What’s in a Name?

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In a gurukula, many disciples with different names were studying under a guru.
Among them was a disciple named Chuvappa. He was deeply troubled by his name. He thought, “My name is Chuvappa, which means I must be someone who is of no use to anyone.” Feeling sad and dejected, he went to his guru and shared his pain.
Understanding Chuvappa’s emotional distress, the guru said, “It is another name for Lord Shiva. If you wish, we can change your name. But if you wish, we can change your name. Go around the city and ask the names of the people you meet. If you find a name that you like, remember it and come back. We will give you that name.”
Hearing his guru’s words, Chuvappa happily set out to explore the city.
On the way, he saw some people carrying a dead body. He approached one of them and asked, “What was the name of the person who passed away?” The man replied, “Chiranjeevi.” Chuvappa was astonished. “Even someone named Chiranjeevi, which means ‘immortal,’ can die!” he thought, and continued on his way.

A little farther ahead, he saw a man walking with a stick, coughing and crying, on his way to get medicine.
The man replied, “My name is Santosh.” Chuvappa was surprised again. “Even someone named Santosh, which means ‘happiness,’ can suffer from such great sorrow!”
He walked a little farther and saw an old woman begging for alms.
“Mother, what is your name?” he asked.
The old woman smiled and replied, “My name is Bhagyalakshmi, my son.”
Chuvappa looked at her and asked, “You are called Bhagyalakshmi, the Goddess of Fortune, yet you are begging for food like someone who has nothing!”
The old woman smiled gently and said, “Listen, my son. A person does not necessarily have to live according to their name. A name is given to identify and call someone. A person’s true worth is known by their conduct, thoughts, character, and behavior.” A person's true greatness is known by their conduct, thoughts, values, and character."
Her words completely changed Chuvappa’s way of thinking. He immediately returned to the gurukula and told his guru, “Let my name remain Chuvappa. Now I understand its true meaning. There is no need to change my name.”
With a happy smile, Chuvappa made his guru smile too and sat down to resume his studies.
Moral: A person’s greatness is not decided by their name, but by their character, actions, and conduct.