

First-Beginnings in Lucretius Compared to Buddhist Dependent Origination

Post by “Kalosyni” of January 27, 2026 at 2:14 PM

The following on similarities and differences, from Google AI:

Quote

- **Similarities:** Both systems argue that things do not come from nothing; they are formed by causes and conditions. Both philosophies are materialistic/phenomenological (denying a divine creator) and emphasize the impermanent nature of compound objects.
- **Differences:** Lucretius is strictly **materialistic atomist**—everything is physical particles in a void. Buddhist Dependent Origination is **psychophysical**—it includes mental states (consciousness, feeling, craving) as necessary conditions for existence. Lucretius focuses on liberating the mind from fear of death, while Buddhism focuses on stopping the cycle of rebirth and suffering through enlightenment.