

शिखागोविश्वविद्यालये

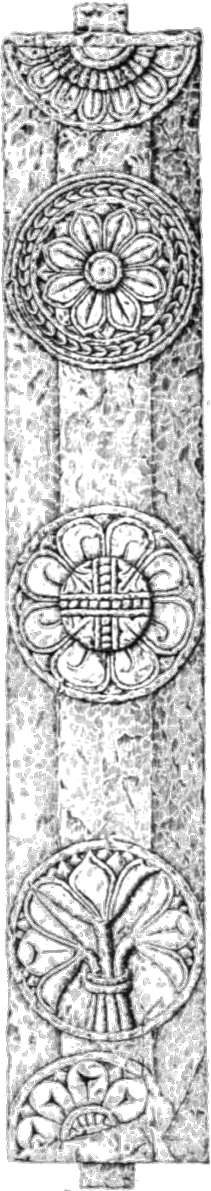
प्रारम्भिकसंस्कृतम्

FIRST-YEAR SANSKRIT

AT THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

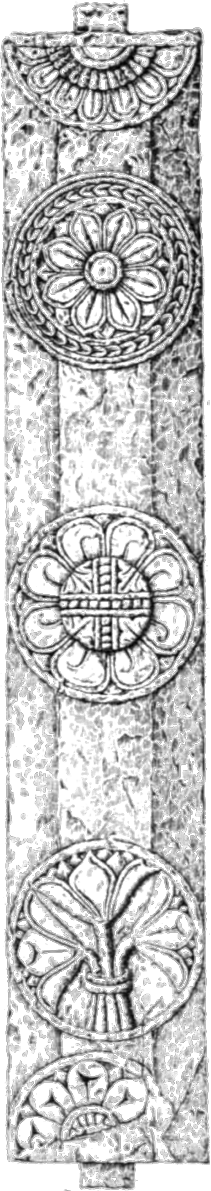


अल्लटाचार्योद्भावितः पाठक्रमः  Designed by Andrew Ollett



FINITE VERBS AND THE PRESENT SYSTEM

tiN  तिङ्



VERBS

We've already discussed **verbal roots**, representations of a verb, abstracted from all of the changes that it undergoes in grammar.

Now we will look at some of those changes.

FINITE VERBS

Verbal forms are either **finite** or **non-finite**.

finite:

limited (Latin *finitum*) by the grammatical categories of **person**, **number**, and **diathesis**.

non-finite:

not marked for these categories.



FINITE VERBS

Verbal forms are either **finite** or **non-finite**.

finite:

have an **ending** that expresses person, number, and diathesis

non-finite:

have an ending that doesn't express these categories

FINITE VERBS

Note that all but one of these categories are **different** from those expressed by nominal forms:

púruṣaḥ



declensional ending
marks:

gender: masculine

number: singular

case: nominative

karōti



inflectional ending
marks:

person: third

number: singular

diathesis: *parasmaipadám*

FINITE VERBS

Person

first person
[*uttamapuruṣaḥ*]

karō-**mi**

“I do”

second person
[*madhyamapuruṣaḥ*]

karō-**ṣi**

“you do”

third person
[*prathamapuruṣaḥ*]

karō-**ti**

“he/she/it does”

FINITE VERBS

Number

singular
[*ēkavacanam*]

karō-**ti**

“he/she/it does”

dual
[*dvivacanam*]

kuru-**taḥ**

“they [du.] do”

plural
[*bahuvacanam*]

kurv-**anti**

“they [pl.] do”

FINITE VERBS

Diathesis

parasmaipadám

karō-ti

“he/she/it does”

ātmanēpadám

kuru-tē

“he/she/it does”

Note also that this is not the same as “voice,” although *parasmaipadám* forms are always active voice, and passive voice forms are always *ātmanēpadám*. More on this later!

ENDINGS

The endings can be thought of (more or less) as a $3 \times 3 \times 2$ matrix, and this is indeed how Pāṇini teaches them in 3.4.78:

	sg.	du.	pl.
3 rd	tiP	tas	jhi
2 nd	siP	thas	tha
1 st	miP	vas	mas

parasmaipadām

	sg.	du.	pl.
3 rd	ta	ātām	jha
2 nd	thās	āthām	dhvam
1 st	iṬ	vahi	mahiṆ

ātmanēpadām

ENDINGS

Finite verbal endings (and therefore finite verbs themselves) are called **tiṆ** in Pāṇini's grammar. Can you see why?

	sg.	du.	pl.
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parasmaipadām

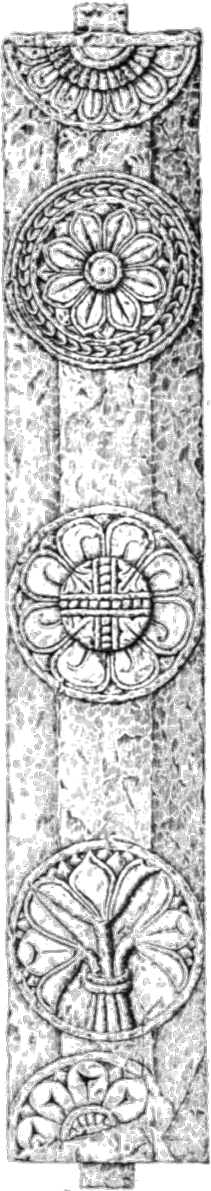
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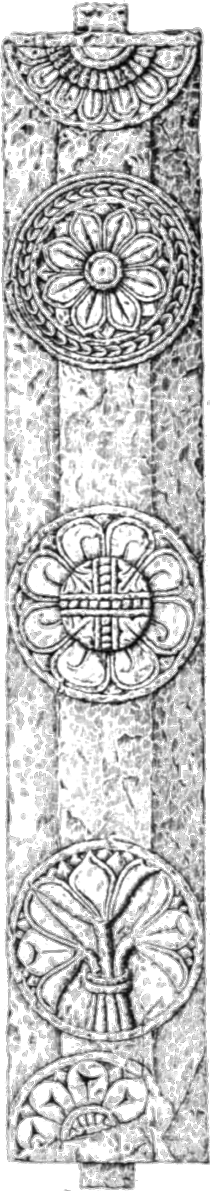
FINITE VERBS

Just as there are different types of **stems** to which the declensional (nominal) endings are added, so too there are different types of **stems** to which the inflectional (verbal) endings are added. A combination of **stem** and **endings** express further verbal categories, namely those of **tense, aspect, and mood** (TAM).



TENSE–ASPECT–MOOD

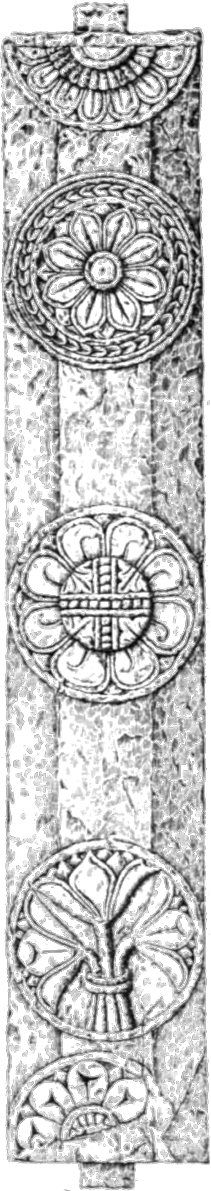
- Tense:** The time (past, present, or future) in which the verbal action takes place.
- Aspect:** Whether the action is completed (perfective) or not (imperfective), or whether it is a present state that results from a past action (stative).
- Mood:** Whether the verb refers to an action as actually happening (indicative) or potentially happening (optative, subjunctive, etc.).



TENSE–ASPECT–MOOD

In the system that Sanskrit inherited from **Indo-European**, these categories could be mixed and matched (more or less):

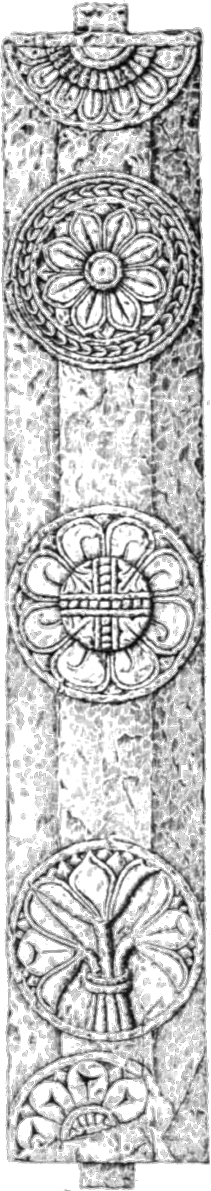
TENSE	ASPECT	MOOD
past non-past	perfective imperfective stative	indicative imperative optative subjunctive



TENSE–ASPECT–MOOD

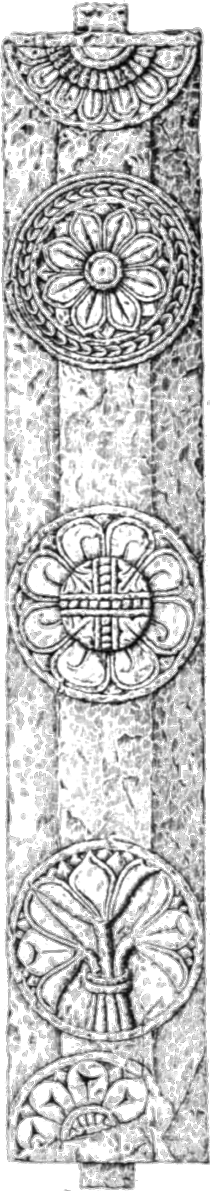
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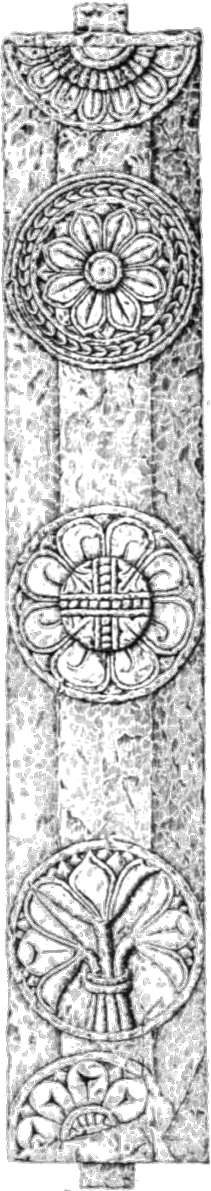


TENSE–ASPECT–MOOD

After the Vedic period, these categories had fused into **ten** different TAM systems, which Pāṇini called by ten different names starting with the sound **l** (hence **lakāras**):

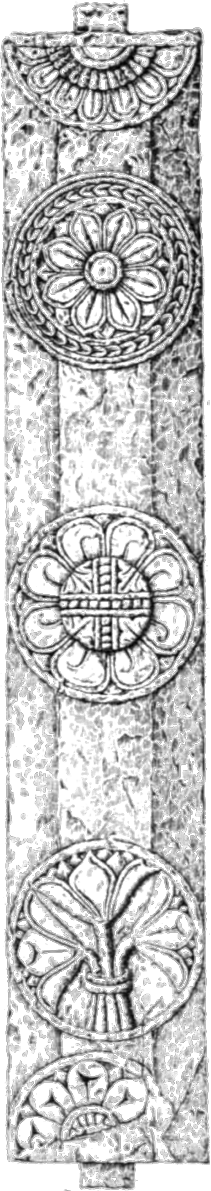


Lakārah (लकारः)	Function
laṭ (लट्)	Present indicative
lañ (लङ्)	Imperfect indicative
lōṭ (लोट्)	Imperative
liñ (लिङ्)	Optative
luñ (लुङ्)	Aorist
liṭ (लिट्)	Perfect
lṛṭ (लृट्)	Future
lṛñ (लृङ्)	Conditional
luṭ (लुट्)	Periphrastic future
lēṭ (लेट्)	Subjunctive



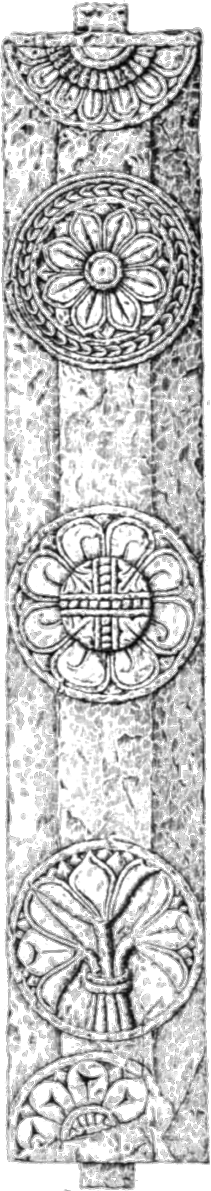
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PAST TENSES



Number	Function
laṭ (लट्)	Present indicative
lañ (लङ्)	Imperfect indicative
lōṭ (लोट्)	Imperative
liñ (लिङ्)	Optative
luñ (लुङ्)	Aorist
liṭ (लिट्)	Perfect
lṛṭ (लृट्)	Future
lṛñ (लृङ्)	Conditional
luṭ (लुट्)	Periphrastic future
lēṭ (लेट्)	Subjunctive

IRREALIS MOODS



TENSE–ASPECT–MOOD

Most importantly, these ten lakāras belong to a few “systems” of **stem formation**. In particular, the **present indicative, imperfect indicative, imperative, and optative** (*laṭ, lañ, lōṭ, and liñ*) are formed from the **same stem**. We can therefore refer to these four *lakāras* as “the present system.”

THE PRESENT SYSTEM

The *lakāras* (or “tenses”) in the present system form their stem in the following way:

dhātuḥ + vikaraṇaḥ

[root]

[present stem forming suffix]

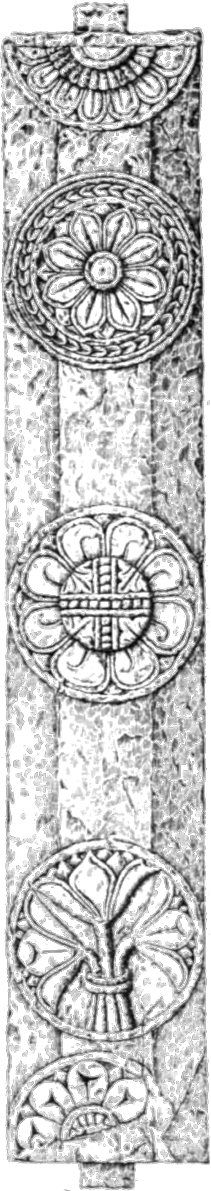
The “present stem forming suffix” means that the verbal root will usually undergo some kind of change (*vikaraṇaḥ* = “the changer”) before the inflectional endings are added.

THE PRESENT SYSTEM

Traditionally Sanskrit verbs are put into **ten** classes (*gaṇāḥ*), depending on how the present stem (for the *active voice*) is formed.

Note that a different *vikaraṇaḥ* is used for the *passive voice*, and it is the same for *all verbal roots*.

They are each named for a verbal root that begins the list of the roots in that class (*bhvādi* = “√bhū and those that follow it”).

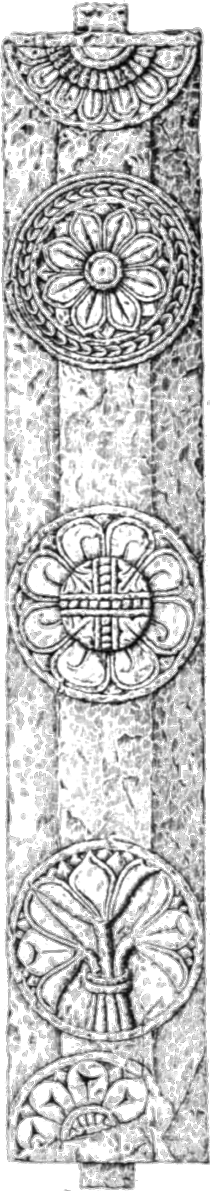


Number	Name	Root	Third person singular <i>parasmaipadám</i> present
1	bhvādi	√bhū	bhāvati “he becomes”
2	adādi	√ad	átti “he eats”
3	juhōtyādi	√hu	juhōti “he offers”
4	divādi	√div	dīvyati “he gambles”
5	svādi	√su	sunōti “he presses”
6	tudādi	√tud	tudāti “he strikes”
7	rudhādi	√rudh	ruṇáddhi “he blocks”
8	tanādi	√tan	tanōti “he stretches”
9	kryādi	√krī	krīṇāti “he buys”
10	curādi	√cur	cōráyati “he steals”

The ten classes (*daśagaṇī*)

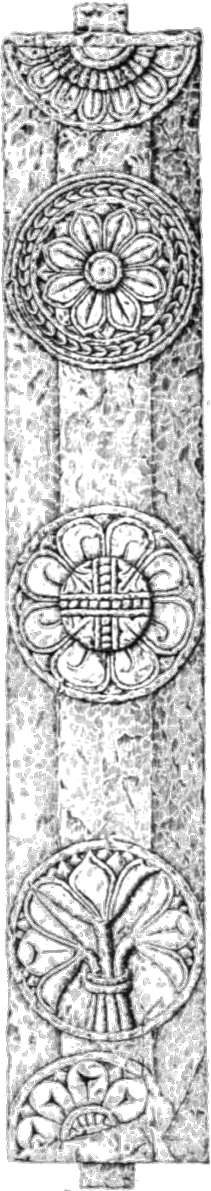
THE PRESENT SYSTEM

It's convenient to distinguish between **thematic** and **athematic** classes. Thematic classes are those that have the vowel *-a-* somewhere between the root syllable and the inflectional ending. Athematic classes don't.



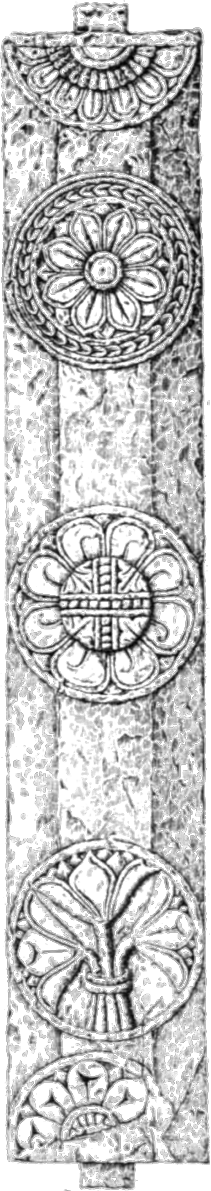
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The ten classes (*daśagaṇī*): thematic classes



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The ten classes (*daśagaṇī*): athematic classes



NEXT STEPS

1. Watch the lecture on the **thematic *parasmaipadám* present.**
2. Start using verbs!

