

DIALECTICAL CENTRALISM: A BUDDHIST VIEW ON THE RELATION BETWEEN MAN AND NATURE

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ABSTRACT

This paper examines the controversy between eco-centrism and anthropocentrism as well as relational holism in ecology from Buddhist perspective of dialectical centralism. It first briefly analyses the doctrine of *paṭiccasamuppāda* (Sanskrit: *pratītyasamutpāda*) (緣起) or Buddhist causality paying a special attention to the concept of interdependence and interrelatedness, and then proceeds to investigate the idea of universal interdependent-origination in Huayan (華嚴) Buddhism so as to explore whether such idea is adaptable in practice to reevaluate the relationship between humanity and nature. By showing the deficiency of anthropocentrism, the impracticability of eco-centrism, as well as the idealistic nature of rational holism, this paper proposes dialectical centrism to alleviate the tension between man and nature facing the world today.

KEYWORDS

Anthropocentrism, Eco-centrism, Rational Holism, Dialectical Centrism