Cases in Sanskrit

Class Objective: To understand what cases (Vibhaktis) are, the types of Vibhaktis and the uses of Vibhaktis.

Concept A: Below are the 8 cases (Vibhaktis) used in Sanskrit:

- 1. Prathama/prathamā (Nominative) प्रथमा
- 2. Dwitiya/dvitīyā (Accusative) द्वितिया
- 3. Tritiya/ trtīyā (Instrumental) तृतीया
- 4. Chaturthi/ caturthī (Dative) चत्र्थी
- 5. Panchami/ pamcamī (Ablative) पञ्चमी
- 6. Shashti / ṣaṣṭhī(Gentive) षष्ठी
- 7. Saptami / saptamī(Locative) सप्तमी
- 8. Sambodhan/ sambodhana (Vocative) सम्बोधनम्

The Vibhaktis are used to indicate different parts of sentences like subject, object, prepositions + nouns etc.

Concept B: Revision:

- 1. The word that denotes the name of a person or thing is called a noun.
- 2. The words that are used as a substitute of nouns are called pronouns.
- 3. Nouns and pronouns are in 3 genders: masculine (Pullinga/pullimga), feminine (Streelinga/strīlimga) and neuter gender (napumsaka linga/napumsakalimga)
- 4. The nouns also come in 3 numbers: singular (eka vachana / ekavacana : one), dual (dwivachana/ dvivacana : two) and plural [bahu vachana/bahuvachana : many (more than two)]
- Gender does not often follow the meaning of the objects:
 Vrukshaha (tree) is masculine
 Lata (creeper) is feminine

Today we will be learning 4 cases: Prathama, Dwitiya, Tritiya, Sambodhana

Concept C:

1.Prathama (Nominative): is used to denote the subject of a sentence also called as Karta (कर्ता)

Answers the question: Who?What?

In a normal active sentence, the subject is the doer of actions and things. Hence, the subject will always take the Prathama/prathamā case in a normal active sentence and the verb will always follow the subject.

भक्ता: ध्यायन्ति (Bhaktaaha Dhyaayanti/ bhaktā: dhyāyanti) : The devotees meditate In the above sentence, **Bhaktaaha**/bhaktā: is the subject.

Question: Who?

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