

शिखागोविश्वविद्यालये

प्रारम्भिकसंस्कृतम्

FIRST-YEAR SANSKRIT

AT THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO



अल्लटाचार्योद्भावितः पाठक्रमः  Designed by Andrew Ollett



śivasūtrāṇi **THE ŚIVASŪTRAS**



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These are a set of *sūtras* (short sentences intended to be memorized) that generate the speech-sounds of the Sanskrit language.



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They are popularly called the Śivasūtras (or, equivalently, the Mahēśvarasūtras) because legend holds that the god Śiva revealed them to Pāṇini, the author of the earliest surviving Sanskrit grammar.



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They are also called *akṣarasamāmnāyaḥ*, “the traditional recitation (*samāmnāyaḥ*) of speech sounds (*akṣara-*).”



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They are organized as follows:

- one or more speech-sounds (in the case of consonants, they are followed by the vowel *a*);
- one “index sound” (*anubandhaḥ*).

This pattern repeats fourteen times.



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The principle of the *Śivasūtras* is forming *pratyāhāras*, which are very short words consisting of (a) one speech-sound, and (b) one index sound. These words then represent **all of the speech-sounds** between the initial speech-sound and the index-sound.



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Hence from the first *sūtra*:

a i u **Ṇ**

We can form the following sets:

- $aṆ = \{ a, i, u \}$
- $iṆ = \{ i, u \}$
- $uṆ = \{ u \}$



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Hence from the first *sūtra*:

a i u **Ṛ**

We can form the following sets (+ long vowels):

- $aṚ = \{ a, ā, i, ī, u, ū \}$
- $iṚ = \{ i, ī, u, ū \}$
- $uṚ = \{ u, ū \}$



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To refer to a vowel of a given length (long or short),
Pāṇini uses the special index-sound *T*. Hence:

- $aT = \{ a \}$ (*not ā!*)
- $āT = \{ ā \}$ (*not a!*)



svārāḥ

VOWELS

						a	i	u	Ṛ
							ṛ	ṝ	Ṝ
							ē	ō	Ṝ
							ai	au	Ṝ
				ha	ya	va	ra		Ṝ
							la		Ṝ
		ña	ma	ṇa	ṇa	ṇa	na		Ṝ
						jha	bha		Ṝ
						gha	ḍha	dha	Ṝ
		ja	ba	ga	ḍa	ḍa	da		Ṝ
kha	pha	cha	ṭha	tha	ca	ṭa	ta		Ṝ
						ka	pa		Ṝ
					śa	ṣa	sa		Ṝ
							ha		Ṝ



svārāḥ **VOWELS**

a	i	u	Ṛ
	ṛ	ṝ	Ṝ
	ē	ō	Ṝ
ai	au		Ṝ

aC
vowels

				ha	ya	va	ra	Ṭ
							la	Ṇ
			ña	ma	ṇa	ṇa	na	M
						jha	bha	Ñ
					gha	ḍha	dha	Ṣ
		ja	ba	ga	ḍa	da		Ś
kha	pha	cha	ṭha	tha	ca	ṭa	ta	V
						ka	pa	Y
					śa	ṣa	sa	R
							ha	L



svārāḥ **VOWELS**

a	i	u	Ṇ
	ṛ	ṝ	Ṛ
	ē	ō	Ṛ
	ai	au	Ṛ

haL
consonants

ha	ya	va	ra	Ṛ				
			la	Ṛ				
ña	ma	ṇa	ṇa	na	M			
		jha	bha	Ṇ				
	gha	ḍha	dha	Ṣ				
ja	ba	ga	ḍa	da	Ṣ			
kha	pha	cha	ṭha	tha	ca	ṭa	ta	V
			ka	pa	Y			
	śa	ṣa	sa	R				
		ha	L					



ha L

yaN
semivowels



svārāḥ

VOWELS

								a	i	u	Ṛ	
									ṛ	ṝ	Ṝ	śaR
									ē	ō	Ṝ	sibilants
									ai	au	C	
				ha	ya	va			ra		Ṭ	
									la		Ṛ	
			ña	ma	ṇa	ṇa	ṇa	na			M	
								jha	bha		Ñ	
								gha	ḍha	dha	Ṣ	
			ja	ba	ga	ḍa	da				Ś	
kha	pha	cha	ṭha	tha	ca	ṭa	ta				V	
								ka	pa		Y	
								śa	ṣa	sa	R	
									ha		L	



ha L

jhaL

obstruents

॥वृद्धि॥
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Now we can understand the first *sūtra* of Pāṇini's grammar, the *Aṣṭādhyāyī* (*Eight Chapters*):

vṛddhírādaic (1.1.1)



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“The sounds encompassed in the sets *āT* (= *ā*) and *aiC* (= *ai*, *au*) are called by the technical term *vṛddhīḥ*.”



॥ वृद्धिः ॥

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