

## PRAHELIKA (RIDDLES)

**Class Objective - To understand and solve riddles in Sanskrit.**

**Concept A:** What is Prahelika?

The Prahelika (प्रहेलिका) is 'food for the mind'.

In this series, such riddles in verse form are given. Let us start learning the Prahelika. Answers will be given at the end.

**Prahelika 1:**

अस्थि नास्ति शिरो नास्ति बाहुरस्ति निरङ्कुलिः ।

नास्ति पादद्वयं गाढम् अङ्गमालिङ्गति स्वयम् ॥

Asthi nāsti śiro nāsti bāhurasti nirangulih

Nāsti pādadvayam gādham angam alingati svayam

**Meaning of Prahelika 1-** It has neither bone nor head, has arm but no fingers, has no legs and it hugs you tight. What is it?

**Concept B : Prahelika 2:**

पुरुषः कीदृशो वेत्ति प्रायेण सकलाः कलाः ।

मध्यवर्णद्वयं त्यक्त्वा ब्रूहि कः स्यात् सुरालयः ॥

Purushah Kidrso Vetti prāyena sakalāḥ kalaha

Madhyavarna Dvayam tyaktvā brūhi kaḥ syāt surālayah

**Meaning of Prahelika 2 -**

What does one call a person who is well versed in all branches described by learning ? In that word, if two letters in the middle are omitted, then the remaining letters give the meaning of 'heaven'. Which is that word?

**Prahelika 3:**

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