

A Translation of the Nepalese Text of the *Suśrutasamhitā*

Jason Birch Dominik Wujastyk Andrey Klebanov
Lisa A. Brooks Paras Mehta Madhusudan Rimal
Deepro Chakraborty Harshal Bhatt Jane Allred
et alii

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Sūtrasthāna

Nidānasthāna

Śārīrasthāna

Cikitsāsthāna

Kalpasthāna

Kalpasthāna 4: Snakes and Invenomation

Introduction

The fourth chapter of the Kalpasthāna of the *Suśrutasamhitā* addresses the topic of snake bites and snake venom. Unusually for the Nepalese version of the *Suśrutasamhitā*, the discussion is framed as a question from Suśruta to the wise Dhanvantari. Suśruta's questions are about the number of snakes, how they are classified, the symptoms of their bites and the pulses or stages of toxic shock experienced by a victim of snakebite and related topics. The taxonomy of snakes is presented in tabular form in Figures 1 and 2.³⁷⁹

Literature

A brief survey of this chapter's contents and a detailed assessment of the existing research on it to 2002 was provided by Meulenbeld.³⁸⁰ There also exists an substantial herpetological literature from colonial India as well as more recent studies of snakes in the context of cultural and religious life.

The ophiological literature of the colonial period began in the late nineteenth century with the work of Fayrer, whose publication included striking colour paintings of snakes.³⁸¹ Fayrer provided a biological taxonomy

³⁷⁹ On the idea of notational variants in scientific translation, see Elshakry 2008; Sarukkai 2016; Wujastyk 2021a: 81–83.

³⁸⁰ HIML: IA, 292–294. In addition to the translations mentioned by Meulenbeld (HIML: IB, 314–315), a translation of this chapter was included in P. V. Sharma 1999–2001: 3, 35–45.

³⁸¹ Fayrer 1874, first published in 1872.

of snakes as well as chapters on mortality statistics during the nineteenth century, treatment and effects of poison, and experimental data. Ewart (1878) included descriptions of appearance and behaviour of poisonous snakes and sometimes their local names and reproducing Fayrer's illustrations.³⁸² Wall (1913: 75–124) provided a useful analysis of the medical effects of snake envenomation in India arranged by the varied symptomology of different snakes. He also discussed the difference between the symptoms of toxicity and fright (69–75) and also the difficulties arising out of uncertainty about the effects of snake-bite (124–126). The *Suśrutasamhitā* too recognized the emotional and somatic effects of fright (see note 394 below). Wall (1921) provided a wealth of detail of the snakes of Sri Lanka, including line drawings.

Doniger (2015) provided a good survey of snakes as protagonists in religious literature from the *Atharvaveda* through the epics, *Purāṇas* and Buddhist literature. Semeka-Pankratov (1979) traced semiotics of the term *nāga* through Vedic, Pali and Sanskrit literature. Slouber (2016: 31–33 *et passim*) discussed the *Suśrutasamhitā*'s *Kalpasthāna* as a precursor and influence on later Tantric traditions of snake-bite interpretation and therapy. In particular, the Tantric *Kriyākālaguṇottara* text that Slouber presented divided snakes into two basic categories, divine and mundane, as the *Suśrutasamhitā* does.³⁸³ But unlike the *Suśrutasamhitā*, in the *Kriyākālaguṇottara* the chief taxonomic principle for both groups is the four *varṇas*.

A discussion of this chapter specifically in the light of the Nepalese manuscripts was published by Harimoto.³⁸⁴ After a close comparative reading of lists of poisonous snakes, Harimoto concluded that, “the Nepalese version is internally consistent while the [vulgate] editions are not.” Harimoto showed how the vulgate editions had been adjusted textually to smooth over inconsistencies, and gave insights into these editorial processes.³⁸⁵

³⁸² Calling his work a supplement to Fayrer (1874), but also being cited by Fayrer, Ewart 1878 evidently also collected local indigenous knowledge from his “snake-man” (p. 22).

³⁸³ Slouber 2016: 144–145.

³⁸⁴ Harimoto 2011: 101–104.

³⁸⁵ The two editions that Harimoto noted, Su 1938 and Su 1889, present identical texts.

Translation

- 1 Now we shall explain the procedure (*kalpa*) about what should be known concerning the venom in those who have been bitten by snakes.³⁸⁶
- 3 Suśruta, grasping his feet, questions the wise Dhanvantari, the expert in all the sciences.
- 4 “My Lord, please speak about the number of snakes, and their divisions, the symptoms of someone who has been bitten, and the knowledge about the successive shocks (*vega*) of poisoning”.³⁸⁷
- 5 On hearing his query, that distinguished physician spoke.
“The venerable snakes such as Vāsukī and Takṣaka are uncountable.
- 6–gab “They are snake-lords who support the earth, as bright as the ritual fire, ceaselessly roaring, raining and scorching. They hold up the earth, with its oceans, mountains and continents. If they are angered, they can destroy the whole world with a breath and a look. Honour to them. They have no role here in medicine.
“The ones that I shall enumerate in due order are those mundane ones with poison in their fangs who bite humans.”³⁸⁸
- 9cd–10 “There are eighty kinds of snakes and they are divided in five ways: Darvīkaras, Maṇḍalins, Rājīmats, and Nirviṣas. And Vaikarañjas that are traditionally of three kinds.”³⁸⁹
- 11 “Of those, there are twenty and six hooded snakes, and the same number of Maṇḍalins are known. There are thirteen Rājīmats.”³⁹⁰

386 The *Sarvāṅgasundarī*, commenting on 1.16.17 (Ah 1939: 246), glossed कल्प as प्रयोग.

387 The expression “successive shocks” translates वेग, which in other contexts may mean “(natural) urge.” Here, it is rather the discrete stages or phases of physiological reaction to envenomation. Cf. the symptoms of cobra poisoning described by Wall (1913: 80).

388 The next few verses are discussed in detail by Harimoto (2011: 101–104), who shows that in the taxonomy of snakes, the Nepalese version of the *Suśrutasaṃhitā* has greater internal coherence than the vulgate recension.

389 Harimoto (2011) translated these names as “hooded,” “spotted,” “striped,” “harmless,” and “hybrid.” Figure 1 shows the taxonomy described in the vulgate text; Figure 2 shows the different and more logical division of the Nepalese version of the *Suśrutasaṃhitā*.

390 The phrasing of this śloka is awkward.

Or “There are 20 phanins and 6 maṇḍalins. The same number are known. There are 13 Rājīmats.” Or even, “there are 20 Phanins and six of them are Maṇḍalins.” Are phanins really the same as darvīkaras?

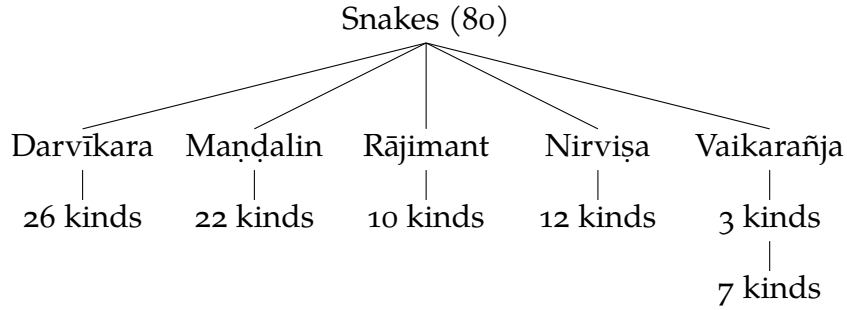


Figure 1: The taxonomy of snakes in the vulgate, 5.4.9–13ab (Su 1938: 571).

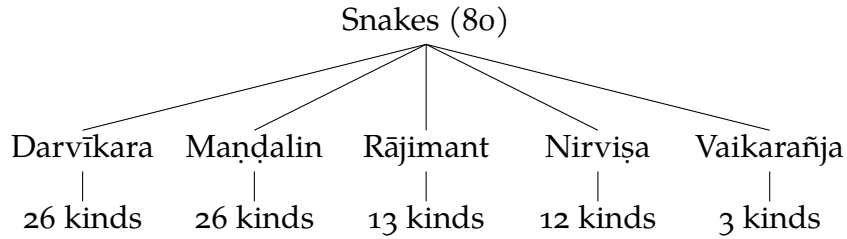


Figure 2: The taxonomy of snakes in the Nepalese version.

- 12 “There are said to be twelve Niriviṣas and, according to tradition, three Vaikarañjas.
- 13–14ef “If they are trodden on, ill-natured or provoked or even just looking for food, those very angry snakes will bite. And that is said to happen in three ways: serpented (*sarpita*), torn (*darita*) and thirdly without venom (*nirviṣa*). Some experts on this want to add “hurt by the snake’s body”.³⁹¹
- 15–16 “The physician can recognize the following as “ophidian (*sarpita*)”: Where a rearing snake makes one, two or more puncture-marks of its teeth, when they are deep and without much blood,³⁹² accompanied

391 This might refer to constriction. The phrase reads like a commentarial addition rather than the main text of the *Suśrutasamhitā*.

392 The word उद्धृत “aroused” was glossed by Ḍalhaṇa at 5.4.15 (Su 1938: 571) as उन्मोद्य, a word not found as such in standard dictionaries (MW; KEWA; AyMahā; Apte). Semantic considerations suggest that the word is not related to $\sqrt{muṭ}$ “break” or *mūta*/*mūṭa* “woven basket.” Perhaps it is related to the Tamil மோதி (*mōṭi*), whose meanings include “arrogance, grandeur, display” (DED₂: #5133) or to faintly-documented forms like *moṭyate* “is twisted” (CDIAL: #10186). Ḍalhaṇa’s उन्मोद्य may thus mean “twisting up” or “making an arrogant display.”

- by a little ring of spots (*cuñcumālaka*),³⁹³ lead to degeneration, and are close together and swollen.
- 17 Where there are streaks with blood, whether it be blue or white, the physican should recognize that to be “torn (*darita*),” having a small amount of venom.
- 18 The physician can recognize the locations of the bites of a person in a normal state as being free from poison, when the location is not swollen, and there is little corrupted blood.
- 19 The wind of a timid person who has been touched by a snake can get irritated by fear. It causes swelling.³⁹⁴ That is “hurt by a snake’s body.”
- 20 Locations bitten by sick or frightened snakes are known to have little poison. Similarly, a site bitten by very young or old snakes has little poison.
- 21 Poison does not progress in a place frequented by eagles,³⁹⁵ gods, holy sages, **spirits**, and saints, or in places full of herbs that destroy poison.³⁹⁶

grammar

Note that पद “puncture-mark” (more literally, “footprint”) is being used in the same sense as in 1.13.19 (Su 1938: 57) when describing the marks on the body where a knife scarifies the skin before leeching. See footnote 48.

393 The usual dictionary lexeme is चञ्चु, not चुञ्चु as in the Nepalese witnesses. We translate “spots” following Ḍalhaṇa and Gayadāsa on 5.4.15 (Su 1938: 571), where they described a group of spots or swellings at the site of the bite. On the history of the word मालक, see Kieffer-Pülz 1996.

394 Wall (1913: 69) remarked on the difficulty of separating toxicity symptoms from the psychosomatic effects of terror:

The gravity of symptoms due to fright does not appear to me to be sufficiently recognised, though there is no doubt in my mind that fatal cases from this cause are abundant, especially among the timid natives of this country.

Wall went on to give several case studies in which patients experienced syncope or even died as a result of bites from toxicologically harmless creatures.

395 Ḍalhaṇa on 5.4.21 (Su 1938: 571) identified the सुपर्ण as a गरुड. On the bird called सुपर्ण, Dave (1985: 72 ff, 514) too noted that it may be a synonym for Garuḍa, and in some contexts may refer to the Golden Eagle, Golden Oriole, Lammergeyer, etc. Dave (1985: 199 ff, 492) noted again that the Garuḍa is a mythical bird but may refer to the Himalayan Golden Eagle and other species of eagle. He pointed out that historically, The original physical basis for गरुड as the नागाशी (snake-eater) was most probably the Sea-Eagle who picks up sea-snakes from the sea or sand-beach and devours them on a nearby tree... (Dave 1985: 201).

Dave continued with interesting reference to Śrīharṣa’s *Nāgānanda*.

396 For “spirits” the Nepalese version has भूत while the vulgate reads यक्ष.

[Types of snake]

- 22 Darvīkara snakes are known to have hoods, to move rapidly, and to have rings, ploughs, umbrellas, crosses, and hooks on them.
- 23 Maṇḍalin snakes are known for being large and slow-moving. They are decorated with many kinds of circles. They are like a flaming fire because of their poisons.
- 24 Rājimant snakes are smooth and traditionally said to be, as it were, mottled with multicoloured streaks across and above.

[Classes of snake]

- 25 Snakes that shine like pearls and silver, and that are amber and that shine like gold, and smell sweet are traditionally thought of as being of the Brāhmaṇa caste.
- 26 Warrior snakes, however, are those that look glossy and get very angry. They have the mark of the sun, the moon, the earth, an umbrella and bitumen.
- 27 Merchant snakes may traditionally be black, shine like diamond or have a red colour or be grey like pigeons.
- 28 Any snakes that are coloured like a buffalo and a tiger, with rough skin and different colours are known as servants.³⁹⁷
- 31 All snakes that are variegated (Rājīmats) move about during the first watch of the night. The rest, on the other hand, the Maṇḍalins and the Darvīkaras, are diurnal.³⁹⁸
- 29 Wind is irritated by all hooded snakes; bile by Maṇḍalins and phlegm by those with many stripes.
- 30 Because of the two classes having greater, lesser or equal class, there is the characteristic of irritating two humours.
And he will explain the opposing view that is to be known as a result of the non-union of a male and female.³⁹⁹

³⁹⁷ Presumably “different” from the earlier-mentioned castes.

The sequence of the following three verses is slightly different from the vulgate (5.4.29–31 (Su 1938: 572)).

³⁹⁸ The readings of the vulgate, that Rājīmats are active in the early night, the Maṇḍalins in the later night, and Darvīkaras in the day, seem clearer.

³⁹⁹ The sense of the last phrase here is quite different from the vulgate, which says only that “details” will be explained below.

[Enumeration of snakes]

34.1 In that context, here are the Darvīkaras.

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. The Black snake (<i>kṛṣṇasarpa</i>); | (<i>mahāpadma</i>); |
| 2. The Big Black (<i>mahākṛṣṇa</i>); | 16. The Grass Flower (<i>apuṣpa</i>); |
| 3. The Black Belly (<i>kṛṣṇodara</i>); | 17. The Curd Mouth |
| 4. The All Black (<i>sarvakṛṣṇa</i>); ⁴⁰⁰ | (<i>dadhimukha</i>); |
| 5. The White Pigeon | 18. The Lotus Mouth |
| (<i>śvetakapota</i>); ⁴⁰¹ | (<i>puṇḍarīkamukha</i>); |
| 6. The Rain Cloud (<i>valāhako</i>); | 19. The Brown Hut Mouth |
| 7. The Great Snake | (<i>babhrūkuṭīmukha</i>); |
| (<i>mahāsarpa</i>); | 20. The Variegated (<i>vicitra</i>); |
| 8. The Conch Keeper | 21. The Flower Sprinkle Beauty |
| (<i>śaṃkhaṭāla</i>); | (<i>puṣpābhikīrṇābha</i>); |
| 9. The Red Eye (<i>lohitākṣa</i>); | 22. The Mountain Snake |
| 10. The Gavedhuka (<i>gavedhuka</i>); | (<i>girisarpa</i>); |
| 11. The Snake Around | 23. The Straight Snake |
| (<i>parisarpa</i>); | (<i>rjusarpa</i>); |
| 12. The Break Hood | 24. The White Rip (<i>śvetadara</i>); |
| (<i>khaṇḍaphaṇa</i>); | 25. The Big Head (<i>mahāśīrṣa</i>); |
| 13. The Kūkuṭa (<i>kūkuṭa</i>); | and |
| 14. The Lotus (<i>padma</i>); | 26. The Hungry Sting (<i>alagarda</i>); |
| 15. The Great Lotus | |

34.2 Here are the Maṇḍalins

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. The Mirror Ring | 9. The Big Jackfruit |
| (<i>ādarśamaṇḍala</i>); | (<i>mahāpanasaka</i>); |
| 2. The White Ring | 10. The Bamboo Leaf |
| (<i>śvetamaṇḍala</i>); | (<i>veṇupatraka</i>); |
| 3. The Red Ring (<i>raktamaṇḍala</i>); | 11. The Kid (<i>śīsuka</i>); |
| 4. The Speckled (<i>prṣata</i>); | 12. The Intoxicator (<i>madanaka</i>); |
| 5. The Gift of God (<i>devadinna</i>); | 13. The Morning Glory |
| 6. The Pilindaka (<i>pilindaka</i>); | (<i>pālindaka</i>); |
| 7. The Big Cow Snout | 14. The Stretch (<i>tantuka</i>); |
| (<i>vṛddhagonasa</i>); | 15. The Pale as a Flower |
| 8. The Jackfruit (<i>panasaka</i>); | (<i>puṣpapāṇḍu</i>); |

⁴⁰⁰ Not in vulgate.

⁴⁰¹ The vulgate adds The Big Pigeon (*mahākapota*).

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|--------------------------------------|--|
| 16. The Six Part (<i>ṣaḍaṅga</i>); | 22. The Hand Decoration |
| 17. The Flame (<i>agnika</i>); | (<i>hastābharaṇaka</i>); |
| 18. The Brown (<i>babhru</i>); | 23. The Tatra (<i>tatra</i>); ⁴⁰² |
| 19. The Ochre (<i>kaṣāya</i>); | 24. The Mark (<i>citraka</i>); |
| 20. The Khaluṣa (<i>khaluṣa</i>); | 25. The Deer Foot (<i>eṇīpada</i>). ⁴⁰³ |
| 21. The Pigeon (<i>pārāvata</i>); | |

34.3 Here are the Rājīmats.⁴⁰⁴

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. The Lotus (<i>puṇḍarīka</i>); | 7. The Grass Drier (<i>trṇaśoṣaka</i>); |
| 2. The Stripe Speckle (<i>rājicitra</i>); | 8. The White Jaw (<i>svetahanu</i>); |
| 3. The Finger Stripe (<i>aṅgulirāji</i>); | 9. The Grass Flower |
| 4. The Two Finger Stripe | (<i>darbhapuṣpa</i>); ⁴⁰⁵ |
| (<i>dvyāṅgulirāji</i>); | 10. The Red Eye (<i>lohitākṣa</i>); ⁴⁰⁶ |
| 5. The Drop Stripe (<i>bindurāji</i>); | 11. The Ringed (<i>cakraka</i>); |
| 6. The Mud (<i>kardama</i>); | 12. The Worm Eater (<i>kikkisāda</i>); |

34.4 Here are the Nirviṣas.

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|--|--|
| 1. The Rain Cloud | 7. The Year-Snake (<i>varṣāhika</i>); |
| (<i>valāhako</i>); ⁴⁰⁷ | 8. The Two-day (<i>dvyāhika</i>); |
| 2. Thei Snake Flag (<i>ahipatāka</i>); | 9. The Milk Flower |
| 3. The White Leaf (<i>śukapatra</i>); | (<i>kṣīrikāpuṣpa</i>); |
| 4. The Goat Swallow | 10. The Flower All (<i>puṣpasakalī</i>); |
| (<i>ajagara</i>); | 11. The Chariot of Light |
| 5. The Stimulator (<i>dīpyaka</i>); | (<i>jyotīratha</i>); |
| 6. The Ilikinī (<i>ilikinī</i>); | 12. The Little Tree (<i>vṛkṣaka</i>); |

34.5 The Vaikaraṇjas originate out of contrary unions amongst the three colours.⁴⁰⁸ Thus:

1. The Mākuli (*mākuli*);

⁴⁰² This seems implausible, but otherwise the list of Maṇḍalins would be short.

⁴⁰³ The list is short by one item. Perhaps the one of the snakes named in the vulgate, *citramaṇḍala*, *gonasa* or *piṅgala*, should be considered here.

⁴⁰⁴ The following list is one item short. The vulgate text, however, has several names that do not appear in the Nepalese Rājīmat list, for example *Sarṣapaka* and *Godhūmaka*.

⁴⁰⁵ Also in the Darvīkara list.

⁴⁰⁶ Also in the Darvīkara list.

⁴⁰⁷ Also in the Darvīkara list.

⁴⁰⁸ The word *varṇa* in this chapter normally means “colour” not “class.” (“Class is expressed by “jāti.”) While *kṛṣṇasarpa* is clearly a colour-type, it is less obvious that *gonasī* is a special colour, and *rājīmat* is a group of snakes.

2. The Poṭa Throat (*poṭagala*);
3. The Oil Stripe (*snigdharāji*);

Amongst those, the Mākuli (*mākuli*); is born when a male Black Snake mates with a female Cow Snout (*gonasa*), or the reverse. The Poṭa Throat (*poṭagala*) is born when a male Rājila mates with a female Cow Snout (*gonasa*) or the reverse. The Oily Stripe (*snigdharāji*) is born when a male Black Snake mates with a female Rājimat, or the reverse. Their poison is like that of their father, because it is the superior one out of the two; but others say it is like the mother. Thus eighty of these snakes have been described.

34

35 Amongst them, males have large eyes, tongues and heads. Females have small eyes, tongues and heads. Neuters have both characteristics, and are slow to exert themselves or be angry.

36 In that context we shall give general instruction about the signs of having been bitten by any of the snakes.

For what reason?

Because

37

38

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Uttaratantra

Editions and Abbreviations

- Ah 1939 Kumṭe, Aṇṇā Moreśvara, Navare, Kṛṣṇaśāstrī, and Parādkar, Hariśāstrī (1939) (eds.), *श्रीमद्वाग्भटविरचितम् अष्टाङ्गहृदयम्, श्रीमदरुणदत्तविरचितया सर्वाङ्गसुन्दराख्यया व्याख्यया, हेमाद्रिप्रणीतया आयुर्वेदरसायनाह्वया टीकया च समुल्लसितम्* = *The Astāṅgahṛidaya* (6th edn., Mumbayyām: Nirṇayasāgara Press), [ark:/13960/t3tt6967d](http://13960/t3tt6967d).
- Anup *Anup Sanskrit Library.*
- Apte Apte, Vaman Shivaram (1992), *The Practical Sanskrit-English Dictionary* (Kyoto: Rinsen Book Company), ISBN: 4-653-00038-7; Reprinted from Gode and Karve 1957–59.
- AS *Asiatic Society.*
- As 1980 Āṭhavale, Ananta Dāmodara (1980) (ed.), *अष्टाङ्गसङ्ग्रहः श्रीमद्वाग्भटविरचितः इन्दुव्याख्यासहितः* [= *Vāgbhaṭa's Aṣṭāṅgasaṅgraha with Indu's Commentary*] (Pune: M. A. Āṭhavale, Śrīmad Ātreya Prakāśanam), [ark:/13960/s25bwqsd0n7](http://13960/s25bwqsd0n7).
- AyMahā Jośī, Veṇīmādhavaśāstrī, and Jośī, Nārāyaṇa Harī (1968), *आयुर्वेदीय महाकोशः अर्थात् आयुर्वेदीय शब्दकोशः संस्कृत-संस्कृत* (Mumbai: Mahārāṣṭra Rājya Sāhitya āṇi Saṁskṛti Maṇḍala), [ark:/13960/t22c41g8t](http://13960/t22c41g8t).
- Bhela 1921 Mookerjee, Ashutosh, and Ananta Krishna Shastri, Ved-antabisharad (1921) (eds.), *The Bhela Samhita. Sanskrit Text* (Calcutta: University of Calcutta), [ark:/13960/t3sv3157j](http://13960/t3sv3157j); Based on two copies made of the Thanjavur codex unicus (MS Thanjavur TMSSML 10773, Burnell 1880: 63–4, P. P. S. Sastri 1933: #11085).

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| BL | <i>British Library</i> . |
| Ca 1941 | Ācārya, Yādavaśarma Trivikrama (1941) (ed.), <i>महर्षिणा पुनर्वसुनोपदिष्टा, तच्छिष्येणाग्निवेशेन प्रणीता, चरकदृढबलाभ्यां प्रतिसंस्कृता चरकसंहिता, श्रीचक्रपाणिदत्तविरचितया आयुर्वेददीपिकाव्याख्यया संवल्लिता</i> (3rd edn., Mumbayyām: Nirnaya Sagara Press), ark:/13960/t48q2f20n . |
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| DED ₂ | Burrow, Thomas, and Emeneau, Murray B. (1984), <i>A Dravidian Etymological Dictionary</i> (2nd edn., Oxford: Clarendon Press), ark:/13960/t4wj06g26 , URL . |
| EWA | Mayrhofer, Manfred (1986–2001), <i>Etymologisches Wörterbuch des Altindoarischen</i> (Heidelberg: Carl Winter, Universitätsverlag), ISBN: 3-533-03826-2. |
| Garuḍapurāṇa | Pāṇḍeya, Rāmateja (1963) (ed.), <i>श्रीकृष्णद्वैपायनव्यासप्रणीतं गरुडपुराणम्</i> (Vidyabhawan Prachyavidya Granthamala, 3; reprint, Caukhambā Vidyābhavana, Paṇḍita-Pustakālaya: Kāśī), ark:/13960/t6pz7tg7j . |
| HIML | Meulenbeld, Gerrit Jan (1999–2002), <i>A History of Indian Medical Literature</i> , 5 vols. (Groningen: E. Forsten), ISBN: 9069801248. |
| IOLR | Eggeling, Julius, et al. (1887–1935), <i>Catalogue of the Sanskrit Manuscripts in the Library of the India Office</i> (London: Secretary of State for India), ark:/13960/s2kbb5zcr9 . |

- KEWA Mayrhofer, Manfred (1953–72), *Kurzgefaßtes etymologisches Wörterbuch des Altindoarischen; a Concise Etymological Sanskrit Dictionary* (Heidelberg: Carl Winter, Universitätsverlag).
- KL *Kaiser Library.*
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- MW Monier-Williams, Monier, Leumann, E., Cappeller, C., et al. (1899), *A Sanskrit–English Dictionary Etymologically and Philologically Arranged, New Edition* (Oxford: Clarendon Press); 1970 reprint.
- NAK *National Archives of Kathmandu.*
- NCC Raghavan, V., et al. (1949–), *New Catalogus Catalogorum, an Alphabetical Register of Sanskrit and Allied Works and Authors,*

- 39 vols. (Madras University Sanskrit Series; Madras: University of Madras); v.1: revised edition, 1968. Searchable at <https://vmlt.in/ncc/>.
- NGMCP NGMCP (2014), "Nepal-german Manuscript Cataloguing Project. Online Title List and Descriptive Catalogue," Universität Hamburg and Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft, [URL](#).
- PW Böhrtlingk, Otto, and Roth, Rudolph (1855–75), *Sanskrit-Wörterbuch* (St. Petersburg: Kaiserlichen Akademie der Wissenschaften), [URL](#), accessed 18/05/2023.
- PWK Böhrtlingk, Otto (1879), *Sanskrit-wörterbuch in kürzerer fassung* (St. Petersburg: Kaiserlichen Akademie der Wissenschaften), [URL](#), accessed 18/05/2023.
- RORI *Rajasthan Oriental Research Institute*.
- Su 1889 Bhaṭṭācāryya, Jīvānanda Vidyāsāgara (1889) (ed.), *सुश्रुतः सूत्र-निदान-शारीर-चिकित्सा-कल्पोत्तर-तन्त्र-कल्पित आयुर्वेद. भगवता धन्वन्तरिणोपदिष्टः सुश्रुतनामधेयेन तच्छिष्येण विरचितः* (3rd edn., Calcutta: Saratī Press), [ark:/13960/t1nh6j09c](https://ncc.iiit.ac.in/ark:/13960/t1nh6j09c); [HIML](#): IB, 311, edition b.
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- Su 1945 Ācārya, Yādavaśarma Trivikramācārya, and Ācārya, Nārāyaṇa Rāma (1945) (eds.), *महर्षिणा सुश्रुतेन विरचिता सुश्रुतसंहिता (मूलमात्रा). पाठान्तर-परिशिष्टादिभिः संबलिता = the Suśrutasaṁhitā of Suśruta with Various Readings, Notes and Appendix etc.* (Mumbāi: Nirṇayasāgarākhyamudraṇālaye), [ark : / 13960 / t8kd4jh7n](#).
- TMSSML Tanjore Maharaja Serfoji Saraswati Mahal Library.
- Viṣṇudh. Śarman, Madhusūdana, and Śarman, Mādhavaprasāda (1912) (eds.), *विष्णुधर्मोत्तरपुराणम् = [Viṣṇudharmottarapurāṇa]* (Mumbai: Khemarāja Śrīkṛṣṇadāsa at the Śrīveṅkaṭeśvara Steam Press), [ark : / 13960 / t6qz6fr23](#); Lithograph format. Edited on the basis of a manuscript belonging to the astrologer Śudhākaraśarman of the Varanasi Sanskrit Pāṭhaśālā.

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Numbers after the final colon refer to pages in this book.

- aconite leaf (?) (*viṣapatrikā*) Unknown.
Cf. perhaps, *vatsanābha* (wolfsbane).
Cf. *GVDB*: 373 : 91
- amaranth (*tanḍulīyaka*) *Amaranthus hypochondriacus*, L. See King 321, *NK*: 1, #144, *Potter_{rev}*: 15. Cf. *AVS*: 1, 121 : 84
- arjun (*arjuna*) *Terminalia arjuna*, Bedd. See *HK*: 32
- axlewood (*dhava*) *Anogeissus latifolia* (Roxb. ex DC.) Wall. ex Guill & Perr. See *AVS*: 1, 163 f, *Chopra*: 20 : 32, 106
- bamboo leaves (*veṇupatrikā*) *Bambusa bambos*, Druce. See *NK*: 1, #307 : 84
- beautyberry (*priyaṅgu*) → *śyāmā*.
Callicarpa macrophylla, Vahl. See *AVS*: 1, 334, *NK*: 1, #420. Some say also *Setaria italica* Beauv. *GVDB*: 263–264. See also *GVDB*: 413 : 32, 102, 107
- beautyberry (*śyāmā*) *Callicarpa macrophylla*, Vahl. See *AVS*: 1, 334, *NK*: 1, #420 : 70, 82, 84
- beggarweed (*aṃśumatī*) *Desmodium gangeticum* (L.) DC (*Dymock*: 1, 428, *GJM1*: 602, *NK*: 1, #1192; *ADPS*: 382, 414 and *AVS*: 2, 319, 4.366 are confusing) : 102
- beggarweed (*vidārigandhā*) → *śālapanī*.
Desmodium gangeticum (L.) DC. See *Dymock*: 1, 428, *GJM1*: 602, cf. *NK*: 1, #1192; *ADPS*: 382, 414 and *AVS*: 2, 319, 4.366 are confusing : 41
- Bengal quince (*bilva*) *Aegle marmelos* (L.)
Corr. See *AVS*: 1, 62, Chevallier 159, *NK*: 1, #62, (*MW*: 732a) : 66, 68, 72
- bitumen (*adrija*) → *śilājī*. A tar-like, black, resinous rock exudate. See *AyMahā*: 1, 21 : 116
- black creeper (*pālindī*) *Ichnocarpus frutescens*, (L.) R.Br. or *Cryptolepis buchanani*, Roemer & Schultes. See *AVS*: 3, 141, 145, 203, *NK*: 1, #1283, 1210, *ADPS*: 434. Ḍalhaṇa on SS 5.1.82 identified *pālindī* with *trivṛt* (turpeth) and T. B. Singh and Chuneekar (*GVDB*: 246) supported this as a usual identification : 84, 87, 101, 102
- blackboard tree (*saptachada*) *Alstonia scholaris* R. Br. *GVDB*: 420 : 83
- blackbuck (*hariṇa*) *Antelope cervicapra*, L. See *BIA*: 270 *IW*: 95, 165, *et passim* : 87
- blue water-lily (*utpala*) *Nymphaea stellata*, Willd. See *GJM1*: 528, *IGP* 790; *Dutt*: 110, *NK*: 1, #1726 : 23, 82, 101, 102
- bulrush (*kaśeru*) "Two species, *Scirpus kysoor* Roxb., and *S. grossus* Linn. f. are used" *GVDB*: 85. Also *kaśeruka* and *kaseru* : 70, 71
- cardamom (*elā*) *Elettaria cardamomum*, Maton. See *AVS*: 2, 360, *NK*: 1, #924, *Potter_{rev}*: 66 : 66, 102, 107
- cassia cinnamon (*patra*) *Cinnamomum tamala*, (Buch.-Ham.) Nees. See *AVS*: 2, 84, *NK*: 1, #589 : 66, 84, 102

- castor oil tree (*gandharvahasta*) → *eraṇḍa*.
GVDB: 135, K&B: 3, 2277 : 37, 68
- castor-oil (*eraṇḍa*) *Ricinus communis*, L.
See NK: 1, #2145, Chopra: 214 : 42
- certain minerals (*tārāvitāra*) Unknown. It is not even certain that these are minerals. The variant reading in the vulgate, *tāraḥ sutāraḥ* was glossed by Ḍalhaṇa on 5.3.14 (Su 1938: 568) as follows *tāro rūpyaṇi, sutāraḥ pāradah*, “*tāra* means silver; *sutāra* means mercury.” : 106
- chaff (*kāṇḍana*) The word *kāṇḍana* is not found in dictionaries; *kaṇḍana* is threshing, separating the chaff from the grain in a mortar. Cf. Hemādri’s *Caturvargacintāmaṇi* (PWK: 2, 8) (Śiromaṇi 1873: 1, 138: 21, citing the *Vāyupurāṇa*) : 24, 160
- chebulic myrobalan (*haritakī*) *Terminalia chebula* Retz. GVDB: 466 : 83
- cherry (*elavālu*) *Prunus cerasus*, L.?. See BVDB 58, NK: 1, #2037, GVDB: 58 : 102
- chital deer (*prṣata*) *Axis axis*, Erxleben.
See BIA: 292, IW: 93 : 87
- citron (*mātuluṅga*) *Citrus medica*, Linn.
GVDB: 276, 306. Also spelled *mātuliṅga, mātulaṅga, mātulāṅga* : 72
- cobra’s saffron (*nāgapuṣpa*) → *nāgakeśara*.
Mesua ferrea, L. See NK: 1, #1595, GVDB: 220 : 102
- corky coral tree (*pāribhadra*) *Erythrina suberosa* Roxb. See GVDB 245 : 106
- costus (*kuṣṭha*) *Saussurea costus*, Clarke.
See NK: 1, #2239 : 66, 72, 84, 102, 107
- cottony jujube (*kākolī*) *Ziziphus mauritana*, Lam. See IGP: 1233, NK: 1, #2663; IGP 1233. Cf. NK: 1, #1170 : 65, 71
- country mallow (*atibalā*) *Abutilon indicum*, (L.) Sweet, but may be other kinds of mallow, e.g., *Sida rhombifolia*, L.. See NK: 1, #11, IGP: 1080, NK: 1, #2300, ADPS: 71, 77 : 41, 71, 147
- country sarsaparilla (*anantā*) *Hemidesmus indicus*, (L.) R. Br. See ADPS: 434, AVS: 3, 141–5, NK: 1, #1210. But see GVDB: 13 for complications that may suggest that it is to be equated with *sārivā*, which may sometimes be *Cryptolepis* or *Ichnocarpus frutescens* R. Rr. (GVDB: 429–431) : 41, 91, 101, 102, 106
- crape jasmine (*nata*) → crape jasmine
GVDB: 215 : 156, 157
- crape jasmine (*tagara*) *Tabernaemontana divaricata* (L.) R.Br. ex Roem. & Schultes. See GJM1: 557, AVS: 5, 232. Synonym of crape jasmine. But some say *Valeriana jatamansi*, Jones See GVDB: 173–174 for discussion (and charming comments on brain liquid testing). Some say *tagara* is Indian rose-bay or Indian valerian, but there remain many historical questions about the ancient and regional identities of this plant See, e.g., AVS: 5, 334 : 66, 72, 84, 102, 156, 157
- crimson trumpet-flower tree (*pāṭalā*) *Stereospermum chelonides*, (L. f.) A. DC. See GJM1: 573, AVS: 5, 192 ff, ADPS: 362 f, AVS: 3, 1848 f, IGP 1120, Dymock: 3, 20 ff : 106
- cuscut grass (*uśīra*) *Andropogon murcatus*, Retz. Also “vetiver grass.” See NK: 1, #180 : 84
- datura (*dhattūra*) *Datura metel*, L. See AVS: 2, 305 (cf. *Abhidhānamañjarī*), NK: 1, #796 ff. Potter_{rev}: 292 f, ADPS: 132 : 38
- deodar (*bhadradāru*) *Cedrus deodara*, (Roxb.ex D.Don) G. Don. See AVS 41, NK: 1, #516 : 32, 70, 102
- deodar (*devadāru*) *Cedrus deodara* (Roxb.) Loud. GVDB: 206–207 : 72, 147
- dried ginger (*śuṇṭhī*) *Zingiber officinale*, Roscoe. See ADPS: 50, NK: 1, #2658, AVS: 5, 435, IGP: 1232 : 70
- dried meat (*vallūra*) MW: 929, AyMahā: 1, 730. The term is used,

- rarely, in both the CS (1.5.10) and SS (1.13. 16, 6.42.75–76). It is a Dravidian loanword and occurs in the *Arthaśāstra* etc. (KEWA: 3, 167) : 23
- drum-giver (?) (*lambaradā*) Unknown; cf. GVDB: 348 : 91
- elixir salve (*rasāñjana*) → *añjana*. See Indian barberry : 32, 42
- embelia (*viḍaṅga*) *Embelia ribes*, Burm. f. See ADPS: 507, AVS: 2, 368, NK: 1, #929, Potter_{rev}: 113 : 32, 66, 102
- emetic nut (*karaghāṭa*) Probably a synonym for *karahāṭa* (emetic nut), q.v., GVDB: 74 : 157
- emetic nut (*karahāṭa*) *Randia dumetorum*, Lamk. See GVDB: 291–292 and NK: 1, #2091. T. B. Singh and Chuneekar (GVDB: 74, 77–78) noted that it may be a synonym for *karaghāṭa*, emetic nut, and pointed rather to *Gardenia turgida* Roxb. on the basis of local knowledge in U. P. : 156, 158
- emetic nut (*madana*) *Randia dumetorum*, Lamk. See NK: 1, #2091 : 82, 149
- false daisy (*subhaṅgurā*) (*su*)bhaṅgura = bhr̥ṅga? *Eclipta prostrata* (L.) L. See GVDB: 288 : 90
- fermented rice-water (*dhānyāmla*) → *kāñjī*, *kāñjikā*, *sauvīra*. GVDB: 458, NK: 2, appendix VI, #18 : 39, 40
- fern (*ajaruhā*) *Nephrodium* species GVDB: 7, uncertain. Perhbaps *Christella dentata* (Forssk.) Brownsey & Jermy, which is reported to have folk applications against skin diseases in India : 86
- fire-flame bush (*dhātakī*) *Woodfordia fruticosa* (L.) Kurz. See AVS: 5, 412, NK: 1, #2626 : 83
- flax (*atasī*) *Linum usitatissimum*, L. See NK#1495 : 71
- fragrant lotus (*saugandhika*) A type of *kumuda* or *utpala* (GVDB: 457) : 23
- garjan oil tree (*aśvakarṇa*) *Dipterocarpus turbinatus* Gaertn. f. See GVDB: 28, Chopra: 100 : 106
- giant potato (*kṣīravidārī*) possibly → *kṣīraśukla*. *Ipomoea mauritiana*, Jacq. See ADPS: 510, AVS: 3, 222, AVS: 3, 1717 ff : 71, 158–160
- ginger (*mahaśadha*) *Zingiber officinale*, Roscoe. See ADPS: 50, NK: 1, #2658, IGP: 1232 : 87
- gold (*hema*) gold : 102
- gold and sarsaparilla (*surendragopa*) Unknown. Ḍalhaṇa on 5.3.15 (Su 1938: 568) glossed *surendra* as “gold” and *gopā* as “Indian sarsaparilla.” He also noted other opinions that *surendra* was “Tellicherry bark” : 106
- golden shower tree (*rājadruma*) *rājadruma* = āragvadha. *Cassia fistula* L. See GVDB 37 : 106
- gourd (*alābu*) *Lagenaria siceraria* Standl. GVDB: 25. Some say *Lagenaria vulgaris*, Seringe (NK: 1, #1419) but this is not appropriate for blood-letting : 19, 20, 82
- green gram (*māṣa*) *Vigna radiata* (L.) R. Wilcz. See ADPS: 296, IGP 1204 : 32, 71, 148
- hare foot uraria (*prśniparṇī*) → *sahā*? *Uraria lagopoides*, DC. See GJM1: 577, Dymock: 1, 426, AVS: 1, 750 ff, NK: 1, #2542; ADPS: 382, AVS: 2, 319 and AVS: 4, 366 are confusing : 70, 71
- heart-leaf sida (*balā*) *Sida cordifolia*, Linn. See ADPS: 71, NK: 1, #2297 : 41, 71, 102, 147
- heart-leaved moonseed (*amṛtavalli*) See heart-leaved moonseed (*amṛtā*) : 147
- heart-leaved moonseed (*amṛtā*) → *guḍūcī*. *Tinospora cordifolia*, (Willd.) Hook.f. & Thoms.? See ADPS: 38, NK: 1, #2472, 624, Dastur #229 : 84, 100, 157
- heart-leaved moonseed (*somavallī*) *Tinospora cordifolia* (Thunb.) Miers. GVDB: 456. Likely, but uncertain : 84
- henna (*madayantikā*) *Lawsonia inermis*, L.

- See [AVS](#): 3, 303, [NK](#): 1, #1448, [Potter_{rev}](#): 151: 85
- Himalayan mayapple (*vakra*)
Podophyllum emodi, Wall.
([NK](#): #1971). But perhaps a synonym of [crape jasmine](#) and [crape jasmine](#) ([GVDB](#): 354) : 107
- Himalayan monkshood (*ativiṣā*) → *viṣā*
Aconitum heterophyllum Wall.
[GVDB](#): 12, [NK](#): 1, #39. Also “atis roots” : 63, 85, 87, 107
- Himalayan monkshood (*viṣā*) → *ativiṣā*
[GVDB](#): 12, 373 : 160
- hogweed (*punarnavā*) Boerhaavia diffusa, L. See [ADPS](#): 387, [AVS](#): 1, 281, [NK](#): 1, #363 : 85, 101
- Holostemma creeper (*jīvantī*) → *sūryavallī*? Holostemma ada-kodien, Schultes. See [ADPS](#): 195, [AVS](#): 3, 167, 169, [NK](#): 1, #1242 : 159
- honey (*kṣaudra*) Eight varieties of honey are described in the SS ([NK](#): 2, Appendix 192). *Kṣaudra* is the product of a small bee of tawny colour, called *kṣudra* : 87
- horned pondweed (*śaivāla*) also *śaivāla*, *śevāra*. Zannichellia palustris L. The uncertainties of this identification are discussed by T. B. Singh and Chuneekar ([GVDB](#): 409). Sometimes identified with [scutch grass](#) (*dūrvā*) ([GVDB](#): 409). Identified as Ceratophyllum demersum Linn. (“hornwort”) by [AVS](#): 2, 56–57x : 158, 160
- hornwort (*jalaśūka*) → *jalanīlikā*.
Ceratophyllum demersum, L. See [AVS](#): 2, 56, [IGP](#): 232. T. B. Singh and Chuneekar ([GVDB](#): 166) suggest [horned pondweed](#). *Ḍalhaṇa* noted on 1.16.19 ([Su 1938](#): 79) that some people interpret it as a poisonous, hairy, air-breathing, underwater creature : 41
- horseradish tree (*śigru*) Moringa oleifera Lam. See [IGP](#) 759, [GJM1](#): 603, [Dymock](#): 1, 396 : 72
- Indian barberry (*añjana*) → *rasāñjana*, *dāruharidrā*. Berberis aristata, DC.
[Dymock](#): 1, 65, [NK](#): 1, #335, [GJM1](#): 562, [IGP](#): 141 : 42, 85, 156
- Indian barberry (*dāruharidrā*) Berberis aristata, DC. See [Dymock](#): 1, 65, [NK](#): 1, #685, [GJM1](#): 562, [IGP](#) 141 : 101, 102
- Indian barberry (*kālīyaka*) → *dāruharidrā*, *añjana*. Berberis aristata, DC. See [Dymock](#): 1, 65, [NK](#): 1, #685, [GJM1](#): 562, [IGP](#): 141 : 84
- Indian beech (*naktamāla*) Pongamia pinnata, (L.) Pierre. See [AVS](#): 4, 339, [NK](#): 1, #2003 : 32, 68
- Indian ipecac (*payasyā*) Uncertain. Possibly Tylophora indica (Burm.f.) Merr. Perhaps a synonym of [panacea twiner](#), [giant potato](#), [purple roscoe](#), and [plants like asthma plant and Gulf sandmat](#) ([GVDB](#): 237–238). Also “curds” when not a plant : 41, 159
- Indian kudzu (*vidārī*) → *payasyā*. Pueraria tuberosa (Willd.) DC. See [ADPS](#): 510, [AVS](#): 1, 792 f, [AVS](#): 4, 391; not [Dymock](#): 1, 424 f. See [GJM2](#): 444, 451, [AVS](#): 1, 187, but [AVS](#): 3, 1719 = *Ipomoea mauritiana*, Jacq : 41
- Indian madder (*mañjiṣṭhā*) Rubia cordifolia, L. See [IGP](#), [Chopra](#): 215, [GVDB](#): 289 : 37, 102
- Indian mottled eel (*varmimatsya*) Almost certainly the mottled eel. [MW](#): 962c noted that the *varmi* fish “is commonly called *vāmi*.” The “vam fish,” or “বান মাছ (*bān māch*)” in Bengal, is a marine and freshwater eel, *Anguilla bengalensis*. It is the most common eel in Indian inland waters and a prized food fish ([Froese and Pauly 2022](#)). However, some NIA languages identify the “vam” fish with the Indian Pike Conger, *Congresox talabonides* (Bleeker) (Talwar and Kacker 1984: 235, 236) : 21
- Indian mustard (*sarṣapa*) Brassica juncea, Czern. & Coss. See [AVS](#): 1, 301, [NK](#): 1,

- #378: 24
 Indian sarsaparilla (*sārivā*) → *anantā*.
Hemidesmus indicus, (L.) R. Br.
 ADPS: 434, AVS: 3, 141–5, NK: 1, #1210;
 and black creeper, *pālindī*. *Ichnocarpus*
frutescens, (L.) R.Br. or *Cryptolepis*
buchanani, Roemer & Schultes
 AVS: 3, 141, 3.145, 3.203, NK: 1, #1283,
 1210, ADPS: 434: 101, 102, 157
 Indian snakeroot (*sarpagandhā*) *Rauvolfia*
serpentina, (L.) Benth. ex Kurz. See
 NK: 1, #2099, ADPS: 439, GVDB: 425;
 cf. SS 5.5.76–78: 160
 Indrajao (*vr̥kṣaka*) → *indrayava*, *indrabīja*,
kaliṅga, and *kuṭaja*. *Holarrhena*
antidysenterica Wall. GVDB: 376, 45
 and 84: 147
 jambul (*jambū*) *Syzygium cumini*, (L.)
 Skeels. See ADPS: 188, NK: 1, #967,
 Potter_{rev}: 168, Wujastyk 2003a: 83
 jasmine (*mālatī*) *Jasminium grandiflorum*,
 L. See NK: 1, #1364: 84
 jequirity (*guñjā*) *Abrus precatorius*, L. See
 AVS: 1, 10, NK: 1, #6, Potter_{rev}: 168:
 90, 91
 (?) (*karāṭā*) Not in GVDB. Cf. perhaps
karahāṭa (emetic nut): 91
 lac (*lākṣā*) *Kerria lacca* (Kerr.). See
 GJM1: 445, NK: 2, #32. Watt
 (Watt_{Comm}: 1053–1066) is
 characteristically informative, and is
 definite about the antiquity of lac in
 India: 107
 leadwort (*citraka*) *Plumbago zeylanica* (or
indica?), L. See RĀ. 6.124, ADPS: 119,
 NK: 1, #1966, 1967: 32, 63, 68
 liquorice (?) (*klītaka*) *Glycyrrhiza glabra*,
 L.? GVDB: 123–124 discuss the many
 difficulties in identifying this plant: 90
 liquorice (*madhuka*) see *yaṣṭīmadhuka*: 41,
 70, 71, 87, 100, 102
 liquorice (*yaṣṭīmadhuka*) *Glycyrrhiza*
glabra, L. AVS: 3, 84, NK: 1, #1136,
 GVDB: 329 f.: 42
 lodh tree (*lodhra*) *Symplocos racemosa*,
 Roxb. See GJM1: 597, ADPS: 279 f,
 NK: 1, #2420. T. B. Singh and
 Chuneekar (GVDB: 351–352) notes that
 there are two varieties, *S. racemosa*,
 qualified as *śāvāra*, and *S. crataegoides*
 Buch.-Ham. for *paṭṭikā lodhra*: 32, 102
 long pepper (*māgadha*) *Piper longum*, L.
 See NK: 1, #1928; but cf. AVS: 3, 245: 86
 long pepper (*pippalī*) *Piper longum*, L. See
 ADPS: 374, NK: 1, #1928: 68, 87,
 102, 147
 luffa (*koṣṭakī*) = *koṣṭakī*. *Luffa cylindrica*,
 (L.) M. J. Roem. or *L. acutangula*, (L.)
 Roxb. ADPS: 252–253, NK: 1, #1514 etc.
 GVDB: 121: 82, 100, 159
 luffa gourd (*koṣavatī*) = *koṣṭakī*, luffa: 100
 maidenhair fern (*haṃsāhvayā*) *Adiantum*
lunulatum Burm f. GVDB: 463: 147
 mango (*āmra*) *Mangifera indica* Linn.
 GVDB: 37: 83
 marking-nut tree (*aruṣkara*) *Semecarpus*
anacardium L. See *bhallātaka*
 (marking-nut tree): 91
 marking-nut tree (*bhallātaka*) *Semecarpus*
anacardium, L. See NK: 1, #2269,
 AVS: 5, 98: 68, 86, 159
 medhshingi (*vijayā*2) *Dolichandrone*
falcata (DC.) The *Sauśrutaniḥṣaṇṭu*
 gives a number of synonyms for *vijayā*
 (Suvedī and Tivārī 2000: 5.77, 10.143).
 But one of them, *viṣāṇī* (also
meṣaśṛṅgī), is sometimes equated with
Dolichandrone falcata (DC.) Seemann
 (ADPS: 518; GVDB: 373 f, a plant used
 as an abortifacient and fish poison
 (NK: #862): 91
 migraine tree (*agnimantha*) *Premna*
corymbosa, Rottl. See AVS 1927,
 ADPS: 21, NK: 1, #2025, AVS: 4, 348;
 GJM1: 523: = *P. integrifolia*/*serratifolia*,
 L: 100
 milk-white (*kṣīraśuklā*) An unidentified
 plant. GVDB: 126: see purple *roscoea*
 and giant potato: 41, 160
 mongoose (*nakula*) *nakula*. Urva

- edwardsii or the often sympatric U. auropunctatus (small Indian mongoose, usually an eater of smaller creatures than snakes) (*BIA*: ch. 5), On mongooses and snakes, see *BIA*: 98–99; *IW*: 112 : 87
- monitor lizard (*godhā*) *Varanus bengalensis*, Schneider. See *Reptiles*: 58 : 41, 87
- mung beans (*mudga*) *Phaseolus radiatus* L. *GVDB*: 310–311 : 71, 128
- mung beans (*māṣaka*) *Phaseolus mungo* Linn. *GVDB*: 308 : 83
- myrobalan (*abhayā*) *Terminalia chebula*, Retz. See *ADPS*: 172, *NK*: 1, #2451, *Potter_{rev}*: 214 : 63, 100, 107
- natron (*suvarcikā*) Sodium carbonate. *NK*: 2, #45. Ḍalhaṇa identifies *suvarcikā* with svarjikṣāra 4.8.50 (*Su 1938*: 441) : 102
- neem tree (*nimba*) *Azadirachta indica* A. Juss. *GVDB*: 226 : 37, 147
- nutgrass (*kuruvinda*) Unknown. Ḍalhaṇa on 5.3.15 (*Su 1938*: 568) glossed the term as *nutgrass*, but noted other opinions that it was a whetstone or a very special metallic gem. T. B. Singh and Chunekar (*GVDB*: 108) added that it could be a variety of rice, *ṣaṣṭika dhānya* : 106
- nutgrass (*mustā*) *Cyperus rotundus*, L. See *ADPS*: 316, *AVS*: 2, 296, *NK*: 1, #782 : 159
- panacea twiner (*arkapuṣpī*) → *arkaparnī*, *Tylophora indica* (Burm. f.) Merr. *GVDB*: 23–24. Maybe identical to *Indian ipecac*, *giant potato* and similar sweet, milky plants. See *GVDB*: 24, 127, 238, 441, 443 for discussion. For discussion in the context of *Holostemma creeper*, see *ADPS*: 195 and *AVS*: 3, 171. The etymology of the name suggests *Helianthus annuus* Linn., but this plant is native to the Americas : 100, 158
- peas (*hareṇu*) *hareṇu* = *satīna*. *Pisum sativum*, L. T. B. Singh and Chunekar (*GVDB*: 419–420, 467–468) notes that two plants are usually meant under this name, but there is no agreement on the identity of the second : 72, 101, 102, 107
- peepul tree (*aśvattha*) *Ficus religiosa*, L. See *ADPS*: 63 : 109
- periploca of the woods (*meṣaśṛīga*) *Gymnema sylvestre* (Retz.) R. Br. See *AVS*: 3, 107, *NK*: 1, #1173 : 86
- plants like asthma plant and Gulf sandmat (*kṣīrīṇī*) various milky plants, perhaps including *Euphorbia hirta* Linn. (asthma plant) and *E. microphylla* Heyne (Gulf sandmat) (*GVDB*: 127) : 158
- plumed cockscomb (*indīvara*) Uncertain; possibly *Celosia argentea* Linn. But see the useful discussion in *GVDB*: 44–45. Possibly another name for *thorn apple* (*karambha*), q.v. : 161
- pointed gourd (*paṭola*) *Trichosanthes dioica*, Roxb. *GVDB*: 232–233 : 100
- poison berry (*bṛhatī*) *Solanum violaceum*, Ortega. See *ADPS*: 100, *NK*: 1, #2329, *AVS*: 5, 151 : 68, 101, 102
- poison-altar (?) (*viṣavedikā*) Unknown. Possibly, at a guess, *viṣamuṣṭika* (*strychnine tree*)? *GVDB*: 373 Or *viṣā* (*Himalayan monkshood*) : 91
- pondweed (*paripelavā*) Normally a neuter noun. T. B. Singh and Chunekar (*GVDB*: 238, 264–265, 409) argued that *plava* and *śaivāla* are the same thing, and may be either *Zannichellia palustris*, L., or *Potamogeton pectinatus*, L. : 102
- pondweed (*śevāla*) *Zannichellia palustris* L. See *horned pondweed* : 23
- prickly chaff-flower (*apāmārga*) *Achyranthes aspera*, L. See *GJM1*: 524 f, *AVS*: 1, 39, *ADPS*: 44 f, *AVS*: 3, 2066 f, *Dymock*: 3, 135 : 37, 41, 71
- purging nut (*mūṣikā*) *Jatropha curcas*, L. See *AVS*: 3, 261, *NK*: 1, #1374 : 86

- purple calotropis (*arka*) *Calotropis gigantea*, (L.) R. Br. See [ADPS](#): 52, [AVS](#): 1, 341, [NK](#): 1, #427, [Potter_{rev}](#): 57, [Chopra IDG](#): 305–308: 32, 41, 68
- purple roscoea (*kṣīrakākoli*) [GVDB](#): 89
notes that many physicians use *Roscoea procera* Wall. in this context. But the identification is uncertain. Possibly connected to [milk-white](#) or [giant potato](#): 71, 158, 159
- rajmahal hemp (*morāṭa*) → *mūrvī*, *Marsdenia tenacissima* (Roxb.) Wight et Arn. Good discussion at [GVDB](#): 314–316, 324: 100
- red chalk (*gairika*) *gairika*: 102
- red gourd (*bimbī*) *Coccinia indica*, W. & A. See [PVS](#) 1994.4.715; [NK](#): 1, #534: 82
- rice grains (*taṇḍula*) *Oriza sativa*, Linn. Same as [unhusked rice](#) (*śālī*) [GVDB](#): 174; or just “grains”: 24
- rice-grain chaff (*śālītaṇḍulakāṇḍana*) See [chaff](#): 24
- rock salt (*saindhava*) See [NK](#): 2, M#48, [Watt_{Comm}](#): 963–971: 24
- rosha grass (*dhyāmaka*) *Cymbopogon martinii* (Roxb.) Wats. See [AVS](#): 2, 285, [NK](#): 1, #177: 102
- sacred grass (*kuśa*) *Desmostachya bipinnata*, Stapf. See [AVS](#): 2, 326, Kew: 71
- sacred lotus (*padma*) *Nelumbo nucifera*, Gaertn. See [NK](#): 1, #1698: 23, 84
- sage-leaved alangium (*aṅkolla*) *Alangium salvifolium* (Linn. f.) Wang. [GVDB](#): 5–6: 83
- sandalwood (*candana*) *Santalum album*, L. See [ADPS](#): 111, [NK](#): 1, #2217: 102
- sappanwood (*pattāṅga*) Also *pattāṅga*. *Caesalpinia sappan*, L. [AVS](#): 1, 323, [K&B](#): 2, 847 f, [GVDB](#): 234: 42
- scarlet mallow (*bandhujīva*) *Pentapetes phoenicea*, L. [NK](#): #1836, [GVDB](#): 268: 85
- scented pavonia (*bālaka*) *Pavonia odorata*, Willd. See [ADPS](#): 498, [NK](#): 1, #1822: 102
- scutch grass (*dūrvā*) *Cynodon dactylon* (Linn.) Pers. ([GVDB](#): 205): 157
- selu plum (*śelu*) *Cordia myxa*, L. non Forssk. See [GJM1](#): 529 (2), [IGP](#): 291b, cf. [AVS](#): 3, 1677 f; cf. [AVS](#): 2, 180 (C. *dichotoma*, Forst.f.), [NK](#): 1, #672 (C. *latifolia*, Roxb.): 100
- sesame oil (*taila*) *Sesamum indicum* L. [GVDB](#): 183: 41
- siris (*śirīṣa*) *Albizia lebbek*, Benth. See [AVS](#): 1, 81, [NK](#): 1, #91: 100
- siris seeds (*śirīṣamāṣaka*) *Albizia lebbek*, Benth. See [AVS](#): 1, 81, [NK](#): 1, #91: 83
- small-flowered crape myrtle (*sidhraka*) *Lagerstroemia parviflora* Roxb. See [GVDB](#): 432: 106
- snakeroot (*sugandhā*) → *sarpagandhā* *Rauvolfia serpentina* Benth. ex. Kurz. See [Indian snakeroot](#). But may be *Aristolochia indica* Linn. Has been identified with ??, or ??. See ([GVDB](#): 219, 436): 90
- spikenard (*māṃsī*) *Nardostachys grandiflora*, DC. See [NK](#): 1, #1691: 102
- spikenard (*nalada*) → *māṃsī*. *Nardostachys grandiflora*, DC. See [NK](#): 1, #1691: 81
- strychnine tree (*viṣamuṣṭika*) *Strychnos nux vomica* Linn. [GVDB](#): 373: 160
- sugar (*ṣitā*) Ḍalhaṇa makes this equation at 1.37.25 ([Su](#) 1938: 162): 102
- sugar (*śarkara*) *Saccharum officinarum*, Linn. [NK](#): #2182: 87
- sugar cane (*ikṣu*) *Saccharum officinarum*, Linn. [NK](#): #2182: 87
- sunflower (*sūryavallī*) → *ādityavallī*, *sūryamukhī*, *Helianthus annuus* Linn. [GVDB](#): 35, 443: 100
- sweet plants (*madhuravarga*) The sweet plants are enumerated at *Suśrutasaṃhitā* 1.42.11. See also [GVDB](#): 127: 41
- sweet-scented oleander (*aśvamāraka*) *Nerium oleander*, L. See [ADPS](#): 223, [NK](#): 1, #1709: 90

- Tellicherry bark (*kuṭaja*) *Holarrhena pubescens* Wall. ex G.Don, with *Wrightia tinctoria* and *W. arborea* considered [GVDB](#): 101–102, [ADPS](#): 267–270 : 68, 157
- thorn apple (*karambha*) *Datura metel*, L. See [GVDB](#): 76 for useful discussion. Also, [AVS](#): 2, 305 (cf. *Abhidhānamañjarī*), [NK](#): 1, #796 ff. [Potter_{rev}](#): 292 f, [ADPS](#): 132. Possibly the same plant as [plumed cockscomb](#) (*indīvara*) ([GVDB](#): 76, 44–45) : 91, 160
- three heating spices (*tryūṣaṇa*) *śuṇṭhī* (Dried ginger) *Zingiber officinale*, Roscoe. [ADPS](#): 50, [NK](#): 1, #2658, [AVS](#): 5, 435, [IGP](#) 1232, *pippalī* (long pepper) *Piper longum*, L. [ADPS](#): 374, [NK](#): 1, #1928, and *marica* (black pepper) *Piper nigrum*, L. [ADPS](#): 294, [NK](#): 1, #1929 : 101
- three-leaved caper (*varuṇa*) *Crataeva magna* (Lour.) DC. See [AVS](#): 2, 202; cf. [NK](#): 1, #696 : 86
- top layer of fermented liquor (*surāmaṇḍa*) [K&B](#): 2, 502, [NK](#): 2, appendix VI, #49, [McHugh](#) 2021: 39 : 39, 40
- tree cotton (*kārpāsa*) *G. arboreum* L. [ADPS](#): 231. Pace the identifications of T. B. Singh and Chuneekar ([GVDB](#): 92, 247), since *G. barbadense* L. is native to South America and *G. herbaceum* L. which is native to Africa : 38, 161
- tree cotton (*picu*) See [tree cotton](#) (*kārpāsa*) : 40, 42
- turmeric (*haridrā*) *Curcuma longa* Linn. [GVDB](#): 465 : 101, 107
- turmeric (*rajanī*) *Curcuma longa*, L. [ADPS](#): 169, [AVS](#): 2, 259, [NK](#): 1, #750 : 24, 102
- turpeth (*trivṛt*) → *trvṛtā*. *Operculina turpethum* (Linn.) Silva Manso = *Ipomoea turpethum* R. Br. [GVDB](#): 197. : 66, 87, 149, 155
- unhusked rice (*śālī*) *Oriza sativa*, Linn. [GVDB](#): 395–396 : 24, 160
- velvet-leaf (*pāṭhā*) *Cissampelos pariera*, L. See [ADPS](#): 366, [NK](#): 1, #592, [GJM1](#): 573, [AVS](#): 1, 95; cf. [AVS](#): 2, 277 : 32, 63, 100
- velvet-mite (*indragopa*) *Kerria lacca* (Kerr.). Lienhard 1978 : 82
- verbena (*phañjī*) *Clerodendrum serratum*, L. See [AVS](#): 2, 121, [ADPS](#): 87 : 85
- watered buttermilk (*udaśvit*) [MW](#): 183 : 82
- weaver's beam tree (*muṣkaka*) *Schrebera swietenoides*, Roxb. See [AVS](#): 5, 88, Lord, [NK](#): 1, #2246 : 68, 106
- white babool (*arimeda*) *Acacia leucophloea*, (Roxb.) Willd. See [AVS](#): 1, 23 : 32
- white calotropis (*alarka*) *Calotropis procera*, (Ait.) R. Br. See [NK](#): 1, #428, [Chopra](#): 46b, [Chopra IDG](#): 305–308 : 41
- white clitoria (*śvetā*) → *giryāhvā*. *Clitoria ternatea*, L. See [AVS](#): 2, 129, [NK](#): 1, #621 : 84
- white cutch tree (*somavalka*) *Acacia polyacantha*, Willd. See [AVS](#): 1, 30, [IGP](#) 7, [GJM1](#): 602, [AVS](#): 2, 935; *pace* [NK](#): 1, #1038 : 85, 106
- white dammer tree (*sarja*) *Vateria indica*, L. See [NK](#): 1, #2571, [AVS](#): 5, 349 f, [AVS](#): 1, 292 f, [Chopra](#): 253a : 32
- white siris (*kiṇihī*) *Albizia procera*, (Roxb.) Benth. See [GVDB](#) 98, [NK](#): 1, #93 : 101
- white water-lily (*kumuda*) *Nymphaea alba*, Linn. [GVDB](#): 105 : 23
- wild asparagus (*bahuputrā*) → *nandana*? *Asparagus racemosus*, Willd. See further [wild asparagus](#) (*śatāvarī*) : 85
- wild asparagus (*śatāvarī*) *Asparagus racemosus*, Willd. See [ADPS](#): 441, [AVS](#): 1, 218, [NK](#): 1, #264, [IGP](#): 103, [AVS](#): 4, 249 ff, [Dymock](#): 3, 482 ff : 70, 71, 128, 161
- wild celery (*agnika*) → may be *bhalātaka*, *lāṅgalī*, *ajamodā*, *moraṭa*, or *agnimantha*, [GVDB](#): 4. Uncertain : 100
- wild celery (*ajamodā*) *Apium graveolens*, L. : 100

- Withania (*aśvagandhā*) Withania
 somnifera (L.) Dunal. See [AVS](#): 5,
 409 f, [Dymock](#): 2, 566 f., Chevallier
 150 : [41](#), [67](#)
- wolfsbane (*vatsanābha*) Aconitum
 napellus, L. See [AVS](#): 1, 47, [NK](#): 1, #42,
[Potter_{rev}](#): 4 f. Or Aconitum
 chasmanthum Stapf ex Holmes,
[GVDB](#): 357 : [155](#)
- wood apple (*kapittha*) Limonia acidissima,
 L. See [AVS](#): 3, 327, [NK](#): 1, #1021 : [84](#), [86](#)
- woodrose (*mūṣikakarṇī*) Jatopha curcas, L.
[AVS](#): 3, 261, [NK](#): 1, #1374. [GVDB](#): 317;
[ADPS](#): 23–25 discuss this issue well : [84](#)
- yellow-berried nightshade (*kṣudrā*)
 Solanum virginianum, L. See
[ADPS](#): 100, [NK](#): 1, #2329, [AVS](#): 5, 164 :
[101](#), [102](#)

Glossary

ādarśamaṇḍala (the mirror ring): 125
agnika (the flame): 126
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aṅgulirāji (the finger stripe): 126
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babhru (the brown): 126
babhrūkuṭīmukha (the brown hut mouth): 125
bindurāji (the drop stripe): 126

cakraka (the ringed): 126
citraka (the mark): 126
cow snout (*gonasa*): 127
cuñcumālaka (little ring of spots): 123

dadhimukha (the curd mouth): 125
darbhapuṣpa (the grass flower): 126
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dvyāṅgulirāji (the two finger stripe): 126

eṇīpada (the deer foot): 126

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girisarpa (the mountain snake): 125
gonasa (cow snout): 127

hastābharaṇaka (the hand decoration): 126

ilikinī (the ilikinī): 126

jyotīratha (the chariot of light): 126

kalpa (procedure): 121
kardama (the mud): 126
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khaluṣa (the khaluṣa): 126
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lohitākṣa (the red eye): 125f

madanaka (the intoxicator): 125
mahākapota (the big pigeon): 125
mahākṛṣṇa (the big black): 125
mahāpadma (the great lotus): 125
mahāpanasaka (the big jackfruit): 125
mahāsarpa (the great snake): 125
mahāśīrṣa (the big head): 125
mākuli (*mākuli*): 126
mākuli (*mākuli*): 126
mākuli (*mākuli*): 127
mākuli (*mākuli*): 127

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oil stripe (*snigdharāji*): 127
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sarpita (ophidian): 122
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the grass flower (*darbhapuṣpa*): 126
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 the great snake (*mahāsarpa*): 125
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 126
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 the ochre (*kaṣāya*): 126
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 the pigeon (*pārāvata*): 126
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 the red ring (*raktamaṇḍala*): 125
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 the variegated (*vicitra*): 125
 the white jaw (*svetahanu*): 126
 the white leaf (*śukapatra*): 126
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 the white ring (*śvetamaṇḍala*): 125

the white rip (*śvetadara*): 125
the worm eater (*kikkisāda*): 126
the year-snake (*varṣāhika*): 126
thei snake flag (*ahipatāka*): 126
torn (*darita*): 122f
tṛṇaśoṣaka (the grass drier): 126

valāhako (the rain cloud): 125f

varṣāhika (the year-snake): 126
vega (successive shocks): 121
veṇupatraka (the bamboo leaf): 125
vicitra (the variegated): 125
vṛddhagonasa (the big cow snout): 125
vṛkṣaka (the little tree): 126

without venom (*nirviṣa*): 122

Todo list

■ Can't be "sedation"	35
■ This is a change we should make in the edition.	65
■ You need not give all the grammatical details about śrotādi. Assume you are talking to knowledgeable Sanskrit scholars.	66
■ Perhaps <i>kalka</i> here could also mean the <i>Terminalia Bellerica</i> (विभीतक).	68
■ Euphorbia Antiquorum (Antique spurge)	70
■ The webpage https://hindi.shabd.in/vairagya-shatakam-bhagacharya-arjun-tiwari/post/117629 says that this verse belongs to the <i>Nītiratna</i> . I could not find this text.	73
■ The provisional edition should be modified accordingly.	75
■ There, Ḍalhaṇa comments that deliberation on <i>avapīḍa</i> had been done earlier when it was mentioned. Find that description to know more details.	77
■ ?	80
■ ?	80
■ ?	80
■ (?)	80
■ Cf. Arthaśāstra 1.21.8.	88
■ I'm still unhappy about this verse.	91
■ Mention this in the introduction as an example of the scribe knowing the vulgate.	91
■ fn about sadyas+	91
■ Bear's bile instead of deer's bile.	92
■ punarṇṇavā in the N & K MSS	93
■ śrita for śṛta	93
■ explain more	93
■ Medical difference from Sharma.	94

■ example where the vulgate clarifies that these should be used separately; appears to be a gloss inserted into the vulgate text. . . .	94
■ The two uses of prāpta are hard to translate. prāptāḥ → kṣipraṃ is an example of the vulgate banalizing the Sanskrit text to make sense of a difficult passage.	94
■ √ vyadh not √ vedh (also elsewhere and for the ears), causative optative.	94
■ -> ativiṣa	104
■ Look up the ca. reference.	104
■ Come back to the issue of "kalpa". Look up passages in the Kośa.	111
■ write footnote: don't repeat ativiṣā; vulgate similar to H.	115
■ material corresponds to SS.1.45.205ab, where it describes how alcohol affects the body.	117
■ Or "There are 20 phaṇins and 6 maṇḍalins. The same number are known. There are 13 Rājīmats." Or even, "there are 20 Phaṇins and six of them are Maṇḍalins." Are phaṇins really the same as darvīkaras?	121
■ grammar	123
■ ri- ṛ-?	125
■ varṇa means "colour" elsewhere?	126
■ where is cutting with a knife related to removing bile or phlegm.	132
■ maṣī burned charcoal. Find refs.	132
■ find ref.	137
■ Check out these refs.	138
■ meaning of kalpa	138
■ or a dual?	143
■ Footnote here about who is speaking to whom.	143
■ a kind of asthma?	149
■ Not happy with the last part.	149
■ connecting with the previous pāda?	149
■ (atyartha? excessive?)	150
■ for...dvādaśādhikāḥ)? not clear to me, is it dvādaśādhikāḥ?	150
■ (any better medical terms for them?)	150
■ (since the word lagha is not clear to me)	151
■ (Not too happy with it.)	151
■ (not sure about it)	151
■ (Not in vulgate)	151
■ (I am looking for a better translation)	151

■ (I'd need to rework on it).	152
■ (I'd need to rework on it and think about the sequencing of the number).	152
■ (āmadoṣa? Not too sure)	152
■ (2nd hemistich is incomplete)	152
■ (not too sure about the meaning of vyapada)	152
■ not so sure about sodāvarte	152
■ not so sure about it, MW mentions others like Cordia Myxa and Alangium hexapetalum	153
■ not sure about it	153
■ (sāmāhāya- any better word?)	153
■ Not so happy with this translation	154
■ (Not happy with it)	155
■ (the second hemistich is incomplete)	155
■ can śṛta mean here boiled milk? Not happy with the last part . . .	155
■ the rest of the text is unclear to me	155
■ (not so sure about it). [ghṛtābhyaṅgonavasthāsu should it be like ghṛtābhyaṅgo 'navasthāsu?, svedā lepaḥ ghṛtābhyaṅgonavas- thāsu ca yojayet] (Not so happy with the translation)	156
■ See also Ḍalhaṇa at 1.1.1 (Su 1938: 1)	160
■ See chapter 40 of Sūtrasthāna.	161
■ vasā / medas / majjan	161
■ Does bhūtādi a compound or it means ahaṅkāra or ego?	162

