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לא דומים לגוט'ארד (לפחות לא Shakra פשש חשבתי שרק אני מכיר את <mark>שאקרה</mark> :O ... אבל Shakra לא דומים לגוט'ארד (לפחות לא ... באלבומים הקודמים שלהם) ובטח שלא לקרוקוס. שני האלבומים הראשונים

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# Śakra (Buddhism)

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

Śakra (Sanskrit: शक्र) or Sakka (Pāli) is the ruler of the Trāyastrimśa Heaven according to Buddhist cosmology. His full title is *Śakro devānām indraḥ* (शक्रो देवानं इन्द्र:; Pāli: Sakko devānam indo), "Śakra, Lord of the Devas".<sup>[1]</sup> In Buddhist texts, Śakra is the proper name and not an epithet of this deity; conversely, *Indra* in Sanskrit and *Inda* in Pali are sometimes used as an epithet for Śakra as "lord".

In East Asian traditions, Śakra is known as *Dìshìtiān* (帝釋天) or *Shìtí Huányīn* (釋提桓因) in Chinese, and also as *Taishakuten* (帝釈天) in Japan. In China, Śakra is sometimes compared to the Taoist Jade Emperor (Yùhuáng Dàdì 玉皇大帝 often simplified in Yùhuáng 玉皇); both share a birthday on the ninth day of the first lunar month of the Chinese calendar (usually in February).

The name Śakra "powerful" as an epithet of Indra is found in several verses of the Rigveda. In Buddhist texts, Śakra's myth and character are very different from those of the Vedic Indra. According to G.P. Malalasekara, "Sakka and Indra are independent conceptions. None of the personal characteristics of Sakka resemble those of Indra. Some epithets are identical but are evidently borrowed, though they are differently explained."<sup>[1]</sup>



Śakra (left) and Brahmā (right)

The Trāyastrimśa heaven that Śakra rules is located on the top of Mount Sumeru (cf. Meru), imagined to be the polar center of the physical world, around which the Sun and Moon revolve. Trāyastrimśa is the highest of the heavens in direct contact with Earth. Like the other deities of this heaven, Śakra is long-lived but mortal. When one Śakra dies, his place is taken by another deity who becomes the new Śakra. Buddhist stories about Śakra (past or present) are found in the Jātaka stories and in several suttas, particularly in the Samyutta Nikāya.

Śakra is married to Sujā,<sup>[2]</sup> daughter of the chief of the Asuras, Vemacitrin (Pāli *Vepacitti*). Despite this relationship, a state of war generally exists between the thirty-three gods and the Asuras, which Śakra manages to resolve with minimal violence and no loss of life.

Śakra is mentioned in many Buddhist sūtras, and is often shown consulting the Buddha on questions of morality. Together with Brahmā, he is considered a protector of the Buddhist religion.

## References

- 1. ^ *a b* Sakka (http://www.palikanon.com/english/pali\_names/sa/sakka.htm)
- 2. ^ Sujá (http://www.palikanon.com/english/pali\_names/s/sujaa.htm)

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Categories: Buddhist deities

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# Trāyastriņśa

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

The **Trāyastriņśa** (Sanskrit; Pāli **Tāvatiņsa**; Burmese:  $\mathfrak{MOO}$  [tàwədèiNðà]) heaven is an important world of the devas in Hindu and Buddhist cosmology. The word **trāyastriņśa** is an adjective formed from the numeral **trayastriņśat**, "33" and can be translated in English as "belonging to the thirty-three [devas]". It is primarily the name of the second heaven in Buddhist cosmology, and secondarily used of the devas who dwell there.

The Trāyastrimśa heaven is the second of the heavens of the Kāmadhātu, and the highest of the heavens that maintains a physical connection with the rest of the world. Trāyastrimśa is located on the peak of Sumeru, the central mountain of the world, at a height of 80,000 *yojanas* (perhaps about 400,000 miles); the total area of the heaven is 80,000 yojanas square. This heaven is therefore comparable to the Greek Olympus in some respects.

According to Vasubandhu, inhabitants of Trāyastriņša are each half a *kroša* tall (about 1500 feet) and live for 1000 years, of which each day is equivalent to 100 years of our world: that is, for a total of 36 million of our years.

Since Trāyastrimśa is physically connected to the world through Sumeru, unlike the heavens above it, the Trāyastrimśa gods are unable to avoid being entangled in worldly affairs. In particular, they frequently find themselves in quarrels with the Asuras, semi-divine super-human beings who were long ago expelled from Trāyastrimśa, at the beginning of the reign of the present Śakra and who now dwell at the foot of Sumeru, plotting for ways to recover their lost kingdom. There is, however, marriage between the Trāyastrimśa devas and the Asuras, just as there is between the Æsir and the jötnar in Norse mythology.

The chief of the Trāyastriņśa gods is Śakra (Pāli: Sakka). Others of the Trāyastriņśa gods who are frequently mentioned are Viśvakarman (Vissakamma), the gods' craftsman and builder; Mātali, who drives Śakra's chariot; and Sujā, Śakra's wife and daughter of the Asura chief Vemacitrin.

The Trāyastriņśa heaven appears several times in Buddhist stories, in which either the Buddha ascends to Trāyastriņśa, or (more often) deities from Trāyastriņśa descend to meet the Buddha. The Buddha's mother, Māyādevī, was reborn in the Trāyastriņśa heaven and was visited by her son, who taught her Abhidharma.

The "thirty-three" in the name of the heaven is not an enumeration of the gods who live there (there are far more) but a general term inherited from Vedic mythology, implying "the whole pantheon of gods". Hindu mythology provides a full list (with some variations) of thirty-three named deities, but it is inconsistent with the Buddhist conception and mythology of these devas.

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