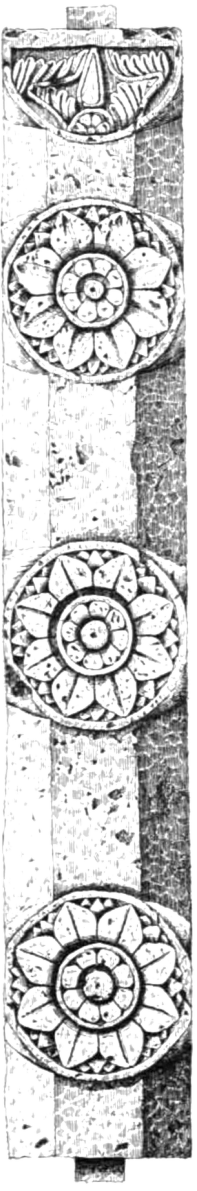


शिखागोविश्वविद्यालये

प्रारम्भिकसंस्कृतम्

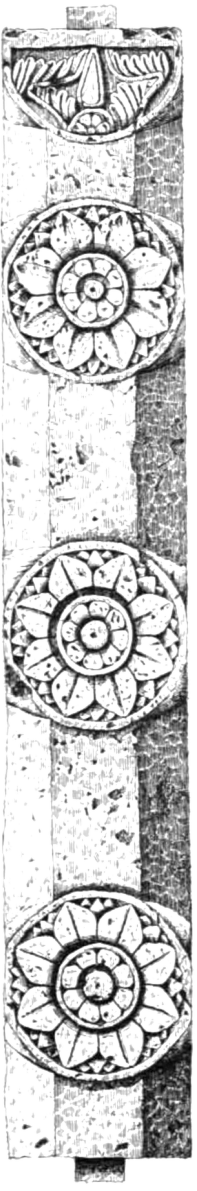
FIRST-YEAR SANSKRIT

AT THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

CC BY SA

अल्लटाचार्योद्भावितः पाठक्रमः

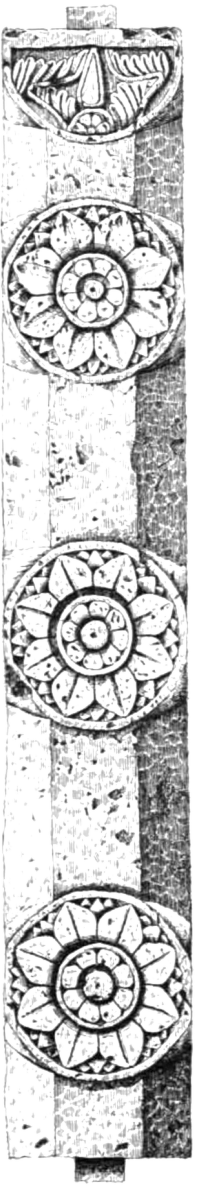
Designed by Andrew Ollett



“STRONG CASES”

sarvanāmasthānam सर्वनामस्थानम्

॥वृद्धिः॥
sanskrit at uchicago



NOMINAL STEMS

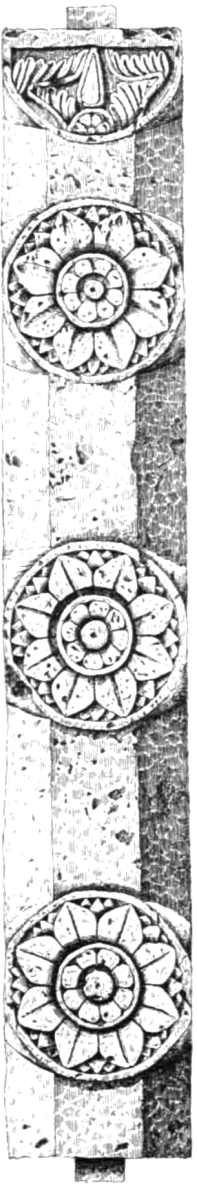
So far we have been talking about nominal forms in the following terms:

puruṣa- ḥ

[stem] [ending]

[प्रातिपदिकम्] [विभक्तिः]

॥वृद्धिः॥
sanskrit at uchicago



NOMINAL STEMS

So far we have been talking about nominal forms in the following terms:

puruṣa- ḥ

[stem] [ending]

[प्रातिपदिकम्] [विभक्तिः]

This **doesn't change!**

This **changes** with the categories of **gender**, **number**, and **case**!

॥वृद्धिः॥
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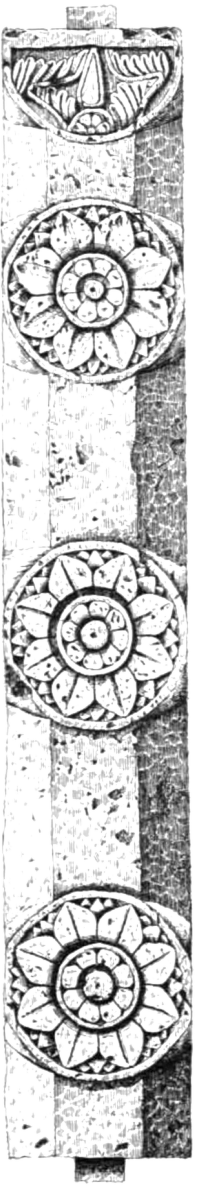
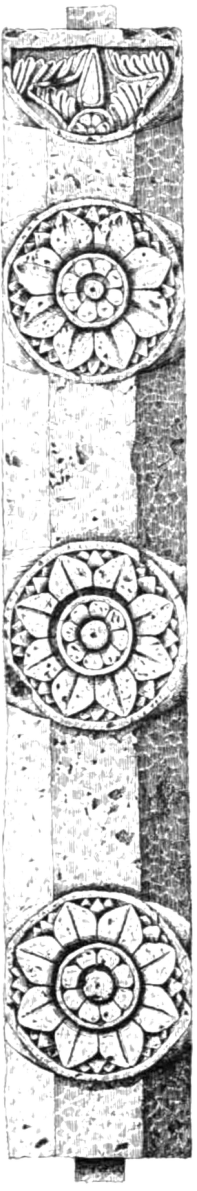


NOMINAL STEMS

But that is not always how it works. For many nouns and adjectives, the **stem itself** changes based on which **ending** follows it.

- Why? It's mostly due to the interaction of the **accent** associated with the stem and the **accent** associated with the ending. Not all of the endings had accents.

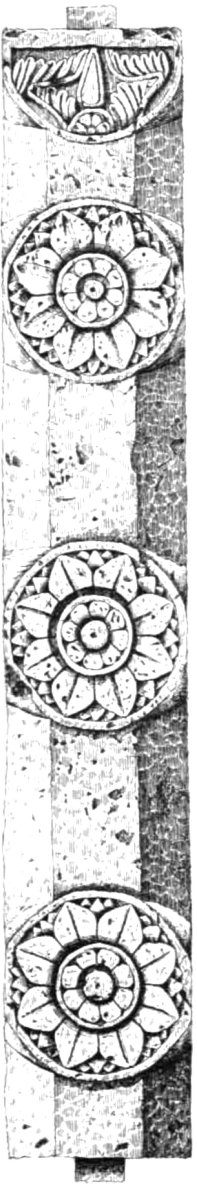


NOMINAL STEMS

Some nouns and adjectives have **multiple forms** of the stem, which are nevertheless **closely related** to each other.

- bhavant-am [accusative singular]
- bhavat-ā [instrumental singular]

॥वृद्धिः॥
sanskrit at uchicago

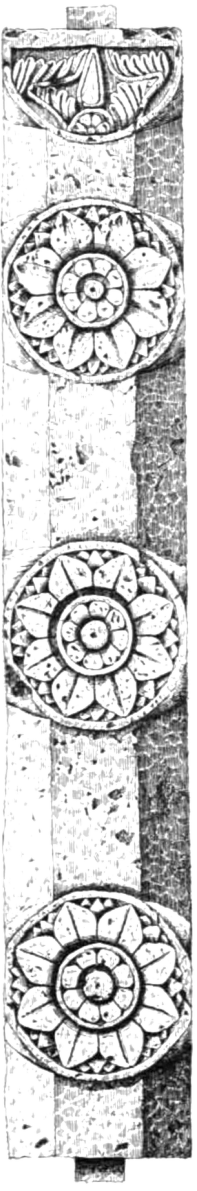


NOMINAL STEMS

Some nouns and adjectives have **multiple forms** of the stem, which are nevertheless **closely related** to each other.

- pitar-am [accusative singular]
- pitr-ā [instrumental singular]

॥वृद्धिः॥
sanskrit at uchicago

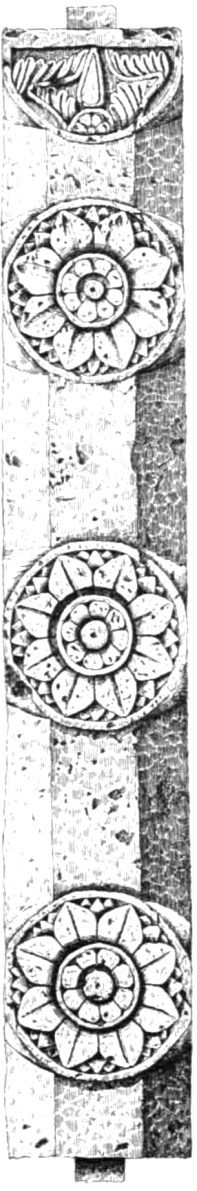


NOMINAL STEMS

Some nouns and adjectives have **multiple forms** of the stem, which are nevertheless **closely related** to each other.

- nāma-∅ [accusative singular]
- nāmn-ā [instrumental singular]

॥वृद्धिः॥
sanskrit at uchicago



NOMINAL STEMS

We conventionally call the form of the stem that is **longest** the “strong stem,” and the form that is **shortest** the “weak stem.”

- bhavant-am [strong stem]
- bhavat-ā [weak stem]

॥वृद्धिः॥
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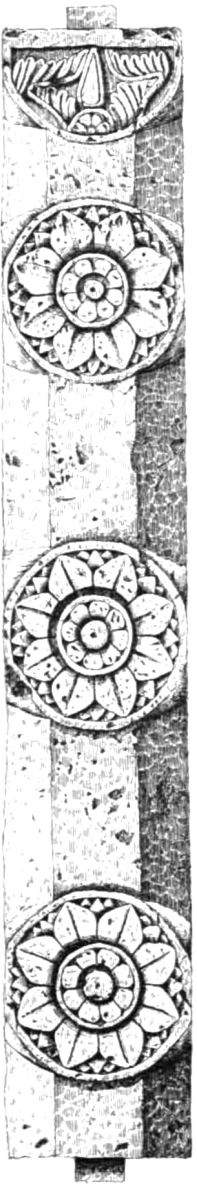
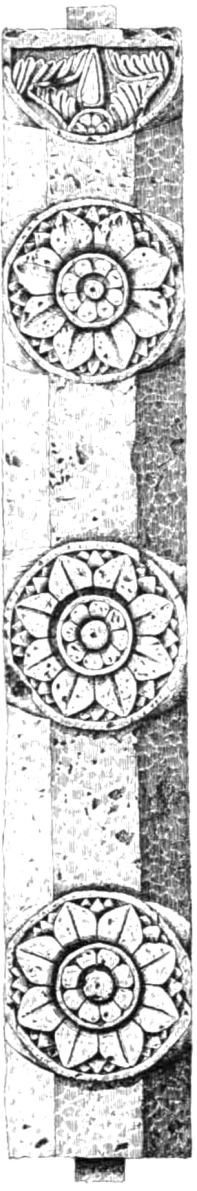


NOMINAL STEMS

The distribution of these stems within the paradigm is **completely regular**:



	ēkavacanam singular	*dvivacanam* dual	*bahuvacanam* plural
prathamā (1st) nominative	**bhávān**	**bhávant**au	**bhávant**aḥ
dvitīyā (2nd) accusative	**bhávant**am		**bhávat**aḥ
tṛtīyā (3rd) instrumental	**bhávat**ā	**bhávad**bhyām	**bhávad**bhiḥ
caturthī (4th) dative	**bhávat**ē		**bhávad**bhyaḥ
pañcamī (5th) ablative	**bhávat**aḥ		
ṣaṣṭhī (6th) genitive		**bhávat**ōḥ	**bhávat**ām
saptamī (7th) locative	**bhávat**i		**bhávat**su

Inflection of the honorific pronoun *bhávat-*

॥वृद्धिः॥
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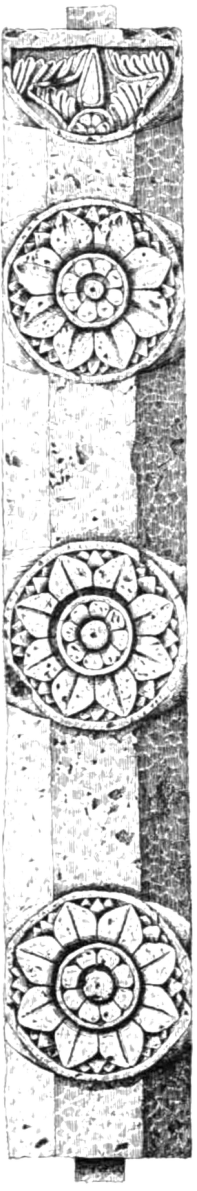

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Inflection of the honorific pronoun *bhávat-*

॥वृद्धिः॥
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	ēkavacanam singular	*dvivacanam* dual	*bahuvacanam* plural
prathamā (1st) nominative	**bhávan**	**bhávantau**	**bhávant**aḥ
dvitīyā (2nd) accusative	**bhávantam**		**bhávat**aḥ
tṛtīyā (3rd) instrumental	**bhávat**ā	**bhávad**bhyām	**bhávad**bhiḥ
caturthī (4th) dative	**bhávat**ē		**bhávad**bhyaḥ
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Inflection of the honorific pronoun *bhávat-*

॥वृद्धिः॥
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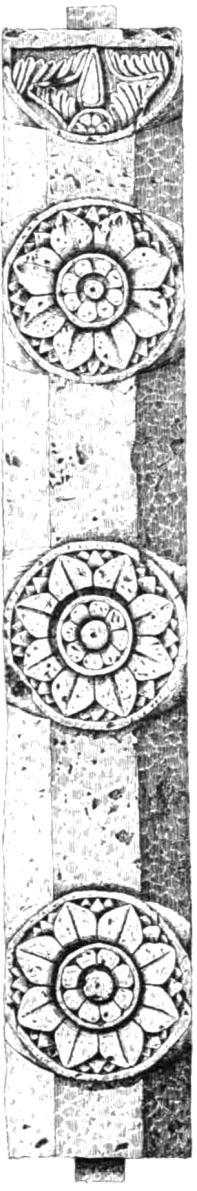
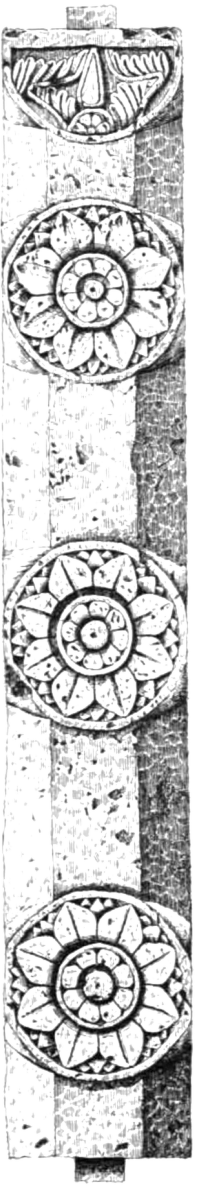


	ēkavacanam singular	*dvivacanam* dual	*bahuvacanam* plural
prathamā (1st) nominative	**nā́ma**	**nā́manī**	**nā́māni**
dvitīyā (2nd) accusative			
tṛtīyā (3rd) instrumental	**nā́mn**ā	**nā́ma**bhyām	**nā́ma**bhiḥ
caturthī (4th) dative	**nā́mn**ē		**nā́ma**bhyaḥ
pañcamī (5th) ablative	**nā́mn**aḥ		
ṣaṣṭhī (6th) genitive		**nā́mn**ōḥ	**nā́mnām**
saptamī (7th) locative	**nā́mn**i		**nā́ma**su

Inflection of the neuter noun *nā́man-* “name”

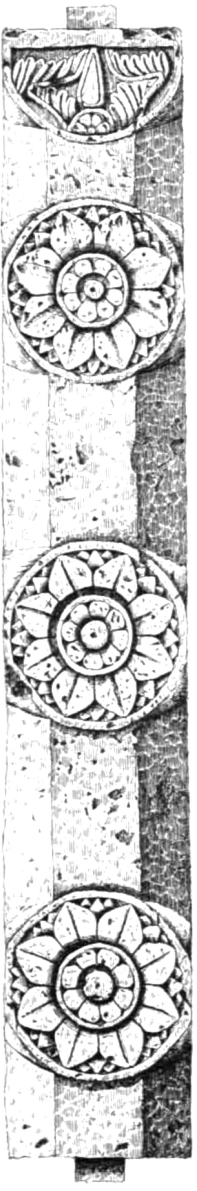
॥वृद्धिः॥
sanskrit at uchicago



NOMINAL STEMS

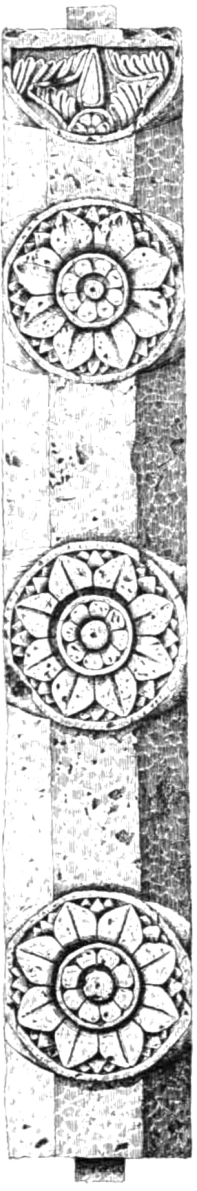
The nominative-accusative singular, nominative-accusative dual, and nominative (but **not** accusative) plural are called **strong cases** (*sarvanāmasthānam*).

In neuter stems, the nominative-accusative plural is also strong.



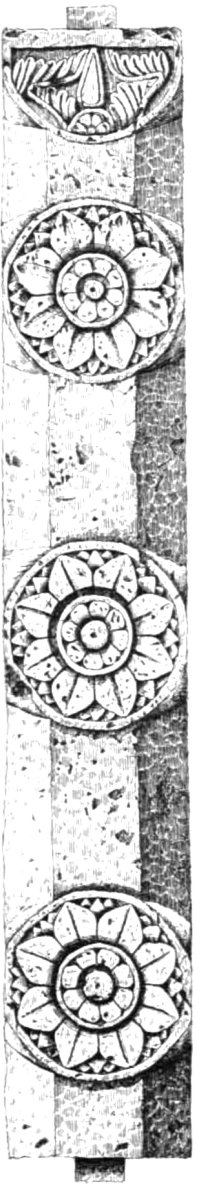
NOMINAL STEMS

All of the other cases are **weak**. (Some discussions distinguish between “weak” and “middle” cases, but this is basically a question of *sandhi*, i.e., whether the inflectional endings begins with a vowel or a consonant.)



REGULAR ENDINGS

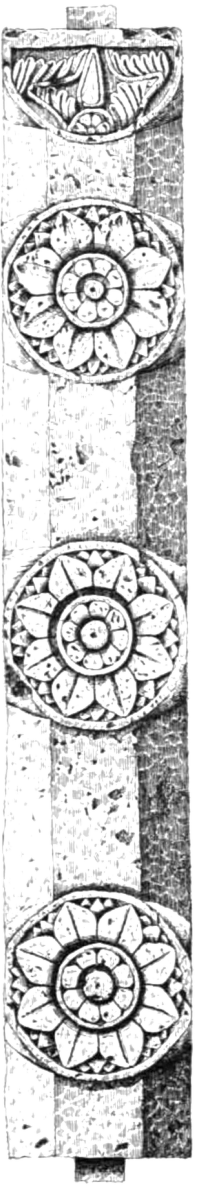
The goods news is that you will see the same endings again and again in “changeable stem” nominal forms. Their endings are more or less exactly what Pāṇini teaches as the default nominal endings:



REGULAR ENDINGS

	sg.	du.	pl.
1	**s-u**	**au**	**jh-as**
2	**am**	**au-Ṭ**	**Ś-as**
3	**Ṭ-ā**	**bhyām**	**bhis**
4	**Ṅ-ē**	**bhyām**	**bhyas**
5	**Ṅ-as-I**	**bhyām**	**bhyas**
6	**Ṅ-as**	**ōs**	**ām**
7	**Ṅ-i**	**ōs**	**su-P**

॥वृद्धिः॥
sanskrit at uchicago



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2	**am**	**au**	**as**
3	**ā**	**bhyām**	**bhis**
4	**ē**	**bhyām**	**bhyas**
5	**as**	**bhyām**	**bhyas**
6	**as**	**ōs**	**ām**
7	**i**	**ōs**	**su**

॥वृद्धिः॥
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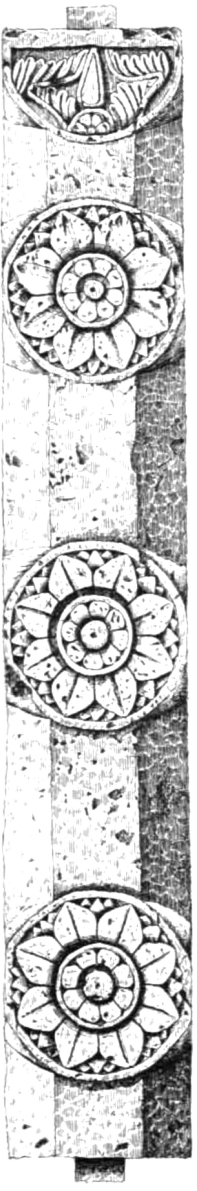
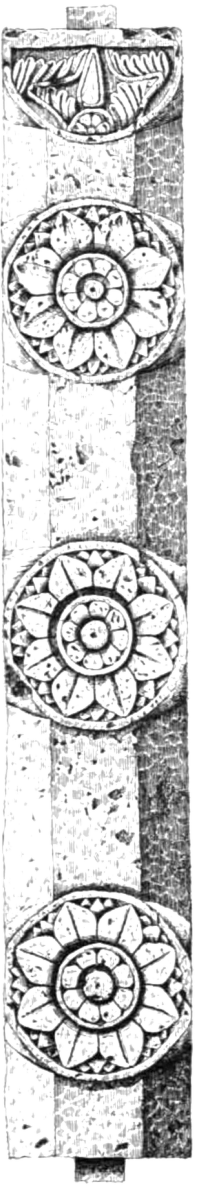


REGULAR ENDINGS

You ought to **memorize these endings** if you have not already.

We can now return to the paradigm of *bhávat-* (note that it is cited in its *weak* form!):



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saptamī (7th) locative	**bhávati**		**bhávatsu**

Inflection of the honorific pronoun *bhávat-*

Strong cases (stem *bhávant-*)

॥वृद्धिः॥
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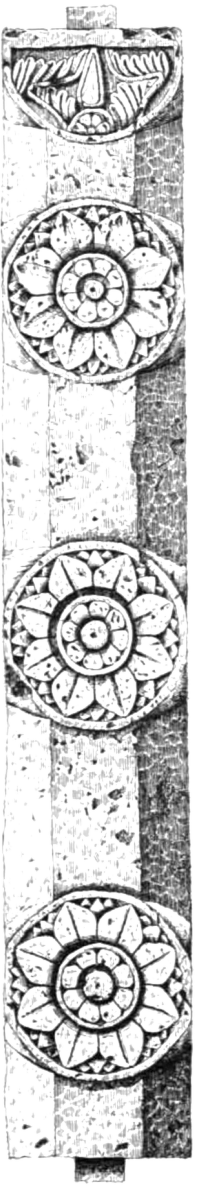

NOTES ON INFLECTION

The **nominative singular masculine** form is *bhávān*, which doesn't look like it contains the stem *bhávant-*.

But in fact it results from some internal sandhi:

*bhávant-s

॥वृद्धिः॥
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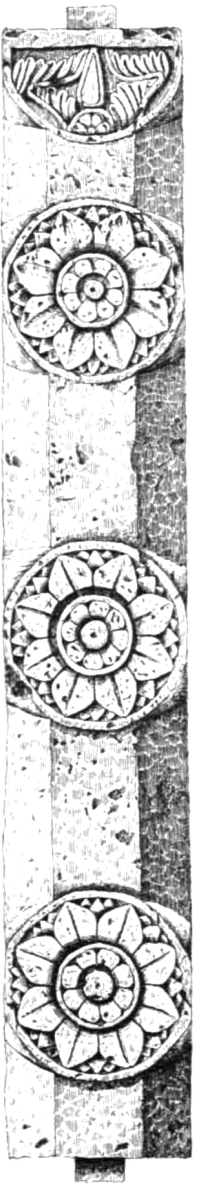

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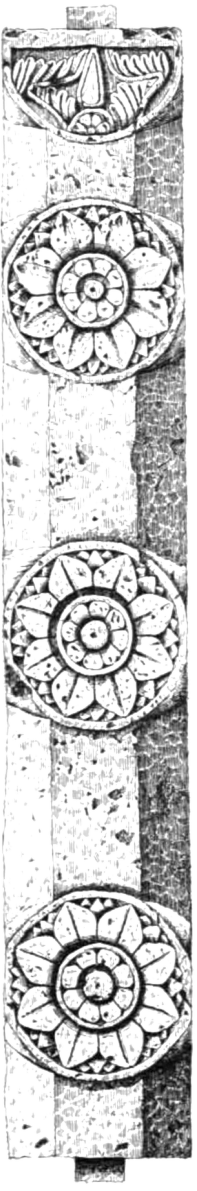
(No more than one consonant at the end of a word)

॥वृद्धिः॥
sanskrit at uchicago



NOTES ON INFLECTION

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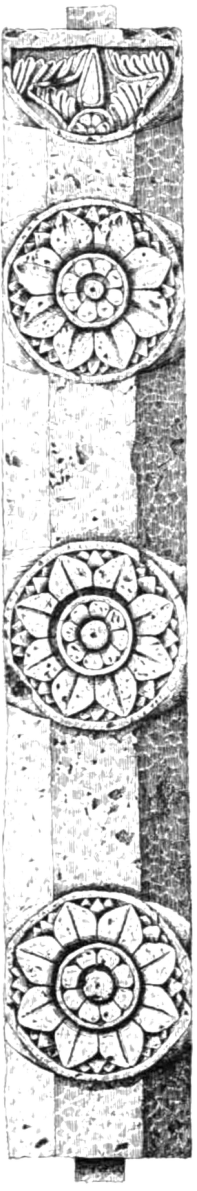
But in fact it results from some internal sandhi:

bhávān

(No more than one consonant at the end of a word)

(Compensatory lengthening after the loss of *ts*)

॥वृद्धिः॥
sanskrit at uchicago



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ṣaṣṭhī (6th) genitive		**bhávatōḥ**	**bhávatām**
saptamī (7th) locative	**bhávati**		**bhávatsu**

Inflection of the honorific pronoun *bhávat-*

Weak cases (stem *bhávat-*)

॥वृद्धिः॥
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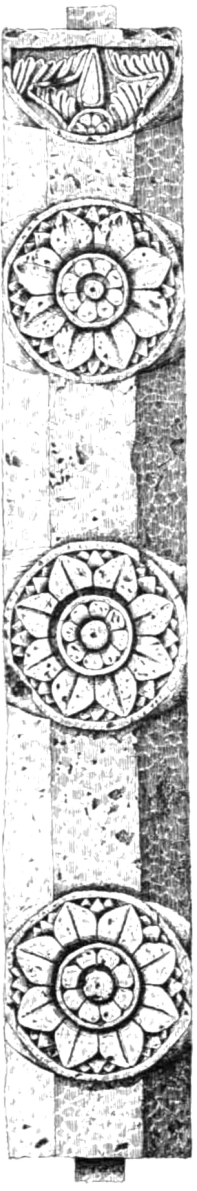

NOTES ON INFLECTION

Note that internal *sandhi* requires the stem-final *t* to be voiced before voiced consonants (*-bhyām*, *-bhiḥ*, *-bhyaḥ*).

॥वृद्धिः॥
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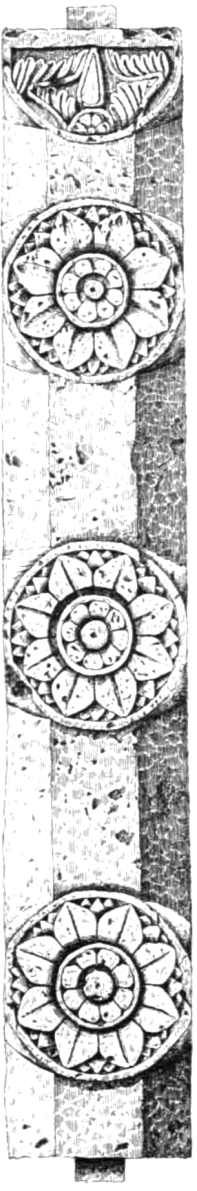

FEMININE FORMS

The feminine form of *bhávat-* is formed by the addition of the suffix *-ī-* and it is inflected like *dēvī*:

भवती

॥वृद्धिः॥
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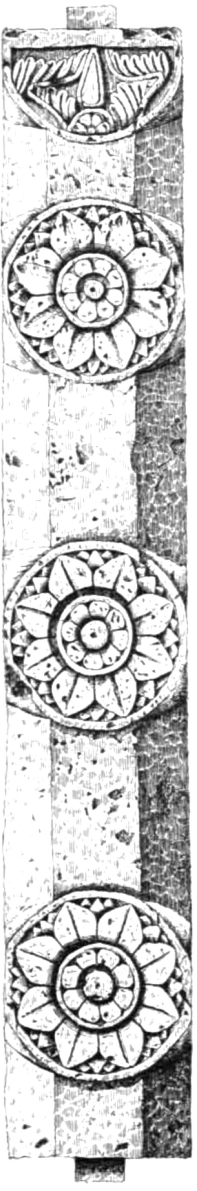

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

How are the strong and weak forms related to each other?

And why do they change depending on the case?

॥वृद्धिः॥
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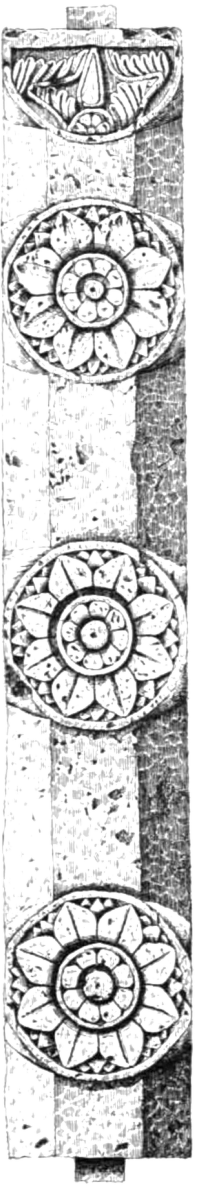
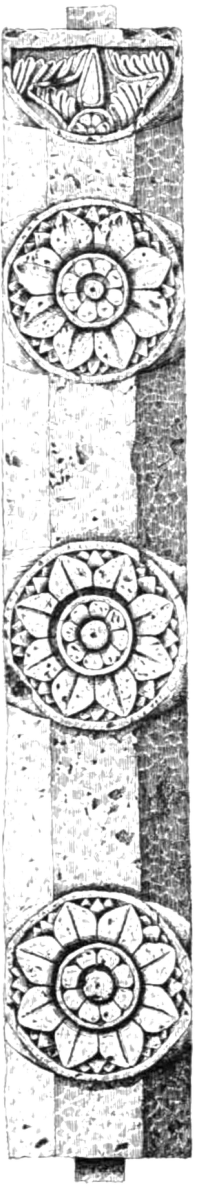


HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

The inflectional endings of the **strong cases** are inherently unaccented, whereas those of the **weak cases** are inherently accented.

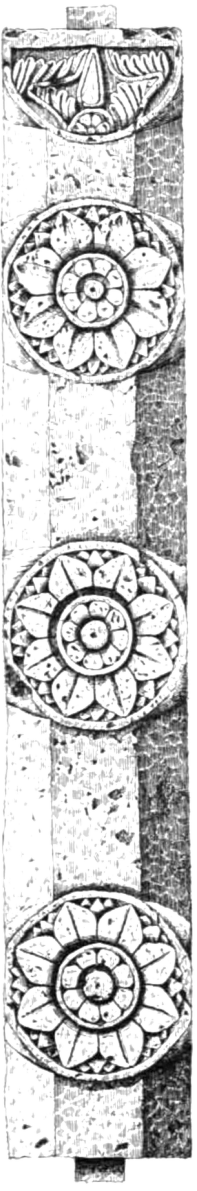
This meant that in the strong cases, the final syllable of the stem could remain in the **full grade**:



HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

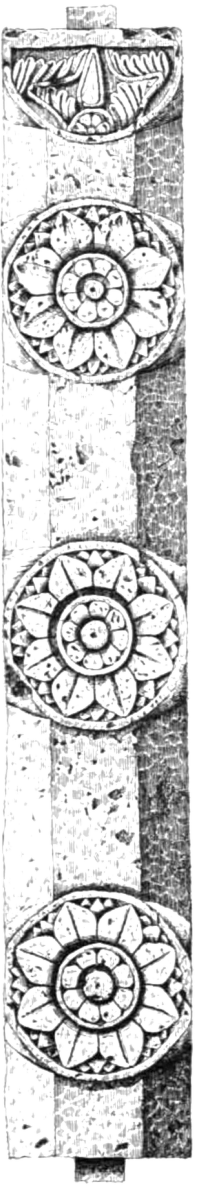
*b^{h}éwent-s → bhávān

*b^{h}éwent-m → bhávantam



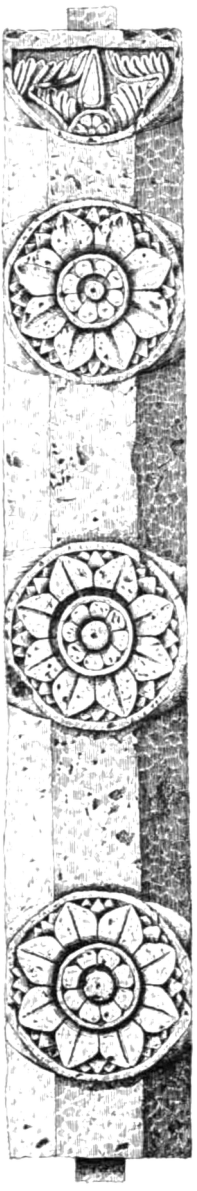
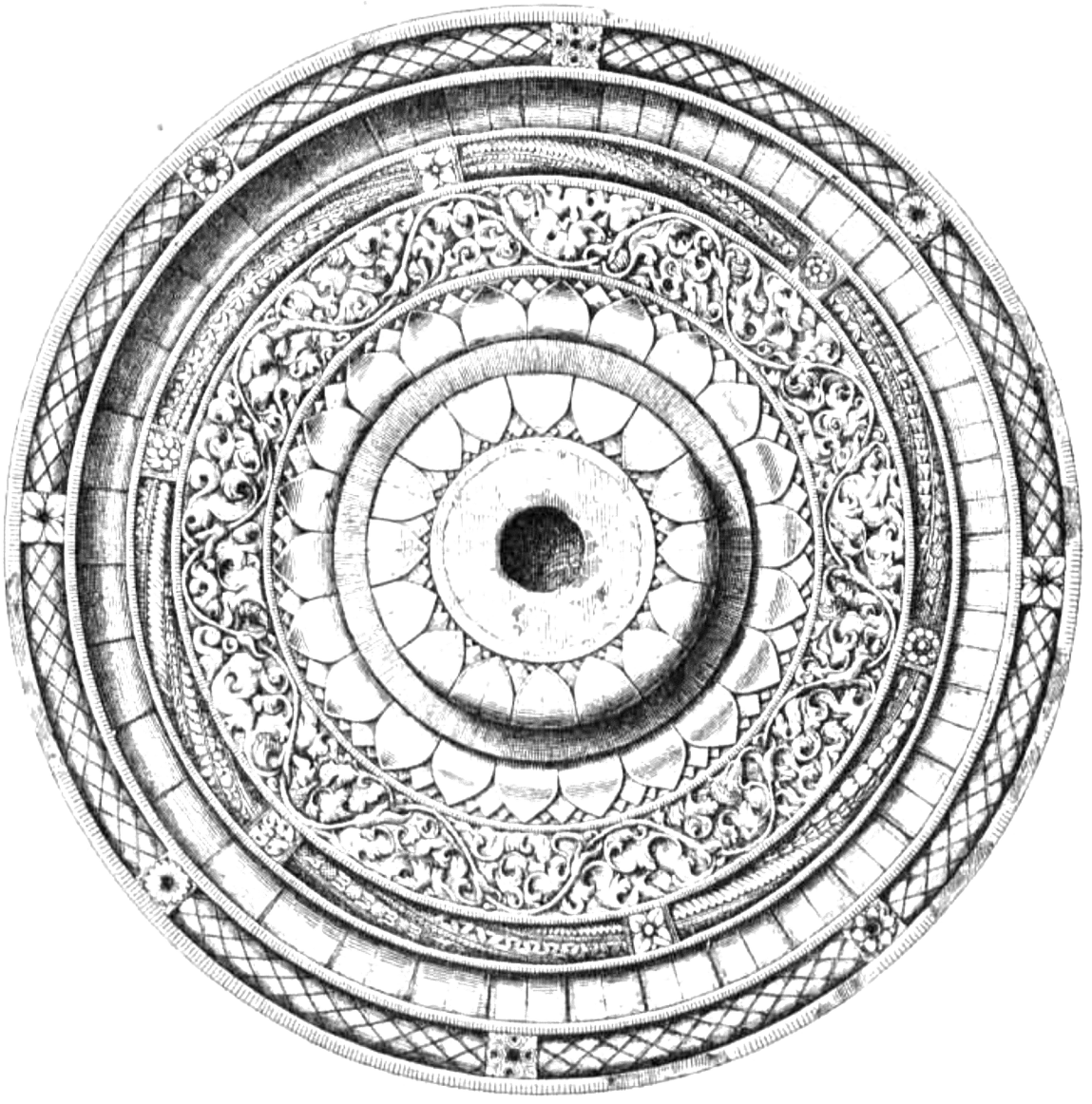
HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

In the weak cases, the accented ending meant that the preceding syllable was shortened (as in English words like *aspirin*, which are usually pronounced *asprin* because the second syllable falls between two syllables of greater accentual prominence):



HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

*bʰéwent-éh₁ → *bʰéwnt-éh₁ → bhávatā

*bʰéwent-éy → *bʰéwnt-éy → bhávatē

Note that the Proto-Indo-European nasal -*n*-, when it appears between consonants, develops into -*a*- in Sanskrit.