

From the Vajra Prajna Paramita Sutra

अथ खड्गायुष्मान्सुभूतिरुत्थायासनाद्
एकांसमुत्तरासङ्गं कृत्वा दक्षिणं जानु-
सङ्कुलं पृथिव्यां प्रतिष्ठाप्य येन
भगवांस्तेनाञ्जलिं प्रणम्यं भगवन्तम्
एतदवोचत्

ATHA KHALV ĀYUṢMĀN SUBHŪTIR UTTHĀYĀSANĀD
EKĀMSAM UTTARĀSĀNGAṂ KṚTVĀ DAKṢIṆAṂ JĀNU-
MANDALAṂ PṚTHIVYĀM PRATIṢṬHĀPYA YENA
BHAGAVĀMS TENĀNJALIM PRANAMYA 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:

Issue #235 discussed how uttarāsaṅgam "upper garment" is a Descriptive Determinative Compound, in Sanskrit known as a karma-dhāraya type compound. There are six types of compounds in Sanskrit, known as the ṣaḍ samāsāḥ, ṣaḍ meaning "six," and samāsa meaning "compound."

Ṣaḍ Samāsāḥ Six Types of Compounds

1. Karma-dhāraya. Descriptive Determinative Compound.
2. Tat-puruṣa. Dependent Determinative Compound.
3. Bahu-vrīhi. Possessive Adjective Compound.
4. Dvandva. Copulative or Aggregative Compound.
5. Avyayī-bhāva. Adverbial Compound.
6. Dvi-gu. Numerical Determinative Compound.

The classifications are aids to analyzing the relationships among the words which make up the compound.

1. Karma-dhāraya Compounds, or Descriptive Determinative Compounds. Dhāraya literally means "bearing" or "supporting," and karma means "deeds." Therefore, these are described as "deed-supporting" compounds. The explanation of why these compounds have such a name is as follows: The substance supports the function, which is the meaning of "deed-supporting." In such compounds, although there are two elements, in substance they result in a single noun. A single substance supports a single function, and so these are called "deed-supporting" compounds. An example is mahā-yāna "Great Vehicle." Mahā "great" has seven meanings and is "great" in contrast to "small." Yāna "vehicle" has the meaning of transporting. Since its course is that of rescuing, its great substance supports the function of transporting, and so it is called the "Great Vehicle." Another name for this kind of compound is "identical reliance," which refers to how the two elements of the compound rely on a single substance. For example, in mahā-yāna, both mahā and yāna rely on that single substance—hence the name. Another example is ālaya-vijñāna "Store Consciousness." Ālaya "Store" is the consciousness (vijñāna), and that consciousness has the function of supporting the function. Therefore, ālaya-vijñāna is a compound of the "deed-supporting" type. Both elements, "store" and "consciousness," identically rely on a single Dharma substance, and so the compound is also said to be of the "identical reliance" type.

--to be continued

Upcoming Special Events at the City of Ten Thousand Buddhas

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| Mar. 11 | Sunday Celebration of Gwan Shr Yin Bodhisattva's Birthday (actual day Mar. 15) |
| Mar. 11 evening - Mar. 14 evening | Three days of recitation of Gwan Shr Yin Bodhisattva's name |
| Mar. 26 evening - Apr. 16, 17, or 18 | Ten Thousand Buddhas Jewelled Repentance |
| Apr. 8 | Sunday Celebration of Chundi Bodhisattva's Birthday (actual day Apr. 11) |
| Apr. 29 | Sunday Celebration of Shakyamuni Buddha's Birthday (actual day May 2) |