

केयूरा न keyūrā na (भर्तृहरि bhartṛhari)

Translation by Rāmulu Gajavāḍa saṁskṛtam Teacher

केयूरा न विभूषयन्ति पुरुषं हारा न चन्द्रोज्ज्वलाः
न स्नानं न विलेपनं न कुसुमं नालङ्कृता मूर्धजा ।
वाण्येका समलङ्करोति पुरुषं या संस्कृता धार्यते
क्षीयन्ते खलु भूषणानि सततं वाक्भूषणं भूषणम् ॥

*keyūrā na vibhūṣayanti puruṣaṁ hārā na candroj्ज्वालāḥ
na snānaṁ na vilepanaṁ na kusumaṁ nālaṅkṛtā mūrdhajā ।
vāṅyēkā samalaṅkaroti puruṣaṁ yā saṁskṛtā dhāryate
kṣīyante khalu bhūṣaṇāni satataṁ vākḥbhūṣaṇaṁ bhūṣaṇam ॥*

External ornaments like armllet do not adorn a person, nor necklaces with moon glow (the pearl necklaces), nor bathing, nor the perfumes nor cosmetics nor decorating or styling the hair. Speech alone adorns a person who holds well mannered and well refined speech. The external ornaments constantly wear out in due course of time and are temporary. The ornament of speech always is the real ornament among ornaments of a person.

केयूरा keyūrā = armllet, न विभूषयन्ति na vibhūṣayanti = do not adorn, पुरुषं puruṣaṁ = a person, हारा न चन्द्रोज्ज्वलाः hārā na candroj्ज्वालāḥ (hārā + na + candra + uj्ज्वालāḥ) = not the necklaces with moon glow, pearl necklaces or garland of white flowers, न स्नानं na snānaṁ = not bathing, न विलेपनं na vilepanaṁ = not anointing with perfumes, न कुसुमं na kusumaṁ = not the flower, नालङ्कृता nālaṅkṛtā (na + alaṅkṛtā) = not decorating (hair), मूर्धजा mūrdhajā = hair (that which is grown on the head), वाण्येका vāṅyēkā (vāṅi + ekā) = speech alone (cultured speech), समलङ्करोति samalaṅkaroti (samyak + alaṅkaroti) = decorates very well, पुरुषं puruṣaṁ = a person, या yā = who, संस्कृता धार्यते saṁskṛtā dhāryate = holds well articulated and well refined (speech), क्षीयन्ते kṣīyante = decay, wear out, or deteriorates, खलु khalu = indeed, भूषणानि bhūṣaṇāni = ornaments, स्ततं statam = constantly or always, वाक्भूषणं भूषणम् vākḥbhūṣaṇaṁ bhūṣaṇam = the ornament of speech is the real ornament among the ornaments.