

On the Verse Quotated in *MSU VIII.21.2*

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In his commentary(*MSU*) on the *MS VIII*, Asvabhāva quotes several verses from unknown texts. In the *MSU VIII.21.2*, which expounds immature bodhisattva's *vikalpa* on *Prajñāpāramitā* under the main topic, i.e. the sameness between *Prajñāpāramitā* and *Nirvikalprajñāna*, he also quotes one verse without mentioning its original text. Strangely enough, Hsüan Tsang does not translate the whole verse, but only the first and the last quarter of it. As far as I can see, the original source of this verse has yet been unknown, however, I find it to be the *Prajñāpāramitastuti* attributed to Rāhulabhadra(ca. 200-300 C.E.). Though Haribhadra does not comment on it in his *Āloka*, the *Prajñāpāramitastuti* is found in the beginning part of all Mss. of *Aṣṭa*. and some Mss. of *Pañca*.. In addition, its Chinese translation, in the form of quotation in the *Da zhi du lun*(大智度論 TD25, 190b20ff) and Tibetan translation are extant(P No.2018, D No.1127). The verse under discussion is the 15th verse of the *Prajñāpāramitastuti*. The following is the list of all the versions in chronological order.

- 1) *Da zhi du lun*(大智度論 TD25, 190b13-16)
- 2) Hsüan Tsang' translation of *MSU*(see above)
- 3) Tibetan translation of *MSU*(tr. by Ye shes sde, see above)
- 4) Shes rab kyi pha rol tu phyin pa'i bstod pa
(tr. by Thig le bum pa/ Blo ldan shes rab, ca. 1000 C.E.; D No.2018 Ka 76b2-3)
- 5) Sanskrit version(P. L. Vaidya, BST, No.4 p.2)

Although 1) consists of two verses, obviously all versions correspond with one another in terms of meaning except for 2). In this paper, I put forward some hypothesis on the background of such a difference in translations concerning the ideological and practical aspects of the present verse.