AN 3.5 — Ayoni Sutta (Without Consideration)

English translation by Bhikkhu Candana.

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Text

5. Ayoni Sutta (Without Consideration) Bhikkhus, the one who possesses three traits should be known as a fool. What are these three?

He poses a question without proper consideration. In responding to a question, he does so without consideration. When someone else responds to a question with proper consideration and in a meaningful way, he quickly rejects it disapprovingly.

The person with these three traits should be identified as a fool.

However, Bhikkhus, the one who possesses these other three traits should be known as wise. What are these three?

He poses a question with proper consideration. In responding to a question, he does so with consideration. When someone else responds to a question with proper consideration and in a meaningful way, he welcomes it approvingly.

The person with these three traits should be identified as wise.

Therefore, Bhikkhus, it is in this manner that you must train yourselves, by reflecting:

‘We will fully relinquish and abandon all those qualities that designate one as a fool, those qualities with which a fool is identified. And instead, we will continuously develop and cultivate within us those qualities that transform us into wise individuals, chiseling for ourselves those bright characteristic features that make one be recognized as truly skillful and wise!’

It is in this manner, O Bhikkhus, that you must all train yourselves!