The *Taehyedyongchongyo* of Wŏnhyo: Translation of Chapters 4 & 5 with Annotated Notes

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The present study is an English translation of Wŏnhyo’s Essentials of the Mahāprajñāparamita-sūtra (The Taehyedyongchongyo), Chapters 4 & 5 with Annotated notes. The Chapter 4 of TDC deals with the elucidation of the origin of the preaching on the Mahāprajñāparamita-sūtra. There are six kinds of main causes and occasions: (a) To reveal the deeds of the bodhisattva widely. (b) To accept the solicitations of all devas. (c) To relieve doubts among all men. (d) To cure the sickness of all sentient beings. (e) To expound the truth of the first principle. (f) To bring the proponents of different theories within. The Chapter five deals with the problem of classification of the doctrine. Wŏnhyo insists that old theories of sudden enlightenment and that of gradual enlightenment and the three kinds of dharma-cakras (the four noble truths for Hīnayāna, Śūnyatā for Mahāyāna, and the righteous wisdom for ekayāna) are reasonable in a way. However, it is unreasonable for this Mahā-prajñā-paramita-sūtra to belong to the second dharma-cakra period.
because it is contradictory to both the sūtra and the treatise. This Mahāprajñāpāramitā-sūtra, like the Aватansaka-sūtra, is the full teaching that is unsurpassed and indisputable wisdom acquired by the Buddha.

Key Words: Wŏnhyo, Prajña Paramita, Siddhanta, Śūnyata, Classification of the Doctrine, Taehyedogyongchongyo, Paramārtha.

I. Part One: Structure and Meaning

The present study is an English translation of Wŏnhyo’s Essentials of the Mahāprajñāpāramitā-sūtra, Chapters 4 & 5 with Annotated notes.1

The Chapter 4 of TDC deals with the elucidation of the origin of the preaching on the Mahāprajñāpāramitā-sūtra. There are six kinds of main causes and occasions: (a) To reveal the deeds of the bodhisattva widely. (b) To accept the solicitations of all devas. (c) To relieve doubts among all men. (d) To cure the sickness of all sentient beings. (e) To expound the truth of the first principle. (f) To bring the proponents of different theories within.

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