

‘phan par ston pa’

as the Proponents of the *Āṅgulimāliyasūtra* and the *Mahābherīsūtra*

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This paper focuses on a peculiar term *phan par ston pa*, which is used in the *Āṅgulimāliyasūtra* (*AMS*) and the *Mahābherīsūtra* (*MBhS*). Through examining the contexts of both the *AMS* and the *MBhS* concerning *phan par ston pa*, it is concluded that *phan par ston pa* is another name for the proponents of both *sūtras* and has a meaning : an instructor on what is salutary. Its original word is therefore supposed to be *hitopadeṣṭṛ* in Sanskrit. Attested in Buddhist literature, its first use is found in the *AMS* and the *MBhS* imports *phan par ston pa* from the *AMS*.

Sharing a name for the proponents should be one of the important evidences that shows the *AMS* and the *MBhS* are related much more closely than ever estimated.