

Introduction to Prakrit

॥ पाउअप्पवेसिआ ॥

Lesson 15: The past tense

पंचदसमज्झाओ – भूअकालो

andrew ollett



अल्लडाअरियो

THE PAST TENSE IN PRAKRIT

- ✿ Conjugated past tenses are very rare. A relict of the aorist is only seen in archaic Jain Prakrit:

kāsīa	did
āsīa	was
cintīa	thought
dāhīa	gave
sāhīa	told

THE PAST TENSE IN PRAKRIT

- ✿ Much more common is the use of the past participle.
- ✿ Generally it agrees with the agent if the verb is intransitive and the patient if the verb is transitive.
- ✿ In the latter case, the agent can appear in the instrumental case.
- ✿ It's better **not** to translate these as passives, because there is no active counterpart.

THE PAST TENSE IN PRAKRIT

kaa-	done
ṭhia-	stood
cintia-	thought
diṇṇa-	given
siṭṭha-	told
dharia-	borne
ruṇṇa-	wept

THE PAST TENSE IN PRAKRIT

seṭṭhissa mayā siṭṭham

I told the merchant.

[lit. “to-the-merchant by-me it-was-told”]

THE PAST TENSE IN PRAKRIT

nīyā ya mayā gharam̐ niyam̐

I brought them to my house.

tō tēṇa cakkavāō gahiō

Then he took the *cakravāka* bird.

THE PAST TENSE IN PRAKRIT

diṭṭhā ya tēṇa

He saw [me].

tīe kira kayam̐ imam̐ cittam̐

They say she made this painting.

THE PAST TENSE IN PRAKRIT

sahi **siṭṭham** jaṃ māhaviḷāē jaṃ camha tēṇa **sandiṭṭham**
tassa taē aṇusarisam̐ ṇa kiñci **appāhiam̐** vaṇam̐

Līlavāī 564

My friend, you have not **sent**
any message fitting to that
which Māhaviḷāā **told** us,
and what he **sent** to us.

Happy studying!
॥ सहलो होउ सज्ज्ञाओ ॥