

## Sanskrit Lesson

### From the Vajra Prajña Paramita Sutra

अथ खन्नायुष्मान्स्मृतिरुत्थायासनाद्  
 एकांसमृतरासङ्गं कृत्वा दक्षिणं जानु-  
 मण्डलं पृथिव्यां प्रतिष्ठाप्य येन  
 भगवांस्तेनाञ्जलिं प्रणम्य भगवन्तम्  
 एतद्वीचत्

*Atha khaly Āyuṣmān Subhūtir  
 utthāyāsanād ekāṃsam  
 uttarāsaṅgam kṛtvā dakṣiṇam  
 jānu-maṇḍalam pṛthivyām  
 pratisthāpya yena Bhagavāms  
 tenāñjaliṃ prañamya Bhagavantam  
 etad avocat.*

This lesson continues to consider the verb  $\sqrt{vac}$ - "speak/say/tell."  $\sqrt{vac}$ - belongs to the category of verbs known as the Reduplicating or *hu*- class. Verbs of this type form their present stem by adding a reduplicating syllable before the root. That is, part of the root is "repeated" or, more accurately, "anticipated" right before the portion of the stem representing the root. Just what form the reduplication takes depends on the root itself. There are many exceptions, but some general rules apply.

In general, if the root begins with one or more consonants, the reduplication will be the first consonant and the vowel of the root. Examples are:

*paprach-* from root  $\sqrt{prach}$ - "ask"  
*bubudh-* from root  $\sqrt{budh}$ - "wake up"

However, various other linguistic rules apply. For example, if the root begins with an aspirated syllable, the non-aspirated consonant is substituted for it in the reduplication. Also, a long vowel in the root is shortened in the reduplicating syllable. And if the vowel of the root is *r*, it is usually replaced by *i* in the reduplication. Illustrations are:

*dadhā* from root  $\sqrt{dhā}$ - "put/place"  
*bibhṛ-* from root  $\sqrt{bhṛ}$ - "bear/carry"  
*pipṛc-* from root  $\sqrt{pṛc}$ - "mix"

Another general rule is that a palatal consonant (*c* or *j*) is substituted for a guttural consonant of the root (*k*, *kh*, *g*, or *gh*) or for *h*. That is, in the reduplicating syllable, *c* replaces *k* or *kh*, and *j* replaces *g*, *gh*, or *h*. Examples are:

*cikhid-* from root  $\sqrt{khid}$ - "tear"  
*jagrabh-* from root  $\sqrt{grabh}$ - "seize"  
*juju-* or *juho-* from root  $\sqrt{hu}$ - "sacrifice"

The alternate name of the class is the  $\sqrt{hu}$ - class because the verb typical of this class is the verb  $\sqrt{hu}$ - which means "(to) sacrifice." Its reduplicating syllable is *ju-*. These verbs tend to have both a strong and a weak form of the stem. The strong form has the *guṇa* grade of the root vowel. [For discussion of *guṇa*, review lessons in Vajra Bodhi Sea #177 (February 1985), #185 (October 1985), and #190 (March 1986)].

The vowel of root  $\sqrt{hu}$ - being *u*, the *guṇa* grade is *o*. Therefore the strong form of the present stem of  $\sqrt{hu}$ - is *juho-*. The weak form of the present stem has the weak grade of the vowel of the root. Therefore the weak form of the present stem of  $\sqrt{hu}$ - is *juhu-*. In conjugating the verb  $\sqrt{hu}$ -, the form of the stem used depends upon the

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Present Active Indicative or $\sqrt{HU}$ - "Sacrifice" (Reduplicating or <i>HU</i> - Class Verbs)			
Person	Singular	Dual	Plural
1st	<i>juhómi</i> "I sacrifice"	<i>juhuvás</i> "we (two) sacrifice"	<i>juhumás</i> "we (more than two) sacrifice"
2nd	<i>juhósi</i> "you (one) sacrifice"	<i>juhuthás</i> "you (two) sacrifice"	<i>juhvathá</i> "you (more than two) sacrifice"
3rd	<i>juhóti</i> "he/she/it sacrifices"	<i>juhutás</i> "they (two) sacrifice"	<i>juhvati</i> "they (more than two) sacrifice"

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pattern of accents. It's not essential to know the accents to know Sanskrit, and most of the time they are not written, being features of an earlier stage of the language which fell into disuse. However, the accents often explain the origin of certain forms or alternations of forms, as in this case. Here the form of the present stem used depends upon whether the ending is accented or not. The strong stem itself is accented upon the final syllable (*juhó-*), and it is used before an unaccented syllable. The weak stem form is *juhu-*, which either has no accent (*juhu-*) or has an accent on the first syllable (*júhu-*). The form with no accent at all (*juhu-*) is used before an accented ending. The form with the accent on the first syllable (*júhu-*) is used before an ending that begins with a vowel, in which case the final *-u* of *júhu-* becomes *-v* by internal *sandhi*.