

Learning procedure of Krishna Yajurveda.

The procedure described below is what is generally followed in the veda pathasalas.

Vedadyayana involves first of all learning the texts by heart (kanthastheekaranam).

1. Aksharabhyasa - learning of the grantha script.

2. In the first stage, the sub texts are learned by heart.

The are -

Taittiriya brahmanam - elaborating the procedure of yajnas etc.

Aranyakam, Kathakam and Upanishad - the spiritual texts mostly dealing in adhyatma.

This stage takes about two and a half years.

3. In the next stage which may take about two years, the brahmachari learns by heart the taittiriya samhita comprising of 2198 panchasatis (blocks of 50 words each). They are the mantras in prose form.

4. In the next stage called pada patha the entire samhita is split word by word and learned.

5. In the next stage called krama patha, the brahmachari learns to combine the words and how svара and pada sandhis are formed. The first word of the mantra is joined to the second, second to the third etc.

1+2, 2+3, 3+4, 4+5.

6. The next stage is called jata patha the sequence is

1,2,2,1,1,2

2,3,3,2,2,3

3,4,4,3,3,4

.....

7. The final stage is ghana patha in which the sequence is

1,2,2,1,1,2,3,3,2,1,1,2,3

2,3,3,2,2,3,4,4,3,2,2,3,4

On completion of this stage the student receives the title called ghanapati which is highly respected.

Then the student moves onto learn the nuances of pronunciation and svaras through lakshnas and becomes a salakshana ghanapati. It can take up to ten years to reach this stage.

8. Further to this one can move onto specialise in

Shadangas - the six organs of the vedas

Bhashyam - meaning and commentary

Prayogas - srautha and gruhya prayogas.

To become a karmakandi purohit who does the regular household paurohitya all the above are not required. Proficiency in a few mantras (may be about 1% of the whole) and a few months of training under an able acharya are sufficient.