

Tiantai “Four Teachings”:

1. Tripitaka Teaching: 藏教

The contents of the Four Noble Truths (Suffering, Delusion, Nirvana, Path) are:

“Arising and Perishing” 生滅四諦

The born births the born 生生

Analytic Emptiness: Dissolution into Parts, Impermanence 析空

2. Shared Teaching: 通教

The contents of the Four Noble Truths (Suffering, Delusion, Nirvana, Path) are:

“Unborn” 無生四諦 (and therefore also in a sense unperishing)

The born is in reality unborn 生不生

Embodied Emptiness: Just as they are, in their essence, they are already empty. 體空

3. Special/Separate Teaching: 別教 (Special for Bodhisattvas)

The contents of the Four Noble Truths (Suffering, Delusion, Nirvana, Path) are:

“Infinite, innumerable, of immeasurable variety” 無量四諦

The unborn gives rise [to infinite delusions and upayas] 不生生

The Exclusive Middle/ Buddha-nature 但中佛性

4. The Perfect/Round Teaching: 圓教

The contents of the Four Noble Truths (those infinite varieties of Sufferings, Delusions, Nirvanas, Paths) are:

“Unmade”—unbegun at any particular point in time, and not done by any particular agent 無作四諦 (and therefore in quite another sense unperishing)

The unborn’s [infinite birthings] are themselves unborn 不生不生

The Non-exclusive Middle/ The Interfusing Three Truths 不但中，圓融三諦

Compare to the Huayan “Four Dharmadhatus”: 四法界

1. The world as (temporal) events 事法界

2. The world as the (atemporal) Principle (Emptiness) 理法界

3. The world as the non-obstruction of events and the Principle (Emptiness) 理事無礙法界

4. The world as the non-obstruction of event with event 事事無礙法界