

CHALĀKṢARA CODE LETTERS in the KĀṆVA PADAPĀṬHA

Chalākṣara-s are monosyllabic code letters (gīm, chruṁ, śraim, r̥tau, kṣūṁ, ī etc.) which are found at the end of the mantras in the Kāṇva Padapāṭha. They contain the following informations:

1. Number of *itikaraṇa* words (compounds, pragr̥hya, riphita)
2. Number of words with final *visarga*
3. Number of words with final *n*
4. Number of *words* (padas)

Examples for itikaraṇa words: *supoṣa iti su-poṣaḥ, te iti te, svariti svaḥ*)

iti5	Visarga (ḥ5)					
	1	2	3	4	5	0
1	k	kh	g	gh	ñ	y
2	c	ch	j	jh	ñ̄	r
3	ṭ	ṭḥ	ḍ	ḍḥ	ṇ	l
4	t	th	d	dh	n	v
5	p	ph	b	bh	m	kṣ
0	ś	ṣ	s	h	ḷ (ṃ)	

(rx: +5) **(xr: +5)**

(iti5: number of iti in the last group of 5) (iti = 8 = (5) (3) => iti5 = 3)

k (iti5 = 1) (iti = 1, 11 etc.)

rk (iti5 = 1 + 5) (iti = 6, 16 etc.)

(ḥ5: number of ḥ in the last group of 5) (ḥ = 10 = (5) (5) => ḥ5 = 5)

m (ḥ5 = 5) (ḥ = 5, 15 etc.)

mr (ḥ5 = 5 + 5) (ḥ = 10, 20 etc.)

n = 1 (xy), n = 2 (xl), n = 3 (xv), n = 4 (xh), n = 5 (x?)

Number of words (p):

a	ā	i	ī	u	ū	e	ai	o	au
0, 30	1, 31	2, 32	3, 33	4, 34	5, 35	6, 36	7, 37	8, 38	9, 39

Anusvāra: +10; visarga: +20; code 33 for p > 30

EXAMPLES

After adhyāya.anuvāka.mantra the chalākṣara code is shown. The numbers iti, ḥ, n and p have been counted in the padapāṭha.

1.1.1 (gīm) (iti 1, ḥ 3, n 0, p 13)

iṣe | tvā | ūrje | tvā | vāyavaḥ | stha |
devaḥ | vaḥ | savitā | pra | arpayatu | śreṣṭhatamāyeti śreṣṭha-tamāya | karmaṇe || gīm ||

Note: g (iti5 = 1; ḥ5 = 3); n = 0 (g is not followed by y, v, l or h); īm (p = 3 + 10 = 13)

1.1.2 (ch!rum) (iti 2, ḥ 7, n 0, p 14) (dhruṃ)

ā | pyāyadhvam | aghnyāḥ | indrāya | bhāgam | prajāvatīriti prajā-vatīḥ | anamīvāḥ | ayakṣmāḥ |
mā | vaḥ | stenaḥ | īsata | mā | aghaśaṃsa ityagha-śaṃsaḥ || ch!rum ||

Note: ch (iti5 = 2; ḥ5 = 2); chr (iti5 = 2; ḥ5 = 2 + 5 = 7); n = 0 (ch is not followed by y, v, l or h); um (p = 4 + 10 = 14); in the padapāṭha dhruṃ is written; this is a printing error corrected to chruṃ.

1.3.4 (syum) (iti 0, ḥ 3, n 1, p 14)

dhūḥ | asi | dhūrva | dhūrvantam | dhūrva | tam | yaḥ | asmān | dhūrvati |
dhūrva | tam | yam | vayam | dhūrvāmaḥ || syum ||

Note: s (iti5 = 0; ḥ5 = 3); n = 1 (s is followed by y); um (p = 4 + 10 = 14)

1.4.4 (jīm) (iti 2, ḥ 3, n 0, p 12)

daivyāya | karmaṇe | śundhadhvaṃ | devayajyāyā iti deva-yajyāyai |
yat | vaḥ | aśuddhaḥ | parājaghāneti parā-jaghāna | etat | vaḥ | tat | śundhāmi || jīm ||

1.5.1 (ñīm) (iti 2, ḥ 5, n 0, p 13)

śarma | asi | avadhūtamityava-dhūtam | rakṣaḥ | avadhūtā ityava-dhūtāḥ | arātayaḥ |
adityāḥ | tvak | asi | prati | tvā | aditiḥ | vettu || ñīm ||

1.7.5 (l!um) (iti 0, ḥ 5, n 0, p 14) (lum)

vedaḥ | asi | veda | yena | tvam | deva | veda | devebhyaḥ | vedaḥ | abhavaḥ |
tena | mahyam | vedaḥ | bhava || l!um ||

1.9.2 (kaṃ) (iti 1, ḥ 1, n 0, p 10)

pṛthivyai | varma | asi | pṛthivi | devayajanīti deva-yajani |
oṣadhyaḥ | te | mūlam | mā | hiṃsiṣam || kaṃ ||

Note: k (iti5 = 1; ḥ5 = 1); n = 0 (k is not followed by y, v, l or h); am (p = 0 + 10 = 10)

2.1.9 (lyum) (iti 3, ḥ 0, n 1, p 14)

Note: l (iti5 = 3; ḥ5 = 0); n = 1 (l is followed by y); um (p = 4 + 10 = 14)

2.6.2 (yūm) (iti 1, ḥ 0, n 0, p 15)

Note: y (iti5 = 1; ḥ5 = 0); n = 0 (y is not followed by y, v, l or h); ūm (p = 5 + 10 = 15)

3.4.1 (braṁ) (iti 5, ḥ 8, n 0, p 10)

bhūḥ | bhuvah | svariti svah | suprajā iti su-prajāḥ | prajayeti pra-jayā | bhūyāsam |
suvīra iti su-vīrah | vīraiḥ | supoṣa iti su-poṣah | poṣaiḥ || braṁ ||

Note: br (iti5 = 5; ḥ5 = 3 + 5 = 8); n = 0 (br is not followed by y, v, l or h); aṁ (p = 0 + 10 = 10)

3.6.2 (raum) (iti 2, ḥ 0, n 0, p 19)

Note: r (iti5 = 2; ḥ5 = 0); n = 0 (r is not followed by y, v, l or h); aum (p = 9 + 10 = 19)

3.8.1 (śraim) (iti 0, ḥ 6, n 0, p 17)

eṣah | te | rudra | bhāgaḥ | saha | svasrā | ambikayā | tam | juṣasva | svāhā |
eṣah | te | rudra | bhāgaḥ | ākhuḥ | te | paśuḥ || śraim ||

Note: śr (iti5 = 0; ḥ5 = 1 + 5 = 6); n = 0 (śr is not followed by y, v, l or h); aim (p = 7 + 10 = 17)

4.4.1 (bum) (iti 5, ḥ 3, n 0, p 14)

ṛksāmāyoriṭyṛk-sāmāyoh | śilpe iti śilpe | sthaḥ | te iti te | vām | ā | rabhe | te iti te | mā | pātam |
ā | asya | yajñasya | udṛca ityut-ṛcaḥ || bum ||

Note: b (iti5 = 5; ḥ5 = 3); n = 0 (b is not followed by y, v, l or h); um (p = 4 + 10 = 14)

4.4.2 (gom) (iti 1, ḥ 3, n 0, p 18)

śarma | asi | śarma | me | yaccha | namaḥ | te | astu | mā | mā | hiṁsīḥ |
ūrḥ | asi | āṅgirasī | ūṛnamradā ityūrṇa-mradāḥ | ūṛjam | me | yaccha || gom ||

Note: g (iti5 = 1; ḥ5 = 3); n = 0 (g is not followed by y, v, l or h); om (p = 8 + 10 = 18)

4.5.1 (lam) (iti 0, ḥ 5, n 0, p 10)

vratam | kṛṇuta | vratam | kṛṇuta | [vratam | kṛṇuta]
agniḥ | brahma | agniḥ | yajñah | vanaspatiḥ | yajñiyah || lam ||

Note: l (iti5 = 0; ḥ5 = 5); n = 0 (l is not followed by y, v, l or h); aṁ (p = 0 + 10 = 10)

5.6.3 (ṛtau) (iti 8, ḥ 1, n 0, p 9)

svarāliti sva-rāt | asi | sapatnaheti sapatna-hā | satrarāliti satra-rāt | abhimātihetyabhimāti-hā |
janarāliti jana-rāt | rakṣoheti rakṣah-hā | sarvarāliti sarva-rāt | amitrahetyamitra-hā || ṛtau ||

Note: ṛ (iti5 = 3; ḥ5 = 1); rṭ (iti5 = 3 + 5 = 8; ḥ5 = 1); n = 0 (ṛ is not followed by y, v, l or h); au (p = 9)

5.9.2 (chlaim) (iti 2, ḥ 2, n 2, p 17)

Note: ch (iti5 = 2; ḥ5 = 2); n = 2 (ch is followed by l); aim (p = 7 + 10 = 17)

7.17.1 (ṣīm) (iti 0, ḥ 2, n 0, p 13)

Note: ṣ (iti5 = 0; ḥ5 = 2); n = 0 (ṣ is not followed by y, v, l or h); im (p = 3 + 10 = 13)

7.19.1 (ī) (iti 0, ḥ 0, n 0, p 3)

marutām | ojase | tvā || ī ||

Note: Missing consonant (iti5 = 0; h5 = 0); n = 0 (missing y, v, l or h); ī (p = 3)

8.12.1 (svā 33) (iti 0, h 3, n 3, p 31)

Note: s (iti5 = 0; h5 = 3); n = 3 (s is followed by v); ā 33 (p = 31)

8.14.1 (ḍ hauḥ) (ḍहौः) (iti 3, h 3, n 4, p 29)

Note: ḍ (iti5 = 3; h5 = 3); n = 4 (ḍ is followed by h); auḥ (p = 9 + 20 = 29)

9.6.4 (ñlah) (iti 2, h 5, n 2, p 20)

9.6.4 (lyīm) (ल्यीम्) (iti 0, h 5, n 1, p 13)

10.3.3 (au) (iti 0, h 0, n 0, p 9)

10.4.4 (hem) (iti 0, h 4, n 0, p 16)

Note: h (iti5 = 0; h5 = 4); n = 0 (h is not followed by y, v, l or h); em (p = 6 + 10 = 16)

10.5.7 (ām) (iti 0, h 0, n 0, p 11)

10.6.4 (rphrvūm 33) (रुप्रवूँ ३३) (iti 10, h 7, n 3, p 45)

Note: rphr (iti5 = 5 + 5 = 10; h5 = 2 + 5 = 7); n = 3 (rphr is followed by v); ūm 33 (p = 35 + 10 = 45)

11.1.2 (kromubhā) (iti 11, h 16, n 0, p 18)

Note: kr (iti5 = 1; h5 = 1 + 5 = 6); if iti5 = 1 then iti could be 1 or 11; if h5 = 6 then h could be 6 or 16); ubhā (“both”) after the code seems to select the numbers > 10 for iti and h.; n = 0 (kr is not followed by y, v, l or h); om (p = 8 + 10 = 18)

11.4.6 (ghromu) (iti 11, h 9, n 0, p 18)

Note: ghr (iti5 = 1; h5 = 4 + 5 = 9); if iti5 = 1 then iti could be 1 or 11; u after the code seems to select the number > 10 for iti.; n = 0 (ghr is not followed by y, v, l or h); om (p = 8 + 10 = 18)

13.1.14 (chrlaum) (iti 2, h 7, n 2, p 19)

13.4.13 (vām) (iti 4, h 0, n 0, p 11)

sam | itam | sam | kalpethām | sam̐priyā **iti** sam-priyau | rociṣṇū **iti** rociṣṇū | sumanasyā **iti** sumanasyau || iṣam | ūrjam | abhi | sam̐vasānā **iti** sam-vasānau || vām ||

Note: v (iti5 = 4; h5 = 0); n = 0 (v is not followed by y, v, l or h); ām (p = 1 + 10 = 11)

13.5.10 (kṣūm) (iti 5, h 0, n 0, p 15)

Note: kṣ (iti5 = 5; h5 = 0); n = 0 (kṣ is not followed by y, v, l or h); ūm (p = 5 + 10 = 15)

15.9.1 (rba) (iti 10, ḥ 13, n 0, p 30)

Note: rb (iti5 = 5 + 5 = 10; ḥ5 = 3); n = 0 (b is not followed by y, v, l or h); a (p = 30)

15.9.1 (rdhyoḥ) (iti 8, ḥ 14, n 1, p 28)

Note: rdh (iti5 = 3 + 5 = 8; ḥ5 = 4); n = 1 (dh is followed by y); oḥ (p = 8 + 20 = 28)

19.2.1 (thyom) (iti 4, ḥ 12, n 1, p 18)

Note: th (iti5 = 4; ḥ5 = 2); n = 1 (th is followed by y); om (p = 8 + 10 = 18)

21.3.11 (ya!ṛm) (iti 0, ḥ 0, n 1, p 10) (yūṛm)
pavitreṇa | punīhi | mā | śukreṇa | deva | dīdyat |
agne | kratvā | kratūn | anu || ya!ṛm ||

Note: Missing consonant (iti5 = 0; ḥ5 = 0); n = 1 (Missing consonant is followed by y); aṛm (p = 0 + 10 = 10); yaṛm would also be the code for (iti 1, ḥ 0, n 0, p 10)

26.3.5 (lram) (᳚) (iti 0, ḥ 10, n 0, p 10)
kṛṣṇāḥ | bhaumāḥ | dhūmrāḥ | āntarikṣāḥ | bṛhantaḥ | divyāḥ |
śabalāḥ | vaidyutāḥ | sidhmāḥ | tārakāḥ || lram ||

Note: lṛ (iti5 = 0; ḥ5 = 5 + 5 = 10); n = 0 (lṛ is not followed by y, v, l or h); aṛm (p = 0 + 10 = 10)

27.2.1 (rtiḥ) (iti 9, ḥ 1, n 0, p 22)

Note: rt (iti5 = 4 + 5 = 9; ḥ5 = 1); n = 0 (t is not followed by y, v, l or h); iḥ (p = 2 + 20 = 22)

33.1.11 (gyrom) (iti 1, ḥ 8, n 1, p 18)

Note: gr (iti5 = 1; ḥ5 = 3 + 5 = 8); n = 1 (g is followed by y); om (p = 8 + 10 = 18)

39.2.1 (u) (iti 0, ḥ 0, n 0, p 4)

Note: Missing consonant (iti5 = 0; ḥ5 = 0); n = 0 (missing y, v, l or h); u (p = 4)

40.1.17 (ṭem) (iti 3, ḥ 1, n 0, p 16)

Note: ṭ (iti5 = 3; ḥ5 = 1); n = 0 (ṭ is not followed by y, v, l or h); em (p = 6 + 10 = 16)

40.1.18 (a) (p 0)

agne naya || a ||

Note: Mantra 40.1.18 is dropped in the padapāṭha because it is a repetition of 5.9.2

APPENDIX

PADA-MUṢṬI-LAKṢAṆA(-PRAKĀŚIKĀ) (805)

of Mukunda-bhaṭṭa (or -śāstrin). Also called Pada-lakṣaṇa.

(This text explains the code letters found at the end of the mantras in the Kāṇva Padapāṭha; only the beginning and end is available to me)

Beginning:

śrīvāgdevipadāravindayugalaṁ vighnādhipaṁ svāmināṁ
natvā pañkajayonikeśavaśivān śrīmadguruṁ bhaktitaḥ |
vakṣye vājasaneyaśuklayajuṣāṁ saṁkhyāṁ padānāṁ kramād
ekaṁ varṇam ṛcaś catuṣkagaṇanaṁ labhyaparakāśāṁ śubham ||
surāsuraśīroratnamarīciracitāṁ?ipe |
vighnāndhakārasūryāya gaṇādhipataye namaḥ ||
padānām āvalir velāvisargāṇām vidhīyate |
nāntānām vakṣyate lakṣma nikṣipyai kākṣare 'kṣaram ||
vihīnā ṛḷvarṇābhyāṁ navākarādayaḥ svarāḥ |
daśamaṁ bindunā jñeyam visargād vimśatir bhavet ||

End: (RASB)

pañcanām ca dvipakṣī ca śukapārśvavatī tu yā |
gaṇāntanām nijam varṇam samāptam padalakṣaṇam ||
duścavanaḥ pṛtanāśālayudhyo 'smākam | juṣantām yajñam adruho 'namīvāḥ | iti padalakṣaṇam
samāptam | (21098) iti śrīmadvirediva-upanāmaka-raghunāthātmajena mukundaśāstrinā viracitā
padamuṣṭiprakāśikā samāptimagāt |

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