

From the Vajra Prajna Paramita Sutra

continued from issue #212

अथ खल्वायुष्मान्‌सुभूतिरुत्थायासनाद्  
एकांसमुत्रासन्नं कृत्वा दक्षिणं जानु-  
सङ्कुलं पृथिव्यां प्रतिष्ठाप्य यैन  
भगवांस्तेनाञ्जलिं प्रणम्य भगवन्तम्  
एतदबोचत्

ATHA KHALV ĀYUṢMĀN SUBHŪTIR UTTĀVĀSANĀD  
EKĀMSAM UTTARĀSĀNGAM KṚTVĀ DAKṢIṆAM  
JĀNU-MANḌALAM PṚTHIVYĀM PRATIṢṬHĀPYA  
VENA BHAGAVĀMS TENĀÑJALIM PRAṆAMYA  
BHAGAVANTAM ETAD AVOCAT (text before  
external sandhi: atha khalu āyuṣmān  
subhūtis utthāya āsanāt ekāmsam uttara-  
āsāngam 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, and  
having placed his palms together before  
the World Honored One, said to the World  
Honored One...

This issue's lesson applies the sandhi rules presented in the various lessons before to the present text of the Sutra. It also considers which words are linked in writing in the text, whether or not they must be linked by sound combination.

The first example of sandhi is an example of external sandhi for vowels, and illustrates that rule five, which says: In all other cases (that is, when rules one to four do not apply), a simple vowel before an unlike vowel is replaced by the corresponding semivowel. The example in our text is that khalu + āyuṣmān → khalv āyuṣmān. -v + a- → -vā-. The sandhi rule occurs in VBS #190. The two words are also linked in writing.

The second example of sandhi in the text is that subhūtis + utthāya → subhūtiḥ + utthāya → subhūtir utthāya (also linked in writing). This is an example of external visarga sandhi, rule eight (VBS #188). The rule states: In other instances, -s and -r final in a word after a vowel are replaced by visarga, and the following rules apply. (rules nine and ten). In this case,

CORRECTION TO ISSUE #212'S LESSON

PLEASE NOTE THAT THERE WERE SEVERAL ERRORS IN THE DEVANAGARI WRITING OF THE TEXT AND IN THE TRANSLITERATION, AND CORRECT THAT TEXT ACCORDING TO THE TEXT PRESENTED IN THIS ISSUE.

rule nine then applies, which states: Any case of visarga before a voiced sound is replaced by -r. Therefore, subhūtis first becomes subhūtiḥ by rule eight, and then becomes subhūtir by rule nine.

The third example in the text is that utthāya + āsanāt → utthāyāsanāt. This is an example of external sandhi for vowels, rule four (which appeared in VBS #190). The rule states: The succession of like simple vowels is replaced by one morphophoneme, the corresponding long vowel. In this case, the two like simple vowels are -a and ā-. They were replaced by the corresponding long vowel -ā-. The two words, which then come to share that vowel, are then obviously linked in writing as well.

— to be continued

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SHAstra ON THE DOOR TO UNDERSTANDING  
THE HUNDRED DHARMA  
by Vasubandhu Bodhisattva  
with Commentary by Tripitaka  
Master Hua

"At the level of the Five Universally Interactive Dharmas, (attention, contact, feeling, conceptualization, and deliberation), thoughts of good and evil have not yet formed. At that point, one could stop the mind processes and thereby keep such thoughts from being produced. If one works hard at cultivating these dharmas, one can keep from producing thoughts of good and evil. If one can manage not to produce thoughts of good and evil, then there will not be any creation of good or evil karma. However, if one gives rise to these Five Particular States (desire, resolution, recollection, concentration, and judgment) dharmas which are also among the Dharmas Interactive with the Mind, then one can no longer stop thoughts of good and evil from arising. Therefore, the actual "doing" of good and evil begins with these Five Particular States."