

## Compounds

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

Ex.    uttama + purisa            >>            uttamapurisa

Note:            -Here a **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>sub</sub>, A<sub>mod</sub>, 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. <sup>1</sup> A<sub>mod</sub> + A<sub>sub</sub> >> A<sub>sub</sub> (sense, gender & number)

A<sub>mod</sub> >> A<sub>sub</sub> (Identity relation)

Trs.: "A<sub>sub</sub>, which is A<sub>mod</sub>."

2. <sup>2</sup> A<sub>sub</sub> + A<sub>mod</sub> >> A<sub>sub</sub> (sense) A<sub>mod</sub> (gender & number)

A<sub>mod</sub> >> A<sub>sub</sub> (Identity relation)

Trs.: "A<sub>sub</sub>, which is A<sub>mod</sub>"

3. <sup>3</sup> A<sub>mod1</sub> + A<sub>mod2</sub> >> A<sub>sub</sub> (sense, gender & number)

A<sub>mod1</sub> >> A<sub>sub</sub> (Identity relation)

A<sub>mod2</sub> >> A<sub>sub</sub> (Identity relation)

Trs.: "A<sub>sub</sub>, which is both A<sub>mod1</sub> and A<sub>mod2</sub>"

4. <sup>4</sup> A<sub>sub</sub> + A<sub>com</sub> >> A<sub>sub</sub> (sense, gender & number)

A<sub>com</sub> >> A<sub>sub</sub> (*Figurative* identity relation)

Trs.: "A<sub>sub</sub>, which is *like* A<sub>com</sub>"

5. <sup>5</sup> 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. <sup>6</sup> A + *eva* + B >> B (sense, gender & number)

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

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<sup>1</sup> *visesana-pubbapada*

<sup>2</sup> *visesanuttarapada*

<sup>3</sup> *visesanobhayapada*

<sup>4</sup> *upamānuttarapada*

<sup>5</sup> *sambhāvanāpubbapada*

<sup>6</sup> *avadhāraṇapubbapada*

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

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

7.<sup>2</sup> A<sub>ind</sub> + A<sub>sub</sub> >> A<sub>sub</sub> (sense, gender & number)

A<sub>ind</sub> >> A<sub>sub</sub> (identity relation)

Trs.: "A<sub>sub</sub>, which is A<sub>ind</sub>"

### 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<sub>num</sub> + A<sub>sub</sub> >> A<sub>sub</sub> (Sense)

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

(If *asamāhāra*, gender and number of A<sub>sub</sub>)

A<sub>num</sub> >> A<sub>sub</sub> (Identity relation)

Trs.: "A<sub>sub</sub>, which is A<sub>num</sub>"

### 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"

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<sup>2</sup> *pādipubbapada / kunipātapubbapada*

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

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.<sup>1</sup>

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<sub>ind</sub> + 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**)

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<sup>2</sup> *alutta-tappurisa*

<sup>1</sup> *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. Bahubhihi (Relative Compounds)

Here **two** members of the **same** or **different content** are combined to mean **something other** than the members themselves.

1.<sup>1</sup> A<sub>mod</sub> + A<sub>sub</sub> >> B (sense, gender, number)

A<sub>mod</sub> >> A<sub>sub</sub> (Identity relation)

B >> A<sub>mod</sub> (or) A<sub>sub</sub> (*accusative, instrumental, dative, ablative, genitive or locative* relation)

Trs. "The one having A<sub>sub</sub>, which is A<sub>mod</sub> "

2.<sup>2</sup> 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.<sup>3</sup> *saha* + A >> B (sense, gender & number)

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<sup>1</sup> *dvipadatulyādhikarāṇa*

<sup>2</sup> *dvipadabhinnādhikarāṇa*

<sup>3</sup> *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.<sup>2</sup> (A + B)<sub>com</sub> >> C (sense, gender, number)

A >> B (*genitive* relation)

C >> B (*genitive* relation)

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

5.<sup>3</sup> A<sub>num</sub> + B<sub>num</sub> >> (A<sub>num</sub> or B<sub>num</sub>)

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

Ex. "chappañca" means " six or five".

6.<sup>4</sup> A<sub>dir</sub> + B<sub>dir</sub> >> (the ordinal point between A<sub>dir</sub> or B<sub>dir</sub>)

(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.<sup>5</sup> *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.<sup>6</sup> *Na* + A >> B ( sense, gender & number)

Trs. "One which does not have A"

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<sup>2</sup> *upamānapubbapada*

<sup>3</sup> *saṅkhyobhaya*

<sup>4</sup> *disantarāḷattha*

<sup>5</sup> *nanipātapubbapada-kammadhāraya*

<sup>6</sup> *nanipātapubbapada-bahubbīhi*