THE RULES CONCERNING SPEECH (BHĀŚĀ) IN THE ĀYĀRANGA-AND DASAVEYĀLIYA-SUTTAS

Collette Caillat

One of the major vows taken by the ascetics of ancient India, whether Brahmanic, Buddhist or Jaina, is “not to make any untrue statement.” In fact, this prescription applies to each and every individual, for (as is well known), speech is assumed to exert extremely potent forces. It is therefore quite natural that the āstras lay down rules about what is or is not to be said, and where, when, how it should be uttered, not only on solemn occasions, but also in daily life. Such prescriptions are specified in the Scriptures of the Buddhists and the Jainas.

3. Vāg ghy evaitat sarvam // vācā hy evaitat sarvam āptam,
“Everything here is speech // for by speech everything hereby is obtained”, Śatapatha Brāhmaṇa 10.5.1.3 (ed. A. Weber; Berlin–London, 1885 translation J. Eggeling SBE 43, Oxford, 1897, repr. Delhi, 1963); cf. ib, 14.3.2.20:

vācyarthāḥ niyatāḥ sarve, vān-mulā vāg-nisritāḥ
“all things (have their nature) determined by speech; speech is their root, and from speech they proceed”, Mn 4,256 (trsl. G. Bühler);

vān-mayānīha sāstrāṇi vān-niśṭhāni tathāvā ca
tasmād vācaḥ paraṇi nāsti vāg ghi sarvasya kāraṇam,
“the sāstras are made up of words, and words are the source of everything”, Nātyaśāstra, 9.3 (ed. M. Ghosh, Calcutta, 1967, trsl. Id, Calcutta, 1951, BI 272).
as well as in the Dharmashastras; but, whereas in the last mentioned books, the rules concern all social categories, in the Buddhist Pali Tipitaka and in the Jaina Siddhanta, they are first and foremost meant for the members of the religious community.

The Svetambara Jainas have expressed their views on bhasa (bhagā) in several passages of their canon\(^1\). The topic is investigated from different angles in various parts of Vyahapannatti, Vyakhyā-prajnapti, and systematically treated in the eleventh chapter, called "bhāsā-paya", of the Pannavaṇṇa—a precious survey of which we owe to Pandit Dalsukh Malvania\(^2\). Moreover, the first Aṅga and the second Mulasutra of the canon deal with bhāsā from the point of view of discipline, in their famous chapters which I propose to consider here; they are Āyār (aṅga-sutta) 2.4.1-2 (in prose), Dasaveyaliya—sutta 7 (in verses)\(^3\). I shall not examine the interconnexions between both, they have been studied by Dr. Ghatage in NIA 1.2 (May 1938, p. 130-137)\(^4\). I only wish to show that a comparison between these developments and their old Brahmanic counterparts\(^5\) help to realize how the Jainas have succeeded in


I had the good fortune to read this chapter with Pandit Dalsukh Malvania: I wish to seize this opportunity to express my affectionate gratitude to him, his family and circle of friends.

The Jaina (and Buddhist) statements concerning addhamāgaha bhāsā (māgaha-bhāsā, māla-bhāsā), etc., will not be taken into consideration, as they would be irrelevant from the present point of view.

3. As noted by Schubring, the odd chapters of Dasav are concerned with special subjects (Dasav, Introduction, p. VI); in particular, different aspects of (right) conduct are examined therein.

4. “Parallel passages in the Daśāvaikālika and the Ācāraṅga”; A. M. Ghatage’s conclusion is that Dasav 7 is older than Āyār 2.4. Schubring’s opinion, on the contrary, is that “Dasav is later than Ayār. If in its ślokas it contains such pādas as scattered in the prose of Ayār/. / the latter represent an ancient stock....”, Doctrine § 74 n. 2.

5. On the comparative antiquity of Gaut DhS, etc., and of Buddhist-Jaina canonical scriptures, JACOBI, loc. cit., p. XXX ff.
binding into an organic unity prescriptions which are also found, but more or less scattered, in different sections of the Dhs, and which have been somewhat differently elaborated in the Pali scriptures. In fact, as is natural, the Jainas’ ethical teachings in this field are linked with their metaphysical tenets.

Let me first sketch how the Dhs approach the subject.

Sometimes—exceptionally—the approach is a general one; e.g., when ÆpDhs introduces the chapters on penance, it explains that “A wise man who has eradicated the (faults) which destroy creatures, obtains salvation”\(^1\). “(These are) anger exultation, grumbling, covetousness, perplexity, doing injury, hypocrisy, lying, gluttony, calumny, envy, lust, secret hatred, neglect to keep the senses in subjection, neglect to concentrate the mind…”, krodho harṣo roṇo lobho mohō dambhō droho mṛsodya-mātyāga-parivāda-anuwāyā kāma-manīya anātmय am ayogaś, teṣāṁ yoga-mūlo nirghāṭāḥ (ÆpDhs 1.8.23.5) On the contrary, “freedom from anger (akrodha-...), truthfulness (satya-vacana-...), silencing slander (u-paiṭuna-) uprightness, affability (āryava-mārdava-...), peace with all created beings, concentration (of the mind on the contemplation of the Atman), regulation of one’s conduct according to that of the Āryas (āryava-—these (good qualities) have been settled by the agreement (of the wise) for all (the four) orders...”\(^2\) Similar precepts are also ordained by Manu, who applies them to the snātaka:

satyadharmāryavṛattesu bāuse caivārāmetsadā
vāg-bāhūdara-sāmyataḥ,

“Let him always delight in truthfulness,...; let him keep his speech, his arms and his belly under control” (Mn 4.175)\(^3\). As a matter of fact, Manu is in accordance with Gautama who, among the duties of the Snātaka (ch. 9), prescribes:

‘He shall keep his organ, his stomach, his hands, his feet, his tongue, and his eyes under due restraint”\(^4\), further:

satya-dharma (68), ārya-vṛttataḥ (69)... syāt (72),

“He shall always speak the truth.”

“He shall conduct himself (as becomes) an Āryan.”

---

1. nirṛtya bhūta-dāhiyān kṛṣemaṁ gacchati paṇḍitaḥ,
   (trsl. Bührler).
2. Ib 6. Cf. also 1.11.31.25 (trsl., SBE 1.11.31.23):
krodhārdhīnīṣa bhūta-dāhiyān doṣān varjaya,
   “and let him (the snātaka) avoid the faults that destroy the creatures, such as anger and the like.”
4. na tiśnodara-pāṇi-pada-vāk-caksū cāpalāni kuryāt.
Thus, rules regarding speech are, in fact, but the application to a particular case of general injunctions to keep one's organs (organs of sense, organs of action and manas) under complete control (cf. Mn 2.88) the organ of speech being the tenth in the list.¹

Therefore, it would seem normal that, in the DhS, general instructions should be given about the proper use of Vac. Nevertheless, most of the time, in the texts, the rules are laid down for specific categories of individuals: the householder, or, more often, the brahmačārin, the student who has returned home, the snātaka....

Now, what are these rules? Two sets can be distinguished:

(1) the rules connected with salutation; (2) the rules which might be termed apotropaic, whether the danger is visible or occult.

(1) It is well known that "reverential salutation" is looked upon as strengthening vārdhana.² Conversely, as stressed in a floating stanza, "he who habitually salutes and constantly pays...... reverence to the aged obtains an increase of four (things), (namely) glory, length of life, fame, (and) strength".³

\[
\begin{align*}
&\text{abhivāda-nilasya nityaṁ upādhopasevināḥ} \\
&\text{caturāṁ sampravardhante, kirttī āyur yaśo balam} \quad (\text{Mbh. 5.39.60}).
\end{align*}
\]

The same view is expressed among the Buddhists.⁴

With minor variants, Mn (2.121) applies the maxim to the brahmačārin:

\[
\begin{align*}
&\text{caturāṁ tasya vardhante, āyuh prajnā yaśo balam.}
\end{align*}
\]

As a matter of fact, in the DhS, much importance is attached to terms of address and to saluting—a topic to which the sixth chapter of the Gaut DhS is

---

1. \textit{vak caiva daśami smṛta, Mn 2. 90 d.}—
   
   Compare Asoka, Rock Edict XII (C), recommending \textit{vaca- (vaci-) gṛtti} and, \textit{infra}, Uttarajjhāyaṇa 24. 22-23.


3. For concordances, L. Sternbach, Mahā-subhāṣita-saṃgraha 2, Hoshiarpur 1976 (Vishveshvaranand Vedic Research Institute, V. Indological Series—69, no 2336, compare 2337-8). Trsl. following Bühler, Mn 2.121.

4. \textit{abhivādana-nilissa niccaṁ vaddhapacāyino} 
   
   \textit{caturāḥ dhammā vaddhanti : āyu vāyuḥ sukhaṁ balam}, Dhp 109, of which the Gāndhāri Dharmapada rendering is:
   
   \textit{ahivādana-nilīsa}
   
   \textit{nīca vṛdhavāyārino}
   
   \textit{caturī tasa vardhadi}
   

wholly devoted. Actually, most DhS give details on proper behaviour in this connexion, whether regarding the time and circumstances, the gestures, the words, intonation syntax....1. Generally, though, saluting is not treated as an independent subject; Mn, for instance, includes the topic in the chapter dealing with studentship, where it is specified which words the young man must use according to the age, sex, learning, social status.... of the person whom he addresses (2.121-129), and according to circumstances (2.49). Similarly, ĀpDhS inserts this special subject in one of the chapters about the general obligations of the Vedic student (1.2.5.15 ff.), his behaviour while begging (1.1.3.28.30, cf; Gaut DhS 2.36), or, again, the conduct of the student who has returned home (1.4.14.7 ff., particularly 1.4.14.26-31).... Thus, the matter is considered separately in several developments, where it is discussed with more or less detail:

(2) The same remark would apply to the second set of rules, those which I proposed to term apotropaic. They seem to be given mainly for the snātaka; and to remain comparatively unchanged.

Before stressing that the snātaka should abide by truth, satyadharma ....syāt (9.61, supra), Gautama considers several utterances which are to be avoided. The same warnings recur in other DhS, especially in ĀpDhS, the sūtras of which can be conveniently examined (1.11.31.5-16):

5. And he shall not speak evil of the gods or of the king,
(parusāṇ ca bhavyaṃ devatāṇāṁ rājāśca ... varjayet),

8. He shall not mention the blemishes of a cow, of sacrificial presents, or of a girl.

9. And he shall not announce it ... if a cow does damage (by eating corn or grain in a field).

10. (Nor shall he call attention to it) if a cow is together with her calf....

11-12. And of a cow which is not a milch-cow he shall not say ‘She is not a milch-cow’. He must say ‘This is a cow which will become a milch-cow’.

(nādhenum adhenuḥ iti brāyāt, dhenu-bhavanam eva brāyāt),

16. If he sees a rainbow, he must not say to others, ‘Here is Indra’s bow’.

1. For proper words, ĀpDhS 1.4.14.26-29; plu of final vowel, ib 1.2.5.17, Vas 13.46, Mn 2.125, Pān 8.2.83, quoted in Kane, ib, p. 340; syntax, GautDhS 2.36, ĀpDhS 1.1.3 28-30, Mn 2.69.

2. gor daksinānām kumārayāt ca paripoṣān varjayet (8)
sthāntiḥ ca gām nācaśīta (9)
sambṛṣṭiḥ ca vatsenāṅkṣite (10)
nendradhanur iti parasmai prabrāyāt (18)
Similarly, GautDhS 9.22 remarks: "(...in speaking of) a rainbow (he shall use the word) mani-dhanus (the jewelled bow) instead of Indra-dhanus'" — a prescription which is in agreement with BaudhDhS 2.3.6. 11-12, and VasDhS 12.32.²

The prohibitions and injunctions detailed above are likewise given in the other DhS. The implied justification can be deduced from the following observation, by ApDhS:

nāsau 'me sāpatna' iti brāyāt; yady 'asau me sāpatna' iti brāyād dośantāṁ bhṛtruyan janayet,

"(In company) he shall not say, ‘This person is my enemy’. If he says ‘This person is my enemy’, he will raise for himself an enemy, who will show his hatred" ApDhS 1.11.31.15).³

Now, these remarks are made in a khaṇḍa which warns against dangerous words and acts, and points to those which are conducive to welfare (1.11.31.6; 14, etc.); similarly, khaṇḍa 32 dissuades from visits to countries inhabited by inferior men, from mixing in assemblies and crowds (1.11.32.18-19); it also advises the snātaka not “to cross a river swimming” and not to use “ships of doubtful (solidity)” (2.6.27).⁴ To revert to speech: we can include in this review a rule laid down for both the snātaka and the householder, who are advised not to “talk of a doubtful matter as if it were clear” (2.5.12.21, cf. 1.11.32.22).⁵ This last recommendation leads us back to the observance of truthfulness, which should not be interpreted as an encouragement to use cruel words. On the contrary, Manu stresses:

hināṅgānatiriktāṅgānvidyā-hinnānvayo’dhikān
rupā-draviṇa-hināntca jāti-hināntca nākṣipet,

1. manidhanur iti İndradhanuh.
2. Compare, a little differently, Mn 4.59.

On beliefs connected with rainbow, M. Mauss, “Theorie de la magie”, reprinted in Sociologie et anthropologie, Paris, 1950, p. 32; S. H. Webster, Le tabou, (French translation), Paris, 1952, p. 227 and n. 1.—For the same warning, Prof, Gonda kindly refers me to several other texts: PārG 2.7.13, VaikhDh 3.2.12, AthParis 72.1.6, and to the old saying in The Netherlands, that it is a bridge for the deceased to go to heaven, (cf. H. Bachtold-Staubli, Handwörterbuch des deutschen Abersglaubens. Berlin, 1927-1942, 6 vol., s. v. Regenbogen).
3. 1.11.31.17 in the text, but 15 in the translation.
4. bāhūhṛṣa ca nadi-taraṇam (scil. varjayet), (26); cf. 1.2.5.9; 1.5.15.11 (and the note SBE 2, p. 55): 1.11.32.26; also Mn 4.77.
5. nāoṁ ca sāṃfayikam (scil. varjayet), (27).
6. na sāṃfaye pratyakṣavad brāyāt.
The Rules Concerning Speech (Bhāṣā) in the Āyāranga

“Let him (the snātaka) not insult those who have redundant limbs or are deficient in limbs, nor those destitute of knowledge, nor very aged men, nor those who have no beauty or wealth, nor those who are of low birth.” As a matter of fact, avoiding lies and avoiding harshness are both combined in the fourfold prescription emphasized by Mn (4.138):

satyam bruyat, priyam bruyanna bruyatsatyamapriyam,
priyam ca nantram bruyad eta dharma sanatanah.

“Let him (the snātaka) say what is true, let him say what is pleasing, let him utter no disagreeable truth, and let him utter no pleasant falsehood; that is the eternal law”.2

Parallels for this aphorism are quoted from Viṣṇu- and Yājñavalkya—DhS, from the epics3.... More could be adduced from Buddhist and Jaina scriptures.

Let us now turn to the Jainas.

First of all, one fact is remarkable: that two old canonical texts each devote one whole chapter completely to the examination of the different species of bhāṣā (“bhāṣā-jāya”), and to right conduct with regard to speech. This proves the very great importance attached to the subject by the Jaina teachers, and by the Jaina tradition. No less remarkable is the endeavour of Āyār and Dharmaraja to explain what their guiding principles are; they can be summarized as follows: on the one hand, it is imperative to respect truth—an effort which involves the constant observance of self-control, sanjāma- (Amg samjāma); on the other hand, it is necessary to combine respect for truth with respect for ahimsā. Such is the complex behaviour advo-

1. Mn 4.141.
2. śukta rūṣāh parusā vāco na bruyat, BaudhDhS 2.3,20, “let him (the snātaka) not make empty, ill-sounding, or harsh speeches” (Bühler’s trsl.)
3. ... ... nākasmād aprīyam vadet,
nāhitam nantram cātva .... ... , Yājñavalkya DhS (ed. Stenzlér Berlin-London, 1849), 1.132, “on no account should he say (anythīṅg) disagreeable, noxious, or, again, untrue ....”;
nāśīlam kirtayet (72) nāntram (73) nāpriyam (74), Viṣṇusmiṭi, ch. 71 (ed. J. Jolly, Calcutta 1881, repr. 1962);
satyam vaded nyāhṛtam tad dūtiyam,
dharmaṃ vaded nyāhṛtam tat tṛtiyam,
priyam vaded nyāhṛtam tuc caturtham. MBh (Bh) 12.288.38, (similar to Mn, loc. cit.; compare, infra, the Buddhist definition of subhāsita).

Of Rāma, it is said that, even if spoken to harshly, he never gave a harsh answer, Rām 2.1.10 (on which Gonda, Selected Studies, Leiden, 1975, p. 514).
cated in the introduction and conclusion of Āyār 2.4¹, where it is recommended (1) to “vomit” the four passions involving violence (vantā koham ca māṇam ca māyaṃ ca loham ca), (2) to speak only after due reflection and with constant circumspection². To help attain this ideal aim, bhāṣā is analysed into four species (with subdivisions): two of them are absolutely condemned and prohibited, because they are either totally or partly wrong and false; as for the other two, the monk should be educated to use them with discrimination: Dasav 7.1 proclaims:

cauham khalu bhāṣāṃ pariṣamkhyā pannavam
donham tu pịṇāyaṃ sikkhe, do na bhāṣejja savoṣa³.

Āyār also distinguishes four bhāṣā-jāyā, somewhat emphatically: bhikkhu jānejja
cattāри bhāṣā-jāyāṁ, tam-jaha : saccam egam padhamam bhāṣā-jāyāṃ biyam mosam taiyam,
seccā-mosam, jan n'eva saccam n'eva mosam n'eva saccāmosam asaccāmosam tam cauthham
bhāṣā-jāyam, se bemi.... (2.4.1.4). Thus the bhikkhu is invited, trained to recognize:
(1) truth, (2) untruth, (3) truth mixed with untruth, (4) “what is neither truth, nor
untruth, nor truth mixed with untruth ....”⁴. Consequently, Dasav 7 immediately

1. se bhikkhū vā bhikkhuni vā vantā koham ca māṇam ca māyaṃ ca loham ca, aṇhvī
niṭṭhābhāṣā niṣamma-bhāṣā aturiya-bhāṣā vivega-bhāṣā samjāe samjāe bhāṣāṁ
bhāṣejjā.

“a monk or a nun, putting aside wrath, pride, deceit, and greed, considering well, speaking with precision, what one has heard, not too quick, with discrimination, should employ language in moderation and restraint”, (Āyār 2.4.2.19 trsl, Jacobi).

2. Compare Dasav 7. 54-57:

chasu samjāe, sāmaṇie sayā jae,
vaṇja buddhe hiyam anulomiyam,
“controlled (in his conduct) towards the six (groups of souls), (and)
always restrained in monkhood the wise one shall speak good (and) kind
(words)” (56 c-d, trsl. W. Schubring).

3. “Of the four kinds of speech, the thoughtful (monk) should, after consider-
deration, learn the training in two, (but) should not use the other two
ones at any occasion.”


See the same fourfold division “truth, untruth, ....” in relation with the first and second guttis (guṭṭi—: maṇa-gutti, vai-g.), in Uttarajjhāya 24. 20-23 (ed. J. Charpentier, Upsala, 1921, Archives d’Etudes orientales, 18), i.e. in the chapter concerning the eight paṇayāna-māyā (“matrices of the Doctrine”). Here, the analysis of the three guttis follows that of the five sāmitis: the second of these is the bhāṣā-samiti, “care in speaking”
proclaims an interdiction “the thoughtful (monk) should not use” “that (form of speech) which is true (but) not to be uttered, that which is half-true, that which is (quite) untrue, none (of which is) practised by the Jinas”\(^1\). The positive recommendation is formulated in the next sloka:

“(But) he should, after deliberation (samuppeham), use a speech not exposed to doubt (asamdiddham girama bhāsejja), that is (a speech) which is neither true nor untrue and (a speech) which is true, provided that it is not to be blamed or rough”

\[ \text{asaccamosam, saccam ca anavajjam akakkasan (Dasav 7.2-3)} \]\(^2\).

Thus, the conceptual frame is firmly set for a discussion on bhāsā to take place. The adduced definitions aim at being both clear and exact (in agreement with the complexity of reality); moreover, they expressly recognize the heterogeneity of charity and truth: further whereas, as we have just seen, Manu merely combined both virtues in, so to say, a formal fourfold pattern, the Jainas strive for complete integration and try to reconcile these sometimes contradictory requirements in a higher synthesis. Their effort can also be evaluated if compared with the

(ib 9-10), which stresses the necessity to expel all passions (compare, supra, ĀpDhs 1.8.23.5):

\[ \begin{align*}
\text{kohe māne ya mūrde lokahe ya uvantay ā} \\
\text{hāse bhāe moharie vikahāsu tah'eva ca} \\
\text{eyāim atta thānām parivajjito sujāo} \\
\text{asāvajjam miyāmo kāle bhāsam bhāsejja pannavā}
\end{align*} \]

“To give way to anger, pride, deceit and greed, laughter, fear, loquacity and slander; these eight faults should a well-disciplined monk avoid; he should use blameless and concise speech at the proper time” (transl. H. Jacobi, SBE 45, Oxford, 1895, repr. Delhi, 1964, p. 131, and n. 2).

For other references, cf. W. Schubring, Doctrine § 173; P. S. Jaini, The Jaina Path of Purification, Berkeley . . ., 1979, 247-8); etc.

1. Dasav 7.2 :

\[ \text{jā ya saccā anattavā. saccamosa ya jā, musā} \]
\[ \text{jā ya, buddhehi ‘nāţna, na tam bhāsejja pannavan.} \]

2. Cp. Āyār 2.4.1.6 : se bhikkhu va jā ya bhāsā saccā, jā ya bhāsā mosā, jā ya, bh. saccā-mosā, taha-pagāram bhāsam sāvajjam sa-kirijam kakkaçām sa-kadu-
\[ \text{yan niţthuraṁ phusam anhaya-karim cheda-karim bheda-karim pariyāvāna-} \]
\[ \text{kariṁ uddavaçā-karim bhūvaghaţiyam abhikamkha no bhāsam bhāsejja,} \]

“a monk or a nun, having well considered, should not use speech—truth, or untruth, or truth mixed with untruth—that is blamable, (speech which is) sinful, rough, stinging, coarse, hard, leading to sins, to discord and factions, to grief and outrage, to destruction of living beings” (trsl. partly following Jacobi).
Buddhist fourfold definition of *subhāsīta vācā*¹, and fourfold analysis of *anariya-vohāra*².

Now, though the Jaina analysis of bhāṣā can be said to be comparatively clear-cut, the attached developments are not always plain to understand. Two points, nevertheless, are manifest: (1) all the prohibitions and injunctions included in the two relevant lessons of Āyār and Dasav can be shown to proceed from the above two fundamental principles, observance of truth based on *sanjāma*, and observance of *ahimsā*; (2) the various particular prescriptions are, in many cases, akin or similar to those which are laid down in the DhS; but, precisely because the Jaina chapters concentrate on bhāṣā exclusively, all the minute rules can easily be recognized as special applications of an underlying theoretical scheme (applied examples of which are evidently liable to be multiplied); moreover, though they start from a multiplicity of particular consideration (most of which are formulated in all Indian sāstras), the Jainas obviously connect them with their own metaphysical system (and their doctrine of *jīna-nikāyas*, infra), therefore promote a more consistent and general outlook; finally, they tend to include in the bhāṣā-chapter remarks which, in the DhS (also: in the Jaina suttas) mainly concern behaviour³: Just as bad behaviour should be shunned, words also must clearly, though not aggressively, help discriminate between good and reprehensible conduct; in all possible ways, speech shall conform to the correct norm⁴. Thus, from the Dasav and Āyār point of view, the scope of bhāṣā seems almost unlimited⁵.

1. *Idha bhikkhave bhikkhu subhāsītanyeva bhāsati no dubhāsītām; dhammaṃ yeva bh. no adommaṃ; piyaṃ yeva bh. no appiyaṃ; saccam yeva bh. no aiṅkam. Imehi kho | catūhi angehi samannāgam vācā subhāsīta hoti no dubhāsītā; anavajjā ca ananuajjā ca viññānam, if a bh. “speak well and not badly, speak righteously and not unrighteously, speak affectionately and not unkindly speak truth and not falsehood, his speech having these four qualities, is well spoken, faultless, and not blamable by the wise”, S 1.188.33-189.4 (C. Rhys Davids trsl.). With the “subhāsīta-sutta” in S, compare the “subhāsīta-sutta” in Sn. 78.5 ff., stanzas 450-454 (cf. infra).

2. *Cattāro anariya-vohāra. Musā-vādo, pisunā vācā, pharusā vācā, sanphappalāpo*, “four are the ignoble modes of speech: lying speech, slanderous speech, rough speech, frivolous speech”, D 3.232. 5-6, etc., cp. M 1.42.10 ff.

3. Cf. ĀpDhs 1.11.32, supra.

4. Including the grammatical norm. infra.

5. Cf. the conclusion of Dasav 7 stanza 57: *parikkha-bhāsi susamāḥ indie cauk-kasāyāvagae anissie sa āṭiddhune dhutta-malam pure-kaḍam ārāhæ logam imanṭahā param-ṭti hemi,*
The Rules Concerning Speech (Bhāsā) in the Āyāranga

Let us consider some of the examples adduced by the texts.

In Pannavaṇā, all speech inspired by the four kasāyas, koha māṇa..., is assimilated to lie, mosa. On the other hand, according to Āyār, anger etc. are conducive to harsh words (2.4.1.1) that hurt (ib 6). As such, they are prohibited. For its part, Dasav explains, so to say, the śloka 7.11-35 by emphasizing twice, at the beginning, and towards the end of the development, that a wise monk must (even if it is true) avoid all “rough speech which does harm to living beings:

.... ḍharusāḥ bhāsā guru-bhāvabhāyāṁ
sacca vi sā na vattava... (7.11, cf. 29 c-d).

Without going into all the details and possible digressions, it is interesting to review what is prescribed and what is prohibited in the aforesaid passage. Various recommendations are met with which have been seen to be addressed either to the brahmacārin or the snātaka in the DhS. In Dasav 7.12, it is stressed that defect and mutilations should not be pointed to; that various personal remarks are unacceptable (though they might be true literally speaking) for they might lead to faults of feeling and of conduct. In this connexion, prescribed and recommended terms of address are specified, and detailed in six ślokas (14.19). But it is not enough to observe circumspection when addressing mankind: circumspection is necessary also when speaking of all other five sense creatures, panceiya-pāṇa, and, in particular, no hiṃsā should be suggested against them, whatever their species.

“(he who) speaks after consideration, controls his senses well, has overthrown the four passions, (and) is without (worldly) support purges (his soul) of the dirt resulting from previous evil deeds (and) is sanctified in this world and the next. Thus I say “(trsl. Schubring). Compare Pannavā chap. 11 § 830-1, the fourfold ohāraṇī-bhāsā : the sacca form is ārāhaṇī.

1. Cf. chap. 11 § 963.
2. tah’ eva kāṇaṁ kāne’ tti .... .... no vae,
   “.... a monk should not call a one-eyed man .... ” by this name; cf. Āyār 2.4.2.1.
3. eev ‘anneṣa atthena paro jen’ uvahammat,
āyāra-bhāva-dosa-mni, na tami bhāsejja pannavam,
“because the person concerned would be hurt by this or similar statement, a thoughtful (monk) should not utter such speech, as he knows (that) faults of conduct and of feeling (would result from it), trsl. cf. Schubring. cf. Āyār 2.4.2.1-2.
4. tah’ eva “hole” “gole” tti .... na tami bhāsejja pannavam, 7.14. etc. Cf. Āyār 2.4.1, 8-11 (on how to address or not to address a man, a woman). Compare Chāndogya Upaniṣad 7.15.2.
5. Dasav 7.22.
tah' eva gāo dujjhāo dammā .... .... 
.... .... .... n’evam bhāsejja pannavant

So, “a thoughtful (monk) should not say: ‘(these) cows should be milked, tamed ....’. He should say: ‘this is a young bull’, ‘this is a milk cow’,

juwan-gave tti naṃ būyā, dhēnum rasa-daya tti va.

There can be little doubt that all these rules more or less echo what is to be found in the different sections of the DhS. But the Jainas adapt them and expatiate further. After they have mentioned the highest beings, the panceṇḍiya-pānas, they jump to the other extremity of the animate world of the chañjīva-nikāyas—to the immobile jīvas, viz., trees (and their fruit), plants, etc., which naturally must also be respected, as prescribed in ten slokas (7,26-35): in fact, all the jīvas come to be protected thanks to the warnings against and condemnation of bhūvaghāṇi bhāsā.

Thus, following the thread offered by the first part of Dasav 7 and (though perhaps not so clearly) by Āyār 2.4, we have encountered many of the prescriptions found in the DhS; it is obvious, nevertheless, that, in the Jaina suttas, they are integrated in a comparatively well-defined general structure.

The second part of Dasav 7 warns against colloquial expressions which, in fact, are misleading, as they confuse right and wrong. Some concern, for instance, festive entertainments, (crossing, etc., of) rivers .... (36-39), in short, precisely those actions which are criticised in the above quoted khanḍas of ĀpDhs (1.11.31-32) and connected brahmanic texts: the Jainas retain most of the circumstances detailed in the DhS chapter(s), but, in the present development, they focus the attention on what is commonly—lightly said about them. Caution is also required if the monk should mention actions or preparations which are usually said to be “well done”, “well cooked”,

su-kače tti su-pakke tti ....

though they actually imply injury to living beings! Further, he should not issue orders and assertions which might be inconsiderate. Thus, in all the above circumstances, the monk is warned against rashness and lack of self-control:

tah' evasanajayan .... .... 
.... .... .... n’ evam bhāsejja pannavant.

1. Cf. Āyār 2.4.2.9.
2. Dasav 7.24-25, cf. Āyār 2.4.2.7-10. Compare supra, ApDhs, etc.
5. Dasav 7.41-42., cf. Āyār 2.4.2.3-6.
6. Dasav 7. 43-47.
7. Dasav 7.47; (= 29 d; on the contrary evam bh. p., 39d=44d).
Self-control is further required when speaking of atmospheric phenomena. It will be remembered, in this connection, that Gaut DhS, etc. specify, in particular, how to mention the rain-bow (supra). But, whereas the DhS seem to express some form of taboo, the Jainas aim at being accurate and consistent; the words chosen by the religious person should not contradict with the objective truths attained by the (Jaina) scientists; therefore, "he should not say that a cloud, the sky, or a man is a god, (but) he should (simply) state (the fact) that a cloud has formed itself or has risen high, or that a thunder-cloud has sent down rain":

\[\begin{align*}
tah' \text{ e}va \text{ meha} \text{m} & \text{ va} \text{ naha} \text{m} \text{ va} \text{ ma} \text{nava} \text{m} \\
& \text{ na deva deva tti gir} \text{m} \text{ va} \text{ efj} \text{a}; \\
'sammu\text{cchie} \text{ unnae} \text{ va} \text{ pa} \text{oe}' \\
& \text{ va} \text{ efj} \text{a} \text{ va} \text{ 'vut} \text{tho} \text{ balahae'} \text{ tti} \\
\end{align*}\]

(Dasav 7.52).\(^2\)

Moreover, the monk will naturally accept seasons and events with due equanimity.\(^3\)

Self-control, samjaya, is all the more advocated as it often happens that false appearances are confused with truth, and hence, are conducive to lies and to sin.\(^4\) Therefore, one should be careful when speaking of doubtful matters—an advice which is also given by ĀpDhS, as we have seen.\(^5\) Dasav and Āyār apply this consideration to trivial remarks, especially to those concerning future events, which, by nature, are uncertain;\(^6\) and, also, to those that concern the sex of various animals.\(^7\)

Consequently, attention must also be paid to grammar and grammatical correction, of which Āyār recalls the fundamental constituents (2.4.1.3).\(^8\) Thus,

1. Cf. ĀpDhS 1.11.31.16, etc. supra.
2. Cf. ib 53; Āyār 2.4.1.12-13.
3. Dasav 7.50-51; Āyār 2.4.1.12-13.
4. Dasav 7.5:

\[\begin{align*}
\text{vita} \text{ha} \text{m} & \text{ pi} \text{ tah} \text{h} \text{m} \text{ mott} \text{ini} \text{ ja} \text{m} \text{ gir} \text{a} \text{m} \text{ bh} \text{a} \text{asae} \text{ naro} \\
& \text{ tam} \text{h} \text{a} \text{ so} \text{ pu} \text{tt} \text{ho} \text{ p} \text{a} \text{ve} \text{g} \text{a} \text{m} \text{ ....} \\
\end{align*}\]

"by a speech which has the appearance of truth though it is untrue, a man is touched by sin" (trsl. Schubring).
5. Cf. Āyār 2.4.1.2.
6. Dasav 7.6-10 (compare Āyār 2.4.1.2):

\[\begin{align*}
\text{ja} \text{m} & \text{ a} \text{tth} \text{ham} \text{ tu} \text{ na} \text{ j} \text{a} \text{ne} \text{jj} \text{a} \text{ "evam e} \text{yam" ti} \text{ no} \text{ vae}, \\
\text{ja} \text{tth} \text{ha} \text{ sank} \text{h} \text{a} \text{ bhave} \text{ ja} \text{m} \text{ tu} \text{ "evam e} \text{yam" ti} \text{ no} \text{ vae}, \\
\text{"if (a monk) does not know (or) has some doubt .... he should not say "it is thus" ....} \\
& \text{ ... (Dasav 7. 8-9 (trsl. Schubring).}
\end{align*}\]
8. Cf. Paṇṇav § 896 (for a discussion on empirical truths, ib § 862).
the Jains seem to advocate purism, at least as far as possible, and their attitude is noteworthy, as the Buddhists apparently deny that any fundamental connection exists between chaste speech and spiritual achievement. In this case, then, as in several others, the Jains probably follow the Brahmanic trend more closely than the Buddhists do.

Be that as it may, it is obvious that the Jains were well aware of the prescriptions concerning speech which are registered in the Dharmasāstras; moreover, in the above quoted Dasav and Śāyā chapters, they appear to have added several new bhasā rules—which almost certainly stem from the same common sources, though they seem to have been suggested not so much by the actual wording (in the DhS they concern deeds) as by their location, (in the DhS, they are in the immediate context of the rules about speech).

On the other hand, it cannot be denied that the Jains unweariedly strive to be explicit about the conceptual basis of, and reasons for, the rules they ordain. This, possibly, helped them to consider floating precepts with fresh eyes, to group them and integrate them in an organic unity. In this respect, whatever their actual sources, the Jains can be said to have achieved a perfectly original work. Nowhere, in the Śāyā and Dasav chapters, is there any mention of retaliation, or any trace of obscure fear of occult forces; on the contrary, all the precepts are well-grounded on objective considerations—whether scientific, metaphysical and/or ethical. To a certain extent, thanks to these lessons on bhasā, we can witness how the Jains have reconsidered generally accepted rules of conduct and recast them to build a really new, and comparatively systematic, code.

1. Cf. the commentary on the (Sn) Subhāṣīta-sutta, in Paramatthajotikā 2.2 (ed. Helmer Smith, London, Pali Text Society, 1917), 397.7–398.7: yad aṇāhe / nāmādhi padehi, lingavacana-vibhatti-kālakārūdihi sampattihī ca camannagataḥ vacam ‘subhāṣīta’ ti maññanti, tāṁ dharmato paśīchedhi, ‘what some believe, that ‘subhāṣīta’ means speech composed with words—names, etc.—possessed of gender, inflection, tense marker..., — One lawfully rightly, rejects this view—To avoid dubbhāṣīta means avoiding pesuvā, etc. (supra).

Cf. the whole discussion, Pj 2.2.3966 14—398,12, and Saratthapakāsini (ed. F. L. Woodward, London 19... PTS) 1.272.8–274.22.

The Rules Concerning Speech (Bhāṣā) in the Āyāranga

Abbreviations

\textit{Amg} = Ardhamāgadhi;

\textit{ĀpDhS} = Āpastampīya Dharma Sūtra (ed. G. Bühler, Bombay, 1968; translation G. Bühler, SBE 2, Oxford, 1879; repr. Delhi, 1965);


\textit{BI} = Bibliotheca Indica;

\textit{D} = Dīgha Nikāya (ed. T. W. Rhys Davids, London (PTS));


\textit{Dhs} = Dharma Sūtra/Śāstra;

\textit{Gaut (Dhs)} = Gautama Dhs (ed. F. Stenzler, London, 1876 (Sanskrit Text Society); transl. G. Bühler, SBE 2, Oxford, 1879; repr. Delhi, 1965);

\textit{M} = Majjhima Nikāya (ed. V. Trenckner; R. Chalmers, London (PTS));

\textit{MBh} = Mahābhārata (ed. Bhandarkar Oriental Research Institute, Poona)

\textit{Mn} = Mānava Dhs (ed. J. Jolly, London 1887 (Trübner’s Oriental Series; transl. G. Bühler, SBE 25, Oxford, 1886);

\textit{PTS} = Pali Text Society, London;

\textit{RV} = Rgveda;

\textit{S} = Saṃyutta Nikāya (ed. L. Feer, London (PTS));
