

Pāli Verbal Prefixes

Prefix	Denotes:	Connotes:
ā-	near to, away As prefix: <i>diminution or intensity or completeness.</i> As preverb to verbs and their derivatives: <i>near, near to; towards; up to; intensity.</i> As separate preposition with acc. or abl. (or in prepositional cpds): <i>as far as, until, up to; including.</i> around, reversing, all around	
abhi-	towards, over As prefix to nouns and adjectives: <i>superiority or intensity.</i> As preverb to verbs and their derivatives: <i>movement towards or against or over; intensity;</i> or gives a transitive meaning to intransitive verbs. As separate preposition with acc.: <i>towards; over; severally.</i> In prepositional cpds: <i>towards; concerning</i>	excess, reverence, particularity
adhi-	towards, up to As prefix to nouns, adjectives, adverbs: <i>superiority, abundance.</i> As preverb to verbs and their derivatives: <i>up to, towards, into; over, above; in addition to.</i> As separate preposition with loc. and in prepositional cpds: <i>in, in regard to</i>	superiority
anu-	following, after As prefix and preverb: <i>with, along; after, behind; subordinate to, inferior to; according to, in conformity with; severally, one after the other; repeatedly.</i> As separate preposition: (1) with acc. and in prepositional cpds: <i>according to, in conformity with; severally, each by each.</i> (2) with loc.: <i>along, alongside.</i> As adverb: <i>anu-d-eva: after, afterwards; next.</i>	
apa-	away from As prefix and preverb: <i>away from, off, down.</i> As separate preposition with abl.: <i>away from; on the outside of</i>	detraction, hurt, reverence
(a)pi-	on, over prefix and preverb to verbs and their derivatives: <i>placing on or over; covering; nearness</i>	
ati-	beyond, too much, very much As prefix to nouns: <i>abundance, excess, superiority, transgressions; the being beyond (the reach of);</i> As prefix to adjectives, adverbs: <i>very much, too much;</i> As preverb to verbs and their derivatives: <i>beyond, over; through; too much, very much, too far</i> Inserted in interative cpds: <i>and, adding further, even more, etc.</i> i.e. <i>cakkāticakka</i>	
ava-, o-	down, away <i>away from, off; low; understanding; despising; a negative.</i> <i>around, back, aside, little, less</i>	disrespect, disregard
du-, dur- (double conson.)	bad, difficult, wrong (never used with verbs)	
ni-, nir- (double conson.)	down, out <i>in, into, free from, downwards, without, great, under</i>	
n'-	away, out	
pa-	towards, onward	beginning

	<i>forward, forth, in, chief, with, fore, forward to</i>	
parā-	<u>on, over</u> <i>away, aside, back, opposed to, beyond</i>	
pari-, pali	<u>round, about, completely</u> <i>around, all around, all about, all over</i>	completeness, fulfillment, intensifies root
pati-, paṭi-	<u>back to, opposite</u> <i>again, against, towards, back, in reverse direction, back again in return, to, towards, near</i>	
pura-	<i>in front</i>	
saṃ-	<u>together</u> <i>with, self, along, fully, perfectly</i>	intensifies root
su-	<u>well, right, very</u> <i>good, thoroughly, excellent (never used with verbs)</i>	
u-, ud- (double conson.)	<u>up, out of, away from</u> <i>above, upwards, forth, out</i>	
upa-	<u>towards, be subordinate to</u> <i>near towards, next, by the side of, below, less, strong, unto, to, towards, near, with, as, like</i>	opposite of apa-
vi-, viy- (double conson.)	<u>apart, separate</u> <i>apart, separate, not, free from, special, around, clear, different, opposed to, asunder, away, without</i>	separation, distinctness, dispersion, intensifies root