Samasa - Compounds in Sanskrit

Objective: To understand what a compound is and also its types

Concept A: What is a compound?

Compounds are called as समास in Sanskrit. Below are the features of using compounds:

- 1. Usage of compounds makes the language more rich and attractive especially when you are writing texts in Sanskrit.
- 2. It also helps in making the text concise and precise.
- 3. It also adds beauty to the language.

Samaasa is a combination of 2 or more words.

Its dissolution is called 'समास विग्रहणं'. Some important things to note about Samaasa:

- i. Case terminations of former constituents disappear in compound word
- ii. When compound is dissolved, case terminations need to be added to the former constituent
- iii. समास = सम् + आस् = to compound/to club

Concept B: Examples of Samaasa

Examples in Hindi:

रसोई के लिए घर = रसोईघर

हाथ के लिए कड़ी = हथकड़ी

नील और कमल = नीलकमल

रजा का पुत्र = राजपुत्र |

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