

Compounds

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

Ex. uttama +purisa >> uttamapurisa

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 subscripts** 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 $A_{\text{mod}} + A_{\text{sub}} \gg A_{\text{sub}}$ (sense, gender & number)

$A_{\text{mod}} \gg A_{\text{sub}}$ (Identity relation)

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

2.² $A_{\text{sub}} + A_{\text{mod}} \gg A_{\text{sub}}$ (sense) A_{mod} (gender & number)

$A_{\text{mod}} \gg A_{\text{sub}}$ (Identity relation)

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

3.³ $A_{\text{mod}1} + A_{\text{mod}2} \gg A_{\text{sub}}$ (sense, gender & number)

$A_{\text{mod}1} \gg A_{\text{sub}}$ (Identity relation)

$A_{\text{mod}2} \gg A_{\text{sub}}$ (Identity relation)

Trs.: " A_{sub} , which is both $A_{\text{mod}1}$ and $A_{\text{mod}2}$ "

4.⁴ $A_{\text{sub}} + A_{\text{com}} \gg A_{\text{sub}}$ (sense, gender & number)

$A_{\text{com}} \gg A_{\text{sub}}$ (*Figurative* identity relation)

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

5.⁵ $A + iti + B \gg B$ (sense, gender & number)

$(A + iti) \gg B$ (Identity relation)

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

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

6.⁶ $A + eva + B \gg B$ (sense, gender & number)

$(A + eva) \gg \mathfrak{B}$ (*Emphasized* identity relation)

¹ *visesana-pubbapada*

² *visesamuttarapada*

³ *visesanobhayapada*

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.: "BtoA"

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

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

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

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

A >> B (*locative* relation) Trs.: "Bat/ on / inA"

² *pāḍīpubbapada / kunīpāṭapubbapada*

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 (*nominative* relation) Trs.: "Every A", etc.

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

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

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

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

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

B >> A (*locative* 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. "AandB"

f. Bahubbhi (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 *dvīpadatulyādhikaraṇa*

² *dvīpadabhinnādhikaraṇa*

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-bahubbīhi*