# Exploring the Ancient Path in the Buddha's Own Words

## Lesson 3.4.12
## Pañhabyākaraṇasuttaṃ
## How Questions should get Answered!

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| Pañhabyākaraṇasuttaṃ | How Questions should get Answered! |
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| "Cattārimāni, bhikkhave, pañhabyākaraṇāni. | "There are, O' Bhikkhus, four ways of answering a question. |
| Katamāni cattāri? | What are the four? |
| Atthi, bhikkhave, pañho ekaṃsabyākaraṇīyo; | There is, O' Bhikkhus, the question which requires a direct reply; |
| atthi, bhikkhave, pañho vibhajjabyākaraṇīyo; | there is, O' Bhikkhus, the question which needs further investigation; |
| atthi, bhikkhave, pañho paṭipucchābyākaraṇīyo;. | there is, O' Bhikkhus, the question which requires a counter question |
| atthi, bhikkhave, pañho ṭhapanīyo. | and there is, O' Bhikkhus, the question which needs to be rejected. |
| Imāni kho, bhikkhave, cattāri pañhabyākaraṇānī"ti. | These are, O' Bhikkhus, the four ways of answering a question. |
| *"Ekaṃsavacanaṃ ekaṃ, vibhajjavacanāparaṃ; tatiyaṃ paṭipuccheyya, catutthaṃ pana ṭhāpaye.* | "Straightforward first, then well explained; Counter questioned the third and omitted the fourth should be. |
| *Yo ca tesaṃ tattha tattha, jānāti anudhammataṃ, catupañhassa kusalo, āhu bhikkhuṃ tathāvidhaṃ.* | A Bhikkhu, who thus knows the correct way to reply at any situation, is called. 'Skilled in the four modes to reply'; |
| *Durāsado duppasaho, gambhīro duppadhaṃsiyo; atho atthe anatthe ca, ubhayassa hoti kovido.* | Difficult to conquer, hard to overcome, profound, not vulnerable, Thus likewise skilled in good and bad. |

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| *Anatthaṃ parivajjeti, atthaṃ gaṇhāti paṇḍito;*<br>*atthābhisamayā dhīro, paṇḍitoti pavuccatī”ti.* | A wise one like this knows to reject the false and to comprehend the truth,<br>And he is called: ‘Established in grasping the profound’”. |

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