

Causes of Conflicts and Their Resolutions in Buddhist Perspective: A Study Based on *Kalahavivāda Sutta*

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Conflict is a negative result following the inconsistency of two or more parties. Many external factors like power, money, sex and drugs as causes of conflicts can be attributed. However, the main cause remains in the mind. Resolution of conflicts also lies on the mental elements. This research paper exposes the way to reveal the different causes of conflicts and their resolutions in a Buddhist perspective. According to the *Suttanipāta Kalahavivāda sutta* (Quarrels, Disputes), and their negative consequences (lamentation and sorrows) have arisen due to the 'beloved things.' Moreover, *sutta* refers to the source of such beloved things. Beloved things spring from desires. Where do desires come from? Desires come from the binary of the pleasant and the unpleasant. How do the pleasant and the unpleasant originate? Contact or touch is the source of the pleasant and the unpleasant. Contacts depend upon mind and form (five aggregates). Buddhism vigorously accepts that all the phenomena rise because of a certain cause. This *sutta* refers to how conflicts and their correlates originate from micro level to macro level through the causation. Furthermore, it shows how even the subtle mental factors cause conflicts. To bring resolution to the conflicts, each cause should be identified and eliminated. In this case, every mental factor that causes conflicts should be eliminated. Thus, the *Kalahavivāda Sutta* gives a positive sense of how to identify the various causes of conflicts and their resolution. Resolution to conflicts cannot be found in the absence of the identification or their true causes.

Keywords: Conflicts, Causes, Resolutions, Buddhist Perspective