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anukramanikā अनुक्रमणिका ।

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INTRODUCTION

Saṁskrit is by far the most poetic and florid language in the world. On these strengths Saṁskrit has survived for thousands of years and on the way has given birth to many wonderful cultures and numerous great languages. Naturally, therefore, explaining Saṁskrit grammar has spontaneously become natural in this book. It is the glorious literature written by the immortal poets that attracts the learners to the Saṁskrit language. It is the profound but poetic sweetness and the melodic nature of the *Anuṣṭubha* meter of the Saṁskrit language that makes its learning so very interesting. It is its unique chemical, mathematical and digital nature, well developed system of grammar, intricate compounding style and highly flexible character of composition that makes Saṁskrit writings so original to study and enjoy. It is the richest word-power of Saṁskrit that makes its writings extremely ornate, splendid and amazing.

Unique charts are key tools in this book. One of them you will find on the back cover of this book, in the form of the ‘Chart of Saṁskrit Alphabet.’ Unique is the technique of depicting the *māheśvarāṇi sūtrāṇi*. There is a handy guide showing the complete chart of compounding vowels (स्वरसन्धि), which is followed by full exemplification. a unique and simple one-page flowchart of The Ten Golden Rules on compounding with *visarga* (विसर्गसन्धि), designed to make it easy, which otherwise with the intricate and conflicting rules, makes Saṁskrit learning more difficult than it is. There is another unique flow chart to solve the dilemma of ‘which tense to use?’ from the available ten tenses and moods (लकाराः). You will see a similar important tool titled ‘which verb to use?’ from the available 2000 verbs.

All ten (eleven) classes (गणाः) of the verbs are individually explained with their conjugational charts with ten tenses (लकाराः) and other important details. In each case, the special verbs are specifically explained, for the reader to be aware. The study of

tenses is concluded with a unique flowchart called ‘which tense to use,’ which walks you to the appropriate tense for any desired usage.

For providing help on the cases (विभक्ति), eight very unique charts are given for the eight cases, including the Vocative, with twenty-five most common substantives. They form a very handy tool for all the learners, new and old. They help finding the root word in a given declined word, as well as it aids in for comparing the declensions within and among the Cases.

Included in this book are the Dictionary of nouns, Pictorial dictionary of popular subjects, Dictionary adverbs and a gigantic Dictionary of 2200 verb roots with their common conjugations, past participle and other derivatives, space permitting. In this book, there is a separate section on ‘Analysis’ of Patanjali’s Yoga Sutras. Its insight galvanizes the ability of a learner to look closely and carefully, an attitude necessary to develop for understanding of the Saṁskrit classical literature.

Besides the immense Dictionary of 2000 verbs, this book has Charts of 810 conjugations of verb √भू given in Saṁskrit and English transliteration, 81 charts of case declensions of nouns, pronouns and numerical adjectives, charts of tense for 80 common verbs, a dictionary of ‘which verb to use,’ a handy chart of declinable and indeclinable participles and many other important things.

For the first time ever you will find a systematically laid out huge listing of over 2000 Chhand sūtras in this book in the chapter called छन्दस्ताकरः (*Chhanda-ratnakarah*), a handy reference work for the poets and poetry lovers.

I have tried to make this book easy, unique and useful as possible. Nevertheless, I beg the readers to forgive me for any errors, omissions or imperfections that they may find. I would like to thank Hindu Institute of Learning, Toronto, and Saṁskrit Bharati, Vidya Bharati and Kavikulaguru Kalidas Sanskrit University of India for being my undiminishing inspiration. I hope the new as well as the learned readers, will find this book interesting and useful. ॐ तत् सत्।

-Ratnakar

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