

# Difference Between Hinayana And Mahayana

The main **difference between Mahayana and Hinayana** based on their origin is that while Mahayana Buddhism started to thrive around 500 BC, Hinayana Buddhism began to thrive around 250 BC. The other key differences have been mentioned here that will enlighten the candidates to gain knowledge of the whole concept. Another difference between Hinayana and Mahayana based on their supporters is that supporters of Mahayana Buddhism can be found in (South) Korea, China, Japan, and Tibet, whereas Hinayana Buddhism is practised in Myanmar Sri Lanka, Thailand, Laos, and Cambodia. Walk through the table to get in touch with other remarkable differences.

Difference Between Mahayana and Hinayana	
Mahayana	Hinayana
Mahayana Buddhism deems Gautama Buddha to be a holy being who will assist his disciples to attain nirvana	Hinayana Buddhists believe Gautama Buddha is a normal human being who attained Nirvana
Supporters of Mahayana Buddhism can be found in (South) Korea, China, Japan, and Tibet	Hinayana Buddhism is practised in Myanmar, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Laos and Cambodia
Scriptures of Mahayana Buddhism were composed in Sanskrit	Scriptures of Hinayana Buddhism were penned in the Pali language
<p>The three primary bodies of a Buddha are acknowledged in Mahayana Buddhism. These bodies are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Nirmanakaya</li> <li>• Sambhogakaya</li> <li>• Dharmakaya</li> </ul>	Hinayana does not believe in these three primary bodies of a Buddha as they think a person must find their way to salvation
<p>The ten prevalent perspectives in Mahayana are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Generosity</li> <li>• Self-Discipline</li> <li>• Patience</li> <li>• Perseverance</li> </ul>	<p>The ten prevalent perspectives in Hinayana are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Generosity</li> <li>• Self-Discipline</li> <li>• Patience</li> <li>• Perseverance</li> </ul>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mental Stability</li> <li>• Wisdom</li> <li>• Skills in Means</li> <li>• Aspirational Prayers</li> <li>• Strengthening</li> <li>• Deep Awareness</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Being True to one's words</li> <li>• Wisdom</li> <li>• Renunciation</li> <li>• Resolution</li> <li>• Love</li> <li>• Equanimity</li> </ul>
In Mahayana Buddhism, immense happiness is the wish that others have the pleasure of unending enlightenment	In Hinayana Buddhism, immense joy implies rejoicing in the delight of others without any envy and not anticipating anything in return
Mahayana Buddhism started to thrive around 500 BC	Hinayana Buddhism started to thrive around 250 BC

## What Is Mahayana?

Mahayana is a Sanskrit phrase that signifies "Great Vehicle". The Mahayana community believed in the godhead of the Gautama Buddha. The sect promoted idol adoration in Buddhism and Bodhisattvas symbolizing Buddha's Nature. Mahayana believes in the law of kindness (karuna) over and above the law of karma. Mahayana supports the purposes of Bodhisattva/the redeemer who remained concerned about the redemption of others. Mahayana Buddhism is spread across India, Japan, China, Vietnam, Korea, Taiwan, Singapore, Nepal, Tibet, Mongolia, and Bhutan

## What Is Hinayana?

The Hinayana sect implies 'Small Vehicle' in the Sanskrit language. Hinayana did not believe in the deity of the Gautama Buddha. It acknowledges the original teaching of Buddha or the Principle of elders. Hinayana does not believe in Idol adoration and endeavours to attain personal redemption through self-discipline and introspection. The Hinayana intellectuals used Pali, the language of the groups. Hinayana scriptures are composed in Pali and based on the Tripitaka. Hinayana emphasizes moral activity and the law of karma. Hinayana believes in attaining salvation by deeds that each man should work for his redemption. Hinayana or Theraveda practices are followed in Laos, Sri Lanka, Cambodia, and other Southeast Asian nations