



ADVANCED LEVEL OF SPOKEN SANSKRIT

PROF. ANURADHA CHOUDRY

Department of Humanities and Social Sciences
IIT Kharagpur

PRE-REQUISITES : Knowledge of an Intermediate Level of Sanskrit OR those who have completed the course on Intermediate Level of Spoken Sanskrit

INTENDED AUDIENCE : This is a language course and therefore it would be relevant for students from different disciplinary backgrounds of science, technology, computer sciences and humanities and social sciences.

COURSE OUTLINE :

A good foundation in Sanskrit can serve as a master key for anyone interested in accessing the extensive primary sources related to various subjects of Indian Knowledge Systems (IKS) which have been globally recognised as a vast repository of profound knowledge and wisdom and that the National Education Policy (NEP) is proposing to introduce into the education curricula in the near future. The first part of this course titled 'Introduction to Basic Spoken Sanskrit' was offered in August 2018, which generated sufficient interest in the students, many of whom, requested for a follow up class. The second level, 'Intermediate Level of Spoken Sanskrit' launched in August 2019 created a demand for the next level which led to the designing of this 'Advanced Level of Spoken Sanskrit' Course. The objective of this course is to give students a deeper understanding and appreciation of Sanskrit as a living language by providing them with its different semantic and syntactic tools. It also aims to offer them a taste of the rich literary legacy that it enshrines so that they feel enthused enough to delve further into its treasures with a greater sense of confidence and independence. This course will be relevant for students across various disciplines who have an intermediate knowledge of Sanskrit because it offers the scope of potentially enhancing their language acquisition skills by providing them with a linguistic framework that can facilitate the learning of several related and new languages. In addition to this, the practice of speaking Sanskrit which is famous for its precise grammatical structure could prove to be a helpful tool in systematizing the thinking process itself and improving expression which in turn could have innumerable other rippling beneficial effects.

ABOUT INSTRUCTOR :

Prof. Anuradha Choudry is an Assistant Professor at the Department of Humanities and Social Sciences, Indian Institute of Technology Kharagpur. She has an interdisciplinary background in Sanskrit, Yoga, Indian Psychology and is well-versed in various languages. In 2007, she was awarded the Erasmus Mundus Scholarship of the European Union for a MLit in Crossways in European Humanities. She has been a Visiting Faculty for Sanskrit in Ghent University, Belgium, and other institutions and works closely as an Instructor for Yoga Psychology and Sanskrit and mantras for several organizations worldwide including the European Union of Yoga and the Irish Yoga Association among others. She also had conducted and organized several workshops, conferences and seminars in India and abroad. Her publications include two books on Happiness - Indian Perspectives (2017) and Perspectives on Indian Psychology (2013), several articles and a few book chapters. She also had conducted and organized several workshops, conferences and seminars in India and abroad. Her publications include two books on Happiness - Indian Perspectives (2017) and Perspectives on Indian Psychology (2013), several articles and a few book chapters.

COURSE PLAN :

Week 1: Overview of the different aspects of the Sanskrit language; Revision of the main features of Intermediate Level of Spoken Sanskrit – nouns and verbs; Revision and practice of upasarga-s or prefixes; Daily vocabulary; Poetic verses, conversations and stories

Week 2: Revision and practice of sandhi (Vowel with vowel / Vowel with consonant / Consonant with consonant / Aspirant with vowel or consonant; Introduction of declensions with new word endings and tenses – 1; Daily Vocabulary; Poetic verses, conversations and stories

Week 3: Introduction of declensions with new word endings and tenses – 2; Introduction of 10 la-kāras (10 forms of verb conjugations); Daily vocabulary; Poetic verses, conversations and stories

Week 4: Practice with more verbs in different moods and tenses; Introduction of karmavācyam or Passive Voice ; Practice of sentence structures with different questions using new noun forms

Week 5: Introduction of declensions with new word endings and tenses – 3; Introduction and practice of different pratyaya-s or suffixes and their application; Daily vocabulary; Poetic verses, conversations and stories

Week 6: Introduction of declensions with new word endings and tenses – 4; Introduction to different avyaya-s or indeclinables and their application; Daily Vocabulary; Poetic verses, conversations and stories

Week 7: Introduction and practice of samāsa-s or compound words; Summary of the sentence structures using the plural with different questions; Poetic verse, reading and comprehension, conversations

Week 8: Practice with a variety of word endings, various verbs in different moods and tenses; Summary of the portions that were covered in the course; Poetic verse, reading and comprehension, conversations