

Sanskrit Class #3 Notes:

1. Review of the “Sanskrit and Vedic Chanting” seminar at Rising Sun Yoga.

We had a discussion about the difference between Vedic Sanskrit (1200 – 600 BCE) and Classical Sanskrit (600 BCE – present). Vedic Sanskrit has tone marking leading to an exact specification of how pitch is expressed while chanting. Tone marking is not phonemic – does not change word meaning. Our Prayers of the Tradition are sung not chanted with Vedic tone. There are allophonic differences between our various recordings.

2. Prayers of the Tradition

We worked on reciting our four prayers with Sandy’s recording.

3. 108 Names of the Goddess

We are up to 18 names now. Keep working on pronunciation and memorization if you like.

4. The Shiva Sutras

Discussion of how to transliterate the 14 Shiva Sutras into English letters. Have a crack at it! We will go over our answers at the next class and listen to the recording together. CD 1, Track 10

Shiva Sutras due 10/18

5. Devanāgarī

We studied the method for writing vowels – long forms and short forms (blending with an initial consonant). We also noted that /a/, /ā/, /o/ and /au/ have alternate long forms that appear in some sources.

Begin work on Exercise 1, p. 18 due 11/1