inside that tunnel.

### **IMPLICATION ON HIDDEN WISDOM REFLECTED FROM "BUDDHA INSIDE BUDDHA IMAGE"**

Of interest, both sites with "Buddha inside buddha image" were accidentally discovered. The hidden Buddha is interesting. In fact, the "Buddha inside buddha image" reflect hidden Buddha inside an outer shell Buddha. This is according to the rooted belief in Indochina namely Dhammagaya which has been seen in "Tripitaka: the Angulimala story". Dhammagaya is a belief of having body insider the body. There is a famous Buddhist temple in Thailand namely Wat Paknam and Wat Dhammagaya where the specific belief on Dhammaya are much promoted. Nevertheless, the promotion is usually relating meditation practice to search and find by imagination of Buddha body inside one's body who meditate. There is a specific scientific proof that practicing Dhammagaya meditation can result in good physiology of the human body [2]. Nevertheless, there is no specific "Buddha inside buddha image" in Thailand. The case of

"Buddha inside buddha image" in Myanmar is very specific and directly represents the Dhammagaya in the Tripitaka. In fact, the implication of the Dhammagaya is a wisdom in Buddhism and it reflects the searching for truth of the body. It promotes reanalyze and rethink starting at oneself to realize one's body and mind.

### **CONCLUSION**

"Buddha inside buddha image" might be constructed according to the belief in Dhammagaya. It is a marvelous image but implies a high wisdom for teaching local Buddhist people to rethink and reanalysis on his/herself as the start of religious practice towards the good doing.

**CONFLICT OF INTEREST:** None

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