

**Thesis Title** : A Study of Buddhadāsa Bhikkhu's Concept of Death  
before Death

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**Academic Year** : 2011

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### ABSTRACT

From ancient times, death is the mysterious problem that surrounds all human beings. In Buddhist teaching, death can be defeated by facing and understanding it as the characteristics of five aggregates not own self and also stop the attachment with the practice through the eightfold path. This thesis study proposes the concept of death before death by Buddhadāsa Bhikkhu as a way to practice for achieving the extinction of all defilements and suffering in this life here and now. This concept is known as the death of attachment to the self-idea of I and mine.

The aim of this study is to study the real meaning of death (*marāṇa*), to analyze and criticize the concept of death before death related to the supreme goal of Buddhism (*nibbāna*) by Buddhadāsa Bhikkhu and also compare his demythologization and his own hermeneutic method with the teaching as appeared in Buddhist texts. This thesis

study uses the descriptive and comparative method in order to reflect the idea of anthropology, sociology and phenomenology of religion through aspects of Buddhadāsa Bhikkhu and various scholars for building the bridge of intra-faith and interfaith dialogues among people of different religions.

Besides this study also offers a practical method towards death taught by Buddhadāsa Bhikkhu is related to the pure nature of religious doctrine for bringing people of all religions from the world of materialism.

