

Compounds

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Format: **noun stem + noun stem >> noun stem**

Ex. uttama +purisa >> uttampurisa

Note: -Herea **noun stem** as a member of a compound can be an ordinary noun, a pronoun, a numeral, a primary or secondary derivative --- anything except **conjugated verbs.**

- If a noun stem ending in *-as* is any member but the last of a compound, the ending *as* is changed into *o*.

Ex manas + dhātu >> manodhātu

Note on Abbreviations

In the following sections, different types of Pali compounds would be described using special notations. A brief overview of the symbols used and their usage should be given here.

- **Capital letters** such as A, B, C, etc., are used to denote different noun stems referring to different entities.
- **Identical letters with different subscriptss** such as, A_{sub}, A_{mod}, are used to denote different noun stems of identical content, i.e., those referring to the same entity.
- Subscripts are used to denote the type of the noun stem concerned.
- Subscripts used:

com. = standard of comparison dir. = direction (east, etc.)

ind. = indeclinable (prefixes included) mod. = modifier

num.=numeral sub.=substantive

a. Kammadhāraya (Adjectival Compounds)

In this type, **two** different noun stems having **identity of content** are combined into a single noun and the whole compound follows **the last member** in case, gender and number.

1. ¹ A_{mod} + A_{sub} >> A_{sub} (sense, gender & number)

A_{mod} >> A_{sub} (Identity relation)

Trs.: "A_{sub}, which is A_{mod}."

2. ² A_{sub} + A_{mod} >> A_{sub} (sense) A_{mod} (gender & number)

A_{mod} >> A_{sub} (Identity relation)

Trs.: "A_{sub}, which is A_{mod}"

3. ³ A_{mod1} + A_{mod2} >> A_{sub} (sense, gender & number)

A_{mod1} >> A_{sub} (Identity relation)

A_{mod2} >> A_{sub} (Identity relation)

Trs.: "A_{sub}, which is both A_{mod1} and A_{mod2}"

4. ⁴ A_{sub} + A_{com} >> A_{sub} (sense, gender & number)

A_{com} >> A_{sub} (*Figurative* identity relation)

Trs.: "A_{sub}, which is *like* A_{com}"

5. ⁵ A + *iti* + B >> B (sense, gender & number)

(A + *iti*) >> B (Identity relation)

Trs.: "B, which takes place by way of A"

Note: the indeclinable *iti* is dropped in the resulting compound.

6. ⁶ A + *eva* + B >> B (sense, gender & number)

(A + *eva*) >> B (*Emphasized* identity relation)

¹ visesana-pubbapada

² visesamuttarapada

³ visesamobhayapada

⁴ upamānuttarapada

⁵ sambhāvanāpubbapada

⁶ avadhāraṇapubbapada

Trs.: "B, which is really / only A"

Note: the indeclinable *eva* is dropped in the resulting compound.

7.² A_{ind} + A_{sub} >> A_{sub} (sense, gender & number)

A_{ind} >> A_{sub} (identity relation)

Trs.: "A_{sub}, which is A_{ind}"

b. Digu (Numeral Compounds)

It is a special type of *Kammadhāraya* compound; its characteristic is that the **first member** of the compound must be a **cardinal numeral**. It is classified into two types --- *samāhāra* (**collective**) and *asamāhāra* (**individual**).

A_{num} + A_{sub} >> A_{sub} (Sense)

(If *samāhāra*, **neutral** gender & **Singular** number)

(If *asamāhāra*, gender and number of A_{sub})

A_{num} >> A_{sub} (Identity relation)

Trs.: "A_{sub}, which is A_{num}"

c. Tappurisa (Dependent Determinative Compounds)

In this type, **two** noun stems of **different content** are combined into a single one. The first member is related to the second in one of six relations, namely, *accusative*, *instrumental*, *dative*, *ablative*, *genitive* and *locative*.

A + B >> B (sense, gender & number)

A >> B (*accusative* relation) Trs.: "B to A"

A >> B (*instrumental* relation) Trs.: "B with/by A"

A >> B (*dative* relation) Trs.: "B for A"

A >> B (*ablative* relation) Trs.: "B from A"

A >> B (*genitive* relation) Trs.: "B of A"

A >> B (*locative* relation) Trs.: "B at/on/in A"

² *pādipubbapada/kunipātāpubbapada*

Sometimes, the first member has a case ending, which indicates its relation to the last one.²

Again, the format is reversed at times but the resulting sense, etc. is not changed. In such a case, the first member usually is a prefix or an indeclinable.¹

B + A >> B (sense, gender & number)

Relations and translations are the same as above.

d. Abyayībhāva (Adverbial Compounds)

In this type ---

1. The **first member** is a **prefix** or an **indeclinable**.
2. The first member is related to the second in one of **seven** relations, namely,

nominative, accusative, instrumental, dative, ablative, genitive and locative.

A_{ind} +B >> A(sense, **neutral** gender & **singular** number)

B >>	A (<i>nominative</i> relation)	Trs.: "EveryA", etc.
B >>	A (<i>accusative</i> relation)	Trs.: "AtoB"
B >>	A (<i>instrumental</i> relation)	Trs.: "Awith/byB"
B >>	A (<i>dative</i> relation)	Trs.: "AforB"
B >>	A (<i>ablative</i> relation)	Trs.: "A fromB"
B >>	A (<i>genitive</i> relation)	Trs.: "AofB"
B >>	A (<i>locative</i> relation)	Trs.: "A at / on / in B"

e. Dvanda (Copulative / Aggregative Compounds)

Here **two or more** members of **different content** are combined into a compound. It has two types --- *samāhāra*(collective) and *asamāhāra*(individual).

A+B+--- >> AB---(sense)

(If *samāhāra*, **neutral** gender & **Singular** number)

(If *asamāhāra*, gender and number of the **last member**)

² *alutta-tappurisa*

¹ *amādi-tappurisa*

A >> C (the same relation to another word in the given context)

B >> C (.ibid)

Ex. "AB goes" means "A goes and B goes too".

Trs. "A and B"

f. Bahubhīhi (Relative Compounds)

Here **two** members of the **same** or **different content** are combined to mean

something other than the members themselves.

1.¹ A_{mod} + A_{sub} >> B (sense, gender, number)

A_{mod} >> A_{sub} (Identity relation)

B >> A_{mod} (or) A_{sub} (*accusative, instrumental, dative, ablative, genitive or locative relation*)

Trs. "The one having A_{sub}, which is A_{mod}"

2.² A +B >> C(sense,gender,number)

A >> B (*accusative, instrumental, dative, ablative, genitive or locative relation*)

C >> B (*accusative, instrumental, dative, ablative, genitive or locative relation*)

If A >> B (*accusative relation*) Trs.: "The one having B to A"

A >> B (*instrumental relation*) Trs.: "The one having B with / by A"

A >> B (*dative relation*) Trs. "The one having B for A"

A >> B (*ablative relation*) Trs. "The one having B from A"

A >> B (*genitive relation*) Trs.: "The one having B of A"

A >> B (*locative relation*) Trs. "The one having B at / on / in A"

3.³ saha+A >> B(sense,gender&number)

¹ dvipadatulyādhikaraṇa

² dvipadabhinnādhikaraṇa

³ sahapubbapada

[Note: *saha*>*sa* when followed by a consonant, i.e., of the second member]

A >> C (the same relation to another word in the given context)

B >> C (.ibid)

Trs. "One having A with it / him / her"

Ex. "B, who is *saha*A, goes" means " B goes with A, i.e., B goes and A goes too".

4.² (A + B)_{com} >> C (sense, gender, number)

A >> B (*genitive* relation)

C >> B (*genitive* relation)

Trs. "One having B, which is like B of A"

5.³ A_{num} + B_{num} >> (A_{num} or B_{num})

(sense, gender & number of **the noun it qualifies**)

Ex. "chappañca" means " six or five".

6.⁴ A_{dir} + B_{dir} >> (the ordinal point between A_{dir} or B_{dir})

(sense, gender & number of **the noun it qualifies**)

Ex. "pubbadakkhiṇa" means "south-west".

g. Negative Compounds

Here, the **first** member is the **indeclinable Na** of negative sense. It has two types.

1.⁵ Na+A >> non-A(gender & number of A)

Trs. "One, which is not A **or** which is opposite to A **or** which is other than A

or which is similar to A."

2.⁶ Na+A >> B (sense, gender & number)

Trs. "One which does not have A"

² *upamānapubbapada*

³ *saṅkhyobhaya*

⁴ *disantarālattha*

⁵ *nanipātapubbapada-kammadhāraya*

⁶ *nanipātapubbapada-bahubbihi*