

## avyayībhāva compounds

- The main characteristic of these compounds is that their first member is always an *avyaya*, or indeclinable.
- The indeclinables used in avyayībhāva compounds can range from different types of words. Many upasargas are used as the first member of an avyayībhāva, but one can also find correlatives like *yathā tathā*.
- Since they take an adverbial function in the sentence, they are not declined nor correspond to any noun in the sentence.
- Thus, most avyayībhāva compounds take the form of a neuter singular accusative noun.
- **Most importantly**, all of the most frequent avyayībhāvas are lexicalized, so coming up with a *vigraha* in order to understand the compound will not be one of your concerns when reading a Sanskrit text.

There are mainly two types of avyayībhāvas.

### optional (*anītya*) avyayībhāvas

- In these compounds, the *vigraha* usually implies separating both words and putting them in their appropriate case.
- This means, that when a preposition or upasarga are compounded with a noun, the *vigraha* entails merely writing the noun in the case which the preposition governs.

bahirgrāmam > bahir grāmāt > outside the village.

sakopam > saha kopena > with anger, angrily.

### obligatory (*nītya*) avyayībhāvas

- In these avyayībhāvas, the compounded words cannot be separated in the *vigraha*, for the first member of the compound—usually an upasarga—can not stand on its own *and* express the same meaning of the compound.

pratyaham > ahni ahni > every day, daily.

Note that the *vigraha* is not prati ahni or prati ahaḥ.

antarjalam > jalasya madhye > within the water