**BUDDHIST TEXTS**

There are three types of Buddhist texts, namely: Mahayana Sutras,The Tripitaka (Pali Canon), and the Tibetan Book of the Dead. The most representative text of the Buddhist religious system is The Tripitaka. The Tripitaka is the ancient name for the Buddhist scriptures. The Pali Canon is the complete extant early Buddhist Canon or preferably contains the original words of the Buddha. The Pali Canon is subdivided into three major categories: Vinaya Pitaka, Sutta Pitaka, and Abhidhamma Pitaka. These subgroups of the texts are commonly known as the three baskets of wisdom.The VinayaPitaka is one of the Buddhist scripture which contains the monastic rules that should be followed by monks and nuns. It contains 227 rules for Bhikkhus and 311 rules for Bhikkhunis. It also gives detailed explanations on these rules and explains the origin of the rules by using a story. Example of a law found in the Vinaya Pitaka is the rule on the prohibition against sexual intercourse and the greed of worldly things[[1]](#footnote-1). A monk is also warned against being resentful.[[2]](#footnote-2)The SuttaPitaka contains 10,000 suttas/ teachings explaining the disclosures of Buddha and his close companions. The Abhidhamma Pitaka, on the other hand, entails Budhha’s instructions in details, and it is referred to as Buddhist Psychology[[3]](#footnote-3). The Mahayana Sutras are a vast category of Buddhist texts that have a variety of traditions of Mahayana Buddhism. Although the teachings are extensive, they cannot be used to represent the whole Buddhism religious system because it only explains the Mahayana Buddhism and does not touch on the non-Mahayana Buddhism. A sacred text to describe religion as a whole should cover the entire religion and not part of it. The Tibetan Book of the Dead explains the life after death and the connection between death and the next rebirth. The texts cannot be used to represent the whole of Buddhism since it does not guide people on the ways of living but prepare them on the death rite of passage.

**The Hinduism Texts**

Three sacred texts in Hinduism include the Vedas, the Bhagavad Gita, and Puranas. The most representative scripture of the Hinduism religious system is the Vedas. The Vedas were the first gift of scriptures from God to man. The scriptures contain the oldest scriptures of the religion and can be termed as the primary texts of Hinduism religion hence qualify to be the most representative text in the whole religious system. The Vedas are considered Apauruseya, a superhuman. The facts that the scriptures define the truth for Hindus and are said to be received directly from God make them qualified to represent the whole Hinduism religious system[[4]](#footnote-4).The Bhagavad Gita is a part of the Vedas, and they comprise of general philosophical ideas of Hinduism. They are the spiritual core of the Hinduism religion since they show selflessness in leaders[[5]](#footnote-5). However, they cannot represent the whole Hinduism religious system since they do not contain the authentic teachings of the religion but are a modification of the Vedas. The Puranas have a massive influence on Hindu culture. They praise many gods and goddesses, making their role as sectarian religious text controversial. Thus, I do not choose them as the most representative text for the entire Hinduism religious system[[6]](#footnote-6).

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