

SN 51.81

Saṃyutta Nikāya

Mahāvagga Saṃyutta (On the Great Section)

Iddhipāda Saṃyutta

Connected Discourses on the Four Bases of Psychic Powers

Ogha Vagga

The Section on the Floods

Anusaya Sutta

“The Underlying Drives”

“Bhikkhus, there are these seven underlying drives.

“What are they?

“The underlying drive one has for lusting after sensuality and further stimulation; the underlying drive to oppose and disagree; the underlying drive for holding on to views and convictions; the underlying drive for doubting; the underlying drive for conceit; the underlying drive for wanting to be reborn; and the underlying drive for wanting to remain ignorant.

“These are the seven underlying drives.

“Now, to address these seven, the Four Bases of Psychic Power must be cultivated and developed, in order to attain The Higher Knowledge; to know directly and intuitively; to fully understand and with complete certainty go about destroying and removing these seven underlying drives.

“And what are these four?

1. “Here, Bhikkhus, the Bhikkhu strives by cultivating the base of psychic power that grows as a result of concentration impelled by **fervor**, accompanied by active endeavor, while thinking to himself:

“I will neither let my fervor become too slackened, nor too strained; neither letting it become constricted internally nor distracted or scattered externally.”

2. “Further, Bhikkhus, the Bhikkhu strives by cultivating the base of psychic power that grows as a result of concentration impelled by **persevering effort**, accompanied by active endeavor, while thinking to himself:

“I will neither let my persevering effort become too slackened, nor too strained; neither letting it become constricted internally nor distracted or scattered externally.”

3. “Further, Bhikkhus, the Bhikkhu strives by cultivating the base of psychic power that grows as a result of concentration impelled by the ***directed mind***, accompanied by active endeavor, while thinking to himself:

“I will neither let my directed mind become too slackened, nor too strained; neither letting it become constricted internally nor distracted or scattered externally.”

4. “Further, Bhikkhus, the Bhikkhu strives by cultivating the base of psychic power that grows as a result of concentration impelled by ***examination***, accompanied by active endeavor, while thinking to himself:

“I will neither let my examination become too slackened, nor too strained; neither letting it become constricted internally nor distracted or scattered externally.”

“Therefore, Bhikkhus, these Four Bases of Psychic Power must be cultivated and developed, in order to attain The Higher Knowledge; to know directly and intuitively; to fully understand and with complete certainty go about destroying and removing these seven underlying drives.”

Sādhu

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