Week Two Outline: July 13 and 15th (New York Times)

Dear Pāli friends,

Thanks for your continued efforts. We will finish our survey of the 8 Pāli cases this week! We have already covered Nominative, Accusative, Instrumental, and Ablative. (Half way there!)

Please have lessons 1-6 (Pāli to English) completed for the 3rd class. We will complete the cases with locative and vocative on the 15th. I also hope to discuss the “absolutive” form of the verb as well on the 15th.

A quick review:
Nominative case (1st case): the subject of a sentence or clause. The doer of the action.

Accusative case (2nd case): the direct object of the verb.

Instrumental case (3rd case): the thing with which an action is performed. Also: the ‘instrumental of accompaniment: when one person does something along with another person. (typically uses saddhiṃ or saha)

Ablative case (5th case). Note that the ablative and instrumental “-a” plural case endings are the same. The point starting from which an action proceeds, from, away from. Also: has the sense of “because of” or “through”.

On July 13 we will take the Dative and Genitive cases. These cases have many similarities and share many endings.

Dative case (4th case) the indirect object, the purpose or result, “to” or “for”.

Genitive case (6th case) possession, “of”, “belonging to”.

For July 15:

Locative case (7th case) location, where an action occurs. “at”, “in”, etc.

Vocative case (8th case) the case of formal address “O monks!”