

CHALĀKṢARA CODE in the KĀṆVA PADAPĀṬHA

These are monosyllabic code letters (gīm, chrum, śraim, rṭau, kṣūm, ī etc.) which are found at the end of the mantras in the Kāṇva Padapāṭha. They contain the following informations:

1. Number of *itikarāṇa* words (compounds, pragṛhya, riphita)
2. Number of words with final *visarga*
3. Number of words with final *n*
4. Number of *words*

iti5	Visarga (ḥ5)					
	1	2	3	4	5	0
1	k	kh	g	gh	ñ	y
2	c	ch	j	jh	ñ	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	

(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 padapātha.

1.1.1 (gīm) (iti 1, ḥ 3, n 0, p 13)

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

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

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

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 ||

1.4.4 (jīm) (iti 2, ḥ 3, n 0, p 12)

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

1.5.1 (nīm) (iti 2, ḥ 5, n 0, p 13)

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

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

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

1.9.2 (kaṁ) (iti 1, ḥ 1, n 0, p 10)

ṛṥhivyai | varma | asi | ṛṥhivi | devayajanīti deva-yajani |
ośadhyaḥ | te | mūlam | mā | hiṁśiṣam || kaṁ ||

2.1.9 (lyum) (iti 3, ḥ 0, n 1, p 14)

2.6.2 (yūm) (iti 1, ḥ 0, n 0, p 15)

3.6.2 (raum) (iti 2, ḥ 0, n 0, p 19)

3.8.1 (śraim) (iti 0, ḥ 6, n 0, p 17)

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

4.4.1 (bum) (iti 5, ḥ 3, n 0, p 14)

ṛksāmāyorityṛk-sāmāyoḥ | śilpe itī śilpe | sthaḥ | te itī te | vām | ā | rabhe | te itī te | mā | pātam |
ā | asya | yajñasya | udṛca ityut-ṛcaḥ || bum ||

4.4.2 (gom̐) (iti 1, ḥ 3, n 0, p 18)

śarma | asi | śarma | me | yaccha | namaḥ | te | astu | mā | mā | hiṃsīḥ |
ūr̥k | asi | āṅgirasī | ūr̥namradā | ityūr̥ṇa-mradāḥ | ūr̥jam | me | yaccha || gom̐ ||

4.5.1 (lam̐) (iti 0, ḥ 5, n 0, p 10)

vratam | kṛṇuta | vratam | kṛṇuta | [vratam | kṛṇuta |]
agniḥ | brahma | agniḥ | yajñāḥ | vanaspatiḥ | yajñīyah || lam̐ ||

5.6.3 (rtau) (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 || rtau ||

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

7.17.1 (ṣīm̐) (iti 0, ḥ 2, n 0, p 13)

7.19.1 (ī) (iti 0, ḥ 0, n 0, p 3)

marutām | ojase | tvā || ī ||

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

ā: p = 1 or 31; 33 after the code selects 31.

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

9.6.4 (ñlah) (iti 2, ḥ 5, n 2, p 20)

9.6.4 (lyīm̐) (iti 0, ḥ 5, n 1, p 13)

10.3.3 (au) (iti 0, ḥ 0, n 0, p 9)

10.4.4 (hem̐) (iti 0, ḥ 4, n 0, p 16)

10.5.7 (ām̐) (iti 0, ḥ 0, n 0, p 11)

10.6.4 (rphrvūm̐ 33) (iti 10, ḥ 7, n 3, p 45)

ūm̐: p = 15 or 45; 33 after the code selects 45.

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

k: iti = 1, 11; kr: ḥ = 6, 16; ubhā (“both”) after the code seems to select the numbers > 10 for iti and ḥ.

11.4.6 (ghrom̐u) (iti 11, ḥ 9, n 0, p 18)

gh: iti = 1, 11; u after the code seems to select 11

13.1.14 (chrlaum̐) (iti 2, ḥ 7, n 2, p 19)

13.4.13 (vām̐) (iti 4, ḥ 0, n 0, p 11)

sam | itam | sam | kalpethām | saṁpriyā **iti** sam-priyau | rociṣṇū **iti** rociṣṇū | sumanasyā **iti** su-
manasyau || iṣam | ūrjam | abhi | saṁvasānā **iti** sam-vasānau || vām ||

13.5.10 (kṣūṁ) (iti 5, ḥ 0, n 0, p 15)

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

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

19.2.1 (thyom) (iti 4, ḥ 12, n 1, p 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 ||
yam would also be the code for (iti 1, ḥ 0, n 0, p 10)

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

27.2.1 (rtiḥ) (iti 9, ḥ 1, n 0, p 22)

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

39.2.1 (u) (iti 0, ḥ 0, n 0, p 4)

40.1.17 (ṭem) (iti 3, ḥ 1, n 0, p 16)

40.1.18 (a) (p 0)

agne naya || a ||

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.

Beginning:

śrīvāgdevipadāravindayugalaṁ vighnādhipaṁ svāminam
natvā paṅkajayonikeśavaśivān śrīmadguruṁ bhaktitaḥ |
vakṣye vājasanyaśuklayajuṣāṁ saṁkhyāṁ padānām kramād
ekaṁ varṇam ṛcaś catuṣkagaṇanam labhyaparakāśam śubham ||
surāsuraśīroratnamarīciracitān?ipe |
vighnāndhakārasūryāya gaṇādhipataye namaḥ ||
padānām āvalir velāvisargāṇām vidhīyate |
nāntānām vakṣyate lakṣma nikṣipyaiḥkṣare 'kṣaram ||

vihīnā ṛṣvarṇābhyām navākarādayaḥ svarāḥ |
daśamaṁ bindunā jñeyam visargād vimśatir bhavet ||

End: (RASB)

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

Aithal, K.Parameswara, Veda-Lakṣaṇa: Vedic Ancillary Literature: A Descriptive Bibliography, Motilal
Banarsidass: Delhi, 1993, No. 805

FINAL NOTES

1. References:

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(Introduction, pages ix-x)

2. Śikṣās / Vedalakṣaṇa texts:

http://vedicreserve.mum.edu/shiksha/shiksha_vedicreserve.html

<https://sites.google.com/site/vedalaksana/>

3. Last update by [Detlef Eichler](#) : 1 June 2018