#### Lesson 14 - Notes

#### **Indefinite Pronoun**

Indefinite pronouns cover words such as 'anyone', 'anything', 'someone' or 'something'. In the negative, they mean 'no-one', 'nothing', etc.

#### **Formation**

They are easily formed as they simply add the sound ci (or occasionally cid) to the interrogative pronoun kim (see §13/14.6).

Thus, ko ci, kiñ ci (= kim ci), etc. For example:

na kiñ ci karotiHe does nothing.

#### **Meaning**

When used with relative pronouns, indefinite pronouns mean 'whoever', 'whatever': *yo ko ci, yaṃ kiñ ci.* For example:

yo ko ci tathāgatena puṭṭho pañhaṃ na vyākaroti, assa sattadhā¹ muddhā² phalati.

= Literally: 'Whoever, when asked by the Tathāgata, does not explain a question, his head splits into seven.'

Like other pronouns, indefinite pronouns can be used as adjectives: e.g. *ko ci puriso...* = some person

indefinite pronoun	meaning
ko ci	anyone, someone
kassa ci	of anyone
kiñ ci	anything, some ( $m$ of $kim$ assimilated to $c$ , becoming the palatal
	nasal)
with relative:	
yaṃ kiñ ci	whatever
with the negative:	
na kiñ ci	nothing, none at all

The junction form *cid* often appears when another word follows closely.

 $<sup>^{1}</sup>$ sattadhā means 'into seven'. The verb  $\sqrt{phal}$  means 'split'.

 $<sup>^{2}</sup>$ Muddhā is the nominative singular of muddhan 'head' (see sessions 25/26) and

### **Optative Tense**

The optative (or "potential") (*sattamī*) tense is used for any hypothetical action. It may be translated by "should", "would", "may", etc. It can also act as a mild command: 'should'.

#### **Formation**

It is generally characterised by the suffix -eyy-.

It is formed from the present stem of all conjugations with special inflections:

	singular	plural
3rd person	<i>bhaveyya</i> "he should be", "could be", "may be".	bhaveyyuṃ
2nd person	bhaveyyāsi	bhaveyyātha
1st person	bhaveyyaṃ (also bhaveyyāmi)	bhaveyyāma

which are given by Warder on pp. 86-87.

From other conjugations (all have the *e* stem):

stem	verb	meaning
man (III)	таññеууа	he should think
kar (VI)	kareyya	he should do
dis (VII)	deseyya	he may teach

#### Examples:

- so mam pañham puccheyya
  - = He may ask me a question.
- gāmam gaccheyyātha
  - = You should go to the village.
- evam upekkhā ciram tittheyya
  - = In this way, equanimity would be established for a long time.

The verb  $\sqrt{as}$  has two irregular forms of optative tense though there is little distinction of meaning. The first type is much more frequent, the second more elevated or "poetic", only the  $3^{rd}$  person singular being used regularly:

	singular	plural
3rd person	assa "there would be"	assu
2nd person	assa	assatha
1st person	assaṃ	assāma

	singular	plural
3rd person	siyā "there may be", "there would be", "it might be"	siyaṃsu (rarely used) (siyuṃ)
2nd person	(sipā)	-
1st person	(siyaṃ)	-

The bracketed forms are sometimes found in poetry.

Sometimes assa and  $siy\bar{a}$  are used together in one sentence, and it is this which makes it convenient to have two different forms. Thus:

siyā kho pana bhoto rañño evam assa

= but it might be (that) of his majesty (*bhoto*) the king there would be thus (thought, idea)".

On the whole, *siyā* is used as optative of *atthi*, whilst *assa* is used as optative of *hoti*.

Thus,  $siy\bar{a}$  is used quite frequently in philosophical discourse to assert a possibility, in contrast to the categorical atthi and n'atthi. Like atthi,  $siy\bar{a}$  may be used for the plural as well as the singular.

#### **Usage**

The range of meaning of the optative includes a mild form of command or a strong injunction, as well as requests, invitations, wishes, possibilities, suppositions, and hypotheses.

The hypothetical meaning is by far the most usual one. Often the optative is used in the context of 'if' clauses to express hypothesis or possibility:

sace dāso gāmaṃ gaccheyya, brāhmaṇaṃ Jotipālaṃ passeyya = If the slave goes to the village, he may see the brahmin Jotipāla.

*Sace* means 'if'. The word *ce* also means 'if' but is enclitic and so cannot stand at the beginning of a sentence.

When a relative or other subordinate clause expresses a condition on which a main clause depends, its verb may be in the optative, depending on the degree of uncertainty. There is, however, a tendency for both verbs, of the main and subordinate clauses, to be in the same tense (by "attraction" or assimilation). Thus, if the effect of the condition is quite hypothetical (as: "if you ask, he may accept", *sace ... yāceyyāsi ... atha ... adhivaseyya*) both verbs are usually in the optative.

On the other hand, if the result is considered certain and factual (by the speaker or writer, in narrative by the narrator but not necessarily by the speaker he quotes) both verbs may be in the present tense (as "if a virtuous man approaches an assembly, he approaches without shame"); or both may be in the future if, instead of an "eternal truth", as above, a particular future action is considered (as: "if I have them salute

(future of causative) one by one, the fortunate one will be (future) unsaluted by them (all) before daybreak".

When the sense of the 'if' clause is more definite and the result more certain, then both verbs can be in the present or future tense:

- If he eats, he is happy. = sace bhuñjati, sukho hoti
- If someone does a good deed, they will go to heaven.
  - = sace ko ci kusalam kammam karoti, so saggam gamissati

Different tenses may also be used: "as ... he explains (present), so ... you should (must) report (optative)" (command of a king to an emissary) =  $yath\bar{a}$  ...  $vy\bar{a}karoti\ tam$  ...  $\bar{a}roceyy\bar{a}si$ .

The optative is often used with the phrase *yaṃ nūna*: 'What if...?', 'Suppose that...' For example:

```
yam nūnāham gāmam gaccheyyam = Suppose that I go to the village.
```

Here  $n\bar{u}n\bar{a}ham = n\bar{u}na + aham$ 

The optative is also often used with the phrase <code>thānam etam vijjati yam... = 'It is possible that...'</code> and <code>thānam ... vijjati yam ... = "there exists (present) the case that ... (optative of the possible action or event)". For example:</code>

```
thānam etam vijjati yam brāhmaņo āgaccheyyaIt is possible that the brahmin may come.
```

The optative is often used after the idiom *ṭhānaṃ ... vijjati yaṃ ...* 

There is also a conditional tense in Pali, but it is not often used, being restricted to the statement of impossible hypotheses. See Lesson 29.

With reference to the distinction between the optative and the future, used of future events which are respectively hypothetical and certain, the following example is instructive:

```
"If he should get the kingdom, he would share it" (both verbs optative) Compare:
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"... if I do ('shall') get the kingdom, I will share it" (both verbs future).

#### **Ablative Case**

The fifth or ablative (*pañcamī*, *nissakka*, *apādāna*) case is used to express the point **from** which an action begins. The action may be physical or mental.

The ablative also expresses the cause or origin **from which something arises**.

#### For example:

bhagavā bandhanā vimutto\*.

- = 'The Blessed One has been freed **from** bondage.'
- \* pp. of *vimuñcati* (+abl) = freed (from); liberated (from); emancipated (from)

anagāriyam agārasmā pabbaji.

= 'He went forth **from** home (agārasmā) to homelessness.'

Formally the ablative may coincide with the instrumental except in the singular of the a stems, and the masculine / neuter demonstrative and relative pronouns.

For masculine and neuter nouns in -a, the most common form of ablative singular is  $-\bar{a}$ . However, the forms  $-asm\bar{a}$  and  $-amh\bar{a}$  are also used. The plural is -ehi (the same as the instrumental).

In addition, all nouns are able to place the suffix -to onto their stem in order to make an ablative singular: e.g. purisato.

Meiland's table for **masculine and neuter nouns in -***a* therefore looks like this so far:

	Masculine		Neuter	
	Singular	Plural	Singular	Plural
Nominative	dhammo	dhammā	yānaṃ	yānāni
Accusative	dhammaṃ	dhamme	yānaṃ	yānāni
Instrumental	dhammena	dhammehi	yānena	yānehi
Genitive	dhammassa	dhammānaṃ	yānassa	yānānaṃ
Dative	Dhammassa or dhammāya	dhammānaṃ	Yānassa or yānāya	yānānaṃ
Ablative	Dhamma Alternatives: dhammasmā dhammamhā dhammato	dhammehi	Yānā Alternatives: yānasmā yānamhā yānato	yānehi
Vocative	dhamma	dhammā	yāna	yānān

For feminine nouns in  $-\bar{a}$ , the ablative singular is  $-\bar{a}ya$  and the plural  $-\bar{a}hi$ :

	Singular	Plural
Nominative	kathā	kathā or kathāyo
Accusative	kathaṃ	kathā or kathāyo

Instrumental	kathāya	kathāhi
Genitive	kathāya	kathānaṃ
Dative	kathāya	kathānaṃ
Ablative	kathāya kathāto	Kathāhi
Vocative	kathe	kathā or kathāyo

The ablative singular of **bhagavant** is **bhagavatā**:

Nominative	bhagavā
Accusative	bhagavantaṃ
Instrumental	bhagavatā
Genitive	bhagavato
Dative	bhagavato
Ablative	bhagavatā

The ablative singular of *Brahman* is *Brahmunā*:

Nominative	Brahmā
Accusative	Brahmānaṃ
Instrumental	Brahmunā
Genitive	Brahmuno
Dative	Brahmuno
Ablative	Brahmun

The ablative singular of *rājan* is *raññā*:

Nominative	rājā
Accusative	rājānaṃ
Instrumental	raññā
Genitive	rañño
Dative	rañño
Ablative	raññā

The ablative singular of **bhavaṃ** is **bhotā** and the plural **bhavantehi**:

	Singular	Plural	
Nominative	bhavaṃ	bhavanto	
Accusative	bhavantaṃ	bhavante	
Instrumental	bhotā	bhavantehi	
Genitive	bhoto	bhavataṃ	
Dative	bhoto	bhavataṃ	
Ablative	bhotā	bhavantehi	
Vocative	bho	bhonto	

The masculine ablative singular of the present participle gacchant is  $gacchat\bar{a}$  and the masculine ablative plural is gacchantehi.

	Singular	Plural
Nominative	gacchaṃ or gacchanto	gacchantā
Accusative	gacchantaṃ	gacchante
Instrumental	gacchatā or gacchantena	gacchantehi
Genitive	gacchato or gacchantassa	gacchataṃ or gacchantānaṃ
Dative	gacchato or gacchantassa	gacchataṃ or gacchantānaṃ
Ablative	gacchatā or gacchantā	gacchantehi

The ablatives of the pronouns met with so far are given below:

# Third person pronoun tad

	Masculine		Neuter		Feminine	
	Singular	Plural	Singular	Plural	Singular	Plural
Nominative	SO	te	taṃ or tad	tāni	sā	tā
Accusative	taṃ	te	taṃ or tad	tāni	taṃ	tā
Instrument al	tena	tehi	tena	tehi	tāya	tāhi
Genitive	tassa	tesaṃ	tassa	tesaṃ	tassā or tāya	tāsaṃ
Dative	tassa	tesaṃ	tassa	tesaṃ	tassā or tāya	tāsaṃ
Ablative	tasmā or tamhā	tehi	tasmā or tamhā	tehi	tāya	tāhi

 $\it Etad$  declines the same way except that it has the prefix  $\it e$ -.

# Third person pronoun idam

	Masculine		Neuter		Feminine	
	Singular	Plural	Singular	Plural	Singular	Plural
Nominative	ауат	ime	idaṃ	imāni	ауат	imā
Accusative	imaṃ	ime	idaṃ	imāni	imaṃ	imā
Instrument al	iminā or anena	imehi	iminā or anena	imehi	imāya	imāhi
Genitive	imassa or assa	imesaṃ	imassa or assa	imesaṃ	imāya, imissā or assā	imāsaṃ
Dative	imassa or assa	imesaṃ	imassa or assa	imesaṃ	imāya, imissā or assā	imāsaṃ
Ablative	imasmā or imamhā or asmā	imehi	imasmā or imamhā or asmā	imehi	imāya	imāhi

# First person pronoun

	Singular	Plural
Nominative	ahaṃ	тауат

Accusative	тат	amhe or no
Instrumental	mayā or me	amhehi or no
Genitive	mama, mayhaṃ or me	amhākaṃ or no
Dative	mama, mayhaṃ or me	amhākaṃ or no
Ablative	mayā	amhehi

#### Second person pronoun

	Singular	Plural
Nominative	tvaṃ	tumhe
Accusative	taṃ or tvaṃ	tumhe or vo
Instrumental	tayā or te	tumhehi or vo
Genitive	tava, tuhyaṃ, or te	tumhākam or vo
Dative	tava, tuyhaṃ, or te	tumhākam or vo
Ablative	tayā	tumhehi

Moreover, the pronominal inflection of the ablative singular, **smā** or **mhā**, is sometimes added to various noun stems.

nominative	ablative	
janapado	janapadā	
āsanaṃ	āsanā	
so and tad	tasmā or tamhā	
ауат	imasmā or imamhā	
paccatthiko	paccatthikato "from an enemy" (suffix to)	

#### Other uses of the ablative

An important function of the ablative is to express cause. For example, the word  $kasm\bar{a}$  is the ablative of kim and literally means 'because of what?', i.e. 'why?' Another example of this causative sense of the ablative is the sentence:

avijjā-samudayā saṅkhāra-samudayo, avijjā-nirodhā saṅkhāra-nirodho.
 "The arising of volitional activities results from the arising of ignorance; the cessation of volitional activities results from the cessation of ignorance."

Here *avijjā-samudayā* is a *tappurisa* compound in the ablative case meaning 'from the arising of ignorance'. Its meaning is causal: the arising of volitional activities (*saṅkhāras*) is **from**, i.e. caused by, the arising of ignorance'. Similarly, *avijjā-nirodhā* is also in the ablative case.

Warder gives several other usages of the ablative (pp.90ff.), which you should study carefully. Many of these are natural, if one considers that the ablative often expresses the meaning 'from'. Others, however, are less self-explanatory. For example:

aññatra + ablative = 'except for'.
 We have already noted that aññatra can also take the instrumental.

- param + ablative = 'after'. Especially in the phrase: param maranā, 'after death'.
- yāva + ablative = 'as far as', 'up to'. E.g. yāva Rājagahā, 'as far as Rājagaha

Finally, the ablative can express the sense of 'than' in comparisons: e.g. 'The Buddha is wiser than Daṇḍapāṇi.' This will be dealt with properly in Warder chapter 18.

#### From Stuart's Notes:

Examples of the use of the ablative: (the "greyed out" examples below are not included in the recording)

```
"having got up from (his) seat" (in this phrase the usual order of words is always inverted)

gāmā gāmaṃ
"from village to village"

agārasmā pabbajito (noun with pronominal inflection)
"gone forth from home"

dasahi ca lokadhātūhi devatā ... sannipatitā
"and the gods ... assembled from the ten universes"

kiṃ kāraṇā
"from what cause?", "for what reason?", "why?"
```

#### From Stuart's Notes:

The ablative of cause is very important, and is always used in philosophical statements:

```
vedanāpaccayā taṇhā
"desire (is) from the sensation-cause", "desire is caused by sensation"
kimpaccayā bhavo
"from what cause (is) existence?"
kissa nirodhā bhavanirodho
"from the cessation of what (is there) cessation of existence?"
```

The ablatives of some pronouns in  $-asm\bar{a}$  are used as indeclinables with causal meaning:  $kasm\bar{a} = "why?"$ ,  $tasm\bar{a} = "therefore"$ .

#### **Subsidiary uses of the ablative:**

- isolated, separated, secluded from:

vivicca akusalehi dhammehi

- = "having become separated from bad phenomena" (with *vivicca* as with *uṭṭḥāya* inversion is usual)
- fear, danger from:

na kuto ci bhayam ... yad idam paccatthikato

- = "... fear (danger) from nowhere, such as from an enemy" (ablative in *to* and similarly formed indeclinable *kuto* = "whence?")
- cleaned or purified from (literal: "from dirt" and figurative):

padosā cittam parisodheti

- = "he makes his mind pure from anger", "he purifies his mind from anger"
- freed from (from slavery, etc.):

cittam āsavehi vimuccati

- = "the mind is freed from the influxes"
- direction from (with genitive of the origin):

dakkhiṇato nagarassa

- = "south of the city"
- distance from (space and time); this meaning appears always with the suffix to and mostly in the indeclinables with suffix to (especially ito = from here/now), otherwise the instrumental is usually used (cf. Lesson 8):

ito ... ekatimso kappo

= "the thirty-first aeon from (before) now"

ito tinnam māsānam accayena

= "after three months from now" (notice the combination of the three cases: ablative-genitive-instrumental)

*dūrato āgacchantam* (seen)

- = "coming from the distance"
- abstinence from, revulsion from:

virato methunā gāmadhammā

= "has abstained (past participle of *vi-ram*) from sexual vulgar ("village") custom"

pisunāya vācāya pativirato

- ="has abstained from malicious speech"
- recover from (illness):

```
= "freed (recovered) from that illness"
       - limit up to (within) which (with yāva):
       yāva brahmalokā
       = "as far as the world of God (heaven)"
       yāva sattamā
       = "up to the seventh"
       - with the verb u(d)-(t)th\bar{a}, "to rise up (from)", "come out from" (literally and
figuratively):
       patisallānā vutthito
       = "come out from seclusion (privacy, withdrawing sometimes spelt pati-)"
       jhanā vutthahitvā
       = "having risen up (come out) from a meditation (trance)" (and passing into a
       higher or lower trance)
       - "with reference to", "from the standpoint of " = -to:
       tathāgato atīte buddhe ... gottato pi anussarati
       = "the thus-gone recollects past enlightened ones (Buddhas) with reference to
       (their) clan(s) also"
With indeclinables:
       - aññatra, "apart":
       aññatra phassā
       = "except for contact", "without touch" (a\tilde{n}\tilde{n}atra often takes the instrumental, cf.
       Lesson 8, and this \bar{a} inflection with it is sometimes regarded as a form of
       instrumental, cf. the instrumentals in \bar{a}: bhagavatā, ra\tilde{n}n\bar{a})
       - adho, "below":
       adho kesamatthakā
       = "below the top (matthako) of the hair"
       - ārakā, "far from":
       ārakā sāmaññā
       = "far from asceticism (sāmaññam)
       ārakā ... vijjācaraņasampadāya
       = "far from success (sampada: feminine) in knowledge and practice (caranam)"
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tamhā ābādhā mutto

```
- uddhaṃ, "above", "after", "beyond":

uddhaṃ pādatalā
= "above the soles (talaṃ, 'surface') of the feet"

kāyassa bhedā uddhaṃ
= "after the splitting up (death) of the body "

- paraṃ, "after":

param maraṇā
= "after death"

- yāva, "up to", "as far as" (see above, under "limit")
```

The ablative is sometimes used in comparison or distinction:

```
na ... vijjati añño samaṇo va brāhmaṇo vā bhagavatā (ablative) bhiyyo 'bhiññataro
```

= "there is ... not any other philosopher or priest more learned than the fortunate one"

(abhiñnataro comparative of abhiñna, "learned"; see Lesson 18 on comparison; bhiyyo, "more", is used also with kuto: kuto bhiyyo (lit. = "whence more"), meaning idiomatically "let alone more", "how could it be more?")

```
ito bhiyyo
= "more than this"
```

### **Dependent Words in Tappurisa Compounds**

A dependent word (*samāsanta*) is a word which can appear only at the end of a compound (it is a "bound form"). It cannot be used independently. In certain *tappurisas*, such words are found, generally indicating the action of a root from which they are immediately derived:

```
-karo, "doing", "working" (kar): kammakaro "worker"
-kāro, "making" (kar, causative): kumbhakāro, "potter" (kumbho = "pot")
-ggāho " seizing" ((g)gah): candaggāho, "eclipse of the moon (cando)"
-dharo, "holding", "remembering" (dhar): dhammadharo, "memorizer of the doctrine"
```

 $-p\bar{a}to$ , "dropping", "offering", "collecting" (pat, "to fall", causative):  $pin\bar{q}ap\bar{a}to$ , "alms offering", "alms collecting" (this has the sense of the food collected by a begging monk).

As with the other cases, ablative *tappurisas* may be formed:

```
piṇḍapātapaṭikkanto
= "(monk) returned from an alms collecting"
```

### Summary of Words in Tappurisa Compounds by Meiland

In some *tappurisas*, the final member is a word that only exists in compounds and never stands on its own. We have already seen examples of this with the word -pa in  $p\bar{a}da-po$  (literally, foot-drinker') and the word  $-k\bar{a}ra$  in  $kumbha-k\bar{a}ro$  ('pot-maker').

Extra examples to the ones given by Warder are:

• *ura-ga*, 'snake'.

The compound literally means 'chest-goer'; i.e. something that travels **by** its chest (instrumental case relationship). The word *-ga* means 'going'.

• *thala-ttha*, 'standing on dry ground'.

The word *thala* means 'dry ground' and *-ttha* means 'standing'.

The case-relationship in this *tappurisa* is locative: 'standing **on**...' See session 19 for locatives.

• anda-ja, 'born from an egg'; i.e. 'bird' or 'snake'.

The word -ja means 'born (from)', 'produced (from)'; anḍa means 'egg'. This tappurisa has an ablative case relationship: 'born **from**'.

• *pāṇa-hara*, 'taking away life', 'destructive'.

 $P\bar{a}na$  means 'life-breath' or 'life' (and can also mean 'breather'; i.e. a living creature); -hara means 'taking'.

The case-relationship in this *tappurisa* is accusative.

# **VOCABULARY**

# Verbs

stem	verb	meaning
adhi-gam (I)	adhigacchati	acquires
anu-(s)sar (I)	anussarati	recollects
$u(d)$ - $(t)$ $t$ $h$ $\bar{a}$ $(I)$	uṭṭhāti or uṭṭhahati or vuṭṭhāti	rises up, gets up, arises, comes out from,
		emigrates
ni-mant (VII)	nimanteti	invites (āsanena = to sit down, offers a seat)
pari-pucch (I)	paripucchati	asks about, asks advice
ā-yā (I)	āyāti	comes, approaches

### **Nouns**

noun	meaning
āsavo	influx, influence
deso	point (topic)
padoso	anger
phasso	contact, touch
sahāyako	friend
upādānaṃ	attachment
gāmapadaṃ	site of a village
dāsavyaṃ	slavery
bandhanam	bond, fetter
vedayitaṃ	sensation, experience
sāṇaṃ	hemp

# Indeclinables

indeclinable	meaning
api or app (stands at beginning of	(with optative) perhaps, (with indicative) does?, do?, did?
sentence or clause; <i>app</i> is a junction	(i.e. makes sentence interrogative: polite form of question)
form before a vowel)	
etarahi	now, at present
ettha	here, (also means) in this case
tattha	there, in that /this connection
tena hi	now! (admonitory)
pubbe	before, formerly
yattha	where
yan nūna	what now if?, what if?, now if,
	supposing?
sabbaso	completely

# Adjectives

adjective	meaning
pisuṇa	malicious
purāṇa	old

### Numeral

numeral	meaning
ubho (nominative and accusative, all genders)	both

# Past participle

past participle	meaning
khīṇa ((k)khī (III))	exhausted, wasted, perished (irregular $n$ for $n$ )