

The Relationship between Ten Stages and Ten Perfections in Mahayana Buddhism

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The meanings given in the Pali-English dictionary for the term *bhūmi* are earth; place; region; ground; plane; stage; level; state of consciousness. In *Dhammasangani*, *bhūmi* is synonymous with *magga* (path). In the philosophical term *bhūmi* means stages of spiritual progress.

A Bodhisattva's entire career has been divided into several parts and stages. Among them both Perfections and Stages play a major role. There are four stages in Theravada as *Sotapanna*, *Sakadāgāmi*, *Anāgāmi* and *Arahant*. The stages were explained in various ways in Mahayana Buddhism. We can identify it as at least four different schemes of divisions.

Mahāvastu: *durārohā*, *baddhamānā*, *puspa-manditā*, *pucirā*, *citta-vistāra*, *rupavati*, *durayā*, *janmaniddesa*, *yauvarāj* and *abhiseka*.

Shatasāhasrikā Prajñā pamita: Eventhough there mentioned about the ten *bhūmis*, they have not been assigned any names.

Bodhisattva *bhūmi sūtra*: *gotra*, *adhimukti carya*, *suddhāsaya*, *caryā pratipatti*, *niyatā*, *niyatā caryā*, *nisthāgamana*.

Dasabūmika sūtra: *pramuditā*, *vimalā*, *prabhākrī*, *arcismatī*, *sudurjayā*, *abhimukti*, *dūarangamā*, *acalā*, *sādhumatī*, *dharma meghā*.

This paper intends to examine the relationship between the stages and perfections. The comparative method is applied by using primary sources.

In this study, attention has been drawn on ten stages in Dasa Bhūmika sutra. The author of this sutra manages to place all the important concepts and categories of Buddhist Philosophy, but his system exhibits a certain unity of plan on account of the parallelism between dasa paramita and dasa bhūmi.

Keywords: *bhūmi*, *pāramitā*, *Mahāvastu*, *Shatasāhasrikā Prajñā pamita*, Bodhisattva *bhūmi sūtra*, Dasabūmika sūtra