

Reread Chan Texts

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Abstract

How to read Buddhist texts? How to understand the claim that Chan Buddhism does not teach Chan practice? For more than 100 years, academics have studied Buddhism from a variety of perspectives guided by the science of religion, excluding Buddhism's own methodological approach and First-Person Experience. In the 21st century today, new science has gone beyond materialistic view of the world, we may need to re-examine the approach of current academic studies on Buddhism, to overcome the subject-object dichotomy, and to re-read Buddhist literature, history, and tradition from the perspective of Buddhism itself. This paper first examines the approach of studying Buddhist texts from philosophical perspective as adopted by western scholars, and then from a methodological perspective, re-reads Chan texts to discover and explore the long-neglected significance of meditation practice.

Keywords: Reading sutra, Chan texts, Samath-Vipassana

重讀禪宗經典

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摘要

怎樣閱讀佛教經典？如何看待禪宗經典不講禪法的說法？100多年以來，在宗教學理論指導下，學術界從不同視域研究佛教，但唯獨不認同、乃至排斥佛教自己的修學方法論、及主體經驗（First-Person Experience）。在21世紀的今天，量子力學（Quantum Mechanics）已超越唯物科學，重新檢視佛教研究進路，消彌主客觀對立；以佛教為本位，重讀佛教文獻，這將是當代學者的使命。本文對西方學者研究佛教經典的理念提出不同的看法，並從方法論和實踐論角度，重新閱讀中國禪宗經典，發現和探討久被人們忽視的禪法，重新認識禪宗。

關鍵詞：讀經、禪典、止觀