AN 3.85 — Sekha Sutta (The Disciple in Higher Training)

English translation by Bhikkhu Candana.

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Text

84. Sekha Sutta (The Disciple in Higher Training) Once, a certain Bhikkhu went and approached The Blessed One, paid homage to Him, and then sat down to one side and said:

“Bhante, I often hear the term: ‘The disciple in Higher Training’… ‘The disciple in Higher Training,’ being mentioned. But, Bhante, what is to be understood from that expression? How does one become a Disciple in Higher Training, Bhante?”

“Bhikkhu, when the Bhikkhu is genuinely training, then, he is considered to be in the training stage, hence, he is called a Disciple in Higher Training.

“And what exactly is it that he trains in?

“He engages in the training of the Higher Virtues; the training in the Higher Mind; and the training in Higher Wisdom.

“This, therefore, is the reason why he is called a ‘Disciple in Higher Training.’

‘As the disciple in Higher Training engages in training, Maintaining his course on the direct path, He first experiences personally the process of wearing away, Immediately followed by the unmistakable knowledge of the journey’s end. And when thus having destroyed the fetters of becoming, One is liberated, where the firm understanding suddenly surfaces in him, at last: “Unshakeable is now my Release.”’