AN 8.59 — Eight Individuals (1st)

English translation by Bhikkhu Sujato.
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Text

Numbered Discourses 8.59

6. Gotamī

Eight Individuals (1st)

“Mendicants, these eight individuals are worthy of offerings dedicated to the gods, worthy of hospitality, worthy of a religious donation, worthy of greeting with cupped palms, and are the supreme field of merit for the world. What eight? The stream-enterer and the one practicing to realize the fruit of stream-entry. The once-returner and the one practicing to realize the fruit of once-return. The non-returner and the one practicing to realize the fruit of non-return. The perfected one, and the one practicing for perfection. These are the eight individuals who are worthy of offerings dedicated to the gods, worthy of hospitality, worthy of a religious donation, worthy of greeting with cupped palms, and are the supreme field of merit for the world.

Four practicing the path,

and four established in the fruit.

This is the upright Saṅgha,

with wisdom, ethics, and immersion.

For humans, those merit-seeking creatures,

who sponsor sacrifices,

making worldly merit,

what is given to the Saṅgha is very fruitful.”