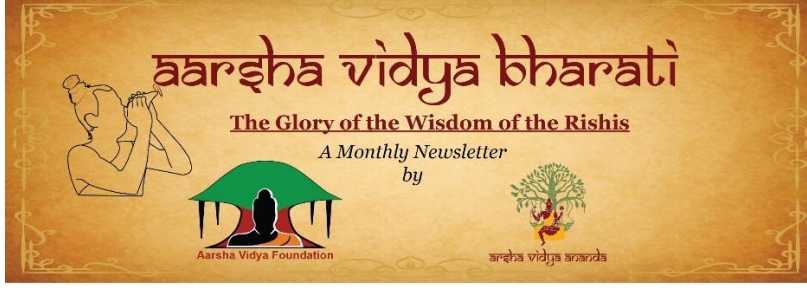


Aarsha Vidya Bharati

A monthly newsletter that will bring you more happiness, more wisdom and more freedom



Guide to Sanskrit transliteration

Presented below is a key to transliteration and pronunciation of Sanskrit letters. Sanskrit is a highly phonetic language and therefore accuracy in the pronunciation of the letters is very important. A change in the pronunciation could change the meaning of the word itself. For those who are not familiar with the Dēvanāgarī script, the International Alphabet of Sanskrit Transliteration is a guide to the correct pronunciation of the Sanskrit letters.

अ a (but)	आ ā (far)	इ i (it)	ई ī (beet)	उ u (put)	ऊ ū (pool)
ऋ ṛ (rhythm)	ॠ ṛ (lr) *	ए e (play)	ऐ ai (high)	ओ o (toe)	औ au (loud)
क ka (skate) 1	ख kha (blockhead) *1	ग ga (gate) 1	घ gha (log hut) *1	ङ ṅa (sing)	
च ca (chunk) 2	छ cha (catch him) *2	ज ja (john) 2	झ jha (hedgehog) *2	ञ ña (bunch) 2	
ट ṭa (start) *3	ठ ṭha (anthill) *3	ड ḍa (dart) *3	ढ ḍha (godhead) *3	ण ṇ *3	
त ta (path) *4	थ tha (thunder) *4	द da (that) *4	ध dha (breathe) *4	न na (numb) *4	
प pa (spin) 5	फ pha (loophole) *5	ब ba (bin) 5	भ bha (abhor) *5	म ma (much) 5	
य ya (young)	र ra (drama)	ल la (luck)	व va (between va and wa)	श ś (shove)	ष ṣ (bushel)
स s (so)	ह h (hum)				

अं in Anusvara (nasalization of preceding vowel)

: ह Visarga (aspiration of preceding vowel)

Notes

*No exact English equivalents for these letters

1. Guttural
2. Palatal
3. Lingual
4. Dental
5. Labial