

End future pain!

The power of grammar applied to the Yoga Sūtras

Many people abhor the idea of grammar. I'm convinced that most people would actually love grammar if they saw the power and the beauty of it as opposed to something they were supposed to get right. I recently, in studying Pāṇini, came upon an excellent example of the power of grammar. In the end of the 3rd Book, chapter 3, the subject of kṛtya (lit. to be done), the collective name for all forms similar to what in English is created by adding -able to a verb (Atlas tab 28) - is described in its various possible uses.

By applying these grammatical distinctions to interpreting a well known statement of Patanjali in his Yoga Sūtras, you can get a sense of the difference that grammar can make in your life.

heyam duḥkham anāgatam (Yoga Sūtras II.16)

Pain which has not come is heyam (a kṛtya formed from the verb hā to give up, to end)

The 1st Pāṇini sūtra is: praiṣa - atisarga - prāptakāleṣu kṛtyāś ca (3.3.163) A kṛtya may be used in demonstrating:

- 1) praiṣa - a command to a subordinate (your own citta); **End future pain!** (it is to be ended)
- 2) atisarga - permission; future pain may be ended.
- 3) prāptakāla - right time; the time is right for future pain to be ended.

A few sutras later: arhe kṛtya-ṭṛcaś ca (3.3.169) A kṛtya may be used in demonstrating:

- 4) arha - worthiness; future pain is to be ended (by me) who is deserving (to have it ended).

next:

āvaśyaka - ādhamarṇyayoḥ ṇiniḥ (3.3.170); kṛtyāś ca (3.3.171)

A kṛtya may be used in demonstrating:

- 5) āvaśyaka - necessity: future pain necessarily must be ended.
- 6) ādhamarṇya - obligation: it is an obligation to end future pain.

and in closing: śaki liṅ ca (3.3.172) A kṛtya may be used in demonstrating:

- 7) śak - capacity: future pain is endable.

Summary

- 1) End future pain.
- 2) Future pain may be ended.
- 3) The time is right for future pain to be ended.
- 4) Future pain is to be ended (by me) who is deserving (to have it ended).
- 5) Future pain necessarily must be ended.
- 6) It is an obligation to end future pain.
- 7) Future pain is endable.