

On *Nigoda*

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The final goal for the Jainas, as for the Hindus as well as the Buddhists, is to reach the state of complete liberation or *mokṣa*. Persons who have stayed in such a state get the title of *Siddha* and they live at the top of this universe. Naturally the Jainas highly honour the *Siddhas* and perceive them as the model for themselves.

Topologically and from the moral point of view, the *Nigodas* are located in the extremely opposite part; the place where they stay is regarded as the lowest portion of our universe or the bottom of the hell. Though we human beings have possibility of liberation, the *Nigodas* have no scope to get rid of transmigration because they remain outside of *saṃsāra*. Thus, studies on *Nigoda* have a great value on Jaina biology and the Jaina ethics or karma theory.

So far, nevertheless, very little information has been reported mainly because there are not much material on this topic in the Jaina literature. In this paper we will show some of the future of the *Nigodas* on the base of the Prakrit and Sanskrit literature.