Sanskrit Lesson
From the Vajra Prajna Paramita Sutra ————————

अथ खल्वायुष्यान्सुभूतिस्त्थायासनाद्
एकांसत्तरासंङं कृत्वा दत्तिणं जानु-
मण्डलं पृथिव्यां प्रतिष्ठाप्य येन
भगवांस्तेनाञ्जलिं प्रणम्य भगवन्तम्
एतद्वोचत्

ATHA KHALV ĀYUṢMĀN SUBHŪTIR UTTHĀYĀSANĀD
EKĀMSAM UTTARĀSAṄGAM KṚTVĀ DAKṢIṆAM
JĀNU-MAṆḌALAM PṚTHIVYĀM PRATIṢṬHĀPYA
YENA BHAGAVĀMS TENĀÑJALIM PRAṆAMYA
BHAGAVANTAM ETAD AVOCAT (text before
external sandhi: atha khalu āyuṣmān
subhūtis utthāya āsanāt ekāmsam uttara-
āsaṅgam kṛtvā dakṣiṇam jānu-maṇḍalam
pṛthivyām pratiṣṭhāpya yena bhagavān
tena añjalim praṇamya bhagavantam etad
avocat)

"Then the Elder Subhuti, having
arisen from his seat, having bared one
shoulder of his upper garment, having
placed his right knee on the ground,
and having placed his palms together
before the Honored One, said this to
the Honored One."

This lesson continues to explain
certain words in the subordinate clauses
which have not yet been fully explained.
The second subordinate clause in the
sentence is ekāmsam uttarāsaṅgam kṛtvā,
which is translated "having bared one
shoulder of his upper garment." The
literal translation, word by word, was
given in the Sanskrit lesson for issue
#220, as follows:

kṛtvā   "having made" (gerund)

uttarāsaṅgam   "upper garment"

ekāmsam   "one-shouldered"

Issue #195 discussed another form
of the gerund from root √kṛ- "make,"
-kṛtya, also translated "having made"
in its most literal interpretation. In
that context, -kṛtya was preceded by a
prefixed item, not actually a prefix,
but a nominal (noun) compound. The
rule we have become familiar with so
far is that when a root has a prefix
or other prefixed element, the gerund
suffix is -ya. When there is no pre-
fixed element, then the form of the
gerund suffix used is -tvā. It is easy
to see that the form in the present
sentence is absolutely normal: root
without strengthening plus suffix -tvā,
since nothing is prefixed to it. But
why was the other form -kṛtya? The
answer is that there is another form
of the gerund used when there is a
prefix and the root ends in a short
vowel. That suffix is -tya. The in-
serted -t- facilitates pronunciation
and prevents the original parts of the
gerund from merging into each other
and becoming unintelligible. -ṛ- of
root √kṛ- is a (short) vowel in San-
skrit, although it is transliterated
with a letter that is a consonant in
English. The dot under the -ṛ- shows
it is a vowel, by contrast with -r-,
the transliteration of the consonant.

— to be continued