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Dravidian Manuscripts as a Part of Indian Collection of the Institute of Oriental Manuscripts of RAS

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Abstract: This article is the first review of all manuscripts in the Dravidian languages kept in the IOM, RAS. The survey is incomplete, and many categories studied remain unidentified. Nevertheless, the survey provides verified information on the presence and number of the Dravidian manuscripts and forms a space for the future research. The article gives valuable information about the provenance of the manuscripts, their cataloguing and processing. This is the first time when the data relating to manuscripts in the Dravidian languages has been brought together. A brief description of all the manuscripts under consideration is given according to certain parameters, which allow an insight look on the peculiarities of the works, the collections, the authors and the languages.

Key words: Dravidian languages, dravidology, manuscript, collection, Tamil, Malayalam, Telugu, Indian fund of IOM, RAS

Introduction¹

The Dravidian manuscripts are part of the Indian Collection (shelf number *Ms.Ind*) of the Institute of Oriental Manuscripts, Russian Academy of Sciences (hereafter, IOM, RAS). In addition to manuscripts in numerous Indian languages, the collection includes manuscripts from the neighboring countries of South and Southeast Asia: Sri Lanka, Myanmar, Thailand, Cambodia, and Indonesia. The collection currently comprises 666 encrypted

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and identified items. Among them 41 manuscripts were previously identified as Dravidian: 8 manuscripts in Telugu, 2 in Malayalam, 31 in Tamil, and 1 in Telugu and Tamil.

The subject of this article is the description of Dravidian manuscripts. Some of them which were previously classified as Dravidian manuscripts turned out to be written in Sanskrit in Dravidian script. A short description of several manuscripts can be found in the catalogue by T.K. Posova and K.L. Chizhikova.² An inventory and identification of a part of the Indian collection, which has not been previously described, was made in 2021–2022. It became necessary to present all the available Dravidian manuscripts in a single publication and in a single list. It also made sense to collect in one place all the information about the provenance of these manuscripts and the history of their processing and study. It is not the purpose of this article to give a complete description of the manuscripts, this is a matter of the near future.

Dravidian Languages and Dravidology

Dravidology does not belong to well-developed fields of Oriental Studies in Russia, and it would be sufficient to say some words about the Dravidian languages and the history of Dravidology in Russia. There are about 25 languages in the Dravidian language family. These languages are spread throughout India (except Bragui, which belongs to the languages of Pakistan). There are four major written languages with the developed history and literary tradition: Telugu, Tamil, Malayalam and Kannada. Telugu is the largest of them in terms of number of speakers (82 million), followed by Tamil (75 million). All major Dravidian languages belong to 22 official languages of India and are state languages (Telengana — Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Kerala and Karnataka). Tamil is the oldest language among the Dravidian languages (even rivaling with Sanskrit) with the most developed and original literary tradition.

The year 1915 can be considered to be the beginning of the development of Dravidology in Russia, when a scientific expedition of the Museum of Anthropology and Ethnography (Kunstkamera) of A.M. Mervart (1884–

² See POSOVA & CHIZHIKOVA 1999.

1932) and L.A. Mervart (1888–1965) arrived in South India. The Mervart spouses studied the Tamil, Malayalam and Sinhala languages, made translations of some famous literary works. In 1929 they published in Russian the first grammar of the Tamil spoken language.³ After A.M. Mervart was repressed and then died in Ukhtpechlag in 1932, the study of Dravidian languages in Russia was interrupted. It was resumed only in the 50-ies and early 60-ies when a few researchers-indologists independently mastered Dravidian languages. These researchers formed the basis for the development of the Dravidian language studies, among them were S.G. Rudin (1929–1973) and N.V. Gurov (1935–2009) in Leningrad; A.M. Piatigorskii (1929–2009), M.S. Andronov (1931–2009), Yu. Glazov (1929–1998), Z.N. Petrunicheva and A.M. Dubianskii (1941–2020) in Moscow.⁴ All contemporary Russian Dravidologists are the students of these pathfinders. There was a kind of “division of labor” between Leningrad and Moscow: the Telugu language was studied in Leningrad (N.V. Gurov) and Tamil — in Moscow (A.M. Dubianskii).⁵ The Kannada and Malayalam literatures were almost out of the interest of Russian scholars.

Provenance of Dravidian Manuscripts

The formation of the Indian Collection mainly took place during the first 100 years of the existence of the Asiatic Museum, the predecessor of the IOM, RAS. The collection was based on some Indian manuscripts, among which were the Tamil manuscripts. The work of I. Bakmeister mentions that in 1776 the library of the Academy of Sciences held several Tamil manuscripts⁶. These manuscripts were probably given to the Asiatic Museum, which was organized in 1818. G.Z. Bayer (1694–1738) was one of the first academicians of the Academy of Sciences founded by Peter the Great. Already in the 30s of the 18th c. he was involved in the studies of Oriental languages. In one of his articles, for the first time in Russia, he gave examples of the Sanskrit alphabet (“Devanagari” as he called it), as well as a brief information about the Dravidian languages (“Tamul” and Telugu).

³ See MERVART 1929.

⁴ More about the history of Dravidian studies in Russia see DUBIANSKII 2002.

⁵ More about the history of Russian Tamil studies see VECHERINA 2020.

⁶ BAKMEISTER 1779: 87.

In addition to Bayer, around the same time D.G. Messerschmidt (1685–1735), who was interested in Punjabi and Tamil, also studied the alphabets of the “Devanagari” and Dravidian languages.

The collection began to grow significantly from the early 1930-ies, and the details on the history of the Indian collection can be found in the articles by G.A. Zograf⁷ and V.S. Vorobiov-Desiatovskii.⁸

The first recorded acquisition of the manuscripts in the Dravidian languages dates back to 1913. Most probably, they were not the first Dravidian manuscripts of the collection, given the fact that the abovementioned information on the availability of Tamil manuscripts dates to the 18th c. While preparing the present article, the author has studied materials of the Archives of Oriental Studies of the IOM, RAS and the entire bulk of documents related to the arrival of manuscripts into the Asiatic Museum. Indeed, no mentions of the Dravidian manuscripts earlier than 1913 could be found. It is noteworthy, that the Chinese, Manchu, Mongolian, Tibetan, Arabic, Turkish, and Persian languages were well known at that time and came across frequently. The rest of the collection is designated as “other languages”. Given the already mentioned late history of the development of Dravidology in Russia, it is very likely that the Dravidian languages were not registered separately since they were unknown at that time.

There is a record in the Inventory of Asiatic Museum dated by October 1913 which fixed the acquisition from M.S. Andreev of 16 Tamil manuscripts from Pondicherry. A more detailed record of the receipt of manuscripts was found in the records of F.152 of the Archives of Orientalists of IOM, RAS:

Excerpt from the Protocol of 9.11.1913, p.439 of the Department of History and Philology⁹:

⁷ PUTEVODITEL 2018: 293–300.

⁸ VOROBIOV-DESIATOVSKII 1954.

⁹ The original Russian text:

В Азиатский Музей

Михаил Степанович Андреев (Индия, Pondicherry) при письме от 19 сентября/2 октября с.г. прислал на имя Отделения, 16 рукописей, написанных на тамульском языке, с предоставлением Академии располагать рукописями по своему усмотрению. Положено благодарить М.С. Андреева, а рукописи передать в Азиатский Музей. 16 рукописей при сем препровождаются.

Непременный секретарь, ординарный академик Сергей Ольденбург.

Надпись на листе: “рукописи находятся в Азиатском Музее”.

To Asiatic Museum

Mikhail Stepanovich Andreev (India, Pondicherry) with the letter dated 19 September/2 October this year, has sent to the Department 16 manuscripts written in Tamul, leaving the Academy to dispose them in its own way.

It is decided to thank M.S. Andreev, and to give the manuscripts to the Asiatic Museum.

Sixteen manuscripts are enclosed herewith.

Permanent Secretary, Ordinary Academician Sergei Oldenburg.

Inscription on the sheet: “*manuscripts are in the Asiatic Museum*”¹⁰

M.S. Andreev (1873–1948) was an outstanding ethnographer and linguist, born and lived all his life in the East, self-taught orientalist who became a corresponding member of the USSR Academy of Sciences. M.S. Andreev was a traveler, a tireless organizer and participant of expeditions to Central Asia¹¹. From 1905 to 1914 he served in India as a diplomat, he was a private secretary and interpreter of the Russian Consul General in Bombay A.A. Polovtsov (1867–1944) and carried the duties of the Russian Consul in the French colonies in India and Indochina. In addition to his official responsibilities, M.S. Andreev realized the demands of the Russian Academy of Sciences and collected ethnographic materials and manuscripts. The result of this work were 2 collections: the already mentioned manuscript collection donated in 1913 to the Asiatic Museum, and a huge collection of more than a thousand various items that was delivered in 1914 to the Museum of Anthropology and Ethnography and the State Hermitage Museum.¹²

The next significant addition of South Indian manuscripts to the Asiatic Museum dates by 1917. The Inventory of 1917, dated October 23, has “A list of eight Sanskrit manuscripts donated to the Peter the Great Museum of Anthropology and Ethnography, Academy of Sciences, from the Adyar

¹⁰ Archive of Orientalists of IOM, RAS. Fund 152, inv.1, unit 54: 115.

¹¹ M.S. Andreev lived a bright, eventful life, working for the good of the country. During the World War II, at the age of 70, he regreted that he could not join the Red Army but hoped that he could benefit his country in the field of science, developing topics related to the Tajik Afghan frontiers. His death was as memorable as his life: as a bright person and charismatic lecturer, he had attracted the attention of an unstable lady who one day came to his house and, in a fit of jealousy, struck him dead with an axe (More about M.S. Andreev see SHERMATOV 2021).

¹² BOROCHINA 1989: 130.

Library, Madras, S. India, through A.A. Kamenskaya, chairwoman of the Russian Theosophical Society". This receipt, formally unrelated to the Dravidian manuscripts, caused a mix-up in some of the inventory records of the Indian collection, which then was revealed in the Catalogue of 1999.

Some of the acquired manuscripts were compiled in Sanskrit,¹³ but written in Telugu, Malayali and Grantha scripts¹⁴. When these manuscripts were listed in the 1960-ies, it was mistakenly assumed that some of them, written in the Malayalam or Telugu script, are in the Telugu or Malayalam languages (shelf numbers V, 119; VII, 62; V, 115 and V, 118). This information was repeated in the "Brief Catalogue of Indian Manuscripts" of 1999, from which it follows that the Indian collection of the IOM, RAS has more manuscripts in Telugu and Malayalam than in reality. These incorrectly attributed Sanskrit manuscripts in Dravidian are not considered in this article, based on the subject matter of the article.

Further on, only few mentions of Dravidian manuscript arrivals could be found. In the Inventory Book of the Serindia(!) collection there is an entry dated by May 1954 about the purchase of two Tamil manuscripts on palm leaf from Andreev's inheritors. In the list given in this article below these are no. 29 & 33. One manuscript was bought at Akademkniga in 1964 for 250 rubles (see: list no. 12). One Telugu manuscript was brought from India by a Soviet delegation in the 1960s (see: list no. 01).

Actually, no other information on the receipt of Dravidian manuscripts in the collections of the IOM, RAS is available.

Cataloguing of the Dravidian collection

The description of the Dravidian part of the collection is difficult to separate from the general cataloguing of the Indian collection.

As the collection was gradually growing, the catalogues were compiled. The separate parts of the collection were described by R.H. Lenz¹⁵ and

¹³ Sanskrit was used throughout the Indian subcontinent but did not have a writing system of its own; local scripts (most commonly Devanagari, Bengali, Telugu) were usually used to transmit Sanskrit, with the exception of Tamil, where grantha script was used.

¹⁴ *Grantha* is a South Indian script based on Tamil alphabet, specially created for writing Sanskrit texts. Compared to classical Tamil script *grantha* has special graphemes for rendering of specific Sanskrit consonants which don't exist in Tamil.

¹⁵ LENZ 1833.

P.J. Petrov.¹⁶ Later in 1846, a list by O. Böhlingk was published which, in fact, became the first inventory of the collection (the numbers in this list correspond to the code number of the oldest part of the collection with the index *Ind.*, covering acquisitions from the first half of the 19th c.).¹⁷ Following the instructions of the director of the Asiatic Museum K.G. Zalemann (1850–1916), N.D. Mironov (1880–1936) had been engaged in complete cataloguing of the collection for over 10 years.¹⁸ As a result, the first issue of his catalogue was published in 1914. This issue included most of the manuscripts in Sanskrit and Pali.¹⁹

In the preface to the publication N.D. Mironov wrote:

“The extraordinary circumstances of the times have delayed the publication of this catalogue, on which we have been working for many years. It is unlikely to be completed soon. Therefore, we had to publish the present first issue of the catalogue by the order of its editor, Director of the Asiatic Museum, Academician K.G. Zaleman. This issue contains a description of the most important part of the collection of the Museum, manuscripts in Sanskrit and Pali. The second edition will contain a description of manuscripts in the New Indian languages, both Indo-Aryan, as well as Dravidian, Indo-Chinese, etc., and an addition on some Sanskrit manuscripts which, for various reasons, were not included in the 1st edition. In the second edition — we hope that the interval between the two will not be too long — the reader will find indexes, a table of old and new numbers, etc., the absence of which makes the use of the catalogue very difficult”.²⁰

Thus, the first mention of a description of the Dravidian manuscripts appears in the preface to Mironov's catalogue, but the second edition was never published. This fact made all Mironov's work on the cataloguing of the collection incomplete. In addition to cutting off part of the collection, the issue lacked contents, indexes, and lists of shelf numbers' correspondences, which made it extremely difficult to work with. The fact that the second edition was in preparation is proved by five corrected proof sheets with the

¹⁶ PETROV 1836.

¹⁷ BÖHLINGK 1846.

¹⁸ More about N.D. Mironov and his work on catalogues, see OSTROVSKAYA 2015, TANONOVA 2015.

¹⁹ MIRONOV 1914.

²⁰ MIRONOV 1914: 01.

descriptions of No. 506–525 preserved in the Manuscripts and Documents Department of the IOM, RAS. These sheets contain primary definitions of manuscripts in Newar, Sinhalese, Burmese, Khmer, and Thai scripts made by Mironov.²¹

These descriptions were used by V.S. Vorobiov-Desiatovskii (1927–1956), who turned to the collection almost 40 years later. He re-examined it and compiled a list of 102 manuscripts not included in Mironov's catalogue. This work remained in manuscript²².

In 1956–1957 G.A. Zograf (1928–1993) compiled descriptions of Hindi and Punjabi manuscripts which were not included in Mironov's catalogue.²³ The description of manuscripts in Dravidian languages has so far been a task for the future.

In 1975–1977 the work on the catalogue was resumed by T.K. Posova. Later, K.L. Chizhikova (1933–2020) joined that work, which in 1999 finally resulted in the publication of the “Brief Catalogue of Indian Manuscripts”.²⁴ Actually, it was a title-list with brief information about the described manuscripts. Partly this can be explained by the tasks faced by the publishers of the catalogue: the complexity of the Indian collection required specialists not only in Indian languages, both Indo-Aryan and Dravidian, but also in the languages of neighboring countries of South and Southeast Asia. It was hardly possible.

It turned out that the Tamil manuscripts were described (at the request of G.A. Zograf), by N.V. Gurov, the head of the Indian Philology Department of the Saint Petersburg University, who specialized mainly in the Telugu language. There is evidence in the manuscript repository that N.V. Gurov invited to work with Tamil manuscripts a well-known specialist in Dravidology, Prof. D.D. Shulman from the Hebrew University in Jerusalem, who happened to be in St. Petersburg at the time. The sheets with handwritten notes by N.V. Gurov revealed joint research with Prof. Shulman on the identification of manuscripts. The notes dated from 1999, the year in which the “Brief Catalogue” was published. It is likely that clarification of the information on the Tamil manuscripts was done to include them into the catalogue under preparation. The manuscripts that were inspected by two Dravidologists were not included into the catalogue.

²¹ TANONOVA 2015: 135.

²² PUTEVODITEL 2018:

²³ ZOGRAF 1960.

²⁴ POSOVA, CHUZHIKOVA 1999.

Nevertheless, the Catalogue of 1999 contained all acquisitions of Dravidian manuscripts after 1913: the entire Tamil collection from Andreev and the manuscripts that entered in the 1950-ies and 1960-ies.

As mentioned above, the entry in the 1913 Inventory concerning the receipt of the Andreev's collection fixes 16 Tamil manuscripts on palm leaf. Only in 1956 the shelf numbers were given to these manuscripts (altogether 17 items). For some reason, they were assigned temporary shelf numbers: PIA / sequence number (from 1 to 17). It is logical to assume that the abbreviation "PIA" means "Pondicherry. Andreev". The entries in the Inventory Book include a brief description of the manuscripts: title of the work, author (if known), size of the manuscripts, language, number of leaves. The entries in the Inventory Book of 1956 were made by an unknown hand of a specialist who knew Tamil and could read the manuscript.²⁵

Manuscripts from Andreev collection carrying temporary shelf numbers were included into the Catalogue of 1999. All the manuscripts (except one) were given a description number in the Catalogue under the letter *a*. This may indicate that the compilers acknowledged their temporary shelf numbers, but did not have the time or opportunity to re-inventory them. The manuscripts in this collection were not permanently registered until 2022.

All later arrivals of Dravidian manuscripts immediately acquired permanent shelf numbers in the collection.

In addition to the listed manuscripts which were included in the 1999 Catalogue, in the repository there were 2 boxes of manuscripts (20 pcs.) presumably in Tamil. These were the ones which were examined in 1999 by N.V. Gurov and D.D. Shulman. In late 2021 — early 2022 these manuscripts were again analyzed, inventoried, and described. They are marked by shelf numbers from X, 7 to X, 19 (see: list no. 05–16).

It appeared that two manuscripts from the boxes with old indexes *Indica 132* and *Indica 136* are probably not Tamil. The *Indica 132* was identified as Telugu (new shelf number X, 7; no.). Whereas *Indica 136* appears to be Thai (X, 19). There is a red stamp referred to Asiatic Museum and old no. (*Ind.?*) 134 on the cover of X, 18 (see: list no. 16). The old numbers (*Indica*) of

²⁵ It would seem that such a specialist might be V.S. Vorobiov-Desyatovskii, a renowned polyglot, who knew Tamil, but the records are dated by August 1956, and Vorobiov-Desyatovskii died suddenly in July of that year. This is only a suggestion that the notes could have been taken by a Tamil tutor at Leningrad University, S.G. Rudin; but the first intake of Tamilist students at the University was not made until 1960, so it is unlikely that the writer was a student.

these manuscripts refer to O. Böhlingk's list and indicate that they are probably the oldest part of the collection which arrived in the first half of the 19th c.

All the manuscripts (except X, 10, list no. 08) are written on palm leaves, the *pothi* type, and have one or two holes for a cord. Most have original wooden covers. In general, their condition is satisfactory, but some of them are very fragile, the leaves are folded into rolls and are extremely difficult to unroll. These manuscripts (after restoration measures) need to be carefully copied to avoid the sheets breaking.

Dravidian Manuscripts' Description

This article gives a brief description of all the Dravidian manuscripts in the collection. The list is made according to the following characteristics:

Sequence Number. Shelf number/Old Shelf number (if any)

Title; Author; Provenance; Size; Folia; Script; Language; Collection; Remarks.

In the list below, in case of convolute each text is described separately under the same number with the letters *a, b, c...*

01. Ms.Ind. VII, 83

Title: Bhagavatā

Author: Bammera Pōtana (Potaratzu)

Provenance: brought by a Soviet delegation in 1960-ies

Size: 45 cm × 3 cm

Folia: 138 ff.

Script: Telugu

Language: Telugu

Remarks: Adaptation in Telugu of Bhāgavata-purāṇa, made by Pōtana in the 15th c.

02. Ms.Ind. V, 122

Title: Sitaramāñṣaneyesamvada

Author: Lingamurti

Size: 34 cm × 3.5 cm

Folia: 82 ff.

Script: Telugu

Language: Telugu

03. Ms.Ind. II, 160

Title: Bible (fragment)

Size: 24.5 cm × 3 cm

Folia: 1f.

Script: Telugu

Language: Telugu

Remarks: conserved in glass

04. Ms.Ind. VII,76

Title: A Note

Author: Unidentified

Size: 44 cm × 2.5 cm

Folia: 1 f. + 2 ff. empty

Script: Tamil

Language: Tamil

Collection: Bretshneider

05. Ms.Ind. X, 7 / Indica № 132

Title: Notes

Author: Unidentified

Size: 53.7 cm × 2.8(1.8) cm

Folia: 4 double ff.

Script: Telugu

Language: Telugu

Remarks: Domestic notes

06. Ms.Ind. X, 8

Title: History of Madhavan

Author: Unidentified

Size: 49 cm × 2.7 cm

Folia: 44 ff.

Script: Tamil

Language: Tamil

Remarks: Collection of land leases

07. Ms.Ind. X, 9

Title: Unidentified

Author: Unidentified

Provenance: 1913, № 2967 (incorrectly)

Size: 44.4 cm × 2 cm

Folia: 148 ff., empty last f.

Script: Tamil

Language: Tamil

Collection: by Andreev ???

Remarks: Medical Treatise. Incorrect reference to the catalogue entry is given. The correct reference is 1913, no. 2669. Because of its separate location, it is doubtful that the manuscript belonged to the Andreev's collection. All manuscripts received from Andreev were listed in 1956.

08. Ms.Ind. X, 10

Title: Unidentified

Author: Unidentified

Size: 31.5 cm × 20.5 cm

Folia: 176 ff.

Script: Tamil

Language: Tamil

Remarks: Codex. The only manuscript written on paper (vergé).

09. Ms.Ind. X, 11

Title: Unidentified

Author: Unidentified

Size: 39.3 cm × 3.1 cm

Folia: 113 ff.

Script: Tamil

Language: Tamil

Remarks: Historical poem in the genre of *ammanai*

10. Ms.Ind. X, 12

Title: Unidentified

Author: Sattei Muni

Size: 26 cm × 3 cm

Folia: 33 ff.

Script: Tamil

Language: Tamil

Remarks: Medical Treatise

11. Ms.Ind. X, 13

Title: Unidentified

Author: Unidentified

Size: 36.4 cm × 3 cm

Folia: 254 ff.

Script: Tamil

Language: Tamil

Remarks: Anthology of stories in prose

12. Ms.Ind. X, 14

Title: Bhāgavata-purāṇa

Provenance: Stamp: bought in Academkniga [book store] for 250 rub.
20.08.196(?)4

Size: 41.1 cm × 3.5 cm

Folia: 343 ff.

Script: Tamil

Language: Tamil

Remarks: Prose

13. Ms.Ind. X, 15

Title: Unidentified

Author: Unidentified

Size: 26 cm × 3 cm

Folia: 1 f.

Script: Malayalam

Language: Malayalam

Remarks: Seal of Sealing wax with inscription “*Śrī Mallari prasanna*”

14. Ms.Ind. X, 16

Title: Unidentified

Author: Unidentified

Size: 78 cm × 1.7 cm; 87 cm × 2.2 cm; 111 cm × 2.1 cm; 52 cm × 2 cm

Folia: 4 ff.

Script: Tamil

Language: Tamil

Remarks: Bundle of tightly scrolled palm leaves which seems to be impossible to unwind

15. Ms.Ind. X, 17

Title: Bilingual note

Author: Unidentified

Size: 33 cm × 2.4 cm

Folia: 1 f. of three parts

Script: Tamil and Telugu

Language: Tamil and Telugu

Remarks: Recto Inscription «*Malabar Tamil*»; Verso — «*Malayalam Su. Gentos*»

16. Ms.Ind. X, 18

Title: Business correspondence of a person named Cinthattinar

Author: Cinthattinar

Provenance:

Size: 61 cm × 2.1 cm

Folia: 8 ff.

Script: Tamil

Language: Tamil

Collection:

Remarks: Bundle of scrolled palm leaves; cardboard cover with Asiatic Museum red stamp and [old shelf number??] (Ind.) № 134

17. Ms.Ind. X, 33 / ПA/14

Title: Āruṇagiripurāṇa (Āruṇacalapurāṇa)

Author: Āruṇagiriyoga

Provenance: 1913 № 2669. Collection of Tamil manuscript obtained in Pondicherry, South India

Size: 18 cm × 2.5 cm

Folia: 32 ff.

Script: Tamil

Language: Tamil

Collection: by Andreev

18. Ms.Ind. X, 26 / ПA/7

Title: Kantaranupūti (Skandānubhuti)

Author: Āruṇagirinātha

Provenance: 1913 № 2669. Collection of Tamil manuscript obtained in Pondicherry, South India.

Size: 23.5 cm × 2.5 cm

Folia: 57 ff.

Script: Tamil

Language: Tamil

Collection: by Andreev

19a. Ms.Ind. X, 20 / ПA/1

Title: Kūrmānandaśāstra

Author: Kūrmānanda

Provenance: 1913 № 2669. Collection of Tamil manuscript obtained in Pondicherry, South India

Size: 25 cm × 2 cm

Folia: 13 ff.

Script: Tamil

Language: Tamil

Collection: by Andreev

19b. Ms.Ind. X, 20 / PIA/1

Title: Yoga

Author: Ramadeva

Provenance: 1913 № 2669. Collection of Tamil manuscript obtained in Pondicherry, South India

Size: 25 cm × 2 cm

Folia: 43 ff.

Script: Tamil

Language: Tamil

Collection: by Andreev

19c. Ms.Ind. X, 20 / PIA/1

Title: Yoga

Author: Tirumular

Provenance: 1913 № 2669. Collection of Tamil manuscript obtained in Pondicherry, South India

Size: 25 cm × 2 cm

Folia: 22 ff.

Script: Tamil

Language: Tamil

Collection: by Andreev

19d. Ms.Ind. X, 20 / PIA/1

Title: Vāta

Author: Agastyar

Provenance: 1913 № 2669. Collection of Tamil manuscript obtained in Pondicherry, South India

Size: 25 cm × 2 cm

Folia: 13 ff.

Script: Tamil

Language: Tamil

Collection: by Andreev

Remarks: Medical Treatise

20. Ms.Ind. X, 29 / PIA/10

Title: Kaivalyanavanīta

Author: Unidentified

Provenance: 1913 № 2669. Collection of Tamil manuscript obtained in Pondicherry, South India

Size: 34 cm × 2.5 cm

Folia: 113 ff.

Script: Tamil

Language: Tamil

Collection: by Andreev

Remarks: Philosophical poem

21a. Ms.Ind. X, 31 / PIA/12

Title: Kaumantinūl

Author: Unidentified

Provenance: 1913 № 2669. Collection of Tamil manuscript obtained in Pondicherry, South India

Size: 24 cm × 2.5 cm

Folia: 115 ff.

Script: Tamil

Language: Tamil

Collection: by Andreev

Remarks: Medical Treatise

21b. Ms.Ind. X, 31 / PIA/12

Title: Māntrika

Author: Unidentified

Provenance: 1913 № 2669. Collection of Tamil manuscript obtained in Pondicherry, South India

Size: 24 cm × 2.5 cm

Folia: 115 ff.

Script: Tamil

Language: Tamil

Collection: by Andreev

Remarks: Treatise on Magic

22a. Ms.Ind. X, 21 / PIA/2

Title: Jñānasūtra

Author: Darmandriare (Dhanvamtari)

Provenance: 1913 № 2669. Collection of Tamil manuscript obtained in Pondicherry, South India

Size: 26 cm × 2.5 cm

Folia: 14 ff.

Script: Tamil

Language: Tamil

Collection: by Andreev

22b. Ms.Ind. X, 21 / PIA/2

Title: Vaittiyam

Author: Darmandriare (Dhanvamtari)

Provenance: 1913 № 2669. Collection of Tamil manuscript obtained in Pondicherry, South India

Size: 26 cm × 2.5 cm

Folia: 20 ff.

Script: Tamil

Language: Tamil

Collection: by Andreev

Remarks: Medical Treatise

23. Ms.Ind. X, 34 / PIA/15

Title: Tiruvāśakam

Author: Manivashagar

Provenance: 1913 № 2669. Collection of Tamil manuscript obtained in Pondicherry, South India

Size: 16.5 cm × 3 cm

Folia: 161 ff.+ 1 f. ill. + 26 empty ff.

Script: Tamil

Language: Tamil

Collection: by Andreev

Remarks: Anthology of Shaivite lyric poems

24a. Ms.Ind. X, 25 / PIA/6

Title: Nakśatrabala

Author: Unidentified

Provenance: 1913 № 2669. Collection of Tamil manuscript obtained in Pondicherry, South India

Size: 30 cm × 2.5 cm

Folia: 66 ff.

Script: Tamil

Language: Tamil

Collection: by Andreev

Remarks: Astrological Treatise

24b. Ms.Ind. X, 25 / PIA/6

Title: Rāśibala

Author: Unidentified

Provenance: 1913 № 2669. Collection of Tamil manuscript obtained in Pondicherry, South India

Size: 30 cm × 2.5 cm

Folia: 6 ff.

Script: Tamil

Language: Tamil

Collection: by Andreev

Remarks: Astrological Treatise

25. Ms.Ind. X, 27 / PIA/8

Title: Navagrahacintāmaṇi

Author: Unidentified

Provenance: 1913 № 2669. Collection of Tamil manuscript obtained in Pondicherry, South India

Size: 22 cm × 2.5 cm

Folia: 118 ff.

Script: Tamil

Language: Tamil

Collection: by Andreev

Remarks: Astrological Treatise

26. Ms.Ind. X, 32 / PIA/13

Title: Nāḍinidāna

Author: Unidentified

Provenance: 1913 № 2669. Collection of Tamil manuscript obtained in Pondicherry, South India

Size: 31.5 cm × 2.5 cm

Folia: 34 ff.

Script: Tamil

Language: Tamil

Collection: by Andreev

Remarks: Medical Treatise on pulse

27a. Ms.Ind. X, 23 / PIA/4

Title: Palavākatam

Author: Unidentified

Provenance: 1913 №2669. Collection of Tamil manuscript obtained in Pondicherry, South India

Size: 18 cm × 2.5 cm

Folia: 46 ff. + 9 empty ff.

Script: Tamil

Language: Tamil

Collection: by Andreev

Remarks: Medical Treatise on child diseases

27b. Ms.Ind. X, 23 / PIA/4

Title: Vaittiyam

Author: Unidentified

Provenance: 1913 № 2669. Collection of Tamil manuscript obtained in Pondicherry, South India

Size: 18 cm × 2.5 cm

Folia: 39 ff.

Script: Tamil

Language: Tamil

Collection: by Andreev

Remarks: Medical Treatise

28. Ms.Ind. X, 28 / PIA/9

Title: Mantirikkattalṭeruṭṭu

Author: Unidentified

Provenance: 1913 № 2669. Collection of Tamil manuscript obtained in Pondicherry, South India

Size: 15 cm × 2.5 cm

Folia: 64 ff.

Script: Tamil

Language: Tamil

Collection: by Andreev

Remarks: Tantric Treatise

29. Ms.Ind. V,134

Title: Rāmanāṭakakirtanai

Author: Arunachalakavi

Provenance: May, 1954 — purchased from Andreev's inheritors

Size: 39.5 cm × 2.5 cm

Folia: 460 ff.

Script: Tamil

Language: Tamil

30. Ms.Ind. X, 22 / ΠA/3

Title: Vaittiyam

Author: Unidentified

Provenance: 1913 № 2669. Collection of Tamil manuscript obtained in Pondicherry, South India

Size: 26(20) cm × 2.5 cm

Folia: 42 ff. + 5 ff. of another size

Script: Tamil

Language: Tamil

Collection: by Andreev

Remarks: Medical Treatise

31. Ms.Ind. X, 36 / ΠA/17

Title: Vaittiyam

Author: Unidentified

Provenance: 1913 № 2669. Collection of Tamil manuscript obtained in Pondicherry, South India

Size: 38 cm × 3.5 cm
Folia: 154 ff.
Script: Tamil
Language: Tamil
Collection: by Andreev
Remarks: Medical Treatise

32. Ms.Ind. X, 24 / PIA/5
Title: Unidentified
Author: Romaṣi
Provenance: 1913 № 2669. Collection of Tamil manuscript obtained in Pondicherry, South India
Size: 33 cm × 2.5 cm
Folia: 131 ff.
Script: Tamil
Language: Tamil
Collection: by Andreev
Remarks: Three Medical Treatises

33. Ms.Ind. II, 170
Title: Unidentified
Author: Unidentified
Provenance: May, 1954 — purchased from Andreev's inheritors
Size: 25 cm × 2.5 cm
Folia: 196 ff.
Script: Tamil
Language: Tamil

34. Ms.Ind. X, 35 / PIA/16
Title: Unidentified
Author: Unidentified
Provenance: 1913 № 2669. Collection of Tamil manuscript obtained in Pondicherry, South India
Size: 33.5 cm × 2.5 cm
Folia: 16 ff.

Script: Tamil
Language: Tamil
Collection: by Andreev
Remarks: Fragment

35. Ms.Ind. X, 30 / IIA/11

Title: Notebook

Author: Unidentified

Provenance: 1913 № 2669. Collection of Tamil manuscript obtained in Pondicherry, South India

Size: 23 cm × 2.5 cm

Folia: 82 ff.

Script: Tamil

Language: Tamil

Collection: by Andreev

Remarks: Notebook with miscellaneous records (invoices, recipes)

Conclusion

As a result of the work done, some mistakes made in the description of the Dravidian manuscripts have been corrected. It was revealed that three manuscripts in Telugu and one in Malayalam were compiled in Sanskrit but written down in Telugu and Malayalam scripts. Thus, the number of Dravidian manuscripts in the IOM, RAS has been reduced by four.

As the result, the Indian collection of IOM, RAS contains 35 manuscripts in Dravidian languages, they all have shelf-marks. Of them, 4 manuscripts are in Telugu, 1 in Malayalam, 1 in Tamil and Telugu, and 31 in Tamil.

The 35 manuscripts described in this article contain 37 works and 12 collections of practical nature (business correspondence, letters, notebooks). Among the works are 13 medical treatises, 13 literary works of various character, 3 treatises on astrology, 2 magic and tantra, and 2 philosophical treatises. It is noteworthy that one work, a medical treatise Vaittiyam (Medicine), is represented in four(!) manuscripts from the Andreev's collection (see: list no. 22b, 27b, 30, 31). It is interesting to note that 11 manuscripts in Andreev's collection contain works on traditional

Tamil Siddha medicine, and additionally there are treatises on astrology, magic, and tantra. It can be assumed that these manuscripts belonged to a Tamil traditional medicine doctor. Many of the manuscripts require further investigation to identify the works and authors. This is a matter for future research.

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