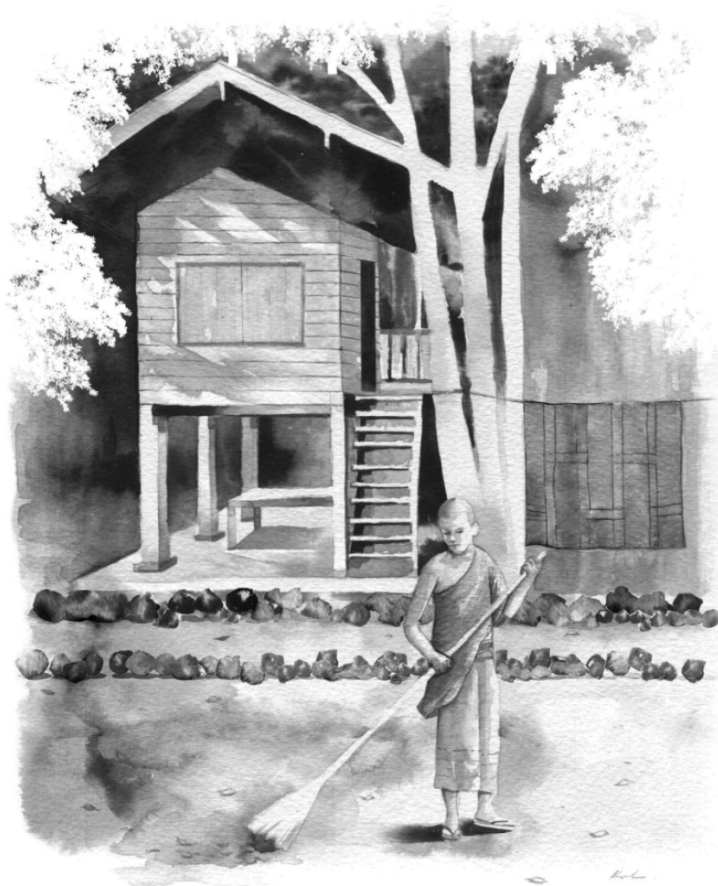


Vinaya Themes

in

Stillness Flowing



An Index of the Biography of Ajahn Chah

Vinaya Themes in *Stillness Flowing*

An Index of the Biography of Ajahn Chah

Contents

Key	4
Distribution	4
Introduction	5
1. General	6
1.1. Dhamma-Vinaya, 1.2. Entering monastic life, 1.3. Nissaya, 1.4. Disrobing, 1.5. Monastic titles	
2. Pārājika and Related Rules	7
2.1. Sexual activity, 2.2. Theft, 2.3. Killing/harming, 2.4. Claiming states	
3. Requisites	8
3.1. Robes, 3.2. Alms-food, 3.3. Alms-bowl, 3.4. Lodging, 3.5. Medicinal requisites, 3.6. Medical treatment	
4. Monastic Livelihood	9
4.1. Not handling money, 4.2. Pavāraṇā, 4.3. Alms-round, 4.4. Mutual lay/Sangha support, 4.5. Wrong livelihood, 4.6. Community officials, 4.7. Disciplinary measures	
5. Monastic Training Principles	11
5.1. Hiri-ottappa, 5.2. Cleanliness, 5.3. Hospitality, 5.4. Communal harmony, 5.5. Contentment/frugality, 5.6. Sense restraint, 5.7. Moderation in eating – see 3.2. Alms-food, 5.8. Devotion to wakefulness, 5.9. Mindfulness and full awareness, 5.10. Samaṇa-saṅgā	

6. Monastic Observances **13**

6.1. Going forth (novice ordination), 6.2. Bhikkhu ordination, 6.3. Bowing, 6.4. Respect for elders, 6.5. Attending to senior monks, 6.6. Chanting, 6.7. Work/chores, 6.8. Study, 6.9. Confession, 6.10. Uposatha, 6.11. Asking for forgiveness, 6.12. Caring for the sick, 6.13. Funerals

7. Ascetic Practices **15**

7.1. Sitter's practice, 7.2. Tudong wandering, 7.3. Fasting, For other practices, see 3.1 Robes, 3.2. Alms-food, 4.3 Alms-round, and 3.4 Lodging

8. Types of Monastics **16**

8.1. Forest versus city monks, 8.2. Thai sects, 8.3. Visiting monks, 8.4. Temporary monks, 8.5. Older monks, 8.6. Novices, 8.7. Maechee

9. Right Speech **17**

9.1. Lying, 9.2. Divisive/harmonious speech, 9.3. Harsh/gentle speech, 9.4. Idle chatter, 9.5. Admonishment, 9.6. Sharp teaching speech, 9.7. Skilful humour

10. Lay Vinaya **18**

10.1. Five Precepts, 10.2. Killing, 10.3. Stealing, 10.4. Sexual misconduct, 10.5. Intoxicants, 10.6. Right livelihood, 10.7. Lay Uposatha

11. Distinctive Practices of Ajahn Chah **19**

Key

146 “Coconut”	Reference to page 146 in section “Coconut”
108	<i>Italic</i> page number – Reference includes Ajahn Chah quotes.
"Merit"	Boldface section title – Recommended Vinaya class readings; usually the best material on a given topic
[Pc 37]	Reference explains or mentions Pāṭimokkha rule or specific practice. Abbreviations: Pr: Pārājika, Sg: Saṅghādisesa, NP: Nissaggiya Pācittiya, Pc: Pācittiya, Sk: Sekhiya
[Pc 40§]	§ – Ajahn Chah’s interpretation of a rule or protocol in <i>Stillness Flowing</i> differs from the BMC’s conclusions.
(#3, #8)	Reference to specific numbered Wat Pah Pong regulation(s)
;	Separates groups of index entries; the first group has the most relevant references.

Distribution

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Introduction

Ajahn Chah's life as a forest monk was grounded upon, guided by, and immersed in the Vinaya (Buddhist monastic discipline). For this reason, Ajahn Jayasaro's biography of Ajahn Chah *Stillness Flowing* contains a wealth of Vinaya material. The story of Ajahn Chah's life provides an excellent introduction to the meaning and context of Vinaya as practised by the Thai Forest Tradition, and a dedicated student new to Vinaya would do well to read *Stillness Flowing* cover-to-cover. However, *Stillness Flowing* is organized as a biography rather than a Vinaya guide and lacks an index, which limits its utility as a reference for experienced Vinaya students. This thematic index addresses that limitation.

In particular, monks and nuns leading the annual Vassa Vinaya classes at Western Ajahn Chah training monasteries generally draw upon only well-organized material due to time constraints. Ajahn Ṭhānissaro's *Buddhist Monastic Code* (BMC) has become the staple text. The BMC succeeds admirably in preserving the spirit and ultimate purpose of Vinaya amidst the sea of details necessary in such a comprehensive work. Rather than describing Vinaya as practised in a particular time and place, the BMC draws reasoned conclusions from the early texts. The resulting abstract universality is both a strength and a weakness, and I believe much can be gained by supplementing it with stories of a lived Vinaya tradition. I hope that making the Vinaya material contained in *Stillness Flowing* more accessible will encourage Vinaya teachers to include the teachings and embodied example of Ajahn Chah along with the detailed rule explanations from the BMC. This will be particularly valuable for those who already have a heartfelt connection with Ajahn Chah's Dhamma teachings.

All Pali and Thai terms appearing in this index can be found in the *Stillness Flowing* glossary. This document is available in pdf format at tinyurl.com/VTSPdf. Alternative formats, troubleshooting information, and acknowledgments can be found at tinyurl.com/SFVinaya.

Kaccāna Bhikkhu
June 2020 (v 1.01)
Amaravati Monastery

1. General

1.1. Dhamma-Vinaya

48 “Seeing the Danger,” 55 “Luang Pu Mun,” 101 “Saving the Sweets,”
144 “Absolute Sincerity,” 146 “Coconut,” 211 Chapter 5 “**Lifeblood**” through
228 “**Intention**,” 230 “Vinaya instruction,” 232 “Testing,” 232 “The Practice of
the Vinaya,” 245 “Observances: Adding Layers,” 254 “Sangha Regulations,”
256 “The Daily Schedule,” 315 “A Threefold Training;” 47 “A New Going Forth,”
403 “Nikaya,” 488 “Ajahn Sumedho,” 521 “Bugbears,” 742 “Planting the Lotus;”
235 “Offering,” 307 “Extra-curricular Activities,” 394 “The Wat Pah Pong
Sangha,” 503 “Beginnings,” 508 “Many Luang Pors,” 738 “The Same Fruit”

1.2. Entering monastic life

24 “Dekwat,” 31 “Novice Bullfrog,” 37 “Ordination,” 385 “Chaff From the Grain,”
388 “Going Forth,” 391 “The Wat Pah Pong Sangha,” 395 “Visiting monks”
[changing robes], 399 “Luang Ta,” 531 “Parental Caution,” 541 “Three Tiers,”
543 “You Have to Stop to Keep Up,” 569 “To Be a Maechee,” 562 “Regulations of
the Maechee Section”

1.3. Nissaya

161 “A Life Inspiring,” 283 “**Ceremonies II: Asking for dependence**,” 788 Poem;
150 “Relaxation,” 280 “Censorship,” 442 “Governance of the Sangha;” 32 “Back
to the World,” 254 “Sangha Regulations” (#3), 543 “You Have to Stop to Keep
Up”

1.4. Disrobing

32 “Back to the World,” 37 “Ordination,” 51 “Ghosts in the Night,”
404 “Disrobing,” 407 “Like Rain About to Fall...;” 29 “Monasteries in a Nutshell,”
235 “(Not) Relating to Women,” 466 “Working with Sensuality”

1.5. Monastic titles

xiii “Honorifics,” 184 “Equanimity,” 276 “Respect for elders,” 540 “Wat Pah Nanachat,” 29 “Monasteries in a Nutshell,” 38 “Ordination,” 553 “The First Maechees,” 797 Photo

2. Pārājika and Related Rules

165 “Liberation,” 233 “Taking what is not given”

2.1. Sexual activity

34 “Young Love,” 80 “An Unsung Virtue,” 82 “**A Mighty Struggle**” [Sg 1], 235 “**(Not) Relating to Women**,” 279 “Censorship,” 465 “**Working with Sensuality**” [Pr 1, Sg 1-3, Pc 7, 44, 45], 566 “Kindness at a Distance,” 51 “Ghosts in the Night,” 564 “Gruff,” 151 “Water Rights,” 520 “A Natural Perfume,” 559 “Regulations of the Maechee Section” (#14, #20), 731 “Inner Land - Outer Land” [Sg 2], 759 “A Pacific State” [Sg 2]

2.2. Theft

233 “**Taking what is not given**” [Pr 2§], 444 “Governance of the Sangha”

2.3. Killing/harming

223 “Hiri and Ottappa: The Two Guardians of the World” [Pc 61], 295 “You Aren’t What You Eat” [meat], 445 “Governance of the Sangha” [Pc 74]; 464 “Learning from Nature,” 125 “Pong Forest” [Pc 10, 11], 132 “Alms-food” [Pc 11], 154 “Cats and Dogs,” 397 “Visiting monks” [Pc 10], 449 “Delegation”

2.4. Claiming states

164 “**Liberation**” [Pr 4, Pc 8], 166 “He is What He is,” 172 “Supernormal” [displaying psychic powers], 356 “Psychic Powers,” 374 “Attainments,” 225 “No More Will to Transgress”

3. Requisites

129 “Requisites,” 131 Photo, 180 “**Contentment**,” 245 “Observances: Adding Layers,” 251 “Requesting Requisites,” 254 “Sangha Regulations,” 792-793 Illustrations; 75 “Exemplars,” 98 “Weapons of Dhamma,” 265 “Mealtime,” 449 “Delegation”

3.1. Robes

75 “A Problem with Robes,” 129 “Requisites,” 245 “Observances: Adding Layers,” 246 “**Robes**” [NP 1, 2, Pc 58, patching\$, three-robe almsround], 287 “Duties Towards the Teacher or Preceptor,” 302 “Rag-robos,” 792-793 Illustrations; 131 Photo, 251 “Requesting Requisites,” 389 “Going Forth,” 397 “Visiting monks,” 569 “No Favourites,” 744 “Planting the Lotus” [robe over both shoulders for cold]

3.2. Alms-food

101 “Saving the Sweets” [Pc 40\$], 131 “Alms-food,” 228 “Intention” [Pc 37, Pc 51, uncooked meat], 234 “Offering” [Pc 40], 264 “Mealtime” [Sk 50, 51], 295 “Optimum Consumption,” 295 “You Aren’t What You Eat” [meat], 303 “Food, Inglorious Food,” 568 “No Favourites,” 120 Photo, 436 “Toraman,” 512 “Patience,” 587 “To the Monastery,” 37 “Young Love,” 39 “Ordination,” 42 “A Solemn Resolve,” 45 “A New Going Forth,” 397 “Visiting monks,” 457 “Por dee,” 541 “Three Tiers,” 553 “The First Maechees,” 556 “A Proposition,” 570 “To Be a Maechee,” 641 “Ta Soei,” 753 “Dutiyampi: And For a Second Time”

3.3. Alms-bowl

93 “Wrong Thinking,” 249 “**The Alms-bowl**” [NP 22], 264 “Mealtime,” 792 Illustration; 120 Photo, 124 “Pong Forest,” 131 Photo, 182 “Contentment,” 252 “Requesting Requisites,” 538 “Wat Pah Nanachat,” 756 “Manjusri”

3.4. Lodging

123 “Pong Forest,” 288 “Duties Towards the Teacher or Preceptor,” 291 “Lodgings,” 306 “**At the Foot of a Tree**,” 459 “Learning from Nature,” 791-793 Illustrations, 796 Photo; 14 Photo, 571 “Tudong,” 118 “For the Welfare of

Many,” 181 “Contentment,” 254 “Sangha Regulations” (#5), 334 “Not Just Sitting,” 472 “Tudong,” 529 “Nature and Nurture,” 539 “Wat Pah Nanachat,” 556 “A Proposition,” 559 “Dependent Autonomy,” 559 “Regulations of the Maechee Section” (#3, #13)

3.5. Medicinal requisites

269 “Afternoon Schedule,” 475 “Medicines,” 116 “Return to Isan,” 432 “Toraman,” 526 “Results of the Practice,” 133 “Alms-food,” 142 “One Day at a Time,” 254 “Sangha Regulations” (#12*)

3.6. Medical treatment

97 “Teachings From a Barking Deer,” 114 “Dhamma Medicine,” 117 “Illness the Teacher,” 134 “Medicines,” 699 All of Section 11.1 “Body Sick, Mind Well,” 720 “**Reflections**,” 71 “In the Cremation Forest,” 116 “Return to Isan,” 553 “The First Maechees,” 722 “Another Dimension”

4. Monastic Livelihood

128 “Early Austerity,” 192 “Independent,” 254 “Sangha Regulations,” 559 “Regulations of the Maechee Section,” 770 “Free Through Rules”

4.1. Not handling money

51 “Ghosts in the Night,” 240 “**Money**” [NP 10, 18, donation boxes], 743 “Planting the Lotus,” 181 “Contentment,” 397 “Visiting monks” [NP 20]; 183 “Equanimity” [free distribution books], 254 “Sangha Regulations” (#10)

4.2. Pavāraṇā

181 “Contentment,” 238 “**Pavāraṇā**” [Pc 47], 251 “Requesting Requisites,” 8 “Preparations,” 243 “Money,” 254 “Sangha Regulations” (#1, #11), 604 “Lottery Numbers”

4.3. Alms-round

260 “**Alms-round**,” 422 Photo, 737 “The Same Fruit,” 782 “A Rural Seclusion;” 287 “Duties Towards the Teacher or Preceptor,” 305 “Food, Inglorious Food” [eating only food from almsround], 746 “Urban Dhamma;” 116 “Return to Isan,” 141 “One Day at a Time,” 389 “Going Forth,” 406 “Disrobing,” 543 “Out on a Limb,” 733 “Inner Land - Outer Land”

4.4. Mutual lay/Sangha support

26 “Monasteries in a Nutshell,” 118 “For the Welfare of Many,” 238 “Pavāraṇā,” 242 “Money,” 260 “Alms-round,” 294 “Think About the Laypeople,” 554 “Debt of Gratitude,” 581 Chapter 10 “**Out of Compassion**” through 585 “**To the Monastery**,” 591 “Receiving Guests,” 593 “Invitations,” 614 “**Merit**,” 747 “What a Wat Is;” 45 “A New Going Forth” [Pc 10, 11, 38, 40], 150 “Water Rights,” 155 “Taking Root,” 178 “Inspiring,” 384 “Introduction,” 609 “Ceremonies”

4.5. Wrong livelihood

26 “Monasteries in a Nutshell,” 601 “**Astrology**,” 603 “Lottery Numbers,” 605 “**Lustral Water**,” 607 “Amulets,” 609 “**Ceremonies**,” 522 “Bugbears,” 583 “Introduction,” 189 “Sense of Humour,” 254 “Sangha Regulations” (#2), 559 “Regulations of the Maechee Section” (#15, #16, #19), 615 “Merit”

4.6. Community officials

446 “Delegation” (appointing officials §); 251 “Requesting Requisites,” 703 “Body Sick, Mind Well,” 712 “Wat Pah Pong: June-August 1982”

4.7. Disciplinary measures

441 “Governance of the Sangha,” 447 “Delegation” [censure]; 186 “Personality,” 254 “Sangha Regulations,” 561 “Regulations of the Maechee Section”

5. Monastic Training Principles

254 “Sangha Regulations,” 383 “Polishing the Shell,” 450 “**Putting forth effort**,”
451 “**Paṭipadā**,” 457 “**Por dee**,” 559 “Regulations of the Maechee Section;”
104 “Deathly Messengers,” 422 “Modes of Teaching”

5.1. Hiri-ottappa

219 “**Doubts**,” 223 “**Hiri and Ottappa: The Two Guardians of the World**,”
627 “**Sīla**,” 55 “Luang Pu Mun,” 229 “Intention,” 390 “Going Forth,”
683 “Mindfulness is Your Business;” 227 “Wise use,” 291 “Lodgings”

5.2. Cleanliness

267 “Afternoon Schedule,” 272 “No exceptions,” 286 “Duties Towards the
Teacher or Preceptor,” 291 “**Lodgings**,” 588 “To the Monastery;” 54 “Luang Pu
Mun,” 254 “Sangha Regulations” (#5), 559 “Regulations of the Maechee Section”
(#3), 570 “To Be a Maechee”

5.3. Hospitality

508 “Many Luang Pors,” 531 “Parental Caution;” 54 “Luang Pu Mun,” 729 “Inner
Land - Outer Land”

5.4. Communal harmony

231 “Vinaya instruction,” 254 “Sangha Regulations,” 256 “The Daily Schedule,”
267 “Afternoon Schedule,” 441 “Governance of the Sangha,” 446 “Delegation,”
537 “Wat Pah Nanachat,” 543 “Out on a Limb,” 559 “Regulations of the Maechee
Section,” 562 “Governance;” 227 “Wise use,” 559 “Dependent Autonomy,”
668 “Family Life;” 218 “Luang Por Speaks about the Vinaya,” 252 “Requesting
Requisites,” 577 “The Duty of a Saṃaṇa”

5.5. Contentment/frugality

75 “A Problem with Robes,” 93 “Wrong Thinking,” 128 “Early Austerity,”
129 “Requisites,” 131 “Alms-food,” 134 “Medicines,” 180 “**Contentment**,”
238 “Pavāraṇā,” 251 “Requesting Requisites,” 294 “Think About the Laypeople,”

295 “Optimum Consumption;” 140 “One Day at a Time,” 443 “Governance of the Sangha,” 686 “The Wisdom of ‘Enough’;” 218 “Luang Por Speaks about the Vinaya,” 254 “Sangha Regulations” (#5, #9, #12), 553 “The First Maechees,” 556 “A Proposition,” 559 “Regulations of the Maechee Section” (#4, #5), 568 “No Favourites”

5.6. Sense restraint

51 “Ghosts in the Night,” 460 “Learning from Nature;” 264 “Alms-round,” 338 “Sensual Desire,” 465 “Working with Sensuality,” 686 “The Wisdom of ‘Enough’”

5.7. Moderation in eating – see 3.2. Alms-food

5.8. Devotion to wakefulness

115 “Return to Isan,” 140 “One Day at a Time,” 144 “Absolute Sincerity,” 257 “Early Rising,” 270 “Evening Chanting,” 307 “No Lying Down,” 342 “Sloth and Torpor,” 256 “The Daily Schedule,” 418 “Modes of Teaching;” 78 “A Problem with Robes,” 254 “Sangha Regulations” (#9), 435 “Toraman,” 457 “Por dee,” 494 “Pushed,” 557 “A Proposition,” 559 “Regulations of the Maechee Section” (#4)

5.9. Mindfulness and full awareness

144 “Absolute Sincerity” through 147 “No Reprieve,” 218 “Luang Por Speaks about the Vinaya,” 219 “Doubts,” 286 “Duties Towards the Teacher or Preceptor,” 315 “A Threefold Training,” 325 “The Single Chair,” 453 “Knowing Now,” 683 “**Mindfulness is Your Business;**” ix “Forward,” 267 “Afternoon Schedule,” 272 “No exceptions,” 354 “Only the Posture Changes,” 688 “Bhāvanā,” 763 “Keeping the House Clean,” 139 “Warrior Spirit,” 234 “Offering,” 249 “Robes,” 249 “The Alms-bowl,” 335 “Not Just Sitting,” 421 “Modes of Teaching,” 534 “A Snake in the House”

5.10. Samaṇa-saññā

261 “Alms-round,” 410 “**Samaṇa**,” 477 “The Monk,” 576 “The Duty of a Samaṇa;”
443 “Governance of the Sangha,” 500 “Beginnings;” 475 “Tudong,” 544 “You
Have to Stop to Keep Up,” 553 “The First Maechees,” 561 “Regulations of the
Maechee Section”

6. Monastic Observances

285 “The Fourteen Duties,” 418 “Modes of Teaching”

6.1. Going forth (novice ordination)

388 “**Going Forth**,” 533 “Parental Caution”

6.2. Bhikkhu ordination

531 “Parental Caution” [parents’ permission §], 543 “**You Have to Stop to Keep
Up**,” 781 “A Rural Seclusion”

6.3. Bowing

273 “**Bowing**,” 276 “Respect for elders,” 508 “Many Luang Pors,”
720 “Reflections;” 141 “One Day at a Time,” 146 “Coconut,” 179 “Passion,”
254 “Sangha Regulations” (#8)

6.4. Respect for elders

155 “Taking Root,” 177 “Inspiring,” 275 “**Respect for elders;**” 441 “Governance
of the Sangha,” 508 “Many Luang Pors,” 540 “Wat Pah Nanachat,” 723 “Another
Dimension;” 40 “Ordination,” 232 “Testing” [uncovering head], 271 “No
exceptions,” 489 “Ajahn Sumedho,” 559 “Regulations of the Maechee Section”
(#8)

6.5. Attending to senior monks

272 “No exceptions,” 286 “**Duties Towards the Teacher or Preceptor**,”
527 “Nature and Nurture,” 696 Photo, 709 Photo, 715 “Wat Pah Pong: The Silent

Years;” 491 “Ajahn Sumedho,” 506 “Many Luang Pors,” 518 “Facing the facts,” 706 “Worrying Signs;” 260 “Morning Session,” 526 “Results of the Practice,” 752 “Dutiyampi: And For a Second Time,” 760 “A Pacific State”

6.6. Chanting

258 “Morning Session,” 270 “Evening Chanting;” 32 “Novice Bullfrog,” 130 “Requisites,” 140, 143 “One Day at a Time,” 594 “Invitations,” 680 “Dhamma Practice;” 30 “Monasteries in a Nutshell,” 716 “Wat Pah Pong: The Silent Years”

6.7. Work/chores

7 “Preparations,” 73 “Exemplars,” 93 “**Wrong Thinking**,” 141 “One Day at a Time,” 267 “Afternoon Schedule,” 271 “No exceptions,” 380 Photo, 427 “**Working is Dhamma practice**,” 516 “Work Projects,” 570 Photo, 799 Photos; 494 “Pushed,” 783 “A Rural Seclusion;” 254 “Sangha Regulations” (#4, #7, #8), 260 “Morning Session,” 397 “Visiting monks,” 488 “Ajahn Sumedho,” 559 “Regulations of the Maechee Section” (#2), 570 “To Be a Maechee”

6.8. Study

31 “Novice Bullfrog,” 37 “Ordination,” 41 “A Solemn Resolve,” 47 “A New Going Forth,” 48 “Seeing the Danger,” 230 “Vinaya instruction,” 423 “**Transmitting the Theory**;” 156 “Taking Root,” 219 “Luang Por Speaks about the Vinaya,” 219 “Doubts”

6.9. Confession

226 “No More Will to Transgress,” 243 “Money,” 244 Photo; 228 “Intention”

6.10. Uposatha

143 “One Day at a Time,” 208 Photo, 307 “No Lying Down;” 226 “No More Will to Transgress,” 272 “No exceptions,” 504 “Beginnings,” 519 “Facing the facts”

6.11. Asking for forgiveness

281 “**Ceremonies I: Asking for forgiveness**,” 11 “After Dark,” 83 “A Mighty Struggle,” 605 “Lottery Numbers,” 712 “Wat Pah Pong: June-August 1982”

6.12. Caring for the sick

134 “Medicines,” 699 All of Section 11.1 “Body Sick, Mind Well,” 715 “**Wat Pah Pong: The Silent Years**,” 724 “Silver Linings,” 557 “Maechee Boonyu,” 177 “Inspiring,” 254 “Sangha Regulations” (#9), 512 “Patience,” 559 “Regulations of the Maechee Section” (#6)

6.13. Funerals

xvi Photo, 1 All of Chapter 1 “A Life Expired,” 800 Photos; 30 “Monasteries in a Nutshell,” 178 “Inspiring,” 605 “Lottery Numbers”

7. Ascetic Practices

298 “**The Ascetic Practices: Adding Intensity**,” 301 “**Luang Por Speaks About the Dhutaṅgas**,” 302 “Rag-robles,” 303 “Food, Inglorious Food,” 306 “At the Foot of a Tree,” 431 “Toraman,” 571 “Tudong,” 44 “A New Going Forth,” 225 “No More Will to Transgress,” 307 “Extra-curricular Activities”

7.1. Sitter’s practice

307 “No Lying Down,” 143 “One Day at a Time”

7.2. Tudong wandering

44 Most of Section 2.3 “The Path of Practice,” 44 “**A New Going Forth**,” 52 “**Luang Pu Mun**,” 470 “Tudong,” 664 “Killing the Defilements of Ta Soei,” 189 “Sense of Humour,” 192 “Independent,” 292 “Lodgings,” 444 “Governance of the Sangha,” 555 “Debt of Gratitude”

7.3. Fasting

104 “Deathly Messengers,” 307 “**Extra-curricular Activities**”

For other practices, see 3.1 Robes, 3.2. Alms-food, 4.3 Alms-round, and 3.4 Lodging

8. Types of Monastics

391 “The Wat Pah Pong Sangha,” 403 “Nikaya,” 641 “Ta Soei”

8.1. Forest versus city monks

24 “Dekwat,” 26 “**Monasteries in a Nutshell**,” 52 “Luang Pu Mun,” 128 “Early Austerity,” 154 “Taking Root,” 395 “Visiting monks;” 43 “A Solemn Resolve,” 47 “A New Going Forth,” 123 “Pong Forest,” 216 “Pāṭimokkha: The Core of the Vinaya,” 585 “To the Monastery;” 131 “Alms-food,” 182 “Contentment”

8.2. Thai sects

57 “**Orders of the Day**,” 101 “Saving the Sweets,” 403 “Nikaya;” 585 “To the Monastery;” 75 “Exemplars,” 396 “Visiting monks”

8.3. Visiting monks

395 “Visiting monks;” 254 “Sangha Regulations” (#14, #15), 503 “Beginnings”

8.4. Temporary monks

401 “**Temporary monks**,” 444 “Governance of the Sangha,” 774 “Like a Worm”

8.5. Older monks

272 “No exceptions,” 399 “Luang Ta”

8.6. Novices

24 “Dekwat,” 31 “Novice Bullfrog,” 109 “First Disciples,” 388 “Going Forth;” 269 “Afternoon Schedule,” 445 “Governance of the Sangha,” 542 “Out on a Limb”

8.7. Maechee

132 “Alms-food,” 525 “Results of the Practice,” 551 All of Chapter 9 “Dying to the World;” 532 “Parental Caution,” 588 “To the Monastery,” 655 “Troubled Spouses”

9. Right Speech

307 “Extra-curricular Activities” [Noble silence], 574 “Dhamma Teachings,” 636 “Right Speech”

9.1. Lying

165 “Liberation;” 25 “Dekwat,” 629 “Sīla”

9.2. Divisive/harmonious speech

544 “You Have to Stop to Keep Up,” 671 “Marriage;” 227 “Wise use,” 540 “Wat Pah Nanachat,” 559 “Regulations of the Maechee Section” (#7, #17), 576 “Dhamma Teachings,” 692 “Bhāvanā”

9.3. Harsh/gentle speech

683 “Mindfulness is Your Business”

9.4. Idle chatter

187 “Sense of Humour,” 278 “**Nothing so bad;**” 270 “Afternoon Schedule,” 469 “Working with Sensuality,” 530 “Nobody Knows;” 113 “Dhamma Medicine,” 144 “Absolute Sincerity,” 254 “Sangha Regulations” (#7, #9, #12), 262 “Alms-round,” 421 “Modes of Teaching,” 559 “Regulations of the Maechee Section” (#1, #4, #11, #18), 590 “Observance Day”

9.5. Admonishment

283 “Ceremonies II: Asking for dependence,” 447 “Delegation,” 571 “**Admonishment;**” 415 “Modes of Teaching,” 510 “Skilful Means,”

525 “Results of the Practice,” 562 “Governance,” 147 “Coconut,” 304 “Food, Inglorious Food,” 507 “Many Luang Pors”

9.6. Sharp teaching speech

137 “Warrior Spirit,” 144 “Absolute Sincerity,” 147 “No Reprieve,” 149 “Relaxation,” 186 “Personality,” 190 “**Stern and Fierce**,” 291 “**Lodgings**,” 375 “Attainments,” 493 “Pushed,” 664 “Killing the Defilements of Ta Soei,” 269 “Afternoon Schedule,” 519 “Facing the facts,” 520 “A Natural Perfume,” 523 “Kickstart,” 524 “The Smell in Your Bag,” 654 “Scientists and Academics,” 54 “Luang Pu Mun,” 195 “Communication Skills,” 535 “A Snake in the House”

9.7. Skilful humour

187 “**Sense of Humour**,” 505, 507 “Many Luang Pors,” 511 “Skilful Means,” 518 “Facing the facts,” 520 “A Natural Perfume,” 670 “Marriage,” 769 “Don’t Let the Thief In”

10. Lay Vinaya

318 “A Base of Merit,” 765 “Too Many Teachers, Too Little Learning,” 584 “Introduction,” 614 “Merit,” 651 “Teachers,” 763 “Keeping the House Clean,” 767 “**Don’t Let the Thief In**”

10.1. Five Precepts

599 “Opposing Wrong Views,” 627 “**Sīla**,” 768 “Don’t Let the Thief In,” 110 “First Disciples,” 319 “A Base of Merit,” 641 “Ta Soei”

10.2. Killing

629 “Sīla,” 632 “**Non-harming**,” 702 “Body Sick, Mind Well,” 23 “Chah Chuangchot,” 60 “Orders of the Day”

10.3. Stealing

152 “To Catch a Thief,” 629 “Sīla”

10.4. Sexual misconduct

629 “Sīla,” 768 “Don’t Let the Thief In”

10.5. Intoxicants

232 “The Practice of the Vinaya,” 636 “**Alcohol**,” 639 “Right Livelihood,”
768 “Don’t Let the Thief In,” 588 “To the Monastery,” 595 “Sammādiṭṭhi,”
602 “Astrology,” 610 “Ceremonies,” 629 “Sīla,” 647 “Por Am”

10.6. Right livelihood

597 “Kamma,” 630 “Sīla,” 638 “**Right Livelihood**,” 750 “Refugee Dhamma”

10.7. Lay Uposatha

126 “Strange Visions,” 585 “To the Monastery,” 588 “**Observance Day**,”
747 “What a Wat Is,” 27 “Monasteries in a Nutshell,” 185 “Personality,” 538 “Wat
Pah Nanachat,” 558 “Maechee Boonyu,” 624 “Listening to Dhamma”

11. Distinctive Practices of Ajahn Chah

245 “Observances: Adding Layers,” 253 “A Constitution,” 254 “Sangha
Regulations,” 256 “The Daily Schedule,” 385 “Chaff From the Grain,” 388 “Going
Forth,” 559 “Regulations of the Maechee Section,” 586 “To the Monastery,”
384 “Introduction,” 488 “Ajahn Sumedho,” 554 “The First Maechees,” 63 “Orders
of the Day”