AN 3.6 — Akusala Sutta (Unhealthy & Damaging)

English translation by Bhikkhu Candana.

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Text

6. Akusala Sutta (Unhealthy & Damaging) Bhikkhus, the one who possesses three traits should be known as a fool. Which three?

He lives through unhealthy and damaging bodily actions, unhealthy and damaging verbal actions, and unhealthy and damaging mental actions.

A person possessing these three traits should be identified as a fool.

On the other hand, Bhikkhus, the one who possesses these other three traits should be known as a wise person. Which three?

He lives through healthy and constructive bodily actions, healthy and constructive verbal actions, and healthy and constructive mental actions. A person possessing these three traits should be identified as a wise person.

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!