

Introduction to Pāli

Sutta Central
(G&K and Karunatillake)

Class 5

14/15 April 2024

Prepositions and Postpositions (G&K II.7)

- In addition to prepositions, which precede the noun, Pāli also has postpositions which follow the noun but have the same function
samaṇo narena saddhiṃ gāmaṃ gacchati
The monk goes to the village with the man
- **saddhiṃ (or saha)** is a postposition signifying 'accompanied by', always with Instrumental case
- Note that in Pāli prepositions are less frequently used than in English, since Pāli inflectional endings do the heavy lifting that prepositions do in English

Prepositions and Postpositions (cont.)

- Some prepositions/postpositions in Pāli can be either pre- or post- the noun, e.g., **aññatra**
- **aññatra** also has the feature of changing its meaning depending on which case it is used with – ‘among’ when used with *Locative*, but ‘outside’, ‘other than’, or ‘apart from’ when used with *Instrumental*
- **aññatra manussesu / manussesu aññatra = ‘among men’**
- **aññatra manussehi / manussehi aññatra = ‘outside men’ / ‘apart from mankind’**

The Discourse Substitute (G&K II.8)

- The form **peyyālaṃ**, or its shortened form **pe**, is used to shorten a written text by substituting for a stretch of text that is a repetition of a preceding section
- It’s a little bit like English ‘etc.’ or ‘and so on’
- When reciting, the section signified by **peyyālaṃ / pe** should be replaced and read out in full

The Discourse Substitute

- There are multiple examples of **peyyālaṃ** and **pe** in the canon
- In written English translations, the ellipsis ... is often used to enhance readability

The Reflexive Prefix sa- (G&K II.9)

- The reflexive prefix **sa-** when prefixed to a noun adds the sense 'one's own'
- Thus **sa + cittaṃ** gives **sacittaṃ** 'one's own mind'
- Note that the **sa-** prefix has other possible meanings
 - 'with', as in **sadevakā** 'with the devas'
- Recall too **saddhammo** 'true doctrine'
 - Looks like a **sa-** prefix, but is actually **sat-** (with sandhi changing **sat-** to **sad-**)

Accusative of Time (G&K II.10)

- The accusative case of a word referring to some element of time makes it a time adverb
- **pubbaṅhasamayam** - in the morning, in the forenoon
 - Note and correct the typo in G&K
 - **pubbaṅsamayam** **should be** **pubbaṅhasamayam**
- **ekaṃ samayam** - at one time, once (“Once upon a time”)
- **etaṃ samayam** - at that time
- [Note also, **etena samayena** - at that time]

Coordinate Compounds (G&K II.11.1)

- Two or more items may be coordinated in a compound so as to refer to their combination - These are referred to in Pāli as ***dvanda*** compounds
- We saw an example of a type of a ***dvanda*** compound in our first lesson when compounds were first introduced – **candasuriya** ‘the sun and the moon’
- Also **sokaparidevadukkhadomanassupāyāsā**
 - **soka-parideva-dukkha-domanassa-upāyāsā** ‘sorrow, lamentation, suffering, anguish, and despair’

Coordinate Compounds (cont.)

- As in all compounds the first element or elements are in stem form
- When the coordinate compound refers to an entity where the compound has a *joint meaning*, it is generally inflected in the neuter singular
- **dhammavinayaṃ** ‘the Dhamma and Vinaya’
- **subhāsitaḍubbhāsitaṃ** ‘things well spoken and things badly spoken’
- **nāmarūpaṃ** ‘name and form’

Compounds with –gata (G&K II.11.2)

- When **gata** (‘gone’), the past participle of **gacchati** (‘go’) is used as the last member of a compound, it may have the special sense of ‘having reached’ or ‘being endowed with’
 - **avijjā** ‘ignorance’ + **gata** →
 - **avijjāgata** ‘ignorant’

More on Sandhi (G&K II.12)

12. SANDHI

Some forms in Pāli that begin with a consonant double that consonant when a form ending with a vowel precedes it in a single word (i.e., with prefixes or in compounds). Thus

tathāgata +pavedita---> tathāgatappavedita
a+pamādo---> appamādo

Note that this doubling occurs only with certain words. Thus putto 'son' does not have this property:

sa+putto----->saputto

One must thus learn which words behave in this way as they occur.⁵

⁵ Unless one knows the Sanskrit equivalents, which will begin with consonant clusters, as in pramāda, pravedita.

G&K Lesson II – Readings 1

Our first look in this class at some Pāli verse.

Kiccho manussapaṭilābho

kicchaṃ maccānaṃ jīvitaṃ

kicchaṃ saddhammasavanaṃ

kiccho buddhānaṃ uppādo.

(Dhp 182)

Where are the verbs?

Pithy, therefore sometimes cryptic

G&K Lesson II – Readings 1

**Kiccho manussa-paṭilābho
kicchaṃ maccānaṃ jīvitaṃ
kicchaṃ saddhamma-savanaṃ
kiccho buddhānaṃ uppādo.**

*Difficult it is to be born human,
difficult is the life of a mortal,
difficult it is to hear the true doctrine,
difficult is the arising of enlightened ones.*

G&K Lesson II – Readings 2

**Sabbapāpassa akaraṇaṃ
kusalassa upasampadā
sacittapariyodapanāṃ
etaṃ buddhāna sāsanaṃ.**

(Dhp 183)

What is the word buddhāna?

A shortened form of buddhānaṃ (gen pl)

**In verse, syllables may be shortened or
lengthened for the metre / meter**

G&K Lesson II – Readings 2

**Sabba-pāpassa a-karaṇaṃ
kusalassa upasampadā
sa-citta-pariyodapaṇaṃ
etaṃ buddhāna(ṃ) sāsanaṃ.**

*The non-doing of all evil,
the attainment of the good,
the purification of one's own mind;
this is the teaching of the enlightened ones.*

G&K Lesson II – Readings 3

**Na hi verena verāni
sammantīdha kudācanaṃ
averena ca sammanti
esa dhammo sanantano.**

(Dhp 5)

G&K Lesson II – Readings 3

Na hi verena verāni
 sammanti idha kudācanaṃ
 averena ca sammanti
 esa dhammo sanantano.

*Hatreds do not ever end by hatred,
 But only by non-hatred do they do so.
 This is an eternal truth.*

Note: negative a-vera for a positive quality

G&K Lesson II – Readings 3

Na hi verena verāni
 not / indeed / by hatred / hatreds
 sammanti idha kudācanaṃ
 they end / here / ever
 averena ca sammanti
 by non-hatred / but / they end
 esa dhammo sanantano.

*Hatreds do not ever end by hatred,
 But only by non-hatred do they do so.
 This is an eternal truth.*

G&K Lesson II Readings

- Initial Readings – Exercises 2 and 3
– Pp. 14-15

Homework – Class 4

- Review G&K Lesson II: Grammar, pp. 18 - 25
- Review G&K Lesson II: Initial Readings, pp. 14 - 15
- Study G&K Glossary II-2, p. 28
- Complete Lesson II, Further Readings, pp.26-27