

**Dissertation Title** : Plato's Philosophy of Education in Buddhist Perspective

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### **Abstract**

This dissertation entitled 'Plato's Philosophy of Education in Buddhist Perspective' has three objectives: 1) to study Plato's philosophy of education, 2) to study Buddhist philosophy of education, and 3) to analyze Plato's philosophy of education in the viewpoint of Buddhist philosophy. This is a qualitative research.

In study of the first objective, it was found that Plato's philosophy of education is fundamentally based on the concept of the World of Form and man can understand the World of Form through methods of reasoning. According to Plato's view, such a study is to develop a body and rational soul in order to enable man to understand the World of Form. In the second objective, it was found that Buddhist philosophy of education is primarily based upon the understanding of human nature because man needs to understand his/her own nature in order to make his/her physical and spiritual actions right and thereby it would lead to the ideal goal of self-realization as well as social development. In the third objective, its findings showed that the weak point in Plato's philosophy of education was found by Buddhist philosophical analysis because Plato obviously refuted knowledge acquired by man's perception through contacts due to its uncertainty. However, the development of man's body and soul which is regarded as a strong point was also seen in Plato's philosophy of education.

In this research, the researcher agreed with Buddhist philosophy on the utilization of perception through contacts as the base of the learner's development because it lays great emphasis on the right understanding and implementation and the researcher also supported Plato's philosophy of education on the promotion of education in being assigned to bodily and spiritually develop man because the lopsided development is insufficient to morally perfect man's actions. However, the researcher disagreed with Plato's view in degrading the importance of knowledge gained by man's contacts because those contacts are the basic means of education giving rise to the self-realization as well as social development. According to Buddhist philosophy, man whose contacts are properly trained is the best among men.