Searching Buddhist Sacred Texts in Atla Religion Database Lianghao Lu, Metadata Editor

atla

Types of Buddhist Sacred Texts

- Sutras (Suttas): These are discourses and teachings attributed to Gautama Buddha. They encompass a wide range of subjects, including ethics, meditation, philosophy, and doctrine.
- Sutras and suttas are canonical scriptures in Buddhism. Sutras are in Sanskrit, while suttas are in Pali.
- Passed down through oral transmission, they are believed to be the direct teachings from Gautama Buddha, hence often begin with phrases like "Thus have I heard" or "Thus did I hear."



Sutras/Suttas

- Sutras serve as foundational texts for various Buddhist traditions, including Theravada, Mahayana, and Vajrayana (Esoteric Buddhism, Tibetan Buddhism).
- Sutras are often recited and chanted in Buddhist rituals, ceremonies, and meditation practices. This recitation is considered a form of devotion and a means of internalizing the teachings.



Types of Buddhist Sacred Texts

■ Vinaya: These texts contain rules and guidelines for monastic discipline, governing the conduct of monks and nuns within the Buddhist monastic community.



Vinaya

- It primarily provides an ethical code for monks and nuns, outlining rules and guidelines for their conduct. It covers areas such as proper behavior, relations with laypeople, and rituals for monastic life.
- ▼ Vinaya texts are passed down through a lineage of transmission. Each Buddhist tradition may have its own Vinaya lineage and set of rules.



Types of Buddhist Sacred Texts

- Abhidharma (Abhidhamma): These are analytical and philosophical texts that provide in-depth examinations of Buddhist teachings.
- This body of literature includes commentaries, and later hermeneutical texts on the Buddhist Sutras. They presents the Buddha's teachings in technical terms that are carefully defined to ensure analytical exactitude.



Abhidharma/Abhidhamma

- The exhaustive investigations into the nature and interaction of Buddhist dharmas extended into the fields of metaphysics, epistemology, and ontology, and generated doctrinal controversies among different Buddhist schools.
- Many of the Abhidharma literature were written by a particular Buddhist scholar, hence in the Atla Religion Database it is often included as a variant under the author's name authority.



"Triple Basket": Tipiṭaka and Tripiṭaka

- ▼ Tipitaka (Pali Canon):
 - The term "Tipitaka" is used in the Theravada tradition, which is a major Buddhist tradition predominantly followed in Southeast Asia and Sri Lanka.
 - Tipitaka" is the Pali language version of the term, and it means "Three Baskets" or "Three Collections." The three baskets refer to the three main sections of the Pali Canon: Sutta Pitaka, Vinaya Pitaka, and Abhidhamma Pitaka.



"Triple Basket": Tipiṭaka and Tripiṭaka

- Tripitaka (Sanskrit Canon):
 - The term "Tripitaka" is used in Mahayana and Vajrayana Buddhist traditions, which are more prevalent in East Asia, Tibet, and certain other regions.
 - "Tripitaka" is the Sanskrit language version of the term, and it also means "Three Baskets" or "Three Collections." It refers to the same three main sections of Buddhist scriptures as in the Pali Canon: Sutra, Vinaya, and Abhidharma.



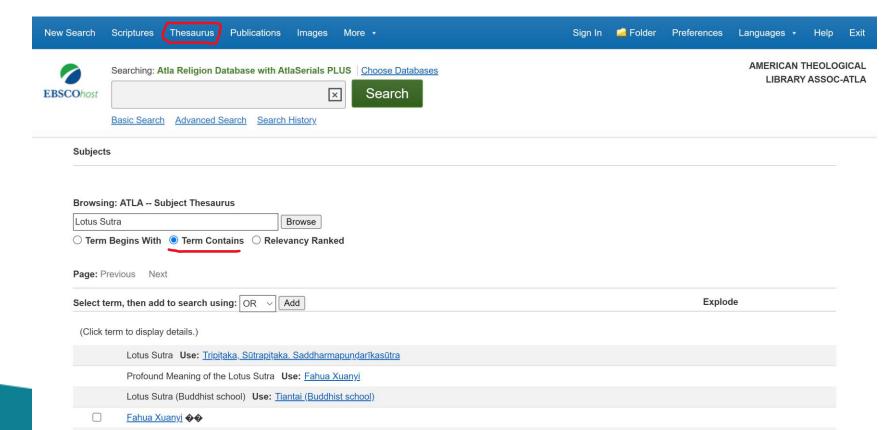
The Search of Sutras/Suttas in Atla Religion Database

- The naming convention of Buddhist Sutras:
 - ¬ Tripitaka/Tipitaka
 - ¬ Sūtrapiṭaka/Suttapiṭaka
 - ▼ (The particular sutra titles, such as Saddharmapuṇḍarīkasūtra, i.e. Lotus Sutra)



The Search of Sutras/Suttas in Atla Religion Database

■ Identity the title information by first searching "Atla Subject Thesaurus," choosing the "Terms contains" button





The Search of Sutras/Suttas in Atla Religion Database

- "Translating" Popular Sutras Titles through the Thesaurus
 - Na Heart Sutra: Tripitaka, Sutrapitaka. Prajnaparamita. Hrdaya
 - ▼ Flower Garland Sutra: Tripitaka. Sutrapitaka. Avatamsakasutra

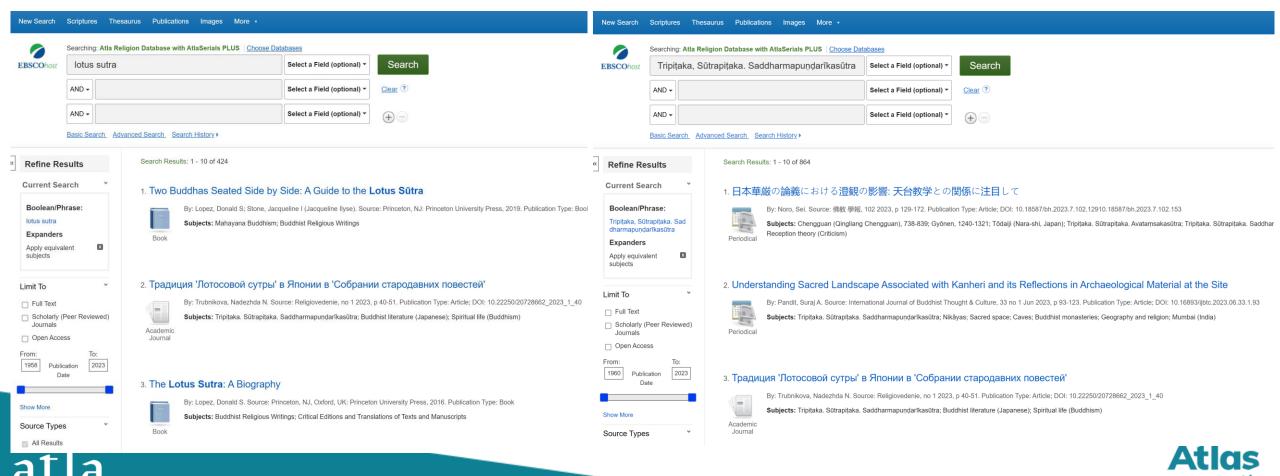


"Translating" Popular Sutras Names through the Thesaurus

- Diamond Sutra: Tripitaka. Sutrapitaka. Prajnaparamita. Vajracchedika
- Diamond Peak Sutra: Tripitaka. Sutrapitaka. Vajraśekharavimanasarvayogayogisutra
- Lotus Sutra: Tripitaka. Sutrapitaka. Saddharmapundarikasutra
- Nirvana Sutra: Tipitaka. Suttapitaka. Dighanikaya. Mahaparinibbanasutta



An accurate input of sutra title yields comprehensive search results



Other Related Search Terms for Buddhist Sutras/Suttas

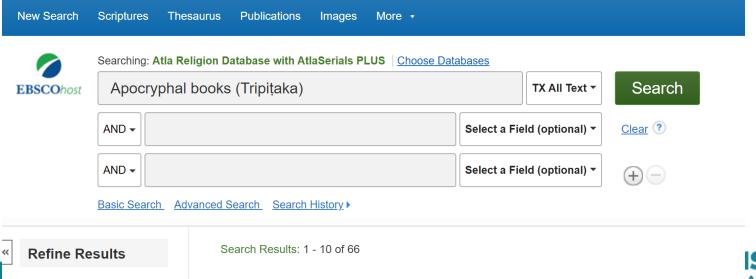
Nikayas: Refers to a specific collection of texts that make up a major part of the Pali Canon.

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Other Related Search Terms for Buddhist Sutras/Suttas

Apocryphal books (Tripitaka): Refers to a category of Buddhist scriptures that are considered outside the traditional Buddhist canons, including Late Compositions, Heterodox or Sectarian Texts, Regional and Cultural Variations, and Apocryphal Collections.

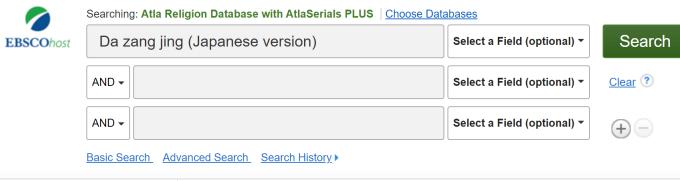






Other Related Search Terms for Buddhist Sutras/Suttas

■ Da zang jing (Japanese version): Variants includes "Taisho Tripiṭaka," "Nihon Daizōkyō," "Ta tsang ching (Japanese version). Japanese & Chinese." It was compiled and edited during the Taishō era in Japan (1912-1926). It is a comprehensive collection of Buddhist texts, and its primary purpose was to preserve, organize, and make Buddhist scriptures more accessible to scholars and practitioners.

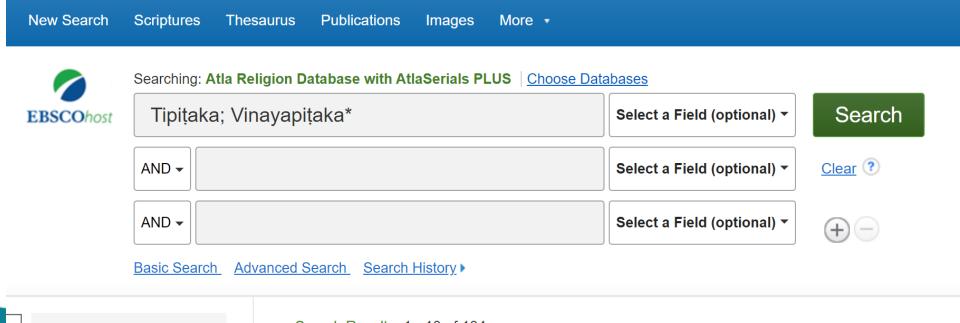




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Searching Vinaya Texts in Atla Religion Database

The Vinaya texts in Theravada Buddhism: "Tipitaka; Vinayapitaka"



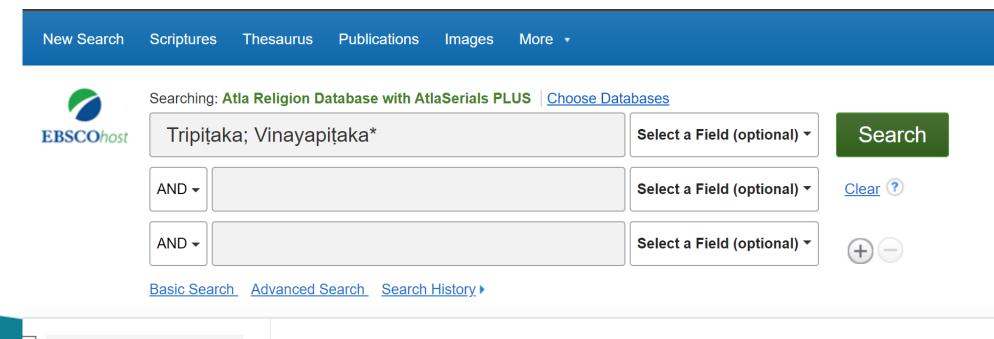


Refine Results

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Searching Vinaya Texts in Atla Religion Database

■ The Vinaya texts in Mahayana Buddhism: "Tripitaka; Vinayapitaka*"





Refine Results

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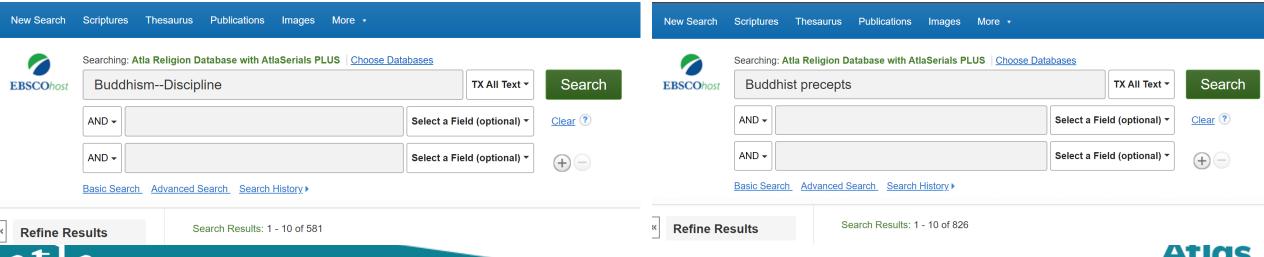
Vinaya Texts with Popular Variants

- ▼ Tripitaka; Vinayapitaka. Dharmaguptavinaya: "四分律," "Dharmaguptaka Vinaya," and "Ssu fen lu"
- ▼ Tripitaka; Vinayapitaka. Mahasanghikavinaya: "Mo he seng qi lui," and "摩訶僧祇律"
- ▼ Tripitaka; Vinayapitaka. Mulasarvastivadavinaya: "根本說一切有部律"



Searching Vinaya Texts in Atla Religion Database

- The related search terms for Vinaya:
 - ¬ "Buddhism − Discipline"
 - ¬ "Buddhist precepts"





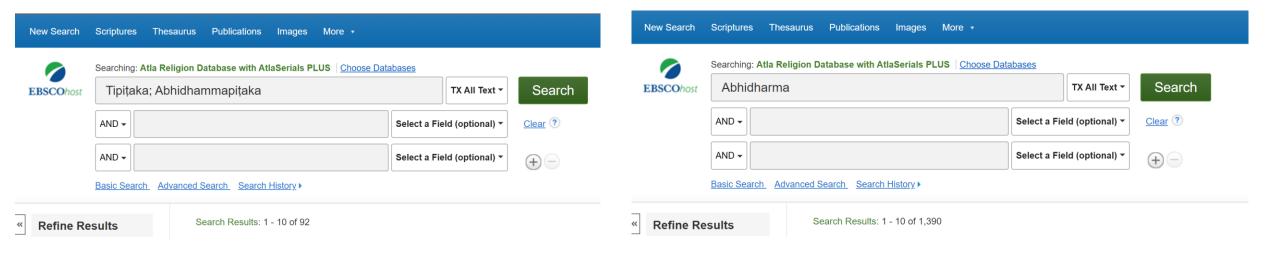
Searching Abhidharma/Abhidhamma in Atla Religion Database

- Two indexing methods for Abhidharma/Abhidhamma texts:
 - ▼ Under the text titles.
 - Under the author names



Searching Abhidharma/Abhidhamma under texts titles

In Theravada canon: "Tipitaka; Abhidhammapitaka"

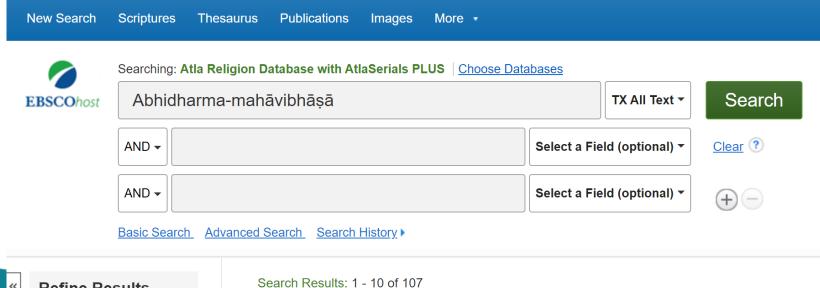


In Mahayan canon: "Abhidharma (variant: Tripitaka; Abhidharmapitaka)"



Searching Abhidharma/Abhidhamma under texts titles

Abhidharma-mahāvibhāṣa: Thought to have been authored around 150 CE, its authorship is traditionally attributed to five hundred arhats.

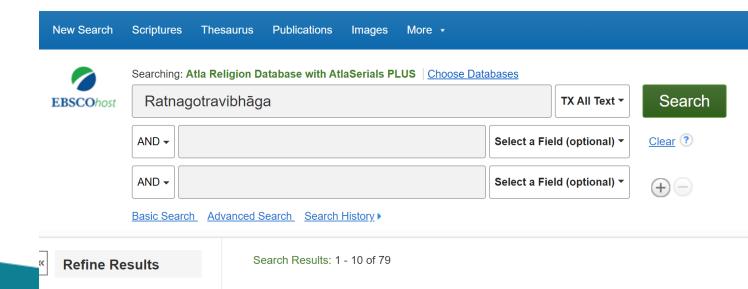




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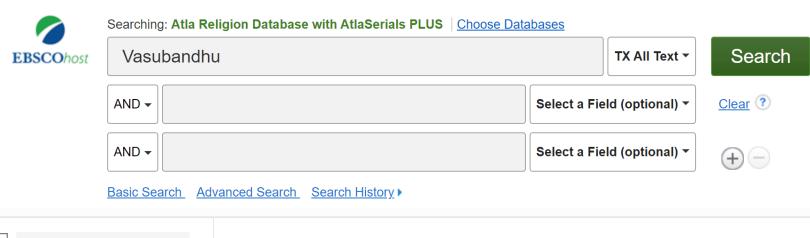
Searching Abhidharma/Abhidhamma under texts titles

- Ratnagotravibhāga: The authorship of the text is uncertain, and is likely to be composed between the middle of the third century and no later than 433 CE.
 - Variants: "究竟一乗宝性論," "Mahayanottra-tantraśastra"



Searching Abhidharma/Abhidhamma under author names

■ Vasubandhu (316-396): Author of Abhidharmakosa (Commentary on the Treasury of the Abhidharma), Sukhavativyuhopadeśa (Discourse on the Pure Land), etc. He is thought be the author of more than one hundred Abhidharma texts.





Refine Results

Searching Abhidharma/Abhidhamma under author names

Nāgārjuna (active 2nd century): Author of Mūlamadhyamakakārikā (Root Verses on the Middle Way), Daśabhumika-vibhaṣa-śastra (Commentary on the Dashabhumikasutra), etc. He is the central Buddhist philosopher for the Madhyamaka School.

