

## अनुस्वारः *anusvārah*

An अनुस्वारः *anusvārah* is a nasal sound that follows *svara*, i.e. a vowel and always belongs to a preceding vowel. An अनुस्वारः *anusvārah* is indicated by a dot like above  $\dot{\quad}$  in Sanskrit and by “ *m* ” in English-transliteration of Sanskrit.

1. An अनुस्वारः *anusvārah* followed by the कण्ठ्य *kaṅṭhya* or guttural group of letters क *ka* , ख *kha* , ग *ga* , घ *gha*, is indicated by ( ङ *ṅa* ) or by simply a dot  $\dot{\quad}$  or *m*, but is pronounced by the sound of ङ *ṅa*  
Example: अङ्ग , अङ्ग *aṅga* = Part of the body.
2. An अनुस्वारः *anusvārah* followed by the तालव्य *tālavya* or palatal group of letters च *ca* , छ *cha* , ज *ja* , झ *jha* is indicated by ( ञ *ña* ) or by simply a dot  $\dot{\quad}$  or *m* , but is pronounced by the sound of ञ *ña* .  
Example: पञ्च , पञ्च *pañca* = Number five.
3. An अनुस्वारः *anusvārah* followed by the मूर्धन्य *mūrdhanya*, the cerebral group of letters ट *ṭa* , ठ *ṭha* , ड *ḍa* , ढ *ḍha*, is indicated by ( ण *ṇa* ) or by simply a dot  $\dot{\quad}$  or *m*, but is pronounced by the sound of ण  
Example: घण्टाः , घण्टाः *ghaṅṭāḥ* = Bell.
4. An अनुस्वारः *anusvārah* followed by the दन्त्य *dantya*, the dental group of letters त *ta* , थ *tha* , द *da* , ध *dha*, is indicated by न *na* or by simply dot  $\dot{\quad}$  or *m*, but is pronounced by the sound of न *n*.  
Example: अन्त , अन्त *anta* = End.

5 An अनुस्वारः *anusvārah* followed by the ओष्ठ्य *oṣṭhya* or labial group of letters or consonants प *pa* , फ *pha* , ब *ba* , भ *bha*, is indicated by the म *ma* or by simply a dot ' or *m* , but is pronounced by the sound of म *m*. Example: अम्बा *ambā*, अंबा *ambā* = Mother.

6. An अनुस्वारः *anusvārah* followed by the semi-vowel, य *ya*, is indicated by ' *m* writing in Devanāgarī or English and pronunciation should be taught by an expert teacher. The examples are:

**Example 1.** संयमः *saṁyamaḥ* = restraint, control

**Example 2.** संयुक्त *saṁyukta* = joined, connected, mingled

An अनुस्वारः *anusvārah* followed by the semi-vowels, ह *ha*, य *ya*, र *ra*, ल *la*, व *va*, is indicated by a dot ' or ' *m*, and is pronounced simply *m* or ' *m* and by a different sound as in bounce (bounce a

ball) Example: 1. संहार *saṁhāra* = to kill and is pronounced s-aun-hāra Example: 2. संरक्षण *saṁrakṣaṇa* = protection is pronounced as sounrakṣaṇa or simply *saṁrakṣaṇa*.

7. An अनुस्वारः *anusvārah* followed by the sibilants श *śa* , ष *ṣa* , स *sa* is indicated by a dot ' or *m* pronounced like 'oun' in b-oun-ce (bounce) as discussed before.

**Example: 1.** संशय *saṁśaya* = to doubt, pronounced as s-oun- śaya

**Example: 2.** संसार *saṁsāra* = the world, is pronounced as s-oun-sāra 'oun' as in bounce.