

## Handy Hindi Hints - 2. Selected Hindi Prefixes and Other Word Formation Elements

First Draft. May 2013

### Introduction

Hindi word formation is a wide and complex lexical and morphological field. The following **two** studies will cover some aspects of word formation of special interest and potential benefit for learners of Hindi as a Second Language. They are offered in Draft form, in the hope that those more knowledgeable will send me their corrections and suggestions in order to make this amateur compilation more accurate and useful for myself and for fellow intermediate students of Hindi.

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After four years of study, I remain deeply engaged in a time- and energy-sapping struggle with this fascinating but quite *difficult* foreign language. Some of my previous language-learning strategies have proved very useful in keeping me on a *slowly* productive learning curve but the extreme foreignness of Hindi script, vocabulary, morphology and grammar has presented a formidable linguistic Himalayan range to scale and here I am, still exploring the foothills. All these Handy Hindi Hints articles are therefore basically for my own benefit, but the considerable work involved makes the results potentially worth sharing with others on the same long trek.

One of the special difficulties for speakers of English (and many other languages) is that Hindi vocabulary does not offer any of the usual convenient and comforting 'toeholds' or mnemonics which are available to us in our attempts to speed up comprehension of the foreign languages we are most likely to learn: the European Romance Languages. A large quantity of

words passed down from Latin are still easily and instantly comprehensible to us in these languages.

This applies most particularly to those words and word families containing familiar prefixes and suffixes, like con-, dis-, mis-, pre-, pro-, un- etc. and  
-ate, -ary, -ful, -ive, -ous, -sion, -tion, etc.

As a simple example of the practical value of this shared knowledge, take the word **constitution** with its prefix, *con-* and suffix, *-tion*. In many countries of Europe, and beyond, the corresponding term is instantly identified (especially in its written form):

*constitution (French), constitución, costituzione, constituição, constitució and constituție*, etc. Equal similarities apply to most other words containing the affixes *con-* and *-tion* and, indeed, to many other cognate Latin (and other) prefixes and suffixes.

This is a valuable learning advantage that the second language learner probably takes for granted while wrestling with the many very real problems of the foreign language.

In learning Hindi, however, NONE of these basic similarities exist and as a consequence, most native Hindi words have to be individually committed to memory. This is such a huge task that the only way to make satisfactory progress is to find shortcuts.

One obvious strategy is to systematise one's lexical acquisitions by studying the morphology of Hindi word formation in order to build up an appreciation of Hindi **word families** by memorising common **prefixes, suffixes and any other frequently used word-compounding elements** like those I shall be introducing in this academically unorthodox but (I hope) learner-friendly study.

So, this article and the following one will deal with detailed analyses of these two types of word formation in Hindi.

1. Words which consist of the addition of a particle (prefix) or an existing word to an existing word or 'word base' to form semantically related words.

2. Other selected word formations which consist of a suffix, or compounding word or element appended to an existing word. These words and compounds will be the subject of **Handy Hindi Hints 3**.

### 3. (July 2014)

My later annotated list of 100 Hindi **Postpositions**, which Google is ignoring, is also available on this website and may interest readers of the present study (which has had over 2,000 "hits" in just over one year).

[http://www.briansteel.net/writings/india/bs-teelhindi5\\_postpositions.pdf](http://www.briansteel.net/writings/india/bs-teelhindi5_postpositions.pdf)

### Notes

#### 1.

Because words with prefixes (and other preliminary elements) appear in dictionaries in alphabetical order, they can easily be looked up and studied. The ones offered below have been selected from my own extensive romanised Hindi-English glossary and romanised reference works like the ones acknowledged below.

In contrast, the detailed contents of my forthcoming second glossary dealing in a similar fashion with selected **suffixes and other end-compound elements** has had to be compiled more laboriously from study, reading and listening. The resulting word harvest may, therefore, be even more useful as a lexical shortcut for fellow learners of Hindi.

#### 2.

Where it may not be obvious, the meaning of the Hindi word base to which a prefix or COMPOUND has been added is listed in brackets following the compound.

Associating the pairs, as well as noting the effect of the prefix or compounding element, allows us to accelerate vocabulary comprehension.

(Approximately 800 of these are offered, here, together with their English translation and an indication of the meaning of the 'base word'.)

#### 3.

Some Hindi prefixes are credited by lexicographers with a very wide range of semantic content. These choices sometimes present comprehension problems for learners of Hindi, as the reader will notice in this analysis.

For example, for the prefix *anu-* the following descriptors are offered in two of my favourite dictionaries:

*anu-*, "after, afterwards, like, repeatedly, towards, etc." (Allied's H-E Dictionary)  
"towards, near, excellent" (B. Kapoor).

Also to be considered is the fact that many words beginning with *anu-* (for example) do not contain the **prefix** but the different syllable combinations: *a-nu* and *an-u*. This is helpfully indicated in Allied's H-E dictionary and also in B. Kapoor's recent dictionary, in their presentation of the **romanised forms** of the Devanagari words for our benefit.

### Acknowledgements

(See Reference List at the end of this article for publishing details.)

In my study of the lexicon of written and spoken media Hindi, I have been especially aided by the authors of two excellent bilingual romanised dictionaries:

Hardev Bahri, *Rajjpal Advanced Learner's Hindi-English Dictionary*, 2 vols., Delhi,

Rajpal Publishing, 2011. (In Vol. 2, there are Appendices on Prefixes (*upsarg*) on pp. 1767-1771 and on Suffixes (*pratyay*) on pp. 1772-1778.)

*Allied's Hindi-English Dictionary*, edited by Henk Wagenaar and Sangeeta S. Parikh (New Delhi, Allied Publishers, 1996.)

For some months I have also had the luxury of referring to the bilingual Hindi and English Thesaurus by Arvind Kumar (both the online version and the printed one) and in the last three months, I have also benefitted from the recent research and romanised renderings offered in Dr. Badrinaath Kapoor's *Advanced Hindi-English Dictionary* (New Delhi, Prabhaat Prakaashan, 2007).

Of the Hindi grammars I have consulted, the most thorough treatment of prefixes and suffixes is in Professor Yamuna Kachru's magisterial study, *Hindi* (John Benjamins, Amsterdam, 2006, Chapter 8, 'Word Formation', pp 111-129. This very densely packed chapter also deals with other characteristic forms of lexical compounding in Hindi which learner need to know

Also invaluable in my initial Hindi studies and as a constant reference point was R.S.McGregor's enduring classic analysis, *Outline of Hindi Grammar*, OUP, 3rd. ed., 1995. His treatment of word formation affixes (pp 207-215) is a useful starting point on these topics.

I am also grateful to my tutor, Indramohan Singh, for timely answers to a series of last-minute queries.

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## Abbreviations

(Ar) Arabic  
(H) Hindi  
(P) Persian  
(PA) Perso-Arabic  
(S) Sanskrit  
(U) Urdu

atr attribute

Allied: Allied's Hindi-English Dictionary

HB: Hardev Bahri

BK: Badrinaath Kapoor

YK: Yamuna Kachru

McG: R.S. McGregor

RS: Rupert Snell

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## Selected Hindi Prefixes and Other Initial Compounding Elements

### Classification

(Definitions in inverted commas are from YK.)

#### 1. Negatives, antonyms, opposition

a-, “not, without”  
an-, ana-, “not, without”  
ap-  
bad-  
be-  
duh- : + dur-, dush- “bad, difficult”  
gair  
ku-, “bad, deficient”  
laa-  
naa-  
ni-  
nih-, \*nir-, nis-, nish-, “without”  
par- other  
prati- 1. against  
vi- 1. “different, opposite”  
[vi-2, : See Section 5.]

#### 2. Positive

su-, good  
sat-, sad-, true  
dharm (COMPOUND)

#### 3. Number, quantity, size

alp (COMPOUND), small  
adh-, and ardh-, half  
bahu- ( C ) multi-, poly-  
ek-, one  
du- (do-), two-  
dvi-, two, twin  
tri-, three-

**4. References to place, position, order and time** (similar to some English prepositions and prefixes)

(The brief introductory glosses given below are from Professor Yamuna Kachru, pp. 112- 113. Those with square brackets are not listed in Kachru’s selection.)

aa-, “to, toward, up to”  
abhi-, “toward, intensity”  
adhi-, “additional, above”  
[adho-, lower]  
aNtah, aNtar, “inter”  
anu-, “after”  
ap- “away, off, down”  
ati-, “excessive”  
av-, “away, diminution”  
door-, far, distant  
[nav-, new(ly), neo-]

pari-, “around, whole”  
[poorv-, (time): former, previous  
(place): east(ern)]  
pra-, 1. before, pre-, forward  
[pra-, 2. excellent. supreme. See Section 5.]  
[punah and punar-, [re-]

up(a)-, up(i)-, “subordinate”  
ut, ud-, un-, “upward”  
[sah-, with, co-]  
[baa-, containing, with]  
saN-, with, together  
[san- / sam-, same, equal]

#### 5. Intensity or degree

[poorn-, full(y)]  
pra- 2. “forward, excess”  
[vi- 2. completely]  
[saarv-, sarv-, all-]

#### 6. Similar COMPOUND elements indicating scale, rank and intensity

madhya-, ( C ), medium, middle-  
madhyam, ( C ), medium  
mukhya- . chief, main  
raaj-, royal  
vishva ( C ), universal, world

## **7. Personal**

aatma- ( C), self-  
sva(a)-, self, own  
praan- ( C), life-  
yog ( C), combination, joining, yoga  
mano-, mental, psycho-

## **8. Selected productive compounding words**

### **8.1 Elements**

agni ( C), fire  
bhoo, ( C) and bhoomi ( C), land, soil  
jal ( C ), water  
vaayu ( C) air

### **8.2 People**

jan ( C ), people  
lok ( C), people  
jeev ( C), & jeevan ( C)  
jaat ( C) & jaati ( C)  
arth, ( C), money; meaning  
raashtra, ( C ) nation

### **8.3 Action Compounds**

kaarya ( C), work, action  
kriyaa ( C) action  
krit-, done

## Hindi Prefixes and word formation Compounds

### 1. Negatives, antonyms, opposition

**a-** (See also an-, ana-)

Semantic indicators: un-, not, non-,  
opposite of X, without X.

abhaaghyaa bad luck (bhaaghyaa, luck)  
abhaarteey, non-Indian (Indian)  
abhaav, m, deficiency, lack (bhaav,  
emotion; price)  
abhautik, non-material (material)  
abhay, fearless, secure (fear)  
adarshan, invisible (darshan, seeing)  
agyaan, m, ignorance (knowledge)  
ahiNsaa, non-violence (violence)  
ajeet, undefeated (victory)  
akeerti, disgrace (fame)  
akushal, unskilled (skilful)  
anaitik, unethical (moral, ethical)  
apraasaNgik, irrelevant (relevant)  
apraapt, unachieved (received)  
apoor, incomplete (complete)  
asahkaar, m, non-cooperation (non+ co- +  
work) (An example of a double prefix)  
asthaayeey, temporary (permanent)  
avaigyaanik, unscientific (scientific)  
avaaNchhneey, undesirable (desirable)

**an- / ana- , un-, in-, etc.**

Semantic indicators: un-, not, opposite of  
X, without X.

**an-**

anaadaar, lack of respect, disrespect  
(respect)  
anaakraman, m, non-aggression  
ananukool, unsuitable (favourable)  
ananya, identical, unique (other)  
anapekshit, unexpected (required)  
anapraadhee, innocent (criminal)  
anchaahaa, unwanted (wanted)

anek, various, several (McG): “not one”  
anichchhaa, reluctance, aversion (desire,  
wish)

anmol, invaluable (value)  
anparh, illiterate (literate)  
ansunaa, unheard, ignored (heard)  
anuchit, improper (proper)  
anupasthit, absent (present)

**ana-**

anabhigya, ignorant (known)  
anadekhaa, unseen (seen)

**ap-**

The definition offered by Allied’s H- E  
Dictionary fits within this broad *negative*  
category.

“away, off, base, down, deterioration or  
inferiority”.

(A consensus by lexicographers labels this  
prefix as conveying the following content:  
un-, dis- away, down, opposite.)

apchakra, m, vicious circle (wheel)  
apgaman, m, departure, disappearance  
(going)  
apgati, f, misfortune, downfall (motion)  
apjaat, degenerated (born)  
apkarm, wrongdoing (deed)  
apkeerti, defamation (keerti, fame)  
apkrisht, bad, inferior (cultivated)  
apmaan, insult, dishonour (honour,  
reputation)  
apvaad, m, exception (cause)

**bad-, bad, wicked (PA)**

badboo, f, foul smell (smell, stink)  
badmaash, m, hooligan, villain, rogue  
badnaam, notorious (name)  
badnaamee, f, notoriety (famous)  
badqismat, ill-fated (destiny, fate)  
badsoorat, ugly (face, looks)

**be-, un-, dis-, -less, without, (P)**

beadab, uncouth (respect)  
bebuniyaad, unfounded (foundation)  
beeemaan, dishonest (honest)

beiNsaaf, unjust (just)  
begunaah, innocent (guilty)  
beimaarat, unbuilt (built)  
befikr, carefree (concern)  
bematlab, meaningless (meaning)  
berozgaar, unemployed (employed)  
besharm, shameless (shame)

**duh- [du:], negative, antonym, opposition**

**variants: dur-, dush-,**

English: mis-, dis-, mal-, bad

duhsaahas, m, audacity (courage)  
duhsaasan m, maladministration  
(administration)  
duhsheel, insolence (disposition)  
duhsvapna, nightmare (dream)

**dur-**

duraachaar, misconduct (conduct)  
durbhaagya, m, bad luck (luck)  
durbhaashaa, f, bad language  
durbhaav, m, malice (emotion)  
durghatnaa, f, accident (incident)  
durlabh, rare, scarce, unique (available)  
durupyog, m, improper use, misuse, abuse  
(use)  
durvivaah, bad marriage (marriage)

**dush-, bad, different**

dush-praapya, difficult to get (available)  
dush prabhaav, bad effect (influence)  
dushcharitr, depravity (character)  
dushkarm, bad work, bad action (work)  
dushprachaar, propaganda (publicity)

**gair-, non-, un-, in- , il- (PA)**

usually with Perso-Arabic derived words  
(RS, p. 26)

gair-angreze, un-English; gair-amreekee,  
un-American  
gairhaazir, absent (present)  
gairiNsaan, inhuman (human)  
gairqaanoonee, illegal (legal)  
gair-sarkaaree, non-governmental,  
unofficial

gair-sarkaaree saNgathan, NGO  
(organisation)  
gair-siyaasee, non-political (political)

**ku-, deterioration; negative; bad, deficient (PA)**

kubuddhi, vicious (wisdom)  
kuchaal, misconduct (conduct)  
kuchakr, conspiracy (circle)  
kudaul, ill-formed (shape)  
kudrishiti, f, evil eye (sight)  
kujaat, low caste (caste)  
kukarm, bad deeds; -ee, doer of bad deeds  
kukkhyaat, notorious (renowned)  
kumaarg, bad path (road)  
kupath, immoral ways (way)  
kuprathaa, bad tradition / practice  
(tradition)  
kuputr, m, bad / unworthy son (son)  
kuroop, ugly (form)

**laa-, -less, without, negative (PA)**

laailaaj, incurable (cure)  
laajavaab, speechless (reply)  
laaparvaah, careless (care)  
laapataa, lost (address); missing person, of  
unknown whereabouts

**naa-, un-, not; without (P)**

**Ar for No?**

naabaalig, underage, immature (adult)  
naabaaligee, f, immaturity

naaiNsaafi, f, injustice (justice)  
naakaam, unsuccessful, useless (work)  
naakhush, unhappy, displeased, upset  
naalayaq, unworthy (worthy)  
naaqaabil, incapable (able, qualified)

**ni-,**

Of several meanings given in dictionaries,  
I have selected examples of its use to  
convey a negative or opposite meaning.

nidar, fearless (fear)  
nibal, weak (strong)

nidhaarak, fearless (fear)  
nikri<sup>sh</sup>t, worthless (cultivated)  
nikharche, with no charge (karch, expense)  
nirog, healthy, disease-free (disease)  
nivrittee, retirement (profession)

**nih-, nir-, nis-, nish-, dis-, un-, -less, without**

**nih-**

ni<sup>h</sup>shaNk, unsuspecting [h =:] (fear, alarm)  
ni<sup>h</sup>shesh, no remainder, whole (remainder)  
ni<sup>h</sup>shulk, (baccheN n.), (children) free of charge; no fee (fee)  
ni<sup>h</sup>shvaas, m, exhalation (breath)

**nir-**

(NB. A very large number of other words beginning with **nir-** have positive meanings, especially those with **ni-r...** structure, e.g. *ni-rog*)

niraadar, m, *dis*respect (respect)  
niraadhaar, *un*founded, baseless (base)  
niraashaa, f, despair, frustration (hope)  
nirakshar, illiterate, uneducated (letter)  
niraNdh, absolutely blind (blind)  
nirapraadhee, innocent (criminal);  
nirarth, senseless, stupid (meaning)  
nirarthak, meaningless, useless (meaningful)  
nirbhay, fearless (fear)  
nirbheek, courageous (frightened)  
nirbuddhi, senseless (wisdom)  
nirday, merciless (mercy)  
nirdhan, poor (money)  
nirdosh, innocent; faultless (guilty)  
nirgun, without qualities, absolute (quality)  
nirjeev, dead (jeev, alive)  
nirutsaah, unenthusiastic, pessimistic (enthusiasm)  
nirvirodh, unopposed opposition)  
niryogya, disabled (qualified, able)

**nis-**

nissaNdeh, undoubtedly (doubt)  
nissaNkoch, without restraint (contraction)  
nissaNtaan, childless (progeny, children)  
nissvaarth, selfless(ness) (selfishness)

**nish-**

nishchal, motionless (moving)  
ni<sup>h</sup>kaaran, without reason, gratuitously (reason)  
ni<sup>h</sup>kalaNk, immaculate (blemish)  
ni<sup>h</sup>skraman, m, evacuation, withdrawal (stepping in, passing)  
ni<sup>h</sup>skriy, inactive, inert, passive  
ni<sup>h</sup>paap, free of sin, innocent(ly) (sin)  
ni<sup>h</sup>paksh, *un*biased, neutral (side)  
ni<sup>h</sup>phal, ineffective (fruit)  
ni<sup>h</sup>praan(a), *lifeless* (breath, life)

**par-, opposite, alien, other, someone else**

parbhoomi, f, foreign or enemy country  
pardesh, foreign country (country)  
pardeshee, foreigner, stranger  
pardhan, m, someone else's money (wealth)  
pardharm, m, another's religion; other religion (religion)  
parjaati, f, another's caste  
parlaukik, cosmic, transcendental (worldly)  
parlok, m, the other / next world  
parpurush, m, another person; stranger

**prati-, praty-, against, counter-**

[also used as an independent word, every: prati din / varsh every day / year]

pratikriyaa, f, reaction (action)  
pratipaksh, m, opposition, rival camp (side)  
pratiprachaar, counterpropaganda (publicity)  
pratiroop, counterpart (form)  
prativachan, retort, reply (word, speech)  
pratiyog. m, opposition, resistance



**Note:** *praty(a)*- has the same function:

pratyabhiyog, m, counter-charge (charge)  
pratyadesh, m, counter-command (order)  
pratyasha, f, expectation, anticipation (hope)  
pratyuttar, m, counter-reply

## **vi- A major prefix**

### **1. distinction, difference**

### **2 intensity (See Section 5.)**

#### **vi-, 1. distinction, difference**

vibhaag, m, department, bureau (bhaag, part)  
vibhaashaa, m, dialect (language)  
vibhinn, diverse. various, (different)  
videsh, m, foreign country (country)  
vidharm, someone else's religion  
vikaar, m, deviation  
vikeNdrit, decentralised  
vikesh, bald (hair)  
vikrit, deformed (made)  
vimaataa, f, stepmother (mother)  
vimarsh, m, consultation (?)  
vimat, disagreement (opinion)  
vipaksh, m, opposite side; opposition (side)  
vipatti, f, hardship (?)  
viphal, fruitless

## **2. Positives**

### **su-, good, well- ; very**

sucharitra, virtuous character (character)  
sudarshan, good-looking (seeing)  
sudaaul, well-built (*daul*, shape)  
sugaNdh, f, fragrance (smell)  
sugyaan, wisdom (knowledge)  
sukaal, m, time of prosperity (time, age)  
sukarm, m, good deeds (deed)  
sukrit, m, good deed (done)  
sukumaar, tender, youthful, delicate  
sulabh, easily available (available)  
sulaabh, m, advantage (profit)

sunaam, celebrity, fame (name)  
supatr, worthy recipient (recipient)  
suputr, good son (son)  
suputree, good daughter  
susaNgati, good company (company)  
susaNskrit, urbane, very refined (cultured)  
sushaasan, m, good government (administration)  
susheel, good-natured (disposition)  
suvyavasthaa, orderliness (arrangement)

### **2. su-, very**

sudoor, remote (far)  
sudrishya, highly visible (visible)  
sunirmal, very clear (clear)  
sunishchay, m, firm resolve, determination  
surakshaa, security (protection)  
sushaaNt, very peaceful (peaceful)  
sushikshit, well/ highly educated (educated)  
sushrut, well known (heard)

### **sat, m, truth; true, good COMPOUND**

### **sat-, sad-, good, true**

satdarshee, m, seer of truth  
satkarm, m, good deed  
satkarmee, virtuous  
satkrit, welcomed, done well  
satkriyaa, f, virtue, charity (action)  
satpath, m, path of virtue  
satpurush, m, virtuous person  
satsaNg, m, meeting with other (good) people  
satphal, m, excellent result (fruit)  
satprayaas, sincere effort (effort)  
satputr, m, good son  
satsaNgati, f, true friendship  
satya, truth  
satyaanaNd, m, true bliss

### **sad-, good**

sadaanaNd, m, perpetual happiness (bliss)  
sadbhaav, m, goodwill (emotion)  
sadgun, m, virtue, qualities  
sadguru, m, good / true teacher

sadupdesh, m, good advice (sermon)  
sadupyog, m, proper use (use)  
sadyukti, f, sound reasoning (?)

### **dharm, m, duty, faith , religion** COMPOUND

dharmaadhaarit, religion-based  
dharmaatmaa, pious (soul)  
dharmaadesh, m, commandment (order)  
dharmaadhikaaran, court of justice  
dharmaanuraag, m, religious zeal  
(attachment)  
dharmdoot, apostle (envoy)  
dharmdarshan, m, theology (seeing,  
audience)  
dharmdrishti, m, sense of justice (vision)  
dharmee, religious virtues  
dharmkaary, m, religious duty (work,  
action)  
dharm-karma, m, religious acts or conduct  
dharmgraNth, religious book, holy  
scripture (also: dharpustak)  
dharmik, religious

dharmmaataa, godmother  
dharmmandir, m, religious temple  
dharmnirapeksh, secular (neutral)  
dharmnishth, devout (follower of religious  
faith)  
dharmprachaarik, m, missionary  
(promoter)  
dharm-parivartak, m, convert (change)  
dharmputr, m, godson  
dharm-svaataNtra, m, freedom of religion  
dharmtaNtra, m, theocracy (system)  
dhamtyaagee, m, apostate (relinquisher)  
dharmvidhaan, m, canon law (constitution)  
dharmyuddh, m, crusade (war)  
dharmyug, m, golden age (Satyug)

### **3. Number, quantity , size**

#### **alp, small, short (in time) COMPOUND**

alp-, small, short, under-

alpjantaNtra, m, oligarchy (democracy)  
alpjeevee, short-lived (alive)  
alpvaraam, m, comma (break)

alpsaNkhyaa, f, minority (number)  
alpkaalik, ephemeral (temporal, timely)  
alprikaasit, underdeveloped (developed)

#### **adh- & ardh-, semi-, half, demi-**

adhjal, half full of water  
adhkachchaa, half-baked  
adhkachraa, unripe, premature  
adkhulaa, half-open  
adhnaNgaa, half-naked  
adhparh, semi-literate

ardhchakr, semicircle (circle, wheel)  
ardh-sarkaaree, semi-official (official)  
ardh-viraam, comma (stop, break)  
ardh-vritt, m, semicircle (circle)

#### **bahu-, multi-; poly-, many-**

bahubhaasheey, multilingual  
bahujan, majority (people)  
bahujanak, prolific (producer, producing)  
bahumat, majority (opinion)  
bahurashtreey, multinational (national)  
bahusaNkhyaa, f, majority (number)  
bahusaNskritik, multicultural (cultural)  
bahuupiyogee, versatile (useful)  
bahuvachan, plural number (number)

#### **ek- , eka- one ...**

ekmat, unanimous (opinion)  
ekbhaashik, monolingual (adj and n.)  
(language, atr.)  
eklinNgee, unisex (sexual)  
ekroop, uniform (form)  
ekrooptaa, uniformity (form)  
eksvar, monotonous (tone)  
ektaa, m, unity (-taa, noun suffix)  
ektaNtra, m, autocracy (system)

#### **du-, two (do-)**

dugaanaa, m, duet (song)  
dumaNzilaa, two-storeyed (storey)  
duraNgaa, two-coloured (raNg, colour)  
duvidhaa, uncertainty (in two  
minds)(form)  
dobaaraa, twice

### **dvi-, two-, bi-, di-**

dvidhaatu, f, alloy (metal)  
dvidhruveeye, bi-polar (Antarctic, polar)  
dvigun, double, twice (time)  
dvigunit, doubled, 2-fold (-fold)  
dvipad, 2-legged (leg)  
dvipaksheey, bilateral (lateral, sided)  
dvipatneetva, m, bigamy (“wifehood”)  
dvididhaa, f, dilemma, suspense (type)

### **tri- three, tri-,**

tri-gun, the three qualities  
trikaal, m, the three ages (past, present, future) (time, age)  
trikon, m, triangle (koonaa, m, corner)  
trilochan, the 3-eyed One (Shiva)  
trilok, the 3 worlds  
trinetra, 3 eyes, epithet for Lord Shiva  
tripaksheey, tripartite (sided)  
trishool, m, trident (prong)  
trivarshak, triennial (year; annual)

### **4. Place, position, order and time**

(Similar in many cases to English prefixes and prepositions)

#### **aa-,**

“to, toward, up to” (YK)  
“up to, from, throughout, along with, etc.”  
(Allied’s H-E Dictionary)

Yamuna Kachru examples:

aachaaran, conduct  
aagaman, arrival (going)  
aajeevan, lifelong  
aakarshan, attraction (karshan, m, pull)

From other dictionaries:

aakraman, attack (stepping, passing along)  
aadaan, giving (donation)  
aamaran, till death  
aarakshaa, security (protection)  
aavartan, m, recurrence (turning)  
aavaas, m, residence (dwelling)

### **abhi- “toward, intensity” (YK)**

As with some other Hindi prefixes, the semantic indicators offered by bilingual dictionaries cover a wide range, e.g. for *abhi*, “towards, near, above, over, repeated, and excessive” (Allied’s H-E Dictionary). For that reason, fellow students of Hindi may find the following examples (and some others in this analysis) of limited use.

abhigyaan, realisation (knowledge)  
abhijaat, noble (caste; born)  
abhikriyaa, m, reaction (action)  
abhilekh, m, transcript (article)  
abhinyaas, m, layout (trust, deposit)  
abhimaan, arrogance (dignity, value)  
abhipreran, motivation (incentive)  
abhisaNdhi, conspiracy (pact, union)  
abhishlesan, m, agglutination (joining)  
abhiyog, m, accusation (action)

### **adhi-, additional, above, over**

adhicharm, m, epidermis (skin, cutis)  
adhikaar, m, authority; right (work)  
adhikaaree, official, officer, authority  
adhikar, m, surtax, supertax (tax)  
adhikarmee, m, foreman, superior (worker)  
adhikram, m, hierarchy (order)  
adhikrit, authorised (done)  
adhikrit sootroN se, from official sources  
adhiniyam, Act (rule)  
adhisadasya, fellow (of official body)  
(member)  
adhisoochnaa(oN), schedule, regulations,  
(information)

### **adho-, lower, under**

adhodhruveeye, sub-polar (Antarctic, polar)  
adholikhit, undermentioned (written)  
adhorekhit, underlined (lined)  
adhohastaaksharee, the undersigned  
(signatory)

adhomoolyan, m, undervaluation  
(valuation)  
adhrekhit, underlined (lined)  
adhivaktaa, m, advocate (speaker)

**aNtah- inter-, under-, within, internal  
inner, internal, interior, intro- endo-**

aNtahaadesh, m, interim order (order)  
aNtahkaal, m, transitional period (time,  
period)  
aNtahkaleen, interim (temporal)  
aNtahkaran, inner self (senses)  
aNtahpradeshik, interregional (regional)  
aNtahprajaat, interbred (bred)  
aNtahpurush, m, inner man, God (man,  
person))  
aNtahpravaah, m, influx, infusion (flow)  
aNtahprekshan, introspection (observation)  
aNtahshaastreey, interdisciplinary  
(academic)  
aNtahaagraheey, interplanetary

**and its variant sandhi forms:  
aNtar- and aNtas-**

aNtaraatmaa, inner self (soul, self)  
aNtardesheey, inland (adj) (domestic)  
aNtarrashtriya, international (national)  
aNtargati, f, mental process (motion)

aNtastaap, mental agony (heat)

**anu-, after (some aanu-)**

anugaman, m, following (going)  
anukram, m, sequence (order)  
anukraman, m, succession (passing)  
anukriyaa, f, response, reaction (action)  
anulipi, f, transcript, duplicate (writing)  
anumaan, m, estimate (value?)  
anurekhan, m, tracing (line, drawing)  
anushaasan, m, discipline (administration)  
anuukramik, sequential, successive  
(orderly)

**ati-, beyond, over, excessive**

atichaar, transgression (YK)  
atikaal, delay (time, period)

atikraman, m, infringement, violation  
(stepping, passing along)  
atilaghu, minute, tiny (very small)  
atimaatr, immoderate (size)  
ativaad, extremism (cause)  
ativishvaas, over-confidence (belief)

**av-, down, below, de-, diminution,**

avchay, m, defect ((heap)  
avchetan, subconscious (the conscious  
mind)  
avgun, vice, fault (quality)  
avkaran, m, reduction (making)  
avkraman, m, devolution (passing)  
avmaan, m, contempt, humiliation  
(honour)  
avmoolyan, devaluation (valuation)  
avshesh, remnant (remaining)

**door-, distant, far, tele-, remote**

doordarshan, m, television (seeing)  
[The same structure as “tele-vision”, or  
German *fern-sehen*.]  
doordarshee, far-sighted  
dooree, f, distance (noun suffix)  
door poorv, m, the Far East  
doorsaNchaar, m, telecommunication  
(communication)  
doorvaasee, living far away, absentee-

**nav, new(ly), novel; neo-, re-**

navaachaar, m, innovation (conduct)  
navavivaahitaa, newly-married  
naveen, new, fresh, novel  
naveekaran, m, renewal, renovation  
(making)  
naveentam, up-to-date, newest (-est)  
naveentam prakaashan, latest publications  
nav-gathit, newly founded (built)  
navjaat, newborn (born)  
navmaarksvaad, m, neo-Marxism  
navnirman, reconstruction (construction)  
nav vivaahit (yugal), newly married  
(couple)

## **pari-, around**

paricharchaa, discussion (talk)  
paridarshan, m, panoramic view (seeing)  
paridrishya, m, landscape (scene)  
paripath, circuit (path)  
paripatr, circular, notification (newspaper)  
parirekhaa, periphery (line)  
parivahan (maNtree), m, transport  
(carrying, vehicle)  
parivardhan, m, development, growth  
(growing)

## **poorv-,**

### **1. pre-, ex-, previous**

### **2. eastern**

poorv janma, m, previous birth  
poorv jeevan, previous life  
poorvabhyaas, rehearsal (training)  
poorvdaat, pre-paid  
poorvkaalik, ancient (temporal)  
poorvkalpit, preconceived (imagined)  
poorvkalpnaa, f, preconception  
(imagination)  
poorv-nishchit, premeditated (settled,  
definite)  
poorvaayojit, pre-arranged (arranged)  
poorvsandhya, the eve (evening)  
poorvvritt, antecedent (account, circle)

[Place]

poorvaa, east(ern); orient  
poorva desh, oriental  
poorvee eshiyaaee, f, East Asia

## **pra-**

Commonly offered semantic indicators  
are:

1. before, pre-, pro-, forward  
(2. excellent or supreme. See Section 5.)

1.  
pragati, f, progress (motion)  
prajanak, progenitor (creator)  
prajanan, m. procreation, reproduction  
prakalpnaa, f, presumption, hypothesis  
(imagination)

prakaran, m, subject, prologue (making)  
prakrit, natural, spontaneous (made)  
prakathan, preface, foreword (story)  
prakriyaa, f, process (action)  
pravaktaa, spokesperson (speaker)

## **punah / punar,**

### **punah-, again, re-, anew**

punahanukoolan, m, readaptation  
(adaptation)  
punahekeekaran, reunification  
(unification)  
punahkray, m, repurchase (purchase)  
punah pravesh, re-entry (entry)  
punah sthaapit, reinstated (established)

### **punar-, again, re-,**

punaraaraMbha, m, resumption, fresh begg.  
punarapi, once more (also)  
punargathan, reorganisation (structure)  
punarjanm, reincarnation, rebirth (birth)  
punarniyukti, reappointment (appointment)  
punarsrijan, re-creation (creation)  
punarutpaadan, m, regeneration  
(production)  
punaruttar, m, retort (reply)  
punarutthaan, m, resurrection, rebirth  
(rising)  
punarvaas, rehabilitation, resettlement  
punarvichaar, reconsideration (thought)  
punarvilokan, review (sight, studying)

### **up(a)-, upi-, sub-, under, subordinate, pro-, vice- subsidiary**

upadhyaksh, m, Vice President, Vice-  
Chair(man) (president, etc.)

upbhaashaa, f, dialect (language)  
up-chunaav, by-election  
updaan, m, gratuity; subsidy (donation)  
uphaas, derision, ridicule (laughter)  
upjaati, f, sub-caste (caste)  
upkathaa, f, sub-plot (story)  
upmahaadveep, subcontinent  
upnaam, m, alias, pen name, nickname

upnagar, suburb (town)  
 upnetaa, deputy leader  
 upnideshak, deputy director  
 upnireekshak, sub inspector  
 upniyam, by-law (rule)  
 upraashtrapati, m, Vice- President  
 upsagar, m, bay, gulf (sea)  
 upsamiti, sub-committee  
 upsaNchaalak, m, deputy director  
 upsheershak, subtitles, sub-heading(s)  
 (headline)  
 uptaNtra, m, sub-system (system)  
 upvan, park (forest)

### **ut-, ud- and un-**

Professor Kachru defines the main meaning of the prefix forms *ut*, *ud*, and *un* as ‘upward’.

utkaNthaa, f, curiosity, (stretching neck upward: BK)  
 utkarsh, m, upward movement; eminence (BK) (pulling)  
 utkhanan, m, excavation (mining)  
 utkram, m, reversal, ascent (order)  
 utkrisht, outstanding (cultivated)  
 utkshepan, m, ejection, throwing upward (BK)  
 utpaadan, m, production (?paad, m, produce)

udbhav, m, origin (existence)  
 udgam, m, rising (?going)

unmoolan, m, uprooting (mool, root)  
 unmukh, with upturned face (BK)

### **sah- , with, co- , fellow-, together (pron seh-, or saih)**

sah-apraadhee, m, accomplice (criminal)  
 sahashtiva, co-existence (existence)  
 sahbhaagee, co-partner, accomplice  
 sahcharya, life together, married life (routine)  
 sahgaan, m, chorus (singing)  
 sahgaman, m, self-immolation (of widow at cremation) (going)

sahjaat, born together, twins (born)  
 sahjeevan, m, symbiosis (life)  
 sahkaar, m, co-operation; co-op business (work, maker)  
 sahkarmee, fellow worker, colleague (worker)  
 sahkriyaa, f, synergism (action)  
 sahmat, agreed (opinion)  
 sahmatee, m, agreement  
 sah-shikshaa, f, coeducation  
 sahvaas, m, cohabitation (dwelling)  
 sahyaatree, fellow traveller  
 sahyog, cooperation (action)

### **baa-, with, having, containing (PA)**

baa-abroo, with honour (honour)  
 baa-adaab, with respect (respect)  
 baa-asar, effective (effect)  
 baa-izzat, respectfully (respect)

### **saN-, with, together**

saNgeet, music (song)  
 saNgrah, m, collection (collection)  
 saNgharshan, m, struggle (friction)  
 saNkeertan, m, collective song meeting (devotional singing)  
 saNkeNdran, m, concentration (centring)

### **sam, same, equal, even, whole**

samaaNtar, parallel, (difference)  
 sambhaar, of equal weight  
 sambhoomi, f, level ground  
 samdrishti, f, impartiality (sight)  
 samkaalik, contemporary (temporal)  
 samkaksh, m, equal, equivalent (side)  
 sammelan, m, conference (meeting)  
 samroop, identical, similar (form)  
 samsamaayik, contemporary (time)  
 samstithi, f, constancy (condition)  
 samtal, level (surface)  
 samvedanaa, f, condolence (pain)  
 samvritti, analogous (circle)

## 5. Intensity or degree

### **poorn-, full, complete [and suffix: -poorn, -ful, full]**

poorn nivojan, m, full employment  
poorn viraam, full stop (stop, break)  
poornaa, complete, full  
poornaahooti, f, final oblation  
poornaavtaar, m, full avatar  
poornachaNdra, full moon  
poornakaalik, fulltime  
poornaroop, fully  
poornimaa, f, night of full moon  
poornataa, f. pefection, wholeness (suffix: -ness)  
poornyog, m, full sum, total (sum)

### **pra-. 2. excellent, supreme**

(See also Section 4.)

prakeerti, fame (reputation)  
prakrisht, chief, principal (cultivated)  
prashaNt, pacific, serene  
prashaNt mahaasaagar, Pacific Ocean  
prashaNti, f, supreme peace, tranquillity  
prasiddh, famous (fulfilled)  
(vishva prasiddh, world famous)

### **saarv-, saarva, and the more common sarv-, sarva all, all-, omni-, pan-, entire, full, universal**

saarvakaalik, eternal;  
saarvik, universal  
saarvjaanik, public, general, popular  
saarvjaanik jeevan, m, public life

and

sarvaadhik, maximum, most (more)  
sarvaadhikaar, m, full powers (authority)  
sarvadesheey, cosmopolitan (national)  
sarvapreey, all-loving, popular (loved)  
sarvashree, Messrs (Shri)  
sarvshreshth, the very best  
sarv(a)vid, omniscient (erudite, knowing)

sarvvyaapee, all-pervasive, omnipresent, universal (pervasive)

### **vi-, 2. complete, intensifier**

(See also Section 1.)

vimoksha, total liberation (release)  
vimukt, acquitted, released (released)  
vimukti, f, complete release (liberation)  
vinaash, m, total devastation (devastation)  
vinamritaa, total modesty (modesty)  
vishuddh, very pure (pure)  
vikhyaat, renowned (famous)  
vijay, triumph (victory)

## 6. COMPOUNDS: scale, rank and intensity

### **madhya, m, middle, mid-, average, mean, middle, centre, medium COMPOUND**

madhyaakaal, m, medieval period; middle age(s)  
madhyaakaaleen, medieval (period, age, -eval)  
madhyaalok, the (middle) earth  
madhyaavadhi chunaav, mid-term elections (period)  
madhyaavarg, m, middle class, bourgeoisie  
madhyavargeeyataa, f, characteristics of middle class, bourgeois (suffixes)  
madhya yug, m, middle ages  
madhyayugeen, medieval (age)

### **madhyam, medium COMPOUND**

madhyam varn, middle class  
maddhyamik, intermediate

### **mukhya, principal, chief, supreme, major COMPOUND**

mukhyaalay, m, headquarters, HQ (suffix)  
mukhyataha, mainly (adverbial suffix)  
mukhyadhaaraa, mainstream (stream)

mukhya kaaryakram, m, highlights (programme)  
mukhya maarg, m, trunk road  
mukhya mantri, Chief Minister of a State  
mukhya shahar, chief / capital city  
mukhya sheershak, main headline

**raaj, m, king, state, royal, rule, reign, excellence**  
COMPOUND

raaj parivaar, royal family  
raajbhavan, governor's house, palace (residence)  
raajdhane, f, capital (city)  
raajdoot, ambassador (envoy)  
raajdroh, m, sedition, treason (rebellion)  
raajendra, emperor  
raajkar, state tax, revenue (tax)  
raajkumar, prince (unmarried man)  
raajkumaaree, princess (unmarried woman)  
raajmaarg, National Highway (6, etc.) (road)  
raajmaata, Queen Mother,  
raajmahal, royal palace  
raajpad, m, government position (post)  
raajpath, highway (way)  
raajpati, President (father)  
raajtantra, m, monarchy (system)  
raajvansh, m, dynasty

**vishva, m, world, cosmos, universe**  
COMPOUND

vishva- universal, world (attribute), all, whole

vishvabhar, worldwide (fully)  
vishva darshan, world tour (seeing)  
vishvakosh, encyclopedia (dictionary)  
Vishvanaath, Shiva (Lord)  
vishvapoojit, universally worshipped  
vishvaroop, universal, omnipresent, (Vishnu)  
vishvavid, omniscient (knowing)  
vishvavidyaalay, m, university (suffix)  
vishvavikhyaat, world-renowned (famous)  
vishvavyaapee, omnipresent (pervasive)  
vishvavijay, world conquest (victory)

**7. COMPOUNDS with personal connotations**

**aatma-, self-, auto-,  
aatmaa, f, soul, self)**

aatmaabhimaan, self-respect (pride)  
aatmakatha, f, autobiography (story)  
aatmaandrit, self-centred  
aatmaniyantran, self-control  
aatmasamvedan, m, selfconsciousness (feeling, sensation)  
aatmashakti, f, will-power  
aatmatyaaga, self-sacrifice (sacrifice)

**sva-, svaa- (less frequent)  
self-, own, free**

svaabhimaan, self-respect  
svaadhyay, private study  
svaagat, welcome

svabhaashee, f, native language  
svabhaav, m, temperament (emotion)  
svachalit, automatic (door); automated  
svadesh, one's own country; native land  
svadeshee, native, indigenous, local  
svadeshpreme, m, patriot (lover)  
svaghoshit, self-proclaimed  
svajaati, f, one's own caste, race  
svaroop, m, own shape, form, nature  
svatantra, free, independent, freelance (system)  
svayaM, oneself, by oneself, etc.

**praan, f, life, vital breath, soul**  
COMPOUND

praan-dand, capital punishment, death sentence (punishment, penalty)  
praanaayaam, m, breath control (regulation; dimension)  
praanghaat, m, assassination (killing)  
praanheen, lifeless (suffix: without)  
praanvaayu, f, oxygen (air)  
praanvigyaan, m, zoology (science)  
praanvyay, m, loss of life, death (cost, destruction)



**yog, m, “total, sum total, recipe, combination, addition, joining, mixture, contribution, yoga (meditation and exercises)” (Allied’s H-E Dictionary)**

**“total, combination, connection, yoga” (B. Kapoor) COMPOUND**

yogaasan, m, yoga posture (posture)  
yogabhyaas, m, the practice of yoga  
yogdaan, m, contribution (donation)  
yogee, m, yogeeenee, f, yoga practitioner  
yogiraaj, m, ascetic (rule)  
yogitaa, f, competition  
yogphal, m, total, sum (fruit)  
yogvid, m, one proficient in yoga (knowing)  
yogya, qualified, capable  
yogyataa, f, ability, qualification (?knowing)

**mano-, mental (man, m, mind)**

manobhaav, emotion  
manobhaNg, m, depression (split)  
manogat rog, mental illness  
manoraag, m, affection (emotion)  
manoraNjak, entertaining (stimulus)  
manorog, m, psychosis (illness)  
manorogee, psychopath (patient)  
manoviggyaan, m, psychology (science)  
manovishleshan, psychoanalysis (analysis)  
manovritti, f, mentality (circle)  
manovyaadhi, f, psychosis (sickness)  
manoyog, m, concentration, single-mindedness (exercise)

**8. Other productive compounding words**

**8.1 Elements**

**agni, f, fire COMPOUND**

agnipiNd, m, fireball (globe, body)  
agnipoojah, m, fire worshipper  
agni-pratishthaa, f, fire-lighting ceremony  
agnipraves, m, immolation (entry)  
agnisaNskaar, m, cremation (rites)  
agnishaamak, m, fire extinguisher (sedative)  
agnishuddhi, f, purification by fire (purity)  
agnyaastr, m, firearm (weapon, missile)

**bhoo, f, earth, land, soil, world COMPOUND**

bhoogol, m, geography  
bhookamp, m, earthquake (tremor)  
bhookampvigyaan, m, seismology (science)  
bhoomadhya-saagar, m, the Mediterranean sea (land-middle-sea)  
bhoo raajasva, m, land revenue  
bhoovaigyaanik, geologist (scientist)  
bhoomaNdal, m, the globe (circle)  
bhoomi, f, earth. land  
bhoomidaar, m, land owner (suffix)  
bhoomigat, subterranean (?gone)  
bhoomi saMrakshan, soil conservation  
bhoomikaa, f, background; preface  
bhoomiyaa, m, landlord  
bhooviggyaan, geology (science)

**jal, m, water, hydro-, aqua-COMPOUND**

jal aapoorti, water supply  
jaldhaaraa, f, stream, current  
jalkshetr, catchment area  
jalpath, waterways (way)  
jalprapaat, cascade, waterfall (water5fall)  
jalsah, waterproof  
jal senaa, f, navy  
jalvaayu, m, climate (air)  
jalvaayuparivartan, m, climate change

jalvaayuvigyaan, m, climatology (science);  
~ee, climate scientist  
jal-vidyaa, f, hydrology (knowledge)  
jal-vidyuti, hydroelectricity (electricity)

### **vaayu, m, air COMPOUND**

vaayu-, air

vaayudaab, air pressure  
vaayugatik, aerodynamic (dynamic)  
vaayumaNdal, m, atmosphere (circle)  
vaayupath, air route, airways  
vaayupati, air vice-marshal (father)  
vaayusena, f, Air Force (army)

## **8.2 People & Society**

**jan, m, people, public, masses,**  
(Very productive in COMPOUNDS)

janaandolan, m, mass movement  
(movement)  
jan(a)taa, f, public, masses  
janhit, public welfare/ interest (interest)  
janlokpaal, People's Protector  
(Ombudsman, Protector)  
janmat, public opinion (opinion)  
janmat saNgrah, referendum (collection)  
jannaash, m, holocaust (destruction)  
janpath, people's (high)way (way)  
janpreey, popular; -ataa, f, popularity  
(loved)  
janrakshaa, public safety  
jan-roochi, f, public interest  
jansabha, rally (assembly)  
jan samooh, m, public group (group)  
jansaMpark, m, public relations  
(communication)  
jansaNkhyaa, population (number)  
jansevak, m, public servant (servant)  
jantaNtra, m, democracy (system)

janma, m, birth; janmdin, birthday  
janmdin mubarak ho, Happy Birthday  
janm-maran, birth and death (death)  
janma patrika, horoscope (magazine,  
letter)

janmaaNdih, sightless since birth (blind)  
janmabhoomi, f, motherland, birthplace  
(land)  
janmadaataa, m, progenitor, father  
(creator)  
janmasthaan, m, birthplace (place)

**lok, m, public, people, people's, folk,**  
**mankind COMPOUND**

lok-geet, folk music, folk song (song)  
lok-jeevan, m, public life  
lok kaarya, m, public affairs  
lok-kalyaan, m, public welfare  
lok-kathaa, f, folk tale  
lokpaal, ombudsman, protector of the  
people  
lokprasiddh, renowned (famous)  
lokpreey(a), popular, famous (loved)  
lok sabha House of the People, Parliament  
(assembly)  
lok sevaa, public service  
loktaNtra, democracy (system)  
loktaNtree, democrat, lok-taNtrik,  
democratic  
loktrayee, m, the 3 (spiritual) worlds

**jeev and jeevan, being, life**  
**COMPOUND**

jeev, m, living creature / being / organism  
jeevdhaaraa, living organism (stream)  
jeevit, living, live  
jeevnaa, to live  
jeevnee, f, biography  
jeev rasaayan, biochemistry  
jeev vijnaan /viggyaan, biology  
(science)

jeevan, m, life  
jeevan chakra, life cycle  
jeevan darshan, live darshan (seeing)  
jeevankaal, lifetime  
jeevan-kathaa, life story  
jeevan-maran, m, life and death  
jeevan mukt, freed from worldly ties (free)  
jeevan rakshak, life support  
jeevan saathe, life partner

jeevan-yaapan, m, spending one's life

### **jaat jaati COMPOUND**

jaat, f, nation, race, caste  
jaat, born; -jaat (suffix), -born  
jaat-bhaae, caste brother  
jaat-bhed, m, racial discrimination  
(difference)  
jaat-prathaa, f, caste system (usage)  
jaateey samudaay, ethnic community

jaati, f, community, race  
jaati-karm, m, hereditary trade  
jaatigat, racial, communal  
jaati-ghri<sup>naa</sup>, f, racial hatred

### **arth, m, money; meaning COMPOUND**

arthaagam, m, proceeds (arrival, source)  
arthkar, profitable (making)  
arthmaNtree, Finance Minister  
arthshaastr, m, economics (science)  
arthshaastr<sup>ee</sup>, economist  
arthvyavasthaa, f, economy, economic  
system (system)

arthheen, meaningless (suffix)  
arthvikaar, m, semantic change  
arthviggyaan, m, semantics (science)  
arthyukt, meaningful, significant  
(combined, giving)

### **raashtra, m, nation, race COMPOUND**

raashtra-, national  
raashtraabhoomi, homeland, nation (land)  
raashtraabhaashaa, f, national language  
raashtraabhakti, patriotism (devotion)  
raashtraadhvaaj, m, national flag  
raashtraageet, National Anthem (song)  
raashtramaNdal, m, Commonwealth  
(circle)  
raashtrapati, President (husband)  
raashtrapitaa, father of the nation  
(Mahatma Gandhi)  
raashtratatva, m, nationhood  
raashtravaad, nationalism; -ee, -ist (cause)

### **8.3 Action COMPOUNDS**

#### **kaarya, m, action, job. task. work, affairs, deed (karnaa) COMPOUND**

kaar- (-kaar), doer, maker  
kaarbhar, workload (full)  
kaartaa, worker  
kaarkhaanaa, m, factory, workshop (house)  
kaarvaaee, f, action, operation

kaary, m, action, work, etc.  
kaaryaalay, m, office (suffix -aalay, abode,  
building)  
kaaryabhar, responsibility, workload (full)  
kaaryakaal, duration, period, stint  
kaary-kaaran, cause and effect (reason)  
kaaryakaar<sup>inee</sup>, f, executive committee  
kaaryakartaa, worker, activist (doer)  
kaarya-kram, m, programme, schedule  
(order)  
kaaryakraman, m, programming (ordering)  
kaaryakshamtaa, work capacity (capacity)  
kaaryakshetr, work area or territory  
kaaryapaalika, f, functionary (maintainer)  
kaaryasoochee, f, agenda (list)  
kaaryavaaee, f, proceedings, action  
kaary-yojnaa, f, plan of action (plan)

#### **kriyaa, f, action, act; verb COMPOUND**

kriyaa-karm, m, last rites, funeral rites  
kriyaanvayan, m, implementation  
kriyaapad, m, verb (term)  
kriyaa-pratikriyaa, f, action and reaction  
kriyaavaachak, verbal  
kriyaavaad, m, activism (cause)  
kriyaavisheshan, m, adverb (adjective)

#### **krit, done, accomplished COMPOUND (Also as suffix: -krit, done: X krit, done by X)**

kritee, competent  
kriti, f, creative work, oeuvre  
kritkaaryataa, f, fulfilment  
krit karm, m, work done

kritsaNkalp, determined, resolute  
(determination)

\*

(The companion article on selected Hindi  
suffixes will follow in the near future.)

For more on the Handy Hindi Hints series,  
see *here*.

<http://www.briansteel.net/writings/india/index.html>

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