1. Sanskrit: an Easy Introduction to an Enchanting Language or SEL, written by Ashok Aklujkar (Professor Emeritus, University of British Columbia), is available from Svādhyāya Publications, 5346 Opal Place, Richmond, B.C., Canada V7C 5B4.

Purchase orders should be sent to Svādhyāya Publications or Dr. Vidyut Aklujkar at the above address (telephone/fax: 604-274-5353, email: vidyut.aklujkar@gmail.com or vidyut@shaw.ca)

The price of each set (two volume text plus CDs), inclusive of handling and surface postage, is Canadian $80.00, if mailed within Canada. It is US $80.00 (or its Canadian equivalent), if mailed to the United States. For other countries, extra postage charges will apply, depending on whether tracking number, insurance, registration etc. are required.

To have the set airmailed, please add CAD $30 for Canada and US $30 for the United States; that is, send CAD $110 or US $110 (or its Canadian equivalent) for each set. For countries other than Canada or the United States, the total cost including postage charges will be specified upon inquiry, depending on the number of items and whether tracking number, insurance, registration etc. are required.

Acceptable payment methods are specified below under item 8.

2. In considering the price, please take into account the quality, the long-term usefulness (SEL meets the students’ needs definitely beyond the first year or the introductory stage of learning), the nearly 700-page extent, the inclusion of five 90-minute cassettes OR two CDs with 450 minutes of recording and the inclusion of local taxes, handling and surface mail postage. Note also 5 below.

3. SEL sets are not sold without the cassettes/CDs. The audio aids are an integral part of the SEL method. They significantly speed up the learning process. They are not meant only to teach pronunciation and have been arranged in a novel, efficient way.

4. All SEL volumes are to be used together. They are not graded textbooks or readers but together form a well-integrated whole of grammar, vocabulary and reading that takes the students to a stage where he/she can begin to read on his/her own the Sanskrit of texts like the Mahā-bhārata. Most textbooks have three or four parts to a lesson. SEL, unconventionally but with considerable forethought, spreads such parts over different thematic and physical volumes (thematic volumes 1A, 1B and 2 constitute the first physical volume titled ‘Tools: Grammatical and Lexical’; thematic volume 3 constitutes physical volume 2 titled ‘Tests and Transition’; the arrangement is clearly explained on the covers of both the physical volumes).

5. Together the SEL volumes become a self-sufficient learning tool which can be used even by those who do not have access to a teacher. No additional purchase of a dictionary, reference grammar or reader is necessary while one completes the SEL course. The book assumes no previous knowledge of Sanskrit or any other Indian language or the presence of a teacher capable of teaching adult beginners.
6. Instructors ordering ten or more sets *directly* (not through a bookstore or agent)* will be entitled to a complimentary desk set. They should note that, as no text changes are being contemplated, there would be no risk of being burdened with outdated sets if they keep a few extra sets of SEL on hand.

Booksellers ordering less than ten sets will receive the sets at the same price as individual buyers. They may fix their sale prices at levels they consider appropriate for cost recovery.

Booksellers ordering ten or more sets will receive a 15% discount.

Instructors and booksellers will be expected to pay on the presentation of invoices.

Individual buyers must send full price payment in advance. They should inquire beforehand what the additional costs will be for courier dispatch etc.

While booksellers may use their usual forms for ordering, instructors ordering for their students and individual buyers should follow the following format: (a) name of the buyer (surname first), (b) full mailing address (preferably with telephone numbers and/or email addresses), (c) publication title, (d) number of sets required, (e) audio aid (cassettes or CDs) preference, (f) amount enclosed.

7. Single sets will not be taken back for reimbursement, except in the unlikely event of some serious production defect.

8. Payment methods:

(a) A personal or business cheque/check, bearing the sender’s address and telephone number, drawn on a Canadian or U.S. bank, cashable in Canadian or U.S. dollars and accompanied by the address to which the purchased set or sets are to be sent (in a few cases, the sender may not be identical with the set recipient).

(b) An international money order (available in the post offices of most countries) in Canadian currency equivalent to the U.S. prices specified above.

(c) A bank draft in Canadian currency or the currency of the sender’s country (former preferable) equivalent to the U.S. prices specified under 1.

(d) Interac or similar account-to-account money transfer methods which are applicable only to payers holding accounts in Canadian banks.

(e) PayPal or Western Union are also available now. The PayPal payment should be sent ONLY in CAD$ [PayPal charges us twice if the payment comes in US$.] to <vidyut.aklujkar@gmail.com>.

9. The facility of credit card payments or wire transfers cannot at present be offered.

10. As SEL is not being commercially advertised (in order to be able to continue with the present low price), your help in sending the preceding information to other interested individuals will be appreciated.

11. Some comments received:

From: “Iwona Milewska“ <imilews@Vela.filg.uj.edu.pl> Date: Fri, 8 Nov 2002 17:09:48 GMT+1 “...
It is an odd but very exciting feeling to be in direct contact with the author of the book one is using just now with one’s students. I really think your book is the best available (from more than 100 in the European tradition which I have scrutinized [for my Ph.D. thesis])."

**From:** “Richard P. Hayes“ <Richard.P.Hayes@comcast.net>. Date: Tue, 16 Aug 2005 19:50:14 -0600. “... It’s a wonderful textbook, so I hope it will be available after your retire.”

**From:** Sfauthor@aol.com. Date: Fri, 1 Feb 2002 21:37:16 EST. “... I rebuilt my knowledge of Sanskrit using your SEL. It’s a treasure trove.”

**From:** Stefano Piano <piano@cisi.unito.it>. Department of Oriental Studies University of Torino (Italy). Date: 21 Nov 2000 10:46:38 +0100. “... I have received the copy of the 2000 edition of Your work on the Sanskrit Language and I want to thank You very much for sending it to me. It is really a beautiful work and I will suggest my students to purchase it and to use it in their homework on Sanskrit Language.”

**From:** Tim Lighthiser <timlighthiser@yahoo.com>. Date: Mon, 7 Jan 2002 08:08:37 -0800 (PST). “... My wife surprised me with your Sanskrit volumes and tapes. I am really enjoying them. Beautiful work.” [9 Jan addition:] “... SEL truly is a beautiful work of sound and sense.”

**From:** Ashwani Peetush <apeetush@chass.utoronto.ca>. Date: Thu, 14 Mar 2002 13:31:55 -0500. “... In putting these texts together and sharing your knowledge with the world, you have done a great service. Sanskrit is [a] beautiful and logical language.”

**From:** Robert Zydenbos <zydenbos@gmx.de>. Date: Mon, 21 Apr 2008 22:22:37 +0200. “Your Sanskrit learning manual had arrived, wonderfully packed (without any damage), and within a short while we had sold all the copies but one. Then, last week, in the middle of a class a student held up his copy of the book and said: “this is the best book for learning Sanskrit there is!”, quoting another customer, who teaches in the department of linguistics and who had also come to your lectures.”

**From:** Chris Austin <sigrd_deinheld@yahoo.de>. Date: Sun, 04 Mar 2007 13:44:57 +0000 (GMT). “... Another English-based option, far more thorough-going and exhaustive is: Aklujkar, Ashok. Sanskrit: an Easy Introduction to an Enchanting Language. ... the four [thematic] volumes consist of a lesson book, a pure grammar book, a book of tests and exercises, and a small Sanskrit-English dictionary [now available as two physical volumes]. These materials are used in conjunction with audio exercises which are incredibly helpful in developing the student’s ear for the language, pronunciation, and naturalization to sam.dhi. I don’t think anyone knows more about Sanskrit primers than Dr. Aklujkar (University of British Columbia, Canada).”

**From:** Pankaj Jain <pankaj-jain@uiowa.edu>. Date: Tue, 06 Mar 2007 19:09:40 -0500. “As I began reading your monumental work, I am in awe and amazement. How passionately you have created this massive textbook for our beloved language. Truly a labor of love and devotion!!! Kudos to you!!!!”

**From:** Param Anund Soobarah <soobarah.param@intnet.mu> Date: Fri, 7 Aug 2009 15:01:34 +0400 I am pleased to inform you that I have received your books together with the disk. ... I spent the last couple of nights with it and I am frankly delighted with the amount of information your provide in the book, some even in anticipation to my queries. I... I have skimmed through the Lessons up to the beginning of Lesson 7, pages 33, para. 7.3, and find that your idea of the declension patterns very helpful.

**From:** Char Davis <char_rocketmail.com> <char_rocketmail.com> Date: Wed, 12 May 2010 Yes, I did receive the SEL set! ... I have been so engrossed in it that I got all the way to Chapter 7 before I was in over my head with the Overview of Grammar. Then I had to remember that it is an “overview” and
I might have to take this in smaller steps. Also, it was interesting to see how far I had managed to go on my own without a grammarian’s text. How wonderfully logical, precise, and well-crafted the SEL is. I’m very impressed and happy. So many mysteries and questions have been answered. I’m having fun!