AN 3.2 — AN 3:2 Characterized (by Action) | Lakkhaṇa Sutta

English translation by Ṭhānissaro Bhikkhu.

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Text

Characterized (by Action)

Lakkhaṇa Sutta (AN 3:2)

"Monks, a fool is characterized by his/her actions. A wise person is characterized by his/her actions. It is through the activities of one's life that one's discernment shines.

"A person endowed with three things is to be recognized as a fool. Which three? Bodily misconduct, verbal misconduct, mental misconduct. A person endowed with these three things is to be recognized as a fool.

“A person endowed with three things is to be recognized as a wise person. Which three? Good bodily conduct, good verbal conduct, good mental conduct. A person endowed with these three things is to be recognized as a wise person.

“Thus, monks, you should train yourselves: ‘We will avoid the three things that, endowed with which, one is to be recognized as a fool. We will undertake & maintain the three things that, endowed with which, one is to be recognized as a wise person.’ That’s how you should train yourselves.”

Publisher references (not part of the sutta)

See also: MN 41; AN 4:115; AN 10:176; AN 11:18; Dhp 60–75