

Lecture:02

Declensions (Śabdarūpa)

In this chapter, we will learn about noun forms, pronoun forms and numeral forms.

Prātipadika

The significant (crude) form of a word, not being a verbal root, is called a *Prātipadika*¹.

Gender

A word or a noun has three genders: a masculine gender (*Puṅlinga*), a feminine gender (*Strīlinga*) and a neuter gender (*Napuṃsakalinga*).

Number

There are three numbers: singular (*Ekavacana*), Dual (*Dvivacana*) and Plural (*Bahuvacana*). The singular denotes one, the dual two and the plural three or more.²

Case

There are eight cases in each number: -

1. Nominative Case (*Karttā Kāraka*)
2. Accusative case (*Karma Kāraka*)
3. Instrumental case (*Karaṇa Kāraka*)
4. Dative case (*Sampradāna Kāraka*)
5. Ablative case (*Apādāna Kāraka*)

¹ अर्थवदधातुरप्रत्ययः प्रातिपदिकम्। पा. सू., 1/2/45

² द्व्येकयोर्द्विवचनैकवचने। बहुषु बहुवचनम्। पा. सू., 1/4/22, 21

6. Genitive case (*Sambandha Kāraka*)
7. Locative case (*Adhikaraṇa Kāraka*)
8. Vocative case (*Sambodhana Kāraka*)

Different categories based on their gender and, ending alphabet

In Sanskrit nouns are classified into different categories based on their gender and, ending alphabet. The ending alphabets can be - *a*(अ), *ā*(आ), *i*(इ), *ī* (ई), *u*(उ), *ū*(ऊ), *r*(ऋ), *ṛ*(ॠ), *ś*(श्), *t*(त्), *in*(इन्), *j*(ज्), *n*(न्), *d*(द्), *c*(च्) and *o*(ओ) etc. A word ending with अ (a) is called *Akārāntaḥ* (अकारान्तः) or "ending with a". Similarly word ending with इ (i) is called *ikārāntaḥ* (इकारान्तः) or "ending with i", and so on.

Svarāntaḥ

A word ending with a vowel (*svara*) is called *Svarāntaḥ* (स्वरान्तः) or "ending with a vowel". Masculine *Svarāntaḥ* are - *Akārāntaḥ* (अकारान्तः), *Ikārāntaḥ* (इकारान्तः), *Īkārāntaḥ* (ईकारान्तः), *Ukārāntaḥ* (उकारान्तः), *Ūkārāntaḥ* (ऊकारान्तः), *Ṛkārāntaḥ* (ऋकारान्तः), *Okārāntaḥ* (ओकारान्तः). Feminine *Svarāntaḥ* are - *Ākārāntaḥ* (आकारान्तः), *Ikārāntaḥ* (इकारान्तः), *Īkārāntaḥ* (ईकारान्तः), *Ukārāntaḥ* (उकारान्तः), *Ūkārāntaḥ* (ऊकारान्तः) and *Ṛkārāntaḥ* (ऋकारान्तः). Neuter *Svarāntaḥ* are - *Akārāntaḥ* (अकारान्तः), *Ikārāntaḥ* (इकारान्तः), *Ukārāntaḥ* (उकारान्तः).

Vyañjāntaḥ

A word ending with a consonant (*Vyañjana*) is called *Vyañjāntaḥ* (व्यञ्जनान्तः) or "ending with a consonant". Masculine *Vyañjāntaḥ* are - *Cakārāntaḥ* (चकारान्तः), *Jakārāntaḥ* (जकारान्तः), *Takārāntaḥ* (तकारान्तः), *Dakārāntaḥ* (दकारान्तः), *Nakārāntaḥ* (नकारान्तः), *Śakārāntaḥ* (शकारान्तः), *Ṣakārāntaḥ* (षकारान्तः), *Sakārāntaḥ* (सकारान्तः) etc. Feminine *Vyañjāntaḥ* are - *Vakārāntaḥ* (वकारान्तः), *Śakārāntaḥ* (शकारान्तः), *Ṣakārāntaḥ* (षकारान्तः), *Sakārāntaḥ* (सकारान्तः) etc. Neuter *Vyañjāntaḥ* are - *Cakārāntaḥ* (चकारान्तः), *Nakārāntaḥ* (नकारान्तः), *Sakārāntaḥ* (सकारान्तः) etc.

The noun form is derived by adding special suffix *Sup* (सुप्) to the root of the word. All such words are also called *Subantapada* meaning "ending with *Sup*". All other words in that category follow the same pattern. The following are the normal case terminations or *Subādi Pratyayāḥ* (सुबादि प्रत्ययाः).

Case Terminations or <i>Subādi Pratyayāḥ</i> (सुबादि प्रत्ययाः)			
Case (<i>Kāraka</i>)	Singular (<i>Ekavacana</i>)	Dual (<i>Dvivacana</i>)	Plural (<i>Bahuvacana</i>)
Nominative Case (<i>Karttā Kāraka</i>)	<i>Su</i> (सु)	<i>Au</i> (औ)	<i>Jas</i> (जस्)
Accusative case (<i>Karma Kāraka</i>)	<i>Am</i> (अम्)	<i>Auṭ</i> (औट्)	<i>Śas</i> (शस्)
Instrumental case (<i>Karaṇa Kāraka</i>)	<i>Ṭā</i> (ट्)	<i>Bhyām</i> (भ्याम्)	<i>Bhis</i> (भिसु)
Dative case (<i>Sampradāna Kāraka</i>)	<i>Ne</i> (ङे)	<i>Bhyām</i> (भ्याम्)	<i>Bhyas</i> (भ्यस्)
Ablative case (<i>Apādāna Kāraka</i>)	<i>Nasi</i> (ङसि)	<i>Bhyām</i> (भ्याम्)	<i>Bhyas</i> (भ्यस्)
Genitive case (<i>Sambandha Kāraka</i>)	<i>Nas</i> (ङस्)	<i>Os</i> (ओस्)	<i>Ām</i> (आम्)
Locative case (<i>Adhikaraṇa Kāraka</i>)	<i>Ni</i> (ङि)	<i>Os</i> (ओस्)	<i>Sup</i> (सुप्)

Noun (संज्ञा)

Masculine *Svarāntaḥ* - राम (*Rāma - Akārāntaḥ*), सखि (*Sakhi - Ikārāntaḥ*), पितृ (*Pitr - Rkārāntaḥ*) & गो (*Go - Okārāntaḥ*).

Neuter Svarāntaḥ - फल (Phala - Akārāntaḥ), वारि (Vāri - Ikārāntaḥ) & मधु (Madhu - Ukārāntaḥ).

Feminine Svarāntaḥ - लता (Latā - Ākārāntaḥ), मति (Mati - Ikārāntaḥ), नदी (Nadī - Īkārāntaḥ), धेनु (Dhenu - Ukārāntaḥ), वधू (Vadhū - Ūkārāntaḥ) & मातृ (Mātr - Ṛkārāntaḥ).

Masculine Vyañjāntaḥ- वाच् (Vāc - Cakārāntaḥ) & मरुत् (Marut - Takārāntaḥ) & आत्मन् (Ātman - Nakārāntaḥ).

Feminine Vyañjāntaḥ - सरित् (Sarit - Takārāntaḥ).

Neuter Vyañjāntaḥ - जगत् (Jagat - Takārāntaḥ).

Pronoun (सर्वनाम)

अस्मद् (Asmad = I) & युष्मद् (Yuṣmad = Your)

Three Genders: तत् (Tat = He, She, That), इदम् (Idam = This), एतत् (Etat = This) & यत् (Yat = Who/Which).

Numeral (संख्या)

एकम् (Ekam = One)

द्वि (Dvi = Two)

त्रि (Tri = Three)

चतुर (Catura = Four)

पञ्चन् (Pañcan = Five)

षष् (Ṣaṣ = Six)

सप्तन् (Saptan = Seven)

अष्टन् (Aṣṭan = Eight)

नवन् (Navan = Nine)

दशन् (Daśan = Ten)