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or doctrine and the Vinaya or disciple thought by the Buddha. It was held under the chairmanship of Mahakassapa in which Upali, a senior monk, expert in Vinaya rules, recited the Vinaya, and Ananda, the constant disciple to Gautama Buddha, recited the dharma or sutras.

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The first Council was necessitated by the remarks of an unruly monk named Sudhadra who rejoiced at the passing away of the Buddha and said that now that the Master was no more, monks would be free from the restraints that the Buddha constantly imposed on them.

The second Council was held at Vaishali, a century after the passing away of the Buddha. It is recorded that some monks of the Vajji were practising ten indulgences which went against the basic Vinaya rules as enunciated by the Buddha. This necessitated the convening of the second Council to decide the issue. The ten points of indulgence of Vajjian monks were declared illegal.