

LBV ADVANCED BUDDHISM SERIES  
2022 Thursday Series: Aug. 18 – Sep. 29: 7.00 PM-8.30 PM  
Instructor: Bhante Upananda  
Theme: MISSTEPS OF PERCEPTION

**Dear participant:**

**Please note that this Thursday course is intended for advanced learners willing to learn the Dhamma with reference to key Pali canonical/scriptural terms and phrases that are incorporated into a single theme. Therefore, questions asked must pertain to the theme.**

Session 4: September 8, 2022

**Missteps of innocence**

We puthujjanas at times make some decisions in good faith, and end up getting victimized due to our own unilateral decisions or due to irresponsible, opportunistic, predator-like actions by those who are on the receiving end of our love, affection, and/or help. Such decisions we make are our missteps of innocence since we, at the time of making such decisions, are innocent and unsuspected. Sadly, we can fall victim to predators, cheaters, etc. We can be predators or cheaters too. Such missteps can be easily understood in light of what is known in the Buddha-Dhamma as ‘masquerading tendencies’ (Pali: vancanika-dhamma). Since the list is too long, a selection has been made for today’s discussion.

- 1) rāga (lust) masquerading as karuna (compassion)
- 2) raga (lust) masquerading as saddhā (spiritual devotion)
- 3) dōsa (anger) masquerading as mitabhānitā (speaking a little, moderation in speech)
- 4) issā (jealousy) masquerading as dayā (philanthropy)
- 5) issā (jealousy) masquerading as patikkūla-saññā (wisdom that certain things are meaningless, and therefore are to be considered disgusting in spiritual practice)
- 6) thīna-middha (mental inactivity [more of mind] and drowsiness [more of body]) masquerading as appicchatā (contentment/being easily satisfied)
- 7) kukkucca (misconduct, such as not helping parents) masquerading as dayā (sympathy, kindness)