

# A. Conviction

## I. "Conviction" on the Buddhist path ( page 187)

- A. is conviction in the principal of kamma
  - i. and the Buddha's teachings on how to improve and end it
- B. is necessary to put the path into practice( p 188)
  - i. one cannot know the path works until one follows the teachings
- C. stops becoming necessary for the Arahant
  - i. who is liberated
    - a) from rebirth
    - b) from kamma
    - c) from desire, attachments
  - ii. who has experienced the path seeing for him/herself that it is true
- D. involves obtaining the necessary "4 prerequisites of stream entry"
  - i. associating with good people
  - ii. listening to the true dhamma
  - iii. developing appropriate attention
  - iv. practice in accordance with the dhamma

## II. "Associating with good people \*as friends \*" (p 189)

- A. since the path is about rediscovering the 4 Noble Truths yourself
  - i. you can't have a teacher teaching it to you.
- B. having admirable people as knowledgeable friends who give you advice
  - i. on how to achieve your own discoveries
- C. is necessary for beginners( page 190 )
  - i. to start learning the techniques
  - ii. as beginners have trouble distinguishing between what is skillful and what is not
- D. the ability to see who is an "admirable person"
  - i. improves in time if one follows the teachings
    - a) so Buddhist monks don't pledge lifelong Allegenies to single "teachers"

## III. "admirable" people ( suitable as dhamma advisors )

- A. do not minimize
  - i. acts of generosity
  - ii. taking up a renunciate or contemplative life
  - iii. respecting and serving one's parents
- B. are often seen performing acts that indicate
  - i. a conviction in kamma
  - ii. a value for the quality of generosity
  - iii. a strong sense of morality
  - iv. well developed discernment

## IV. The historical Buddha ( page 193 )

- A. did not "endorse" other belief systems [M 126]
  - i. he had "tolerance" for them
  - ii. did not believe that other systems could produce full liberation

## A. Conviction

- a) from attachments/ desires/ dukkha/ kamma/rebirth
  - b) though they might produce partial liberation
    - since they might contain part of the information needed, but not all
- B. claimed that his teachings lacked nothing needed for achieving liberation
- i. and that his path contained nothing that wasn't needed for liberation.