

शिखागोविश्वविद्यालये

प्रारम्भिकसंस्कृतम्

FIRST-YEAR SANSKRIT

AT THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO



अस्रटाचार्योद्धावितः पाठऋमः 🎇 Designed by Andrew Ollett



svādih



स्वादिः

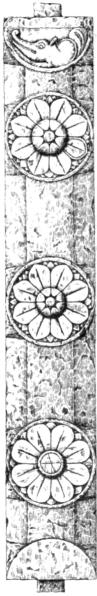




WHAT IS A REFLEXIVE?

We have introduced **pronouns**, which can either indicate the speaker(s) or addressee(s) (in the case of first- and second-person pronouns) or refer to a third person (demonstrative pronouns). Demonstrative pronouns always refer back to something introduced previously in the discourse (a phenomenon called anaphora).





WHAT IS A REFLEXIVE?

Languages have restrictions on the way in which pronouns are **bound** to their antecedents. In English, for example, both of the following sentences are possible, but they mean different things because of these binding restrictions:

- She saw her in the mirror.
- She saw herself in the mirror.



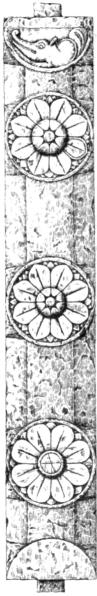


WHAT IS A REFLEXIVE?

In Sanskrit, like in English, you can use special *reflexive* forms to indicate that the referent is bound to the *agent* (not subject!) of the verb:

- She saw her in the mirror.
 - → तां दर्पणे ऽपश्यत्
- She saw herself in the mirror.
 - → आत्मानं दर्पणे ऽपश्यत्

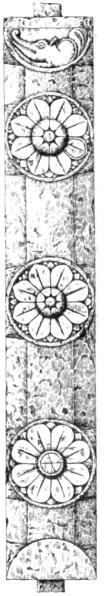




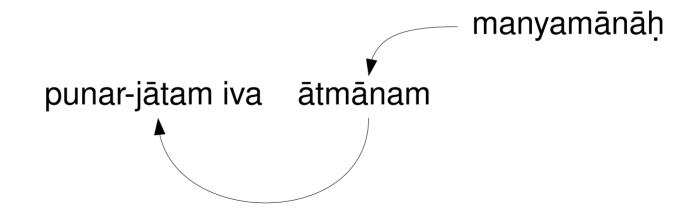
The most common reflexive pronoun in Sanskrit is the word *ātman-*. This is, of course, a noun in the masculine gender, but can be bound to all genders and numbers:

- They touched their own son.
 - → तौ पुत्रमात्मनः स्पृष्टवन्तौ
- She saw herself in the mirror.
 - → आत्मानं दर्पणे ऽपश्यत्





- Feeling themselves to be born again
 - → पुनर्जातिमवात्मानं मन्यमानाः





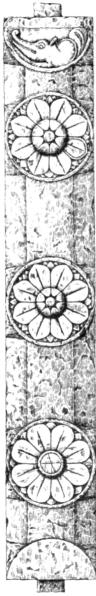


Atman- can also appear in compounds in a reflexive sense:

He saw what he himself had done.

→ तेन आत्मकृतं दृष्टम्





REFLEXIVE POSSESSIVE ADJECTIVES

Sanskrit uses genitive case-forms of *ātman-* as well as the adjectives *nija-* and *sva-* to express *reflexive possession* (his own, her own, their own):

- They touched their own son.
 - → तौ पुत्रमात्मनः स्पृष्टवन्तौ
 - → तौ स्वं पुत्रं स्पृष्टवन्तौ (स्वपुत्रम्)
 - → तौ निजं पुत्रं स्पृष्टवन्तौ (निजपुत्रम्)





REFLEXIVE POSSESSIVE ADJECTIVES

The form *sva*-, acting as a pronoun, can also appear as a reflexive pronoun in compounds:

He saw what he himself had done.

→ तेन स्वकृतं दृष्टम्

In this connection there is the stage-direction svagatam, literally "to oneself," or "aside."





EMPHATIC

The English reflexive pronouns (myself, yourself, himself, herself, themselves) sometimes have an **emphatic** rather than reflexive sense (cf. German *selbst* or Latin *ipse*):

I myself will do it.





EMPHATIC

When there is a sense that the agent will do an action spontaneously (*suo sponte*), alone, or without much assistance from anyone else, the indeclinable adverb *svayam* is used:

I myself will do it.

→ स्वयं करोमि (~ अहमेव करोमि)





Finally we come to expressions that suggest an action takes place reciprocally. In English this is done by pronouns like "each other."

They shake each other's hands.





In Sanskrit this is usually expressed **either** by indeclinable adverbs meaning "mutually" (anyōnyam, parasparam, itarētaram, mithaḥ):

They shake each other's hands.

→ अन्योन्यं हस्तं स्पृशतः





Or, in some cases, by a verb in the *ātmanēpadam* (in which case the reciprocal adverbs cannot be used):

They cook for each other.

→ व्यतिपचन्ते





The forms *anyōnya-*, *itarētara-*, and *paraspara-* are sometimes inflected, but less often than they are used as adverbs:

Each other's weak points

→ अन्योन्यस्य मर्माणि (अन्योन्यमर्माणि)



