

## A Comparative Study of *Jātaka* and *Avadāna*

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There are narrative literatures for every religion to communicate their teachings. Birth and perfections of the Bodhisattva has cited by the *jātaka* literature which is the main narrative literature in Theravada Buddhism. *Avadāna* means exploit or heroic actions, which is like a Sanskrit *Avadāna* literature. But that is more equal to *jātaka* because of the discussion of bodhisattva. The main object of this study is identification of the differences of objects, structure, circumstances and manner of the two literatures. It has used primary and secondary sources of *jātaka* and *avadāna* for this research.

*Jātaka* has depended on ancient Indian literature and primary Buddhism. Viewpoint of the *jātaka* is representing behaviors of the bodhisattva underneath the Theravada Buddhism. That is famous as a miracle of fulfill the perfections. But we can see the flash back of Gautama Buddha. It has a respective structure which is mentioned past and future stories and the combination. *Avadāna* adjusted influence of Sanskrit literature. This is wondrous comment the bodhisattva character and highlighted him than the Buddha. Further in *avadāna* have past, future and advices. But that is not a method only a simple structure. Occasionally in *avadāna*, Buddha preach the future things behalf of the past story. According to that the bodhisattva concept in Mahayana tradition has commented. *Kuddaka nikāya* and some *suttas* in Theravada *buddhism* has assisted to *avadāna*, which had not disclosed the Mahayana theories. Pali *jātaka* also not highlighted the *teravāda* concepts or theories. According to that both literatures has wished to socialize base practices for spiritual life.

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