



# Buddhist Logic and Epistemology: Studies in the Buddhist Analysis of Inference and Language (Studies of Classical India)

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For the first time in recent history, seventeen scholars from all over the world (India, Japan, Europe, the United Kingdom, Canada and the United States) collaborated here to produce a volume containing an in-depth study of Buddhist logical theory in the background of Buddhist epistemology. The Tibetan tradition identifies this important chapter in the history of Buddhist philosophy as the prama~a school. It owes its origin to the writings of the great Buddhist master, Dih naga (circa A. D. 480-540), whose influence was to spread far beyond India, as well as to his celebrated interpreter of seventh century A. D. , Dharmakirti, whose texts presented the standard version of the school for the later Buddhist and non Buddhist authors for a long time. The history of Buddhist and Indian logical and epistemological theories constitutes an interesting study not only for the Buddhist scholars but also for philosophers as well as historians of philosophy in general. Each author of this anthology combines historical and philological scholarship with philosophical acumen and linguistic insight. Each of them uses original textual (Tibetan or Sanskrit) material to resolve logical issues and philosophical questions. Attention has been focused upon two crucial philosophical concepts: *trairupya* (the "triple" character of evidence) and *apoha* (meaning as "exclusion"). Broadly the issues are concerned with the problems of inductive logic and the problem of meaning and universals.

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#### **About the Author**

Bimal Krishna Matilal (1935-1991) was an eminent Indian philosopher. The upadhi (degree) of Tarkatirtha (master of Logic) was awarded to him in 1962. Matilal secured a Fulbright Fellowship and completed his PhD under Ingalls on the Navya Nyaya doctrine of negation, between 1962 and 1965. During this period he also studied with W.V.O. Quine. Subsequently, he was professor of Sanskrit at the University of Toronto, and in 1977 he was elected as Spalding Professor at Oxford University, succeeding Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan and R.C. Zaehner.

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