

## **Hyper-sanskritisms in Buddhist Sanskrit**

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In Buddhist Sanskrit, hypersanskritisms are attested on both phonetic and morphological levels. They originate in the interaction of M(iddle) I(ndo) A(ryan) languages and Sanskrit. In word phonetics, the resulting words can be traced to either (1) somewhat regular correlations between MIA and Sanskrit phonetic combinations, or (2) popular etymologies that only partly imply regular correlations.

Phonetic interferences lead to restructuring of word morphology. The morphological structure of a Sanskrit word may be modified entirely so much so that individual morphemes are either non-identifiable, or re-interpreted as carriers of new grammatical meanings, or replaced with Sanskrit-like morphological elements. New lexical items then arise.

This paper examines several examples of phonetic and morphological hyper-sanskritic features in order to reveal some system-building principles of how new lexical items are formed in the Buddhist Sanskrit vocabulary.