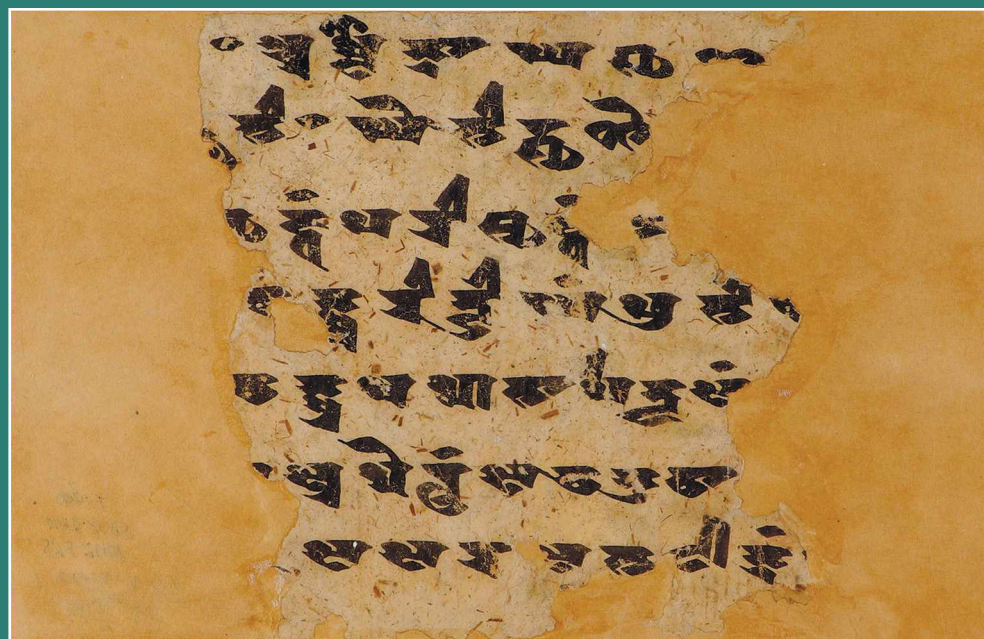


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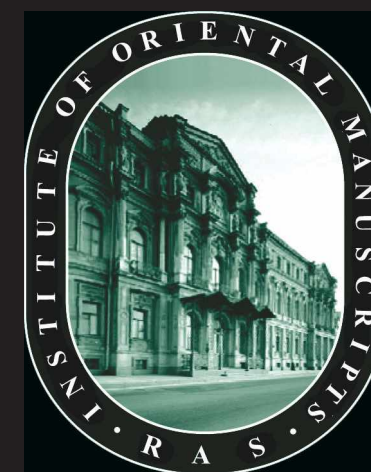
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Alice Crowther

**A Manuscript Russian-Chinese-Manchu Dictionary
(from before 1737) in T.S. Bayer's Papers
in Glasgow University Library.
Part II: Notes on the Manchu and Chinese Lexica
and the Transcription of Manchu¹**

DOI: 10.55512/wmo114834

Abstract: This article is the second part of a two-part presentation of an anonymous Russian-Chinese-Manchu manuscript dictionary from before 1737 held in the papers of T.S. Bayer (1694–1738) in Glasgow University Library. It examines the annotations found on sixty of the dictionary's 217 pages. These annotations use a mixture of Cyrillic and Latin script to give the pronunciation of the Chinese and Manchu entries. The article also discusses otherwise unattested Chinese and Manchu lexical entries found in the dictionary, and the use of popular variant character forms in the Chinese entries.

Key words: Manuscript dictionary, Manchu, T.S. Bayer, transcription, popular variant character forms

Introduction

Glasgow University Library's Special Collections holds a collection of the papers of Theophilus Siegfried Bayer (1694–1738), member of the St. Petersburg Academy of Sciences from 1726 to 1738. These include an anonymous Russian-Chinese-Manchu manuscript dictionary (from before

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¹ I sincerely thank David Weston, former director of Glasgow University Library's Special Collections, for having taken the time to speak with me when I visited the library in August 2016, and for allowing me to consult a draft version of his catalogue of the Bayer collection before its publication. I would like to thank Pierre Marsone and Mårten Söderblom Saarela for their comments on the draft of this article.

1737). The dictionary is bound into two volumes (19.3×21.8 cm, first volume 114 ff., second volume 103 ff.) and contains 2,328 Russian headwords, with Chinese and Manchu definitions. As well as the dictionary entries, which are written in black ink, the Bayer collection dictionary contains two layers of annotations. Firstly, for sixty pages (a total of 321 entries) a transcription of the Chinese and Manchu entries into a mixture of Latin and Cyrillic letters is written in black ink above the original entries in a smaller size and with a much finer-tipped writing instrument. The colour of the black ink is not discernibly different from that of the original entries. Secondly Latin, and sometimes German, translations or notes are added, in Bayer's hand and in an ink which now appears brownish, to most of the Russian head-entries in the first volume and to the first two pages of the second volume.

The first part of this article presented the provenance of this dictionary and the possible candidates for its authorship, concluding that it was produced in the context of the first Russian Ecclesiastical Mission to Peking but that it was not possible to identify the author. Since, Greg Afinogenov has told me of a report by Lorents Lange (dated as received on 19th Feb 1734) in which Lange says that he has instructed Luka Voeikov to compose, with the help of the Jesuits, as complete a Latin-Russian-Chinese dictionary as possible, giving him as incentive that when he completed this work he would be allowed to return to Russia.² This raises the possibility that Voeikov would have had good reason to work on a dictionary, and an instruction to compile a Latin-Russian-Chinese dictionary might well have evolved into a Russian-Chinese-Manchu project. The Jesuit Dominique Parrenin does mention Voeikov in a letter to Bayer dated 13th July 1734, but this is in connection with Parrenin's Latin-Chinese lexicon (Ms Hunter 392 (V.2.12) which is unrelated to the Bayer collection Russian-Chinese-Manchu dictionary³; at the time Parrenin wrote this letter Voeikov was already dead, from illness. It is however not impossible that he would have had the time to produce the dictionary between Lange's instruction and his death; although if he did he seems to have worked independently of the Jesuits. This does not definitively resolve the question of authorship, but adds some weight to Voeikov as a candidate.

² RGIA (Russian State Historical Archives) f. 796, op. 11, d. 23, 133–134. Reference from Greg Afinogenov, email of 24/07/2022, in which he kindly shared his transcription of this passage from his work in the archives.

³ See the references in Part I of this article: 70, n. 41 and n. 42.

This second and concluding part of the article presents a more detailed study of the dictionaries' Manchu and Chinese lexica and of the system of transcription found in the annotations giving the pronunciation of the Manchu and Chinese entries.

The Manchu and Chinese Lexica of the Dictionary

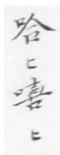
The Chinese definitions often use colloquial language — e.g. 不是我的事; 扎猛子; 起頭兜⁴; 說那一個人 — and are sometimes more explanations than equivalents (e.g. 有錯處; 燒⁵酒之鍋⁶; 沙土地長松柏處). Popular variant forms in current usage in the late imperial period are often found, e.g. 寫 for 寫; 處 for 處; 夢 for 夢; 恨 for 恨; 疾 written with the component part 失 rather than 矢; alternation between use of 國 and its popular variant 国. Some forms not attested in any variant dictionaries are also found, e.g. *nüe* 瘡, with the tiger component 虍 replaced by the rain component 雨.⁷ This, combined with the general fluency of the brushstrokes, suggests a native writer habituated to writing characters, but perhaps not with a scholar's training, and not a Western student. Sometimes the Manchu definitions — which are also written in a fluent, practiced hand — seem to be translations, often word for word, of the Chinese definition, rather than of the Russian headword. For example, the Manchu equivalent given next to 國子監 [Directorate of Education] is *gurun-i jusei yamun*, a literal translation (“office of the nation's sons”) but not the official name, which was *gurun-i juse be hūwašabure yamun* (“office where the nation's sons are

⁴ Popular variant form of 兒. Images of variant characters are taken from the online character variant dictionary *Yitizi zidian* 異體字字典/ *Dictionary of Chinese Character Variants* (JIAOYUBU 教育部/Ministry of Education: 2017).

⁵ Popular variant form of 燒.

⁶ Popular variant form of 鍋.

⁷ Note also the use of an iteration marker frequently found in late imperial manuscript texts (not currently included in Unicode so here transcribed by the character 乚 which it resembles in form although it is in fact written much smaller than the rest of the text), e.g. at v. 1, f. 67v: Ru. грохощы or хохочу, Ma. *gigi gaga seme injembi*, Ch. 哈乚嘻乚 ‘to laugh *haha heehee*’



reared”). However, this is by no means always the case e.g. три звезды is rendered in Chinese as 三星 but by the Manchu *ilmahū usiha* (star of the [Weaver’s] shuttle); and Архиевнухъ glossed by Bayer as “Archieunuchus” is simply 首領 (“chief-, head-“) in Chinese but elaborated to *seo ling taigiyan* (e.g. a Manchu transcription of the Chinese words *shouling taijian* 首領太監 “head eunuch”) in Manchu. It is not possible to say with certitude if the Chinese and Manchu definitions were written by the same person, but this seems very possible. A Manchu could have written both, as by the eighteenth century a literate Manchu living in Peking would also have had knowledge of spoken and written Chinese since childhood. It is also possible that a Chinese wrote the Chinese definitions, and a Manchu the Manchu definitions. As very few Chinese had any opportunity to study Manchu, it seems possible to dismiss the hypothesis that a Chinese scribe could have written both the fluent Manchu definitions and the Chinese definitions with their frequent use of popular and non-standard character forms.

The manuscript dictionary seems to have been produced through a process of collaboration between a Russian-speaker, who probably explained orally in Chinese the Russian headwords he had written down, and one or more collaborators fluent in Chinese and Manchu (either native Chinese or Manchu, or members of the Russian company), who wrote down Chinese, and then Manchu, equivalents. An illustration of how the definitions were produced through description is seen in the entry for the month of August, which is translated in Chinese and in Manchu as ‘the seventh month’ (七月/ *nadan biyai* [*sic*]) rather than the ‘eighth month’; the seventh month fits better with where the month of August normally falls in the Chinese lunar calendar. Similarly December is translated as ‘the eleventh month’ (十一月/ *omšon biya*). In a like manner architect (архитекторъ, Bayer: *Architectus*) is rendered as ‘a building-works master craftsman’ (工程巧匠/ *weilere arara mangga faksi*). A similar process of transposition can be seen for the word “godless” (без’бож’ны, annotated by Bayer as *impius, das Gottloße*) which is rendered in both Chinese and Manchu as ‘not knowing the deities or Buddha’ (不知神佛/ *enduri Fucihi be sarkū*). However, it is worth noting that the word for God (Богъ, glossed by Bayer as *Gott, Deus*) seems to have been regarded as untransposable and is simply not translated into either Chinese or Manchu. A shift or loss of meaning in the course of the translation process is seen in блудникъ ѿли блыдунъ ‘whoremonger’ which becomes ‘fond of sodomy’ in the Manchu and Chinese glosses

(Ch. 好男風, Ma. *fajuhūlaran de amuran*). However immediately below блудница или блыдь ‘prostitute’ is rendered with exactitude as Ch. 妓, Ma. *gise hehe*.

Most of the Manchu entries in the manuscript dictionary are also found, with the same orthography, in other contemporary Manchu dictionaries. There are some scribal errors: the dot of an e or u forgotten (*uncahen* for *uncehen* ‘tail’), or š written in place of s (*šile* for *sile* ‘soup’); and some variant forms (far less frequent than the use of popular character variants in the Chinese entries): an i in place of an e (e.g. *jerin* for *jeren* ‘Mongolian gazelle’; *niyeksimbi* for *niyeksembi* ‘to thaw’); an i in place of an a (*micambi* for *macambi* ‘to patch’; *yasa hirimbi* for *yasa hirambi* ‘to gaze at’); u for e (*selfun* for *selfen* ‘slit [in clothing]’); e for u (*tufen* for *tufun* ‘stirrup’); u for i (*hūjuri ba* for *hūjiri ba* ‘salt flats’); a for o (*yacambi* for *yocambi* ‘to itch, to be bitten by bugs’); a for i (*beceme dangsambi* for *beceme dangsimbi* ‘to reproach, to censure’); a dropped vowel (*umdu* for *umudu* ‘orphan’); a doubled consonant (*illembi* for *ilembi* ‘to lick’); g for k (*maigan* for *maikan* ‘tent’; *gaga gigi injembi* for *kaka kiki injembi* ‘laughing *haha heehee*’); t for d (*turgiya usiha* for *durgiya usiha* ‘the morning star’; *cira aktun* for *cira akdun* ‘firm, hard’; *fotoho* for *fodoho* ‘willow’); r in place of l (*burdun* for *buldun/buldu* ‘uncastrated male pig’) *gocike* for *kuwecihe* ‘pigeon’; *mayahambi* for *mayambi* (‘to go down, to subside’); *sencike* for *senchehe* ‘chin’,⁸ and *sencihelaku* for *senchehelaku* ‘bridle ornament’. The verb for to sleep is also a slight variant: *amugambi* (e.g. *eleme amugahanakū*/未睡醒) or *amuhambi* (e.g. *amuhame muterakū*/睡不著) rather than *amgambi*.

A handful of Manchu words seem to be unattested elsewhere:

boksu for calf/lower-leg (Russian икры, Chinese 腿肚子). (v. 1, f. 112r.)

hiyeri in ‘*hiyeri tuwambi*’ for ‘to look wildly at’ (дико смотреть) (Chinese 橫眼瞧 ‘to look askance at’ (v. 1, f. 75v.)

jora for bridle bit (Russian удила, Chinese 嚼子). (v. 2, f. 79r.)

selmin wehe for diamond (Russian адамант, glossed by Bayer as *Adamas*, Chinese 金剛鑽) (v. 1, f. 1v.). *Selmin* designates a crossbow used

⁸ The same variant form *sencike* is found in the *Nišan saman-i bithe* manuscript published by M.P. Volkova in 1961. The manuscript was written down at the request of A.V. Grebeščikov in Vladivostok by a Manchu named Dekdengge in 1913. Cf. VOLKOVA 1961: 23: “*sencike tukiyeceme yasa hadanaha ergen yadafi*” (“his chin tilted upwards and his eyes became fixed. After his breathing had stopped [...]”). Stephen Durrant’s translation, taken from NOWAK & DURRANT 1977: 43).

in traps set for animals, and *wehe* “stone”. *Selmin* must derive from *sele* “iron”, with the noun/adjective suffix –*min* (or –*miyen*). *Wehe selmin* exists as “a stone drill; a crossbow for shooting stones”. In other contemporary dictionaries diamond is given in Manchu as *palta/palta wehe* or *paltari/paltari wehe*. A manuscript Latin-Chinese-Manchu dictionary held by the Bibliothèque nationale de France (Mandchou 281, vol. I, f. 52r) defines diamond (entry: “*adamas antis*”) as *paltari wehe* or (with what again seems more an explanation than an equivalent) as *der seme šeyen gu wehe* “a very white snow-white precious stone”.

šoolambi for ‘to heat’ (Russian жаръ, Chinese 燒), and *šoolahangge* ‘that which is cooked, heated’ (Russian жарены, Chinese 燒的). (v. 2, f. 89v). A verb constructed from the Chinese *shao* 燒: *šoo* [from *shao*; *oo* is the fixed Manchu transcription for Chinese *ao*] + *la* [verbalizing element] + *mbi* [infinitive/present verbal ending]. On the opposite page (f. 90r) 燒, Russian жгу ('burn'), is translated by Manchu *deijimbi* ‘to burn’, so *šoolambi* seems definitely to be used to convey a precise nuance of meaning.

Also not found in other contemporary dictionaries is a Manchu transcription of the word balsam (балсамъ, glossed as *Balsamus* by Bayer's annotation) as *bar seme hiyan* [incense called bar] (Ch. 八拉隆母香 [*ba-la-sa-mu* incense]). However, although not incorporated into any dictionaries, balsam had in fact already been rendered, slightly differently and in a form closer to the Latin orthography, into Manchu: it appears in the compound *balsamun weite* (probably for *balsamum vitae*) in Jean-François Gerbillon, S.J. (1654–1707) and Joachim Bouvet, S.J. (1656–1730)'s 1693 *Si yang ni okto-i bithe* (*Treatise on Western Drugs*).⁹ It seems the author of the Manchu and Chinese definitions was unaware of both this and of earlier Chinese words for balsam (e.g. *abo shen* 阿勃參).¹⁰

⁹ Tsai Ming-che, email communication, 1st Aug 2022. I owe this reference to Mårten Söderblom Saarela, who kindly put me in touch with Tsai Ming-che. The identification of *balsamun weite* with *balsamum vitae* was suggested to Tsai by Saarela. For further discussion of the *Si yang ni okto-i bithe*, see TSAI 2011, 2015a, 2015b. Tsai Ming-che adds that in the Qing Palace archives an oil used on wounds called, in Chinese, *ba-er-sa-mu you* 巴爾撒木油, is mentioned. Its effects as described are different from those given for the *balsamun weite* medicine found in the *Si yang ni okto-i bithe*. For further discussion of the references to balsam found in the Chinese-language Imperial Palace archives, see GUAN 2016.

¹⁰ For a survey of knowledge of “Old World balsam” or “balm of Gilead” (bot. *Commiphora gileadensis*) as both an aromatic and a medicine in China, where it was known from Tang times onward, see SCHOTTENHAMMER 2020, an article which outlines the Jesuit

One of the most interesting of the dictionary's lexical items, and a usage not found in any other published or manuscript dictionary or source that I have been able to consult, are the translations of the names of continents. The dictionary does not give the words for countries (no Russia or China), but does include the names of three continents: Africa, Asia, and America, which it translates by giving the Chinese names of three of the continents of Buddhist cosmography:

Asia [азиа] (annotated by Bayer: Asia) is 南瞻部州 [pinyin *nan dan bu zhou*] [manuscript transcription: nan, dzan, boe dzooe], and in Manchu script *nan jan bu jeo* [manuscript transcription: nan, dzan, boe, dzo, oe].

America [америка] (annotated by Bayer: America) is 東聖神州 [pinyin *dong sheng shen zhou*] [manuscript transcription: doenk, ши^н, ши^н, dzo, oe] and in Manchu script *deng šeng šen jeo* [manuscript transcription: doenk, shenk, ши^н, dzo, oe].

Africa [африка] (annotated by Bayer: Aphrica) is 西牛賀州 [pinyin *xi niu he zhou*] [no manuscript transcription], and in Manchu script *si nio he jeo*.

In Buddhist sacred geography, Mount Meru is said to stand at the centre of the universe, surrounded by a sea containing four continents. Jambudvīpa, land of the *jambū*, a black plum tree, is positioned to the south. It traditionally designated India and the lands adjacent to it; also the land where mankind lived, as opposed to lands inhabited by fabulous creatures or deities. In Chinese it was transcribed as Nanshanbuzhou 南瞻部洲 (Southern *Shanbu* Continent). In the manuscript dictionary, rather than *shan* 瞻, the character written is the rare *dan* 瞻, which is then transcribed in Manchu as *jan* and annotated in a mixture of Latin and Cyrillic script as *dyan*: here it seems that the scribe was thinking of the character *zhan* 瞻, and miswrote the radical. This also suggests that in the milieu where he had heard of Jambudvīpa, Nanshanbuzhou 南瞻部洲 was being commonly read as Nanzhanbuzhou (which is in fact closer to the Sanskrit pronunciation, so perhaps evidence of some knowledge of Sanskrit leading to this (mis-) reading). Another small fault is that the manuscript dictionary systematically writes *zhou* 州 without the water radical, rather than the 洲 found in the standard Chinese terms. The Eastern continent is Pūrvavideha. In Chinese

introduction of 'Peruvian balsam' (bot. *Myroxylon balsamum*) into sixteenth-century China. As the balsam referred to in the Bayer collection dictionary is described as an incense or perfume (Ch. *xiang* 香), it seems it is referring to "Old World balsam".

popular culture it was known as the birthplace of the Monkey King, Sun Wukong 孫悟空.¹¹ The standard Chinese translations are 東勝身洲 (Eastern Continent of the Incorporeal-Bodied¹²) or *Dongshengshenzhou* 東勝神州 (Eastern Continent of the Triumphant Spirits). The homophonous 東聖神州 (Eastern Holy Spirits Continent), with the common character *sheng* 聖 “holy, sacred/sage” is understandable as a *glissement* of transcription for someone who knew the word orally but was not accustomed to seeing it written down, or for someone who had forgotten which character was used for *sheng*. The Western continent is the continent of bountiful cattle, Aparagodānīya, in Chinese *Xiniuhozhou* 西牛貨洲 “Western Cattle-Exchanging Continent” (or *Xiniuhezhou* 西牛賀洲 as found in the manuscript dictionary which in this case (apart from its substitution of 州) is employing a well-attested variant form), where cattle were said to be used as means of barter.¹³ The fourth northern continent, not used in the dictionary’s geography, was Uttarakuru (in Chinese rendered Beijuluzhou 北俱盧洲, Northern *julu* Continent). As the polar opposite of the human-inhabited Jambudvopa, it was perhaps the most utopic of the sacred continents (*Rāmāyaṇa*, canto 39 and 42: “...there is neither cold nor heat, nor decrepitude, nor disease, nor grief, nor fear, nor rain, nor sun [...] There are lakes there, whose waters are covered with golden lotuses [...] Pearls and gems of great prices and masses of blue flowers possessing golden stamens...”¹⁴). It seems that rather than being able — or choosing — to refer

¹¹ Wu Cheng’en 吳承恩. *Xiyouji* 西遊記, ch. 8: “Those living on the East Pūrvavideha revere Heaven and Earth, and they are straightforward and peaceful”. (東勝身洲者, 敬天禮地, 心爽氣平). (Anthony C. Yu’s translation. See YU 2012: vol. 1, 204).

¹² Literally ‘of those who have conquered the body’. From the Sanskrit *videha* (MACDONELL 1929 [1924]: 283 gives: *vi-deha* “bodiless, deceased”; 279 *vi* “as a vbl. preposition and w. nouns expresses separation, privation, dispersion (asunder, apart, off, away, without, etc.)”).

¹³ A similar identification of the Buddhist continents was made by two Russian scholars in the twentieth century: cf. GUMILEV & KUZNETSOV 1970: 565–579, which discusses a highly symbolic Tibetan map (unfortunately only identified as a “published” “Indo-Tibetan map of the world”), and hypothesizes that its traditional representation of the Eastern continent Videha as “three semi-circles whose straight sides face West” is how the Americas would have appeared to Indians crossing the Pacific Ocean; similarly they interpret the representation of the Western continent of Godānīya as three circles as an image of North Africa (largest central circle), Europe (upper circle), and southern Africa (lower circle). By contrast when, in the nineteenth century, the Japanese Tendai monk Entsu 円通 (1755–1834) elaborated a reconciliation of Buddhist and European cosmology, he took Jambudvīpa as being jointly formed by the three continents Asia, Europe, and Africa (MOERMAN 2021: 336).

¹⁴ SHASTRI 1976: 284–285. Cited in BATTACHARYA 2000: 191–201.

to a map to explain the geographical location of Africa, Europe, and Asia, the dictionary's European author must have given descriptions of these continents, and his collaborator then interpreted them through his own Buddhist cosmographical knowledge; the translation of Asia, where China and both the authors were, as Jambudvīpa, is evident; the other two choices must have resulted from the combination of the geographical (of America and Africa) and cosmographical (of Videha and Godānīya) knowledge that the collaborators possessed.

The author of the Manchu entries uses Manchu transcriptions of the Chinese names, and not the translations fixed for use in the Manchu Buddhist canon, which were:¹⁵

Jambudvīpa: *julergi tsambu tib*¹⁶ (Southern *Tsambu* Continent)

Videha: *dergi ambalinggū beyengge tib* (Eastern Great-Bodied Continent)

Godānīya: *wargi ihan baitalara tib* (Western Cow-Using Continent)

And, for the northern continent, Uttarukuru: *amargi ehe jilgangga tib* (Northern Inauspicious-Sounding Continent).

In contrast to this manuscript dictionary's conceptual transpositions to define the continents, from the late sixteenth century Jesuit geographical works and maps — Matteo Ricci's (1552–1610) *Kunyu wanguo quantu* 坤輿萬國全圖 (*Complete Map of the World's Ten Thousand Countries*)

¹⁵ Cf. The pentaglot Sanskrit (in Tibetan script)-Tibetan-Manchu-Mongolian-Chinese Buddhist glossary *Man-Han-Xifan jiyao* 滿漢西番集要, *juan xia* 下, ff. 23–24. Undated court imprint from the Qianlong (r. 1734–1796) era (cf. BINGENHEIMER 2013: 212–213). The BnF holds a copy which is now available on Gallica.fr: Sanscrit 1757 (formerly Mandchou 228). A facsimile (not of the BnF copy; no other provenance given) was published by Raghu Vira in New Delhi: VIRA 1961. A transcription of Raghu Vira's publication is provided by the Dharma Drum Buddhist College/Fagu Fojiao xueyuan 法鼓佛教學院: <http://buddhisticinformatics.dila.edu.tw/manchu/glossary.php>, as well as a catalogue list for the Manchu Buddhist Canon: <http://buddhisticinformatics.dila.edu.tw/manchu/catalog.php> (Dharma Drum Buddhist College, 2007–2011).

¹⁶ On the use of *tib* for continent: KHABTAGAEVA 2009: 154 cites the rendering of “Jambudvīpa” in pre-classical Mongolian as *ǰambu tib* (Khalkha *ǰambatiw*, Buryat *zambi tübi*, Kalmuck *zamba-tib*), which she thinks derives from a reconstructed Turkic **ǰambudvip* (citing Old Uighur *ǰambudvip/ǰmbudvip/ǰmbudivp*), itself from the Sanskrit Jambudvīpa. In the Mongolian version of the Buddhist canon, Jambudvīpa is similarly rendered *zambu tib*. However, Videha is *doron-a ülemǰi bey-e-tü*, Godānīya is *örün-e üker edlegči*, and the northern continent is *umar-a mayu dayutu*. In the Qing Buddhist canon, Chinese 洲 is systematically translated in Manchu as *tib*, whereas much more variation is found in the Mongolian terms used.

(1602),¹⁷ Giulio Aleni's (1578–1645) *Zhifang waiji* 職方外記 (*Record of Foreign Lands by an Imperial Geographer*) (1623), Ferdinand Verbiest's (1623–1688) *Kunyu quantu* 坤輿全圖 (*Complete Map of the World*) (1674) — had adopted the convention of using phonetic transcriptions for the names of the continents: Yaxiya 亞細亞 (Asia), Ouluoba 歐邏巴 (Europe), Liweiya 利未亞 (Africa [Libya]), Nan Yamolijia 南亞墨利加 (South America), and Bei Yamolijia 北亞墨利加 (North America). This difference provides further evidence of the dictionary's composition outside of Jesuit circles.

The Transcription of Manchu in the Annotations to the Dictionary

Tables I and II below show the different Latin and Cyrillic letters used to transcribe Manchu vowels and consonants in the annotations to the dictionary. The Möllendorf system of transliteration into Latin script is used as the base for comparison, with Zakhárov's transliteration¹⁸ into Cyrillic given between square brackets. Front and back k, g, and h are distinguished as k₁, k₂, etc. The next four tables show the different Manchu and Chinese¹⁹ sounds that could be represented by specific Latin (Tables III and IV) and Cyrillic (Tables V and VI) letters and letter combinations. In these tables only letters and letter combinations that occur in the transcription of Manchu are shown, and not those used by the dictionary solely to transcribe

¹⁷ First published under this title in Peking in 1602, but Ricci had printed a world map in 1584 while he was in Guangdong Province. He printed a second version as the *Yudi shanhai quantu* 輿地山海全圖 (*Complete Geographical Map of the Mountains and Seas*) in Nanjing in 1600. Both these versions are no longer extant but known from adaptations published by contemporary Chinese literati. The 1584 edition seems to have included transcriptions of the names of the continents Africa, Asia, North America, and South America; Europe (*Oluoba*) was added in the 1600 version. On the history of the various editions of Ricci's maps, see D'ELIA 1961: 82–164 (p. 89 on the inclusion of continent names).

¹⁸ As given in ZAKHÁROV 2010 [1879].

¹⁹ These tables are based on my transcriptions of the dictionary's annotations. On the Chinese transcriptions, see also DUNN 1992: 16–18 which gives a list in pinyin of all the Chinese syllables transcribed in the dictionary and the different transcriptions used for each. Of particular note in the transcription of Chinese is the borrowing of *el* from Polish orthography to represent pinyin *-er* 兒 e.g. 起頭兒 [*qi tour* “beginning”] = khi, tho, oe, *el*; 沒趣兒 [*mei qur* “boring”] = moe chú *el*. The dictionary's transcription of Chinese does not indicate tones.

Chinese.²⁰ Ø indicates that the sound was not transcribed by the annotator. In tables I and II numbers of occurrences of a transcription given between brackets () are only indications of the general range of frequency: because of the inadequate quality of certain photos taken during my research visit to Glasgow in August 2016, fifty-three entries from six different pages of the transcription are not included in this analysis. Where only one transcription is used in Latin or in Cyrillic, numbers of occurrences are not indicated. For the transcriptions that are not the normal choice of the annotator, the words in which they occur are given in a note. For the annotator's most commonly used transcriptions, which can be considered his default choice to represent a given sound, the words in which they occur are not given. When a sound occurs only a handful of times and is transcribed differently on almost each occasion: all the variants are listed, but no examples are given. In this case the variation most probably arises from the fact that the sound was uncommon and therefore the annotator had not fixed a way of noting it, and not from any differences in the pronunciation of specific words. Where English definitions are given in notes they are taken from NORMAN 2013. < > indicates letters added above line by the annotator.

Table I.
Table of the transcription of Manchu vowels and vowel combinations in the dictionary

Transcription in Möllendorf system [and Zakhárov]	Transcriptions used in Bayer dictionary (number of occurrences in brackets)	
	Roman alphabet	Cyrillic alphabet
a [a]	a (217) e (2 ²¹) aa (1 ²²) Ø (1 ²³)	a (53)

²⁰ Because one vowel letter in pinyin can represent several very different sounds depending on a syllable's coda and onset, in Table III and Table IV which give vowel equivalences, the pronunciation in the International Phonetic Alphabet of all the cases where a letter is used to transcribe Chinese in the Bayer dictionary annotations is also specified. I.P.A. is given according to the equivalences between Peking dialect and pinyin laid out in NORMAN 2002 [1988]: 141.

²¹ fajan = fa,dʒen. congkišambi = chonkiɯɯbi.

²² aigan = aijgaan.

²³ hasaha = gasga.

е [э]	е (133) и (10 ²⁴) о (7 ²⁵) ое (3 ²⁶) а (2 ²⁷) ее (1 ²⁸) é (1 ²⁹)	е (22) и (2 ³⁰) о (1 ³¹)
и [и]	и (160) ни (4 ³²) је (1 ³³) ји (1 ³⁴) ї (1 ³⁵) а (1 ³⁶) Ø (1 ³⁷)	и (38)
о [о]	о (59) ое (6 ³⁸) а (1 ³⁹)	о (24) ꠘ (4 ⁴⁰)

²⁴ emu fen = Emoe, fīn. semken = semkin. kuren = khoerin. kengse lasha = khink se, lasga. beri uhukēn = beri oegoekhin. biya genggiyan = ba kink, in. uhukēn = oegoekhin. erken terken = erkhin therkhin. abkai enduri = abgaj in doe.ri.

²⁵ fekšun = foksoen. eniye = One, i. nimecuke = nimochoekhe. indehen nimeku = indegoen, nimokhoe. ferten = for, then. efēhen = ofogén.

²⁶ indehen nimeku = indegoen, nimokhoe. nimenggi = nimoenki. feng gin = foenk khin.

²⁷ ajige jui = адчика, чү. dare mohombi = dara mogombi. [But note that the standard form of the word written here in Manchu script as ‘dare’ would in fact be ‘dara’ (“waist, lower back”), as transcribed].

²⁸ lefu = leefoe.

²⁹ efēhen = ofogén.

³⁰ muheren = мꠘхеринь. šen = ши=и.

³¹ we = во.

³² kiyamun-i morin = kjameon, ni, morin. emu hacin-i giranggi = emoe, hacin, ni kirank [-end of word illegible]. honin-i deberen = gonin, ni, deberen. aisin-i suje = айши=и, ni, soedче.

³³ ajirgan indahūn = adčirgan, jendagoen.

³⁴ illembi = jillembi. [Standard Manchu script form ilembi and not illembi.]

³⁵ enduringge-i efen = endoerink, e, ĩ, efēn.

³⁶ manggiyanihambi = mankkjanagabi.

³⁷ arkan seme isika = arkhan, seme, iskha.

³⁸ soison = soeioen. gala monjimbi = кала Моендчимби. konggoro = khoenkoro. homhon = gomgoen. holtoko = gol, tho, koe. dong = doenk.

³⁹ hūnto = goenta.

⁴⁰ nioboro boco = юꠘбꠘрꠘ боцо. šoyoho = шoюxꠘ. obumbi = обꠘмби.

u [y]	oe (118) e (2 ⁴¹) eo (1 ⁴²) woe (1 ⁴³) noe (1 ⁴⁴)	ʝ (20)
ū [ȳ]	oe	ʝ
ai [ай]	aij (14) aje (2 ⁴⁵) a, e (1 ⁴⁶)	/
ei [эй]	eij (5) ij (2 ⁴⁷) ei (1 ⁴⁸) eja (1 ⁴⁹) e, e (1 ⁵⁰)	/
io [ю/iō]	ú	юʝ
iya [я]	ja (4 ⁵¹) ia (4 ⁵²) ea (3 ⁵³) a' (2 ⁵⁴) e (1 ⁵⁵) ie (1 ⁵⁶) ija (1 ⁵⁷) ie (1 ⁵⁸)	a (4 ⁵⁹) я (2 ⁶⁰) ea (1 ⁶¹)

⁴¹ deribun = deriben. uju nimembi = oed̄che nimembi.

⁴² kiyamun-i morin = k̄jameon, ni, morin.

⁴³ ungḡa jalan = woenka, d̄chalan.

⁴⁴ unumbi = noenoembi.

⁴⁵ baimbi = bajembi (twice).

⁴⁶ baimbi = ba, embi.

⁴⁷ weijun = wij̄d̄coen. hehei gurun = gegij̄ koeroen.

⁴⁸ weihu = weigoe.

⁴⁹ neimbi = nejambi.

⁵⁰ neimbi = ne, embi.

⁵¹ hiyang = sjank. kiyamun = k̄jameon. biya arga = bja, arga. manggiyanihambi = mankk̄janagabi.

⁵² kiyangkiyan = khiank, khen. niyalma = nialma. biyadari = biadari. giyarimbi = kiaximbi.

⁵³ niyalma = nealma (three times).

⁵⁴ saniya = sana'. huwaliyasun [standard form 'hūwaliyasun'] = gwala'soen.

⁵⁵ kiyangkiyan = khiank, khen.

⁵⁶ talkiyan = talkhien.

⁵⁷ aliyambi = alijambi.

⁵⁸ siyang = sienk.

⁵⁹ miyaliyambi = маламби. biya = ба (twice).

⁶⁰ šanggiyan = ша^нянь (twice).

⁶¹ ice niyalma = иче неалма.

iye [ᡩ]	e (2 ⁶²) e, i (1 ⁶³) i (1 ⁶⁴)	/
iyoо [iᡩoo]	io (2 ⁶⁵) eje, oe (1 ⁶⁶)	/
oi [oi]	oei (3) oeij (1) oij (1)	/
oo [oo]	o	ᡠ
ui [ui]	oeij (1) oij (1) ú (1)	/
uwa [yba]	oe, a (1) oea (1) wa (1)	/
ūwa [ȳba]	/	ba
uwe [ybe]	o	o
eo [эo]	oe, oe	oᡠ

Table II.**Table of the transcription of Manchu consonants in the dictionary**

Transcription in Möllendorf system [and Zakhárov]	Transcriptions used in Bayer dictionary (number of occurrences in brackets)	
	Roman alphabet	Cyrillic alphabet
n (initial) [H]	n	H Ю (1 ⁶⁷)
n (medial) [H]	n	H
n (final) [HЬ]	n	HЬ H (2 ⁶⁸) (in final position) =H (2 ⁶⁹) (in final position)

⁶² fiyele [standard form 'fiyelen'] = fele. eniyechen honin = Enegen, honin.

⁶³ eniye = One, i.

⁶⁴ muheliyen = moegolin.

⁶⁵ kiyoo = kio. kiyoo = khio.

⁶⁶ kiyoo = kheje, oe.

⁶⁷ nioboro = юᡠᡩᡠᡠᡵᡠ.

⁶⁸ fisin yali = фижи^H я^Hли. siden = шидᡠ^H.

⁶⁹ aisin = айши^H. šen = ши^H.

k ₁ (a, o, ū) [к]	kh (27) k (6 ⁷⁰) g (6 ⁷¹) kg (1 ⁷²) k kh (1 ⁷³)	к (3)
k ₂ (e, u, i) [к/к̄ ⁷⁴]	kh (19) k (4 ⁷⁵) g (1 ⁷⁶)	к (2)
k (before a consonant) [къ]	k (12)	к (2)
k (final) [къ]	k	/
g ₁ (a, o, ū) [г]	k (9) g (3 ⁷⁷)	к (1) г (1 ⁷⁸) х (1 ⁷⁹)
g ₂ (e, u, i) [г/г̄ ⁸⁰]	k (14) g (1 ⁸¹)	к (6) х (1 ⁸²)
h ₁ (a, o, ū) [х]	g (49) h (2 ⁸³) kh (1 ⁸⁴) k (1 ⁸⁵) gh (2 ⁸⁶)	х (14)

⁷⁰ kocike = kocike. fuhali herserakū = foegali gerserakoe. gūnin baharakū = koenin bagharakoe. yoktakū = Joktakoe. [NB: but elsewhere the negative verbal form –akū appears as –akhoe]. holtoko = gol, tho, koe. yadarko = jatarkoe.

⁷¹ abka = abga (3 times). abkai = abgaij. jabdurakū = dzabdoeragoe. gisun gairakū = kisoen kaijragoe.

⁷² jakade = дчакгаде.

⁷³ dorakū = dorak khoe.

⁷⁴ Before u.

⁷⁵ semken = semkin. kiyamun-i morin = kjameon, ni, morin, muke = moeke. kiyoo = kio.

⁷⁶ urukebi = oe, roe, ge, bi.

⁷⁷ arga = arga. aigan = aijgaan. umgan = oemgan.

⁷⁸ gala = гала.

⁷⁹ asigan = ашихань.

⁸⁰ Before u.

⁸¹ ebergi = ebergi.

⁸² umgan gidambi = Ѹмхань китамби.

⁸³ hacin = hacin. eniyehen honin = Enegen, honin.

⁸⁴ jafaha = дчafakha.

⁸⁵ bojuha yali = boedчоекa Ya'nli.

⁸⁶ gūnin baharakū = koenin bagharakoe. kataha yali = khatagha Yenli.

h ₂ (e, u, i) [x/x ⁻⁸⁷]	g (37) s (1 ⁸⁸) kh (1 ⁸⁹)	x (8)
b [б]	b p (2 ⁹⁰)	б
p [п]	ph	/
s [с]	s	с Ø (1 ⁹¹)
š [ш]	s (2 ⁹²)	ш с (1 ⁹³)
si [си]	si (5 ⁹⁴) s (1 ⁹⁵)	ши си (2 ⁹⁶) жи (2 ⁹⁷)
t [т]	th (33) t (16)	т (4)
d [д]	d (45) t (8) th (1)	д (7) т (1)
l [л]	l	л
m [м]	m	м
с [ч/ц]	ch (8 ⁹⁸) с (4 ⁹⁹)	ц (6 ¹⁰⁰) ч (2 ¹⁰¹)

⁸⁷ Before u.

⁸⁸ hiyang = sjank.

⁸⁹ lakderehebi = lakderekhebi.

⁹⁰ debtelin = deptelin. dubin = toepin.

⁹¹ fusheku = ф^ʋхек^ʋ.

⁹² šeng = sen. feksun = feksoen.

⁹³ pahūraka = сак^ʋ, пака.

⁹⁴ siyang = sienk. sirame = sirame. siltan = silthan. singkeri = sinkkeri. ferhe singgeri = ferge, Sinkeri.

⁹⁵ isika = iskha.

⁹⁶ ebsi = ебси. sike = сике.

⁹⁷ fisin yali = фижи^ʎ я^ʎли. huwesi = хожи.

⁹⁸ sonchoho = sonchogo. congkišambi = chonkišbi. cabin = chibin. nimecuke = nimochoekhe. girucun = kiroechoen. jibca = dčibcha. cihangga = chiganka. mucin = moechin.

⁹⁹ kocike = kocike. fucihi = foecigi. hacin = hacin. baitalaci = baijthalaci.

¹⁰⁰ boco = боцо. соко = цоко (twice). dacun = дац^ʋнь. cohogo = цохоро. bucehengge = б^ʋцехе^ʎЕ.

¹⁰¹ yokcin akū = Јокчин akhoe. ice = иче. [On alternance of ц and ч, see DUNN 1992:20, which notes the annotator's apparent occasional confusion between ц and ч in his transcription of Chinese (e.g. pinyin *chi* transcribed чи) as evidence that he was not a native Russian speaker].

j [чж]	dч (40) d (1 ¹⁰²) j (1 ¹⁰³)	дж (2 ¹⁰⁴) ч (1 ¹⁰⁵)
y [* ¹⁰⁶]	j (9) y (2 ¹⁰⁷)	я (3 ¹⁰⁸) (transcribing y+a)
r [р]	r x (2 ¹⁰⁹)	р
f [ф]	f	ф
w [в]	w	в б (1 ¹¹⁰)
ng (in final position) [нъ]	nk (4)	/
ngg [нг]	nk (16) n (2 ¹¹¹) nkk (2 ¹¹²) nk.k (1 ¹¹³) nk, (4 ¹¹⁴)	= ^H (3 ¹¹⁵)
ngk [нк]	nk, kh (1) ¹¹⁶	/
h [ж]	/	дж

¹⁰² jurgangga = doerkana.

¹⁰³ ja = ja (for Chinese 易 [pinyin *yì*, transcribed in this dictionary as “Ji”]).

¹⁰⁴ ju žu muke = джѳ жѳ Мѳке. joo = джѳ. [The standard imperative form of jimbi “to come” is *jio*, but here written *joo* in Manchu script].

¹⁰⁵ ajige jui = адчика, чу.

¹⁰⁶ Only appears as part of combinations y + vowel in Zakhárov’s transliteration.

¹⁰⁷ yali = Ya’nli. yali = Yenli.

¹⁰⁸ šanggiyan = ша=^Hянь. yali = я^Hли (twice).

¹⁰⁹ giyarimbi = kiximbi. arsalan = axsalan.

¹¹⁰ wehe = бехз. [Annotator’s confusion of the Cyrillic letters б and в].

¹¹¹ falanggū = falanoe. jurgangga = doerkana.

¹¹² singgeri = sinkkeri. [singgeri also transcribed elsewhere as sinkeri]. manggiyanihambi = mankkjanagabi.

¹¹³ defelingu = tefelink.koe.

¹¹⁴ tangгы = thank, oe. jalingga = dčalink, a. weilengge = weijlenk, e. enduringge = endoerink, e.

¹¹⁵ šanggiyan = ша^Hянь. bucehengge = бѳцехе=^HE.

¹¹⁶ kiyangkiyan = khiank, khen.

Table III.

Table of the different Manchu and Chinese vowels and vowel combinations represented by a given letter (or combination of letters) of the Latin alphabet in the dictionary

Transcription	Manchu (Möllendorf)	Mandarin Chinese (pinyin) + {IPA ¹¹⁷ }
a	a e	a {[a] [ɑ] [ɛ] [ʌ]}
e	e u iye	e {[ə] [ʌ] [a] [e] [ɛ] [ʌ]} ia {[iʌ] [iɑ]} ie {[iɛ<]} ue {[yɛ<]} i {[i]}
o	o e	uo {[uo]} o {[uo]} e {[ʌ] [ʌ]} ao {[ɑo]}
i	i e	i {[i] [ɪ]} e {[ə]}
oe	u ū o	ou {[ou]} u {[y] [u] [ue] [ʊ] [ou]} o {[ʊ] [uo]} e {[ʌ]}
o, oe	eo	ou {[ou]} ao {[ɑo]} iao {[iao]} u {[u]} o {[uo]}
aij	ai	ai {[ae]}
eij	ei	ei {[ei]} i {[eɪ]}
oij	oi	ui {[ueɪ]}
ij	ei	i {[eɪ]}

¹¹⁷ Given according to the table of equivalences between Peking dialect and pinyin found in NORMAN 2002 [1988]: 141.

je	i	ia {[iɑ] [iɛ]} ua {[ya]} ya {[ja]} yue {[jyɛ]} ye {[jie<]} yi {[ji]} i {[i]}
ja	iya	ya {[ja] [jʌ]} a {[ɑ]} ia {[iʌ] [iɑ] [iɛ]}
ie	iya	ue {[yɛ<]} ia {[iɛ]} i {[i]} e {[ɣʌ]}
e, i	iye	/

Table IV.
Table of the different Manchu and Chinese vowels and vowel combinations represented by a given letter (or combination of letters) of the Cyrillic alphabet in the dictionary

Transcription	Manchu (Möllendorf)	Chinese (pinyin)
a	a	a {[ɑ] [a] [ʌ]}
e	e	e {[ɣʌ] [iɛ<]} ia {[iɛ]}
и	i	e {[ɣʌ] [ə] [ʌ]} i {[i] [ɨ] [ei] [e]} yi {[ji]} y {[j]}
o	e	o {[o] [uo]} a {[ɑ]} uo {[uo]} e {[ɣʌ]}

ᡠ	u ū o	u {[u] [o] [y]} ᡤ {[y]} ou {[ou]} o {[o]} e {[ʌ]}
ᡤ	io o	yo {[jo]} u {[ʊ]}
ᡤᡠ	iya	ia {[iɛ] [ia] [iʌ]}
ᡠᡤ	eo	ao {[ao]} ou {[ou]}
ᡤᡠᡤ	io	you {[joʊ]} ou {[ou]}
ᡠᡠ	ūwa	ua {[ua] [uʌ]}

Table V.

Table of the different Manchu and Chinese consonants and consonant combinations represented by a given letter (or combination of letters) of the Latin alphabet in the dictionary

Transcription	Manchu (Möllendorf)	Chinese (pinyin)
n	n	n ng
k	g ₁ g ₂ k ₁ k ₂ k (before a consonant) final k h ₁	k g j q
g	h ₁ h ₂ g ₁ g ₂ k ₁ k ₂	h

gh	h ₁	/
kg	k ₁	/
kh	k ₁ k ₂ h ₁ h ₂	k j q
nk	ng	ng
p	b	b
b	b	b
s	s	sh s x
t	t d	/
th	t	t
d	d	d
l	l	/
m	m	m
ch	c	ch q c
dz	j	j zh z
j	j	y i
r	r	/
f	f	f
w	w	w

Table VI.

Table of the different Manchu and Chinese consonants and consonant combinations represented by a given letter (or combination of letters) of the Cyrillic alphabet in the dictionary

Transcription	Manchu (Möllendorf)	Chinese (pinyin)
б	b w	b
В	w	u l
Г	g ₁	/
Д	d	d
Ж	s	r sh
ДЖ	j ž	/
К	k ₁ k ₂ k (before a consonant) g ₁ g ₂	j
Л	l	l
М	m	m
Н	n (initial, medial)	n (initial)
НЪ	n (final)	n (final)
= ^н	n (final) ng	eng
^н	ng	n (final) en
р	r	/
с	s š x	s sh
Т	t d	t d

ф	f	f
x	h ₁ h ₂ g ₁ g ₂	h
ц	c	c
ш	š s (before i)	sh

A few preliminary notes:

- Most words are transcribed in either the Latin alphabet or the Cyrillic alphabet, and those words where the two alphabets are combined for the transcription are rarer. The cases where sounds are combined most often occur in words containing a sound systematically transcribed in one alphabet, such as š (as well as *s-* before an *i*) which is always transcribed ш (e.g. *faksi* ‘craftsman’ transcribed *fakши*)¹¹⁸.
- The genitive case marker is almost always transcribed as *ni* after a final *-n*, even when the author of the Manchu script has written *-i*.
- Möllendorf *k* (a voiceless aspirated stop¹¹⁹) is most often transcribed as *kh* before a vowel, and *k* before a consonant or in final position; Möllendorf *g* (a voiceless unaspirated stop initially, and a voiced aspirated stop between voiced segments¹²⁰) is transcribed as *k*¹²¹; and Möllendorf *h* (a voiceless fricative¹²²) is transcribed *g*¹²³ or, in Cyrillic, *x*.¹²⁴
- With the exception that all four transcribed occurrences of the words *abka* “sky” and its genitive form *abkai* use a *g* (*abga*, *abgaij*).

¹¹⁸ In the transcription of Chinese pinyin ‘sh’ is also consistently transcribed with ш. See DUNN 1992: 19.

¹¹⁹ NORMAN 2013: xviii.

¹²⁰ NORMAN 2013: xvi.

¹²¹ In the transcription of Chinese, *k* is used for pinyin *g*. See DUNN 1992: 21.

¹²² NORMAN 2013: xvii.

¹²³ For the transcription of Möllendorf *h* with the Roman letter *g*, see also, e.g. BELL 1763: v. 1, 277 where *aliha da* (an abbreviation of *aliha bithei da* ‘Grand Secretary’) is represented as “the Allegada, or prime minister”.

¹²⁴ In the transcription of Chinese, *g* is also used (although not exclusively) for pinyin *h*, and also occasionally for pinyin *x*. See DUNN 1992: 22.

- There is no noticeable difference between the consonants used to transcribe k_1 and k_2 , g_1 and g_2 , or h_1 and h_2 , implying that although they were written with different letter-forms their pronunciation was not differentiated. Lie Hiu¹²⁵ noted the same absence of differentiation in early Qing-period Korean transcriptions of Manchu, and suggested that the different letter forms had been borrowed from Mongolian in spite of the fact that in Manchu there was no need to differentiate between the pronunciation of these consonants. Norman¹²⁶ describes a differentiation into a series of uvulars (k_1 , g_1 , h_1) and velars (k_2 , g_2 , h_2); the evidence from this dictionary’s transcription goes against the existence of this distinction.
- b and p seem to be distinguished by aspiration (of p): $b = b$, \bar{b} , or, rarely, p ; $p = ph$.¹²⁷
- d and t seem to be differentiated by both voice and aspiration¹²⁸: $d = d$ (voiced, without aspiration), $t = th$ (voiceless, with aspiration).
- The pronunciation of \bar{u} is not distinguished from that of u . Both are most commonly rendered as *oe* in the Latin alphabet or У in Cyrillic.
- Very occasional syncope of vowels, e.g. *isika* (“almost”) = *iskha*, *hasaha* (“scissors”) = *gasga*.
- One example of a prothetic n , a phenomenon noted by Zikmundová in contemporary Sibe¹²⁹: *unumbi* “to carry (on one’s back), to shoulder, to put (the hands) behind one’s back”¹³⁰, transcribed as *noenoembi*. Zikmundová also notes the substitution of an initial $[n]$ with a prothetic $[y]$, possibly seen here in *nioboro* (“deep green”) transcribed as юУ6УpУ .
- Möllendorf r [NORMAN 2013: xix “a voiced alveolar flap”] is normally transcribed by r , but also on occasion by x .¹³¹

¹²⁵ LIE 1972: 64 (cited by ROTH LI 2004: 16).

¹²⁶ NORMAN 2013: xvi–xviii and 2000.

¹²⁷ DUNN 1992: 21–22, 24 also notes the annotator’s use of [consonant] + h to indicate aspiration in the transcription of Chinese.

¹²⁸ SAARELA 2015: 220 notes that while the Möllendorf transcription implies a difference between a voiced d and a voiceless t , earlier transcriptions (e.g. Amiot) implied that the difference between these two letters was one of the presence or absence of aspiration.

¹²⁹ ZIKMUNDOVÁ 2013: 27.

¹³⁰ But on another occasion *unumbi* transcribed *oenoeembi*.

¹³¹ In the transcription of Chinese, pinyin r (NORMAN 2002 [1988]: 139: a voiced retroflex continuant) is almost always transcribed ж . See DUNN 1992: 19.

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- The transcription of the same word can vary across different parts of the dictionary (e.g. *niyalma* “person” can be rendered as *nialma*, *nealma*, or *неалма*).
 - The word *yali* (“meat”) is transcribed quite particularly each time it appears, with the first syllable ending in *-n*, or with what seems to be a perhaps a hiatus (or glottal stop?) and/or nasalization: *Ja’nli*, *Ya’nli*, *Yenli*, *Jenli*, *я^hли*.
 - In the transcription words are often separated by commas. However, occasionally punctuation marks appear within a word. Sometimes these are commas, and merely mark the boundaries between syllables (e.g. *holtoko* (“deceived”) = *gol, tho, koe*; *tašarame* (“erring”) = *tha, ша, rame* “erring”; *enduri* (“spirit”) = *in, doe, ri*. At other times, however commas, full stops, or apostrophes seem perhaps to be being used to indicate a hiatus in pronunciation, e.g. *huwaliyasun* [*sic*] (= *hūwaliyasun* “harmony”) = *gwala’soen*; *weilengge* (“a criminal”) = *weijlenk, e*; *enduringge* (“holy”) = *endoerink, e*; *baimbi* (“to seek”) = *ba, embi*; *neimbi* (“to open”) = *ne, embi*. The purpose is even less easy to ascertain when punctuation marks appear in disyllabic words e.g. *okto* (“medicine”) = *ok. tho*; or in monosyllabic words, e.g. *suwan* (“cormorant”) = *soe, an*; *kiyoo* (“bridge”) = *kheje, oe*.
 - To draw any more precise conclusions on the phonetic evidence of the transcriptions, it will be necessary to first reach a more definite conclusion as to the identity of the annotator, or at least the languages (in particularly those written in the Latin alphabet) known and used by him.

It seems probable that the second layer of annotation was also a collaborative work, with the author noting down the pronunciation of a native speaker of Manchu and Chinese (or of a native Chinese speaker, and a native Manchu speaker). The annotator seems not to have planned beforehand how he would transcribe individual sounds and to have noted words down as he heard them, changing his mind during the work on the best way to record different sounds. Because of the collaborative process involved, it again seems probable that the annotation also took place in Peking, although as only a portion of the pages are annotated it could also be possible that the dictionary was annotated during the caravan journey that must have carried it to St. Petersburg. The difference in the handwriting of the annotations and the head entries, and the fact that the layout of the

dictionary had not foreseen columns to add transcriptions suggests that the annotator and the author of the head entries were not the same person, and further perhaps that the original author was no longer involved with the dictionary at the moment when these annotations were added. As regards the identity of the annotator, Dunn hypothesizes that he was not Russian,¹³² and that he may have been a Dutch speaker on the basis of the use in the transcription of the Chinese of the Latin letter ‘g’ (in Dutch [r] or, in final position [x]) for fricatives (pinyin h and x); of ‘oe’ for a back, high, rounded vowel; of ‘ú’ for a front, high, rounded vowel; and of ‘-ij’ in some complex finals. However, as Dunn notes, other aspects of the transcription, e.g. the marking of aspirated consonants by [consonant] + h, or the use of the letter i are not derived from Dutch orthography.¹³³ To try to identify the scribe, Dunn also compared a sample of Ilarion Rossokhin’s (1716–1761) handwriting to the head-entries and annotations of the dictionary and concluded that he was not the author of the head-entries, but that the possibility that he was the author of the annotations remained open.¹³⁴

There is another, possible, record of an eighteenth century use of a mixture of the Latin and Cyrillic alphabets to transcribe Manchu. One of the charges made against the Emperor Yongzheng’s brother Yuntang 允禩 (1683–1726) in 1726 was that during his exile in Xining 西寧 he had used “Western characters” (*xiyangzi* 西洋字) to represent (*fangbi* 仿比) Manchu and to create a code (*chuangzao mimazi* 創造密碼字) which he employed in secret letters exchanged with his son. In the record of the interrogation of the Portuguese Jesuit João Mourão (1681–1726), charged with conspiring with Yuntang, one of the accusations is that as the only foreigner to have been in contact with Yuntang he must have taught him the “Western characters” used in this code. Mourão replies by contending that Yuntang was acquainted with the Cyrillic alphabet — and that his knowledge of the Cyrillic alphabet came from a source other than Mourão. Looking at a book (perhaps in Greek) of natural philosophy (*gewu qiongli de shu* 格物窮理的書) which belonged to Mourão, Yuntang had declared that it “rather resembled the Russian characters” (*you xie xiang eluosuzi* 有些像俄羅素字). He had explained that he had come into possession of a Russian alphabet (*de guo eluosu de zitour* 得過俄羅素的字頭兒) and had

¹³² Occasional confusion of б and в in the transcription of Manchu (see n. 108) also support the conclusion that the annotator was not a native speaker of Russian.

¹³³ DUNN 1992: 24.

¹³⁴ DUNN 1987: 20.

asked Mourão if, as this script also possessed the a, e, i sounds, he thought it would be possible to “make use of it for additions and changes” (*tiangai yong* 添改用), which possibility Mourão allowed.¹³⁵ This has led to speculation that Yuntang may have developed a system for transcribing Manchu that combined the Latin and Cyrillic alphabets.¹³⁶ However, in a recent study based on newly discovered archival documents, including a table of the code (unfortunately not reproduced in facsimile) and some of the encoded letters, Wang Miansen has concluded that the code is in fact entirely based on the Latin alphabet and Yuntang’s own modifications of it, and does not incorporate any Cyrillic letters.¹³⁷ If Yuntang had some knowledge of Cyrillic, this suggests the intriguing possibility that he may have had contacts with the Russian Ecclesiastical Mission as well as with the Jesuits — although his knowledge could also have come through written material in circulation at the time.

Conclusion

Paschke undoubtedly presented this manuscript to Bayer because he knew of his interest in the study of Chinese and Manchu, as well as in dictionaries: Bayer notably compiled an unpublished twelve-volume Chinese-Latin dictionary.¹³⁸ Bayer’s great curiosity and his cultivation of a network of friends and acquaintances who brought items of interest to him allowed him to assemble the invaluable material now held in his papers in Glasgow. The variety of this material underlines the inventiveness of Bayer’s approach to learning the languages of distant countries for which there were no

¹³⁵ “Yuntang Yunsi an” 允禔允禩案 (Case of Yuntang and Yunsi), 1st June 1726: GUGONG BOWUYUAN 1964 [1931]: vol. I, 3. For a contemporary Latin translation of Mourão’s deposition, carried out by a Chinese priest named Stefano Siu, and enclosed in a letter from Salvator Rasini, crsp (1690–1736) to the Cardinal Sacripanti (1642–1727) dated 19th December 1726, cf. D’ELIA 1963: 441–449. The relevant passage (D’ELIA 1963: 445): *Habebam unum librum philosophiae quem videns ipse dixit: «Sunt aliqua in illo libro quae assimilantur litteris Moscovitarum; his litteris aliqua addi possunt et mutari». Non cogitabam illum postea iis addisse et mutasse aliqua ad scribendas epistolas in domum suam. Quidquid sit de hoc, nihil scio.*

¹³⁶ LAAMANN 2000: 87; ZHANG 2012.

¹³⁷ WANG 2021: 35–45.

¹³⁸ DUNN 1987: 22, n. 8 gives its call number as AAN (Arkhiv Akademii Nauk), *fonds* 784, *opis*’ 1, no. 1.

standard paths of study at the time. As well as beginning a correspondence with the Jesuits, he sought out possible sources of knowledge wherever he could, and above all from travellers who passed through Saint Petersburg for one reason or another. His papers include scrapbook-style volumes where, as well as the vocabulary lists or grammars he copied out from published books or borrowed and consulted manuscripts, he has glued advertisements in Chinese for ink, cloth, or incense (e.g. Ms Hunter 221 (U.2.12), *Miscella Sinica*). There are also the small manuscript pamphlets he composed to record his conversations with Japanese (Ms Hunter B/E 10, *Sermo cum duobus Japonensibus*), Mongolian (Ms Hunter B/E 12, *Sermo cum Bordone legato Calmucorum*), or Manchu visitors.¹³⁹

In Ms Hunter B/E 11 (*Sermo cum Mangjuro*),¹⁴⁰ he records his conversation (on 31st August 1735) with a Manchu called “Dgjauga”, brought to see him by Pacunin, a secretary in the College of Foreign Affairs (“*Pacunin Secretarius in Collegio Extraneorum Negotiorum*”) (Vasilii Mikhailovich Bakunin?, 1700–1761, author of a description of the Torghuts published in 1761¹⁴¹). Bayer showed Dgjauga a “Chinese rosary” he possessed and, probably responding to a prompt from Bayer, Dgjauga informed him that the Manchus did not use rosaries although the Chinese and the Mongols did.¹⁴² He then showed Bayer how to pray with it. Bayer notes down in detail that would not be astray in an anthropological field report the physical movements and the reasons that motivated them: “He showed me the way of praying in a circle of 18 beads. When someone dies, rather than going over the middle knot these circles move backwards. However, when prayers are performed each single bead rests on top of the index finger and is pressed [forward] by the thumb”.¹⁴³ At every bead the Tibetans recite “*om ma ni bad ma chum*” (which Bayer here copies out in Tibetan script as well as giving the transcription) which he explains as “these six sounds are the names of the six infernal torments, which [the Tibetans] constantly turn in their thoughts so as to avoid sinning through fear of

¹³⁹ See the summaries and notes given in WESTON 2018: 65–69, 148–153.

¹⁴⁰ WESTON 2018: 151–152.

¹⁴¹ On Vasilii Bakunin and the other members of his immediate family’s service in the College of Foreign Affairs, see RANDOLPH 2007: 26–27. For an edition of Vasilii Bakunin’s description of the Kalmyk and the Torghut, see BAKUNIN 1995.

¹⁴² *Ostendebam ei rosarium Sinicum. Negabat Mangjuros eo uti: at Mungalos et Sinos.*

¹⁴³ *Demonstrabat mihi modum precandi in orbem per 18 globulos, quem orbem ubi quis obierit, non transilit medium nodum, sed retrogradus incedit. Globulus autem unusquisque, dum preces peraguntur supra indicem digitum recumbit et pollice premitur.*

Hell”.¹⁴⁴ Dgjauga said that the images on Bayer’s rosary, which must have consisted of engraved beads, were not Buddhas but Tibetan priests, and added that “Confucius was neither a Buddha, nor was he worshipped”.¹⁴⁵

Finally, Bayer sums up his encounter with Dgjauga thus: “in short, this noble Manchu was an excellent and most learned man.”¹⁴⁶ Dgjauga also sang to him, first in Chinese, then in Manchu, and finally in Mongolian: “Then he sang again in Manchu. This song was stirring, grave, and truly military, so that it seemed, like the din of war-trumpets and drums, most fitting for rousing spirits. [...] And finally he sang in Mongolian. The sound of this music was exactly that of the Circassian or Cossack [music] which we often hear here, full of melancholy and calm”.¹⁴⁷

Bayer’s “Dgjauga” must in fact be Russia’s first teacher of Manchu and Chinese, recorded in other sources as Zhou Ge.¹⁴⁸ According to Russian sources¹⁴⁹ he had been sent by the Qing on a reconnaissance mission to the court of the Torghut khan Tseren Donduk (r. 1724–1735), son of Ayuki Khan. However the Torghuts captured him, and then handed him over to the Russians in 1733, originally with the intention that he be sent back to the Qing. He accompanied Leontii Ugrimov, who was returning from a mission to the Zunghars, as far as Tobolsk. In Tobolsk there was a change of plan and, because it was feared he might possess intelligence that Russia did not want the Qing to obtain, he was instead sent to Moscow, which he reached in 1734. From there — to avoid contact with the Torghuts who had accompanied the 1732 Qing embassy and were still in Moscow, as his captured status now risked becoming an embarrassment — he continued on to Saint Petersburg. In 1737 he was baptized as Fedor Petrov and married the daughter of an Orthodox Kalmyk. A year later he applied to return to China, but was instead sent to Moscow to teach two students, Aleksei Leont’ev

¹⁴⁴ *Hae Sex voces sunt nomina Sex cruciatuum infernalium, quos animo constanter versant, ut metu gehennae non peccent.*

¹⁴⁵ *Confucium dicebat neque Burchanum esse, neque adorari.*

¹⁴⁶ *Denique homo erat hic nobilis Mangjurenensis plane optimus et politissimus.*

¹⁴⁷ *Tum idem canebat Mangjurice. Hic cantus erat citatus, gravis et revera militaris ut lituorum bellicorum et tympanorum ad incitandos animos strepitui accommodatissimus videretur. [...] Ad postremum Mungalice canebat. Sonus huius musicae ipsissimus erat, qui Tscherkas'kiensis et Cosakiensis est, quam hic saepe audivimus, plenam melancholiae et quietis.*

¹⁴⁸ PANG 1991: 125. WIDMER 1976: 158–159 (written Chou Ko, as he is using the Wade-Giles transliteration system).

¹⁴⁹ WIDMER 1976: 158–159, which summarizes SKAČKOV 1960: 198–201.

(d. 1786) and Andrei Kanaev (d. 1773). They were sent to Peking in 1741, Dgjauga saying that as a soldier he was not very literate and could teach them nothing more. He was then assigned to Arkhangelsk as an ensign. He died on March 9th (Julian calendar) 1751 never having been able to return to his home in the Qing Empire.

In the Bayer papers, inside Bayer's account of his conversation with Dgjauga, is a scrap of paper on which, along with 天下太平 ("Peace to All Under Heaven") several times, the mantra *om maṇi padme hūm* in Tibetan script and Bayer's transcription (*om ma ni bad mae chum*), and Manchu words for brick tea (*juwan cai*), silk (*juse*), and thread (*donggire* [a variant of *tonggo?*], transcribed by Bayer as "tonghora" which he translates as *filum sericum* "silk thread"), Dgjauga has written his own name in Manchu and in Chinese: in Chinese it is Zhao¹⁵⁰ and he writes it with two variant characters: 𠵹¹⁵¹ and 哥.¹⁵² In Manchu it is Jooge¹⁵³, and in front of his Manchu name he has also added "gulu fulgiyan-i" "of the Plain Red [Banner]". This small scrap of paper thus adds further clues to the story of the first Manchu teacher in Russia, confirming that he was a member of the Eight Banners and, given his name, Manchu rather than Chinese. As he writes his own name with variant characters, he could not have had a long classical education, but he possessed a different sort of literacy, similar to that of the unknown collaborator(s) who wrote the Chinese and Manchu entries in the Bayer collection dictionary.

¹⁵⁰ In his account Bayer comments on the difference in his pronunciation from that he had learned in books, and that in the first syllable of Dgjauga's name, whose character he transcribes as *chao*, the *ao* was pronounced as an *au*. Note that in his account Bayer transcribes the Manchu initial *j-* as *Dgj*, e.g. *juwan cai* is transcribed as *Dgjuan tschai*.

¹⁵¹ The *Jiyun* 集韻 (*Collected Rhymes*, 1037) places it together with the character 𠵹, with their pronunciation given as *zhao* in the *qieyin* system (*zhi xiao qie* 之笑切) and the gloss "the *Shuowen* defines it as to plough [land] by digging down deep and unearthing the black under-soil; or, cultivating fallow fields; or, an embankment" (*Shuowen*: *geng yi cha jun chu xialu tu, yi yue geng xiutian ye, yi yue ti ye* 說文耕以耒浚出下盧土, 一曰耕休田也, 一曰隄也.) DING 1986 [1037]: *juan* 8: 13a.

¹⁵² For *ge* 哥.

¹⁵³ For Jooge as a Manchu name, see STARY 2000: 232, where eight different occurrences in the genealogies of the Eight Banners are listed.

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Artiom Mesheznikov

New Fragments of the Sanskrit Lotus Sūtra in the Serindia Manuscript Collection (IOM, RAS)

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Abstract: The present work deals with the four previously unpublished fragments of the Sanskrit Lotus Sūtra kept in the Serindia Collection in the subcollection of N.F. Petrovsky under the call numbers SI 2098 (2 fragments), SI 3693, SI 3694. These fragments have some points in common considering the information about the codicological and paleographical features. The fragments present a remarkable similarity to each other in terms of material, type of script and ductus of the writing. It is estimated that the original complete folios of the manuscripts had 7 lines and the same presumable dimensions. On these grounds it is very probable that the four fragments belong to one and the same manuscript. Apart from this, the analysis of text makes it clear that the two fragments under the call number SI 2098 are the two almost conjoining parts of one and the same folio. The article includes transliteration and English translation of the fragments, their comparison with the corresponding text from the Kashgar manuscript of N.F. Petrovsky and with the text of the Kern & Nanjio edition. As a result of comparing the text of the fragments with the texts representing two currently known Sanskrit versions of the Lotus Sūtra (the Gilgit-Nepalese and the Central Asian) it becomes possible to assume that our fragments are closer to the Central Asian version. Fragments containing the texts of this version are of particular interest and utmost importance for the textual history of the Sanskrit Lotus Sūtra, because such texts represent the earlier stage of textual development of the Sūtra than the Sanskrit texts from Nepal and Gilgit that show more modern and remodeled variant.

Key words: Serindia Collection, Sanskrit manuscripts, Lotus Sūtra, Khotan, Nikolai F. Petrovsky

The Serindia Collection of the Institute of Oriental Manuscripts of the Russian Academy of Sciences (IOM, RAS) has preserved a significant number of folios and fragments of the Sanskrit Lotus Sūtra. Among the

manuscripts of the Sanskrit part of the Serindia Collection the Lotus Sūtra texts take the first place in terms of the number of copies and the volume of the manuscripts. The Serindia Collection includes 30 Sanskrit manuscripts of the Lotus Sūtra among which some folios and fragments still remain unpublished. After they had been identified, it became possible to publish the next seven fragments¹ and thereby to make significant progress in introducing into scientific circulation the manuscripts of the Lotus Sūtra stored in the Serindia Collection.

The Sanskrit manuscripts of the Lotus Sūtra kept in the Serindia Collection were compiled mainly in the 8–9th cc.² All the manuscripts were written on paper in pothi format in Southern Turkestan Brāhmī script. Both Sanskrit versions of the Sūtra (Gilgit-Nepalese and Central Asian) are presented in the Serindia Collection, but it is necessary to note that the manuscripts related to the Central Asian version greatly predominate. It is suffice to point out that the Sanskrit part of the Serindia Collection contains the largest existing Central Asian manuscript of the Lotus Sūtra which is well-known as the so-called Kashgar manuscript kept in the subcollection of N.F. Petrovsky. Since this manuscript has been preserved almost entirely (including over 400 folios and fragments), it serves the basis for investigating the Central Asian version, which is considered as the earliest version containing an older text being very close to the original variant of the Lotus Sūtra.³ Studies of the text of the Kashgar manuscript showed that initially it consisted of about 500 folios, of which 399 folios and fragments are stored now in the Serindia Collection in the subcollection of N.F. Petrovsky (under the call number SI 1925/27).⁴ Most of the other Sanskrit

¹ SI 2098 (2 fragments), SI 3000 (2 fragments) and 3 fragments for the call numbers SI 3631, SI 3693 and SI 3694.

² According to the data of paleography it can be assumed that several fragments were recorded in the 5–7th cc.

³ In the preface to the Kern and Nanjio's edition of the Lotus Sūtra H. Kern suggested that the Kashgar version was older and closer to the original composition of the Lotus Sūtra than the other texts, since the grammatically correct Sanskrit of the Nepalese manuscripts was the outcome of subsequent innovations made by the authoritative revisers (KERN & NANJIO 1908–1912: IX).

⁴ Apart from a larger part of the text preserved in the Serindia Collection and those 12 folios which are considered to be missing some parts of the Kashgar manuscript are kept in the following places in the world: 40 folios are held in the Stein collection in the British Library and 4 folios are in the Hoernle collection in the India Office Library; 9 folios are in the Trinkler collection in the State Library of the Stiftung Preussischer Kulturbesitz formerly in Marburg and now in Berlin; 6 fragments are now in the Otani collection in the Peking Library; one fragment is in the Ellsworth Huntington papers in the Sterling Library of Yale University (TODA 1981: XII).

manuscripts of the Lotus Sūtra from the Serindia Collection show similarities or even verbatim matches with the text of the Kashgar manuscript and thus stand closer to the Central Asian version. When compared with the Sanskrit texts of Nepalese and Gilgit manuscripts, almost all Central Asian folios and fragments represent a quite different recension of the textual tradition of the Lotus Sūtra. The Gilgit-Nepalese version of the Lotus Sūtra is formed by Sanskrit manuscripts on palm leaf and paper from Nepal and Tibet, as well as Sanskrit manuscripts on birch bark discovered in 1931 in a stūpa site north of Gilgit in Kashmir.⁵ Only three Sanskrit manuscripts preserved in the Serindia Collection under the call numbers SI 1941,⁶ SI 3332/3⁷ and SI 4645⁸ are close to the Gilgit-Nepalese version of the Lotus Sūtra.

The paleographic and linguistic analysis of the manuscripts showed that during the second half of the 1st millennium AD the Lotus Sūtra was circulating in the Southern oases of the Tarim Basin, mainly in Khotan. This is confirmed by some happily survived Khotanese colophons to several manuscripts of the Lotus Sūtra in which the Khotanese donators transfer the merits to their dead relatives.⁹ The widespread circulation of the Lotus Sūtra in Khotan also could be confirmed by the type of script. As has already been noted, Sanskrit manuscripts of the Lotus Sūtra from the Serindia Collection were written in Southern Turkestan Brāhmī script developed and used for copying texts in the southern rim of the Tarim. Comparison of Sanskrit manuscripts from the Serindia Collection with the Sanskrit texts in Northern Turkestan Brāhmī from the German Turfan Collection revealed that Hīnayāna texts were more popular in the Northern oases while Mahāyāna texts predominated in the Southern. The Lotus Sūtra and other Mahāyāna texts are represented in the Turfan Collection by only a small number of manuscripts, while these texts perform the main part within ‘Sanskrit division’ of the Serindia Collection. In this respect, being probably one of the most popular Sanskrit texts in Khotan, the Lotus Sūtra may well have been one of the school-forming Sūtras in the Southern oases of Tarim Basin.

⁵ Undoubtedly the Sanskrit texts found in the Gilgit manuscripts agree very closely with the Sanskrit texts of the Nepalese manuscripts and thus both groups of texts form single Gilgit-Nepalese version.

⁶ See: BONGARD-LEVIN & VOROBIOVA-DESIATOVSKAIA 1987.

⁷ See: TIOMKIN 1995.

⁸ See: MESHEZNIKOV 2021.

⁹ For example, the Kashgar manuscript of N.F. Petrovsky has such a colophon on the f. 459b (TODA 1981: 225).

It is noteworthy that the name “Kashgar manuscript” is conditional and should be associated with the place where this manuscript was acquired by the Russian Consul General in Kashgar N.F. Petrovsky from a local collector aqsaqal Badruddin Khan, who had discovered it near Khotan (most probably in the Domako region, in the ancient Buddhist site at Khādalik, where excavations were carried out at the beginning of the 20th c., and where many other manuscripts of the Serindia Collection were found).¹⁰ Judging the presumptive provenance, the Kashgar manuscript of N.F. Petrovsky strictly scientific should be called the Khotan manuscript.

Manuscripts from Central Asia contain the original Sanskrit Hīnayāna and Mahāyāna texts and represent the early versions of the sūtras, which had already been replaced in India by the newer ones. The same applies to the Sanskrit variants of the Lotus Sūtra. The study of Chinese translations shed light on the chronology of the Sanskrit Lotus Sūtra texts. Comparison of available Sanskrit manuscripts of the Lotus Sūtra with the Chinese Buddhist texts allowed to determine which Sanskrit version had served the basis for a certain Chinese translation of the Sūtra. The exact dates of the Chinese translations gave grounds for making assumptions about the textual history of the Sanskrit versions. On one hand, it was discovered that the Gilgit-Nepalese version had appeared in India presumably around the fourth century AD and it was this version which had been chosen for the Chinese translation of Kumārajīva in 406. On the other hand, the earlier version of the Sūtra, which at present we know as the Central Asian one, most likely penetrated oases of Tarim Basin in the first centuries AD and was translated into Chinese at as early a date as the third century AD by Dharmarakṣa.

In this regard Prof. Heinz Bechert attempted to research the textual history of the Sanskrit text of the Lotus Sūtra checking its Chinese translations and all currently known Sanskrit manuscripts in Nepalese, Devanāgarī and Brāhmī scripts. Having studied the chronological relationship between Indian and Central Asian texts, H. Bechert tried to explain the appearance of several versions of the Sūtra. According to him, the Gilgit-Nepalese version which underlies Kumārajīva’s translation and must be dated earlier than 406 AD was neither of Nepalese, nor of Kashmirian origin.¹¹ Initially, the earliest text of the Sūtra was recorded in the first centuries AD and brought from India to Central Asia. Subsequently in India this text was remodeled by unknown scholars, and as a result appeared the so-called Gilgit-Nepalese

¹⁰ VOROBIOVA-DESIATOVSKAIA 2011: 245.

¹¹ *Saddharmapuṇḍarīka-sūtra* 1977: 6.

version. The hybrid language¹² of the original text of the Sūtra was changed by scholars applying the rules of classical Sanskrit grammar. The new form of the text was widely accepted in the Buddhist tradition of North India and replaced the earlier variant, because the upgraded version fitted much better the taste of time of the so-called Sanskrit renaissance.¹³ During that period the Buddhist literary tradition, which had been functioning for a long time in the large variety of Middle Indian dialects, was transferred to a single classical Sanskrit. The original text of the Lotus Sūtra was restructured, its variations from classical Sanskrit in orthography, phonology, syntax, and morphology were removed or unified in accordance with standard Sanskrit grammar. The more modern version of the Lotus Sūtra began to spread throughout North India, while in oases of Tarim Basin the earlier so-called Central Asian recension had been already generally accepted and widely transmitted. Thus, the Central Asian manuscripts represent the early stage of textual development of the Lotus Sūtra. Such manuscripts were in circulation especially in Khotan and the unpublished fragments to which the present article is devoted are among them.

The present work deals with the four previously unpublished fragments of the Sanskrit Lotus Sūtra kept in the Serindia Collection in the subcollection of N.F. Petrovsky under the call numbers SI 2098 (2 fragments), SI 3693, SI 3694. We introduce transliteration of the fragments, their English translation and facsimile.

¹² Franklin Edgerton in his seminal work *Buddhist Hybrid Sanskrit Grammar and Dictionary* proposed a description of Buddhist Sanskrit texts based on the assumption that the originally used Prakrit languages had been undergoing the process of a progressive Sanskritization during which middle Indic forms were gradually purged. Presumably, Sanskritization was increasing exponentially in the course of a gradual oral transformation, Sanskrit elements were penetrating more and more into texts in Middle Indic languages, and as a result this process formed an array of texts, characterized by a different ratio of Sanskritisms and Prakritisms in them. Speaking about the manuscripts of the Lotus Sūtra presented in the Serindia Collection, they contain the texts which underwent changes in the direction of greater Sanskritization, their prose passages were composed in almost regular Sanskrit comparatively free from recognizable Middle Indic influence, but many archaic hybrid language forms also retained especially in the verses.

¹³ *Saddharmapuṇḍarīka-sūtra* 1977: 6.

Description of the fragments

SI 2098. According to the text fragment 1 (in size 13.9×13.1 cm) and fragment 2 (13.7×10.6 cm) are almost connected. A large decorative circle has been preserved (diameter: 10.1 cm). It was supposed to contain a colored miniature. Such circles can also be found in the Kashgar manuscript, usually at the beginning or the end of chapters. (Pl. 1, 2, 3, 4)

SI 3693. The fragment measures 14×20.1 cm, only the left part of the pothi folio is extant. Fragment preserves a left margin (2 cm) and a small decorative circle (diameter: 3.1 cm) for marking a binding hole. The number of the page (225) is preserved on the left side-recto. (Pl. 5, 6)

SI 3694. The manuscript, which measures 7.5×18.6 cm, belongs to the left half of the folio and preserves part of a small decorative circle (diameter: ≈ 3 cm). It consists of three fragments, two of which are very tiny and preserve only illegible fragments of akṣaras. On the basis of the Kashgar manuscript we estimate that a complete folio SI 3694 bore 7 lines of writing on each side as with the fragments SI 2098 and SI 3693. Comparison with the Kashgar manuscript shows that the recto side of the fragment SI 3694 might include the lines from 5 to 7 and the verso side continues with the excerpts of the next four lines. (Pl. 7, 8)

From an evaluation of the available information about the external features of the fragments (material, type of script and ductus, number of lines, etc.) it is possible to assume that they were parts of one manuscript copied in Khotan. Moreover, two fragments kept under the call number SI 2098 form parts of one and the same folio of this manuscript. Our fragments are written in the ornamental formal Southern Turkestan Brāhmī script, the forms of the akṣaras look very similar, and, judging by the paleography, the manuscript dates back to the 8–9th cc. AD. The text is put down in black ink on light brown paper. The complete pothi folio contains 7 lines on each side, the dimension between the lines is 1.8 cm. The upper and lower edges are partially preserved in some of our fragments and measure 1 to 1.5 cm, the size of left and right margins according to the fragments is 1.5 to 2 cm.

As mentioned above, the Sanskrit Lotus Sūtra texts in the manuscripts of the Serindia Collection often coincide almost verbatim with the text contained in the Kashgar manuscript. Aside from those few fragments that turned out to be closer to the Gilgit-Nepalese version, the rest manuscript

fragments clearly follow the text of the Kashgar manuscript, and rare discrepancies found among them can be considered equivalent in terms of both content and grammatical form. With the help of the text of the Kashgar manuscript it is possible to calculate that there would originally have been 25–30 akṣaras to the line of the entire folio of the manuscript to which our fragments belong. From the facts mentioned above, the size of the entire pothi folio may be calculated as having originally been roughly 15×50 cm.

Contents of fragments

The fragments contain text from two chapters of the Lotus Sūtra. The text of SI 3693 belongs to the 18th chapter of the Lotus Sūtra (“The Chapter Describing the Religious Merit [Obtained through] Joyful Participation [in Dharma]”, ‘Anumodanāpuṇyanirdeśaparivartaḥ’). The fragments SI 2098 and SI 3694 are the excerpts from the 19th chapter (“Benefits of a Dharma Preacher”, ‘Dharmabhāṅakānṛśaṃsa-parivartaḥ’).

The excerpt of fragment SI 3693 belongs to the end of the 18th chapter, which, as the name of the chapter implies, outlines a description of religious benefits obtained from the joyful acceptance of Dharma. The content of the chapter may be summarized as follows. Bodhisattva Maitreya asks Buddha what achieves a person who listens to the Lotus Sūtra and follows it with joy. According to Buddha, accepting the teachings of the Lotus Sūtra will bring incalculable religious merit to an adept and lead to a better rebirth. The key term for this chapter is *anumodanā* (acceptance, (expression of) thanks, gratification or approval).¹⁴ In the context of the Lotus Sutra this term may be understood as a *joyful participation* in knowledge. Through listening to the Lotus Sūtra, a person experiences a joyful participation in the truth inherent in it, which Buddha comprehended, and which the listener of the Sūtra comprehends.¹⁵ The chapter emphasizes that concerning accumulation of religious merit *anumodanā* gained through listening to the Sūtra surpasses other methods of spiritual development, namely the practice for the laity (offering gifts) and yogic practice. Our fragment tells that if a person of a good family¹⁶

¹⁴ MONIER-WILLIAMS 1899: 37; EDGERTON 1953: 32.

¹⁵ MESHEZNIKOV 2020: 623.

¹⁶ Both the 18th and 19th chapters speak about sons and daughters of a good family. They may be understood as sentient beings who have awakened to the realization of their Buddha-nature, of their innate potential for enlightenment, and the spiritual tendencies of these beings are directed towards attaining Buddhahood through the path of a bodhisattva.

hears the Dharma of the Lotus Sūtra, were it even just one line for a single moment, and, as mentioned before, if that person joyfully receives it, feeling participation in knowledge it contains, the religious benefits of that person will be incalculable and incomparable. Namely those who hold joy in their mind while hearing the Dharma (and also persuading other beings to listen to it) will be reborn into the body which will acquire marvelous carts, palanquins, vehicles etc., obtain seats of Indra, Brahma, a Cakravartin's royal lion-throne, gain birth in the same place as the bodhisattvas acquired dhāraṇī-powers.

The text of fragments SI 2098 represents the very beginning of the 19th chapter of the Lotus Sūtra, which speaks about those who spread the Dharma. This chapter focuses not only on the transformative power of the text of Sūtra itself, but also on the exalted status of its preacher. It tells about the good qualities acquired by sentient beings through the reading, explaining, propagating the Lotus Sūtra to others. According to the text, a person who keeps the Lotus Sūtra, takes care of it, recites it's Dharma, explains difficult passages, rewrites and propagates the text of the Sūtra, is called Dharmabhāṇaka or a Dharma-preacher. The passage from SI 2098 enumerates the merits obtained by Dharmabhāṇaka in terms of rewards for the six senses. The number of good qualities that a Dharma-preacher will receive is indicated for each of six sense faculties (the five sensory organs and the mental organ — the mind), and it is either 800 or 1200. One of the interpretations of these numbers was offered by Kumarajiva's student Taoshen (360–434) in his Commentary on the Sūtra.¹⁷ The 10 precepts of Buddhism (10 kinds of goodness) correspond to 10 virtues or good qualities. Every good quality can be combined with the 10 good qualities, thus their number should be multiplied by itself, resulting in 100. Good qualities are inherent in the four proper deeds (self-practice, teaching the Dharma, praising the Dharma and following it with joy) and thus 400 good qualities result from it. Good qualities have three grades. Everything can be characterized as the lowest, the middle and the highest. The middle level includes the lowest, and the highest level includes both the lowest and the middle. If the lowest level has 400 good qualities, then the middle and highest levels have 800 and 1200 respectively. According to the 19th chapter three organs — ears, tongue and mind — can be described as the highest, and they get 1200 good qualities, the other three — eyes, nose and body — are of the middle grade, so they have 800 good qualities. Further the text

¹⁷ See: YOUNG-HO KIM 1985.

specifies how pure and perfect will be Dharmabhāṅaka's faculties of seeing, hearing, perceiving etc. In particular fragment SI 3694 presents the excerpt which deals with the Dharmabhāṅaka's body.

Transliteration, correspondences and English translation

The fragments presented here under the call numbers SI 2098 and SI 3693 correspond to the text from the folios of the Kashgar manuscript preserved in the Stein collection of the British Library. The fragments SI 2098 follow the text of the folios 340–341 kept under the call numbers Or.9613–14 and Or.9613–15. The fragment SI 3693 corresponds to the text of the folios 336–337 (Or.9613–10, 11). Speaking about the fragment SI 3694 it overlaps with the folio No. 357 of the manuscript SI 1925 kept in the N.F. Petrovsky subcollection of the Serindia Collection. The text of the Central Asian version of the Lotus Sūtra, contained in the Kashgar manuscript is most fully presented in the edition of H. Toda.¹⁸ Also, the facsimile edition of L. Chandra¹⁹ was used when comparing the text of our fragments with the Kashgar manuscript.

Apart from the comparison with the Kashgar Manuscript our fragments may be also compared with the corresponding text of the well-known Kern and Nanjio edition of the Lotus Sūtra²⁰ which is based mostly on the texts of the Nepalese manuscripts and thus differs textually from the Central Asian version.²¹ The comparison of our fragments and texts of the Kashgar manuscript with the version known from the late Sanskrit Nepalese manuscripts shows that more modern rearranged version in some parts overlaps with the Central Asian, but also has many differences due to later alterations.

¹⁸ See: TODA 1981.

¹⁹ See: *Saddharmaṃṣaṅkarīka-sūtra* 1977.

²⁰ See: KERN & NANJIO 1908–1912.

²¹ The manuscripts used by H. Kern and B. Nanjio are all much newer than the Central Asian manuscripts. Nepalese palm leaf texts preserving comparatively older readings may be dated to the 11–12th cc., and more modern Nepalese paper manuscripts have been copied since the 17th c.

Symbols used in the transliteration

- () — restored akṣara(s)
 [] — akṣara(s) whose reading(s) is(are) uncertain
 < > — omitted (part of) akṣara(s) without gap in the manuscript
 { } — superfluous akṣara(s) or a daṇḍa
 + — one lost akṣara
 .. — one illegible akṣara
 . — illegible part of an akṣara
 /// — beginning or end of a fragment when broken
 | — daṇḍa
 || — double daṇḍa
 * — virāma
 • — punctuation mark
 : — visarga used as punctuation
 ‘ — avagraha
 ○ — decorative circle
 ḥ — jihvāmūlīya

SI 2098 (fragment 1 + fragment 2 (in *italic*))

Recto

1. /// ○ .. + kha(l)[u] +++ [n] sa ..
2. /// ○ ti sma [•] [y]at kaśc(i)t sa[t].
3. /// ○ vā [i]maṃ dharmapa-
4. /// ○ vā[c](a)viṣyati de-
5. /// ○ [ś][a](y)i[ṣ]yati • svādhyā-
6. /// [r]gu ○ ṇa[ś](a) + (n)[i] • pratilapsya-
7. /// .. • aṣṭo ghrāṇagu[ṇ](a) + (t)[ā]ni pra(t)[i]-

Verso

1. /// • aṣṭau kāyagu[ṇ]a .. (t)[ā]ni [p]ra +
2. /// .[y](a)ti • yebhir guṇe + s [t]asya kulaputra-

3. /// [ś]uddhaṃ pariśu[d]dhaṃ [bh](a) + [ś]yati • supari-
 4. /// [c]akṣurindriyaṃ prati[l](a)psyati yena ca-
 5. /// cakṣuṣa mātāpitṛsaṃ[bh](a)vena sarvaṃ tṛsā-
 6. /// .. sumeruṃ sacakravā[t](a)[m]ahācakravā-
 7. /// sasara sa tatākam²² [h]eṣ[t]i(m)[e]na [y] +

Kashgar manuscript 340b(4)–341b(2):

atha **khalu** bhagavān satatasamitābhiyuktaṃ nāma bodhisatvaṃ
 +++tvamṃ²³ āmaṃtrayati sma • yaḥ kaścit satatasamitābhiyu /// — ///²⁴ tā²⁵
vā imaṃ dharmaparyāyam udgrhṇiṣyati /// — ///²⁶ samprakāśayiṣyamti •
svādhyāyiṣyamti /// — /// **lapsyati**²⁷ • dvādaśa śrotraguṇaśatāni prati /// —
 /// **psyati**²⁸ • dvādaśa jihvāguṇaśatāni pratilapsyati • **a(ś)t** /// — /// **lapsyati**²⁹ •
 dvādaśa managuṇaśatāni prratilapsya○ti • **yebhir guṇebhis tasya**
(k)ula[p]utrasya bahubhir guṇaśatebhi śarīre ṣaḍendriyagrāmaṃ **śuddhaṃ**
pa○riśuddhaṃ bhaviṣyati • **supariśuddhaṃ** bhaviṣyati sa kulaputra
 eva pariśuddhaṃ **cakṣurindriyaṃ pratilapsyati** ye cakṣurindriyeṇa
 pratilabdhenā prākṛtikena māṃsacakṣuṣā **mātāpitṛsambhavena sarvaṃ**
tṛsāhasraṃ mahāsāhasraṃ lokadhātuṃ drakṣyati sāntarabahirdhaṃ
 sasumeruṃ **sacakravāṭaṃ mahācakravāṭaṃ** mucilendramahāmucilendraṃ
 saśailaṃ savanaṣaṇḍaṃ sotsaṃ **sasarabhaṭākam heṣṭimena** yāvad avīci
 mahānarakam drrakṣyati •

²² Kashgar manuscript: scribal error for “bhaṭākam”.

²³ (mahāsa)tvamṃ (TODA 1981: 169). Hereinafter restoration of some parts of the missing text of the Kashgar manuscript is given in accordance with the edition of H. Toda.

²⁴ The symbol /// — /// indicates those parts of the folios in the Kashgar manuscript which are missing due to fire.

²⁵ (kta ... kuladuhi)tā.

²⁶ (dhārayiṣyati vācayiṣyati deśayiṣyati paryāpunīṣyati).

²⁷ (likhiṣyati ... prati)lapsyati.

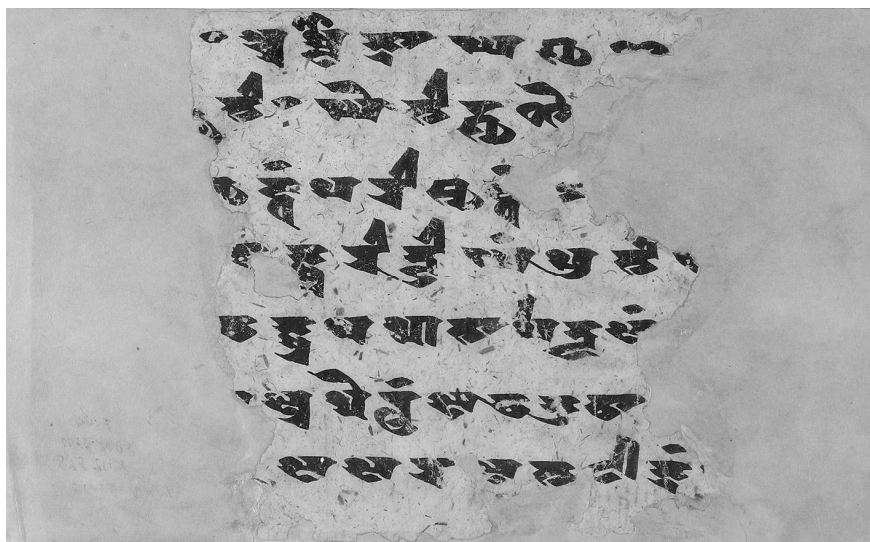
²⁸ prati(lapsyati ... pratila)psyati.

²⁹ a(ś)t(au ... prati)lapsyati.



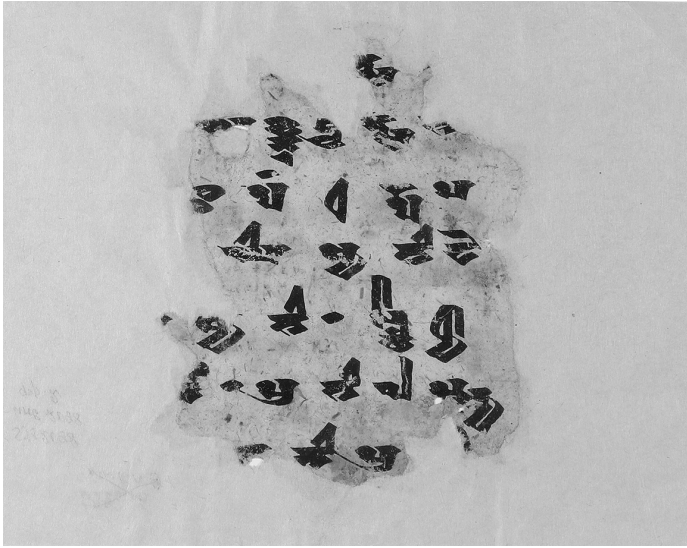
Pl. 1.

A fragment of Saddharmapuṇḍarīka-sūtra from the Serindia Collection,
Petrovsky Sub-Collection. The Institute of Oriental Manuscripts RAS.
SI 2098, fragment 1 *recto*



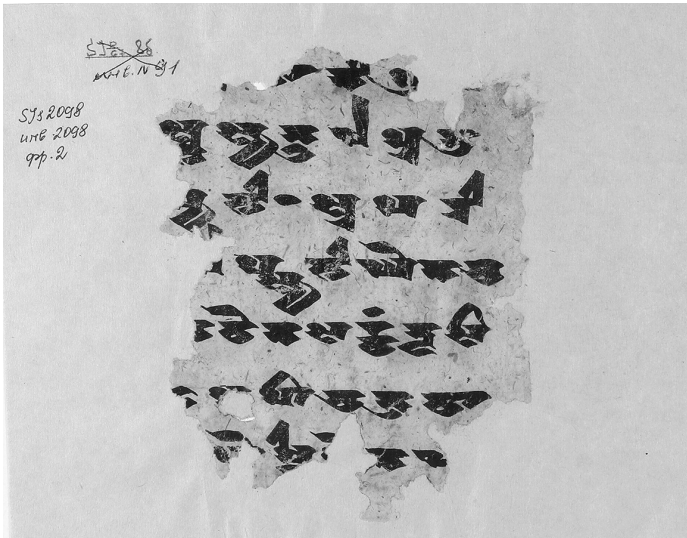
Pl. 2:

A fragment of Saddharmapuṇḍarīka-sūtra from the Serindia Collection,
Petrovsky Sub-Collection. The Institute of Oriental Manuscripts RAS.
SI 2098, fragment 1 *verso*



Pl. 3:

A fragment of Saddharmapuṇḍarīka-sūtra from the Serindia Collection,
Petrovsky Sub-Collection. The Institute of Oriental Manuscripts RAS.
SI 2098, fragment 2 *recto*



Pl. 4:

A fragment of Saddharmapuṇḍarīka-sūtra from the Serindia Collection,
Petrovsky Sub-Collection. The Institute of Oriental Manuscripts RAS.
SI 2098, fragment 2 *verso*

Kern & Nanjio, 354(1)–350(8):

atha **khalu** bhagavān satatasamitābhiyuktaṃ bodhisattvaṃ mahāsattvamāmantrayāmāsa| **yaḥ kaścit** kulaputra **imaṃ dharmaparyāyaṃ** dhārayiṣyati **vācayiṣyati** vā **deśayiṣyati** vā **likhiṣyati** vā| sa kulaputro vā kuladuhitā va aṣṭau cakṣurguṇaśatāni **pratilapsyate** dvādaśa śrotraguṇaśatāni pratilapsyate **aṣṭau ghrāṇaguṇaśatāni** pratilapsyate dvādaśa jihvāguṇaśatāni pratilapsyate **aṣṭau kāyaguṇaśatāni** pratilapsyate dvādaśa manoguṇaśatāni pratilapsyate| tasyaibhirbahubhiringuṇaśataiḥ ṣaḍindriyagrāmaḥ **pariśuddhaḥ supariśuddho** bhaviṣyati| sa evaṃ pariśuddhena cakṣurindriyeṇa prākṛtena māṃsacakṣuṣā **mātāpitṛsambhavena trisā**hasramahāsāhasrāṃ lokadhātum śāntarabahiḥ saśailavanaṣaṇḍāmado yāvadvāvicim mahānirayamupādāya upari ca yāvadbhavāgram|

Translation

Thereupon Bhagavan addressed Bodhisattva Mahāsattva Satatasamitābhiyukta (‘Forever Diligent’): “If a young man of a good family preserves, recites, teaches, writes this Dharmaparyāya, that person will attain eight hundred good qualities of the eye, twelve hundred qualities of the ear, eight hundred qualities of the nose, twelve hundred qualities of the tongue, eight hundred qualities of the body, and twelve hundred qualities of the mind. By these many hundred good qualities the six sense faculties of that person will become completely pure and perfect. That person will gain pure vision. By means of the natural, bodily eyes given by his parents he will see the whole universe consisting of triple thousand great thousand worlds, within and beyond, with its great mountains Sumeru, Cakravāla,³⁰ Mucilinda, mountain ranges, forests, clouds, seashores, all the existence from the lowest hell Avīci and up to the highest summit of the universe.

³⁰ Cakravāta/Cakravāḍa/Cakkavāla — n. of a mountain or rather mountain-range, supposed to surround the earth.

SI 3693

Folio 225

Recto

1. rmaparyāyaṃ śṛṇu[yā](t*) u ///
2. saṃskāreṇa kṛtenopaci ///
3. lābhe gorathā[n](āṃ) lā[bhī] ///
4. yānānāṃ sarṣa○pa(y) ///
5. bhī bhaviṣyati • sa[ce]t pu[na] ///
6. rmaparyāyaṃ [śṛ]ṇuyāt* para[s] ///
7. rasya sa[tva] ++ tena [pa]ra ///

Verso

1. kuśalābhisam++reṇa lābhī [bh] ///
2. sanānāṃ siṃ(hā)sanānāṃ lābhī ///
3. aparasya puruṣasyaivaṃ + ///
4. traṃ dharmaparyāyaṃ ○ śṛṇu ///
5. yadi muhūrta[mā]○[t](ra)[m] ///
6. saṃskāreṇa pa[ra]ṃ prautsā+ ///
7. labdhebhīr bodhisatvebhīḥ sārđhaṃ ///

Kashgar manuscript, 336b(1)–337b(1):

tatra vihāre muhūrtamātram api imaṃ dharmaparyāyaṃ śṛnuyāt* utthito vā • niṣṣaṇṇo vā sa ajīta kulaputras taṃ mātrakena puṇyābhisamskāreṇa kṛtenopacitena jātivītiṽṛtto dviṽṛtīye ātmabhāvaprati**lābhe gorathānāṃ lābhī** bhaviṣyaty aśvarathāna hastira○thānāṃ śivikāyānāṃnā nāvayānānāṃ **sarṣapayānānāṃ** sukhayānānāṃ divyānāṃ ca vimāna(y)ā /// — /// **iṣyati**³¹ • **sacet punas** tatra dharmasṛvaṇe muhūrtamātram api /// — /// **ryāya**³² **śṛṇuyā parasatvaṃ** vā niṣīdā /// — /// **sya**³³ **satvasya sa tena**

³¹ (nānāṃ lābhī bhav)iṣyati (TODA 1981: 166).

³² (...dharmapa)ryāya.

³³ niṣīdā(payed... apara)sya.

paramāsana /// — /// skāreṇa³⁴ **kuśalābhisamskāreṇa lābhī bhaviṣya**(ti) (ca)krravartirājāsanānām **siṃhāsanānām lābhī bhav** /// — ///³⁵ ajita tatra kaścīd eva puruṣaḥ **aparasya** ○ **puruṣasyaivaṃ** vaded āgaccha tāva(t) tvam bhoḥ puruṣa saddharmapuṇḍarīkaṃ nāma **sūtram dharmaparyāyaṃ śṛṇu**ṣva sa ca puruṣas tasya puruṣasya taṃ protsāhanam āgamyā āgatvā **yadi muhūrtamātram** api imaṃ dharmaparyāyaṃ śṛṇuyāt* tasya satvyasyānena puṇyābhisamskāreṇa **paraṃ protsāhanakuśalamūlenabhisamskṛtena** puruṣaḥ sadādhāraṇipratilabdhebhīr **bodhisatvebhi • sārdhaṃ** samavadhānaṃ prratilabhati •

Kern & Nanjio, 349(9)–350(4):

sa ca gattvā tasminnimam dharmaparyāyaṃ muhūrtakamapi śṛṇuyātsthito vā niṣaṇṇo vā sa sattvastanmātreṇa puṇyābhisamskāreṇa **kṛtenopacitena** jātiviniṣṭto dviṭīye samucchraye dviṭīya ātmabhāvapratilambhe **gorathānām lābhī** bhaviṣyatyaśvarathānām hastirathānām śivikānām goyānānāmṛṣabhayānānām divyānām ca vimānānām **lābhī bhaviṣyati| sacetpunastatra** dharmāśravaṇe muhūrtamātramapi niṣadyemaṃ dharmaparyāyaṃ **śṛṇuyātparaṃ** vā niṣādayedāsanasaṃvibhāgaṃ vā kuryād**aparasya sattvasya tena** sa puṇyābhisamskāreṇa lābhī bhaviṣyati śakrāsanānām brahmāsanānām cakravartisiṃhāsanānām| sacetpunarajita kaścīdeva kulaputro vā kuladuhitā **vāparaṃ puruṣamevaṃ** vadedāgaccha tvam bhoḥ puruṣa saddharmapuṇḍarīkaṃ nāma **dharmaparyāyaṃ śṛṇu**ṣva sa ca puruṣastasya tāṃ protsāhanāmāgamyā yadi muhūrtamātramapi śṛṇuyātsa sattvastena **protsāhena** kuśalamūlenābhisamskṛtena dhāraṇī**pratilabdhairbodhisattvaiḥ sārdhaṃ** samavadhānaṃ pratilabhate|

³⁴ (...puṇyābhisam)skāreṇa.

³⁵ bhav(iṣyati...).



Pl. 5:
A fragment of Saddharmapuṇḍarīka-sūtra from the Serindia Collection,
Petrovsky Sub-Collection. The Institute of Oriental Manuscripts RAS.
SI 3693 *recto*



Pl. 6:
A fragment of Saddharmapuṇḍarīka-sūtra from the Serindia Collection,
Petrovsky Sub-Collection. The Institute of Oriental Manuscripts RAS.
SI 3693 *verso*

Translation

...if a man of a good family approaches a monastery and there hears this Dharmaparyāya for even a single moment, either standing or sitting. Then, O Ajita! Through the store of merit attained from this action that person after the end of his present life, at the time of his second existence will become a possessor of carts yoked with oxes, horses and elephants, palanquins, ships, light and beautiful carriages, heavenly vehicles, aerial cars. If that person sits down at a place where the Dharma is taught, even for a moment to hear this Dharmaparyāya, or invites another person to sit and listen or shares with him his own seat, by the merit of goodness attained through that action he will gain seats of Indra, of Brahma, thrones of a Cakravartin. O Ajita! If that same person says to another person: “Come and listen to the Dharmaparyāya called the Lotus Sūtra of the True Law”, — and if due to his exertion that other person comes to listen to it even for a single moment, then by the merit of the root of goodness attained through this exertion the first person will obtain co-existence with Bodhisattvas having acquired dhāraṇīs.

SI 3694

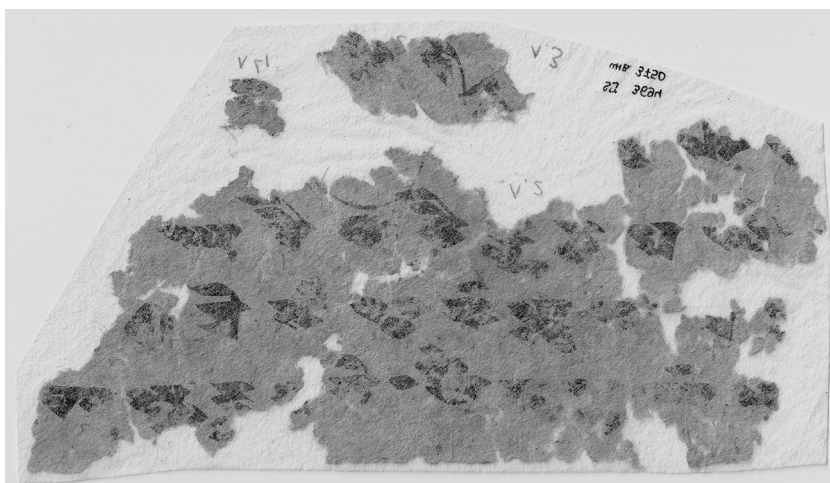
Transliteration

Recto

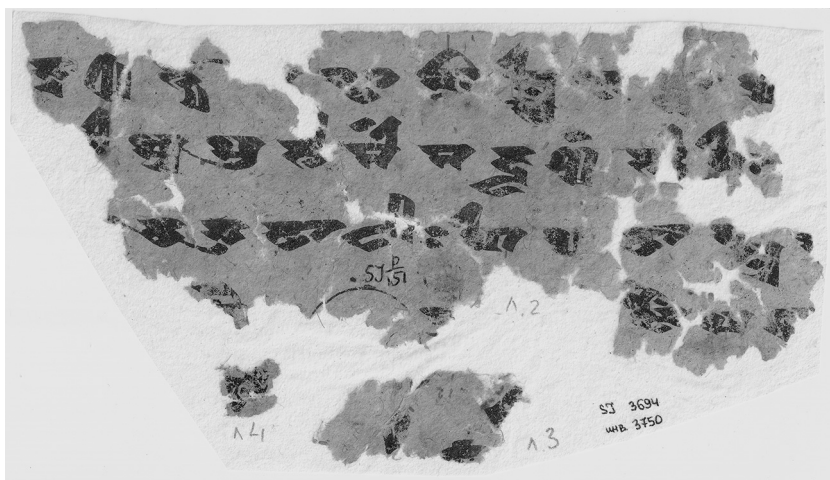
5. /// ya[th]aiva vai[dū][rya]ma[yi] ///
6. /// dhāreti idaṃ hy udā ++ ///
7. /// thā ‘s[ya] [dṛ](śya)te • sau [t](u) [s](va)yaṃ [pa] ///

Verso

1. /// kadhā[t]ū+ ihāsti [sa]tvā [ma] ///
2. /// iṣu prat[i]bimba dṛśyaṃ[ti] [hi] [t] ///
3. /// cakravādā : hi[ma]vā[n] su+ ///
4. /// [thai]+ ○ [4] ++++ sau pa[ś] ///



Pl. 7:
A fragment of Saddharmapuṇḍarīka-sūtra from the Serindia Collection,
Petrovsky Sub-Collection. The Institute of Oriental Manuscripts RAS.
SI 3694 *recto*



Pl. 8:
A fragment of Saddharmapuṇḍarīka-sūtra from the Serindia Collection,
Petrovsky Sub-Collection. The Institute of Oriental Manuscripts RAS.
SI 3694 *verso*

Kashgar manuscript, 357a(7)–357b(6):

pariśuddha tasya bhavate ‘tmabhāvo yatheva vaiḍūryamayī sunirmalaḥ priyadarśano bhoti ca sarvaprrāṇinām : ya sūtra **dhāreti idaṃ hy udāram***³⁶ ādarśa mrrāṣṭe yatha bimba dṛśyate loka ‘sya kāyasmi **tathā ‘sya dṛśyate • sau tu svayaṃ paśyati** no ca anye pariśuddhakāyasy iyam evarūpam* 2 ye **lokadhātūya ihāsti satvā** manuṣyadevāsuraḡuhyakās ca • nanarakeṣu vā pre○tatiraścayoniṣu **pratibim(ba) dṛśyaṃti hi** tasya kāye 3 devavimānās ca bhavāgra yāva(c ch)aila /// — /// .ā • **himavān sumeruś** ca mahāmś ca meruḥ kaya(sm)i /// — /// śyani³⁷ ātmabhāve saśrāvakā bu[d](dha) /// — /// ā³⁸ gaṇe ca ye dharma prakāśa³⁹ ///

Kern & Nanjio, 370(10)–371(6):

pariśuddha tasya bhavate tmabhāvo **yathāpi vaiḍūryamayo** viśuddhaḥ| sattvāna nityaṃ priyadarśanaśca yaḥ sūtra **dhāreti idaṃ udāram** ||61|| ādarśapṛṣṭhe yatha bimbu paśyet loko ‘sya kāye ayu **dṛśyate tathā| svayaṃbhu so paśyati** nānyasattvānpariśuddhi kāyasyiyamevarūpā ||62|| ye **lokadhātau hi ihāsti sattvā** manuṣyadevāsuraḡuhyakā vā| narakeṣu preteṣu tiraścayoniṣu **pratibimba saṃdṛśyati** tatra kāye||63|| vimāna devāna bhavāgra yāvachhailaṃ pi ca parvata **cakravāḍam| himavān sumeruśca** mahāmśca meruḥ kāyasmi dṛśyantimi sarvathaiḡa ||64|| buddhāṃ pi **so paśyati** ātmabhāve saśrāvakānbuddhasutāmstathānyān| ye bodhisattvā viharanti caikakā gaṇe ca ye dharma prakāśayanti ||65||

³⁶ (1) (= 61) (TODA 1981: 176). Hereinafter H. Toda correlates the number of stanzas in the Kashgar manuscript and in the Nepalese version from the Kern & Nanjio edition respectively (1–61, 2–62, 3–63, 4–64, 5–65).

³⁷ (... 4... pa)śyani.

³⁸ buddha(sutāṃs... caikak)ā.

³⁹ prakāśa(yanti 5...).

Translation

His body becomes entirely pure, perfectly clear and excellent, as if made of a cat's-eye gem; he who preserves this Sūtra is always an utterly pleasant sight for all sentient beings.

Since everything reflects on the surface of a mirror, so the world's image is seen in his body. He alone sees it, while no other beings do, such is the perfection of his body.

All sentient beings of the world, humans, gods, demons, spirits, hell's inhabitants, hungry ghosts, animals are reflected on that body.

The aerial chariots of the gods which reach as high as the extremity of the universe, the mountains Cakravāḍa, Meru, Mahāmeru are reflected on that body.

He sees the Buddhas in his body, likewise the Śrāvakas and other sons of Buddha, the Bodhisattvas who lead a solitary life, and those who teach the Dharma to the assembly.

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Safarali Shomakhmadov,
Jens-Uwe Hartmann

Recent Insights into a Manuscript of Ornate Poetry from Toyoq: A new Fragment of Mātr̥ceṭa's *Varṇārhaṅga*

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Abstracts: The article continues a series of publications of the Sanskrit manuscript fragments written in the Proto-Śāradā script, kept in the Serindia Collection of the Institute of Oriental Manuscripts of the Russian Academy of Sciences. The authors introduce into scientific circulation a fragment of the *Varṇārhaṅga*, the work of the famous Buddhist thinker and poet Mātr̥ceṭa. The article provides the paleographic analysis of the manuscript fragment, as well as brief information about the author, his works, the *Varṇārhaṅga* structure. The article provides transliteration and translation of the fragment.

Key words: Sanskrit manuscripts, Serindia, Turfan, Toyoq, Proto-Śāradā, *Varṇārhaṅga*, stotra, Mātr̥ceṭa.

Provenience

The German Turfan Collection in Berlin preserves nearly forty fragments of an unusual Sanskrit manuscript originally found at Toyoq in the Turfan oasis. Although it is written on paper, the usual material of the manuscripts found in Central Asia, the script, a distinct variety of the so-called Gilgit/Bamiyan Type II in the terminology of Lore Sander,¹ rather points to northern India as its origin. There, paper is rarely used; the standard material is either palm leaf or birch bark. Among the thousands of folios preserved in

© Safarali Haibulloevich Shomakhmadov, Institute of Oriental Manuscripts, Russian Academy of Sciences (safaralihshom@mail.ru)

© Jens-Uwe Hartmann, Institute of Indology and Tibetology, Ludwig Maximilians University of Munich (juhartmann@lmu.de)

¹ SANDER 1968.

the famous Gilgit find in Northern Pakistan, there is only one birch-bark manuscript that contains also a number of paper folios.² The combination of script and material makes the manuscript from Toyoq something special — and, as will be shown below, it greatly facilitates the attribution of further fragments! The surviving folios could be assigned to three famous works representing three different literary genres of Buddhist ornate poetry, Mātṛceṭa’s *Varṇārḥavarṇa* (a hymn on the Buddha), Āryaśūra’s *Jātakamālā* (a collection of birth stories) and Kumāralāta’s *Kalpanāmaṇḍītikā Dr̥ṣṭāntapañkti* (a collection of tales). In the German collection, the manuscript carries the modern number SHT 638, and it is described in the first of the catalogue volumes (SHT I: 286). According to this description, there are three fragments of the *Varṇārḥavarṇa* (VAV), fourteen of the *Jātakamālā* (Jm) and thirteen of the *Kalpanāmaṇḍītikā* (KalpM). Once it must have been a very large manuscript; for the VAV the folio numbers 13 and 26 are preserved, for the Jm the number 120, and for the KalpM the numbers 294, 297, 421 and 422. Eight very small fragments had remained unidentified, but later three of them (2–4) could be shown to also belong to the VAV.³ Since folio 13 contains the verses 16–31 of the second chapter of the VAV and folio 26 already verses 9–23 of chapter 8, it is obvious that at least one more text must have preceded the VAV. All the fragments are edited (cf. SHT I: 286 for the details); Weller’s edition of the Jm folios and Lüders’ of the KalpM are accompanied by facsimiles, and for the VAV Schlingloff published a separate facsimile edition.⁴

This was the state of affairs when in May 2021 a fragment of the VAV was found in the Serindia Collection of the Institute of Oriental Manuscripts of the Russian Academy of Sciences (IOM, RAS). After a close examination, two facts became quickly clear. First, Shin’ichirō Hori had identified the fragment already in 2011,⁵ but not edited, and second, it clearly belonged to the same manuscript as the fragments of SHT 638. As mentioned above, the script is very distinct and combined with material, number of lines, number of akṣaras per line and presumable size of the folios it leaves no doubt that the fragments come from one and the same manuscript. This

² HARTMANN 2017 (Fs. HÖLLMANN): 290, note 3.

³ VAV(UH): 205–214; cf. SHT VI: 218.

⁴ WELLER 1955, Tafel I–III (only the verso sides); LÜDERS 1926, Tafel I–XII; SCHLINGLOFF 1968, no. 227–232. Very good colour photographs of all fragments are nowadays available online (<http://turfan.bbaw.de/idp-berlin/>).

⁵ HORI 2011: 6 (SI/P 152 1 = SI 3695).

was a surprise, but that was not yet all: The Petrovsky Collection also contains a fragment of the Jātakamālā and the Petrovsky and Krotkov Collection one each of the KalpM. Hori had not only identified the latter two (SI 2Kr/9 (4) = SI 2041/5 and SI 3695 = SI P/152 2), but also edited them.⁶ The Jātakamālā's fragment (*Kṣāntivādi-jātaka*) (SI 2998) was published in 2022.⁷

How is this distribution over three collections to be explained? The fragments now kept in Berlin were collected by the members of the second so-called Prussian Turfan expedition that visited the Turfan oasis from November 1904 until November 1905.⁸ It was headed by Albert von Le Coq, and it is known that on several occasions Le Coq gave manuscript fragments as a gift to researchers and officials from other countries. Therefore it is quite plausible that the fragments now in Russia were originally also found by Le Coq and his team and on fitting occasions handed over to the Russian consul in Ghulja Nikolay Krotkov and the Russian consul in Kashgar Nikolay Petrovsky.

Mātr̥ceṭa and his works

As mentioned above, fragment SI 3695/1 is an excerpt from the work of the famous Buddhist thinker and poet Mātr̥ceṭa, the *Vaṇṇārḥavaṇṇa*, “The Praise of the Praiseworthy” (another name is *Catuḥśataka* since it consists of nearly 400 verses). A late version of his biography says that, being a brahmin, Mātr̥ceṭa came to the Nālandā monastery and won a philosophical debate over many learned monks. Nāgārjuna sent Āryadeva to dispute with Mātr̥ceṭa, who was able to defeat the brahmin. The defeated Mātr̥ceṭa converted to Buddhism. Information on Mātr̥ceṭa's biography is very fragmentary and is contained in Chinese and Tibetan texts.⁹ The most complete description of the life of Mātr̥ceṭa is presented in the “*History of Buddhism in India*” by Tāranātha (1575–634). Apparently, Tāranātha brought together several scattered traditions about the life of Mātr̥ceṭa.¹⁰

⁶ HORI 2011: 12–15.

⁷ SHOMAKHMADOV 2022.

⁸ For a brief introduction into the history of the German expeditions, their manuscript finds and the first decades of editorial work see SHT I: xi–xxvi.

⁹ VAV (UH): 12–22.

¹⁰ TĀRANĀTHA 1990: 130–136.

So, according to one of the legends, Mātṛceṭa lived during the time of Vindusāra Maurya (3rd c. BC), the son of Candragupta Maurya, the dynasty founder and the father of Emperor Aśoka. Mātṛceṭa lived in the city of Kusumapura in the monastery of Kusuma-alaṃkāra, where he preached the teachings of both the Mahāyāna and the Hīnayāna. Subsequently, Mātṛceṭa erected a temple dedicated to Avalokiteśvara, where a thousand monks — followers of the Mahāyāna — lived.

Particularly, “The History of Buddhism in India” mentions names associated with Mātṛceṭa. According to Tāranātha, Mātṛceṭa is also known by the following names: brāhmaṇa Durdharśakāla, (Ārya)Śūra, Aśvaghōṣa, Mātṛceṭa, Piṭṛceṭa, Durdharṣa, Dhārmika Subhūti. Maticitra, etc.

A number of facts speak against the assertion that Aśvaghōṣa and Mātṛceṭa are one person. First of all, from the analysis of the works of both authors, it becomes obvious that the audience for both authors was different. Aśvaghōṣa’s writings were addressed to the educated elites of Indian society, not necessarily Buddhist. Mātṛceṭa’s poems were exclusively for Buddhist followers. Therefore, the sources of creativity of both poets differed: Aśvaghōṣa relied on various written monuments, of both Buddhist and non-Buddhist content. The basis of Mātṛceṭa’s works were exclusively Buddhist texts.¹¹

According to another version of the biography recorded in Tāranātha’s text, Mātṛceṭa was born into a brāhmaṇa family called Saṃghaguhyā, and his maternal grandfather was a lay Buddhist. Having received the name Kāla at birth, the young Mātṛceṭa perfectly studied the Vedas, mantras, tantra and the art of debate. According to legend, the god Mahādeva was his mentor. For his devotion to his parents, he received the name ‘Dedicated to mother / father’ — *Mātṛ-* or *Piṭṛceṭa*.

So, the Brahmin Mātṛceṭa defeated many Buddhist thinkers in the art of debate, turning them away from the Dharma and making them Non-Buddhists (*tīrthika*). However, Mātṛceṭa’s mother, wishing to guide her son on the Dharma Path, told him that victory cannot be considered absolute until the Magadha Buddhists are defeated. And Mātṛceṭa went to Nālandā. His meeting with Āryadeva was mentioned earlier. After converting to Buddhism, according to the legend, Mātṛceṭa saw the bodhisattva Tārā, who ordered him, in atonement for sins, when he was a brahmin, to create many stotras praising the Buddha.

¹¹ VAV (UH): 14.

So, among the works attributed to Mātṛceṭa, the following are known:

Prasādapratibhodbhava (= *Śatapañcāśatka* = *Adhyardhaśataka*), *Ana-parāddha-stotra*, *Samyaksambuddhalakṣaṇa-stotra*, *Ekottarika-stava*, *Triratnamaṅgala-stotra*, *Triratna-stotra*, *Sugatapañcatṛiṃśat-stotra*, *Prañi-dhānasaptati*, *Caturviparyakathā*, *Kaliyugaparikathā*, *Mahārājakanīṣka-lekha*, *Āryatārā-stotra*, *Āryatārādevī-stotra-sarvārthasādhana-nāma-stotrarāja*, *Mātṛcetagīti* and others.

And, of course, “Praise for the Praiseworthy”. The Chinese monk Yijing (635–713) who went as a pilgrim to India highly appreciated the artistic and religious qualities of VAV.¹²

Varṇārharvaṇa’s structure

The text of VAV consists of 12 chapters:

1. *Aśakyastava* (“The Praise to the Incomparable (He who is above all praises)”). The chapter is an introduction to the whole work, especially the introduction to the Second chapter. This chapter raises the important question of the futility of expressing aspects of the Buddha in the ‘conventional (common) language’.

2. *Mūrdhābhiṣeka* (“The Head Sprinkling”, i.e. “Concecration”). Although of the previous chapter about the impossibility of describing the qualities of the Buddha through human language, in this chapter Mātṛceṭa praises the individual qualities of the Bhagavān through such epithets as *śramaṇa*, *brāhmaṇa*, *lokācārya*, *snātaka*, *nṛsiṃha*, *mahānāga*.

3. *Sarvajñātāsiddhi* (“The Fullness of Omniscience”). The chapter is devoted to describing both the bodily appearance of the Buddha and aspects of gaining Omniscience.

4. *Balavaiśaradyastava* (“The Praise to the Powers and the Confidences (Fearlessness)”). The chapter characterizes the ten Powers of the Tathāgata (*daśa tathāgatabalāni*) and four ‘fearlessnesses’ (*vaiśāradya*) as factors in the Omniscience manifestation.

5. *Vāgyīśuddhi* (“The Speech Purification”). The chapter describes the properties of Buddha’s speech, the concept of two truths — the relative truth (*saṃvṛtisatya*) and the absolute one (*paramārthasatya*), as well as idea of the Single Utterance (*ekasvara*).

¹² NANCE 2011: 14.

6. *Avivādistava* (“The Praise to the Indisputability [of the Teaching]”). The chapter substantiates the indisputability and truth of the Dharma; the topic of conducting a public dispute (*vivāda*) is touched upon.

7. *Brahmānuvāda* (“The Explanation of Brahma”). In this chapter, the Buddhist teaching is explained through the Brahmanical terms. Thus, the Buddha is described as Brahma and the Dharma — as Brahman.

8. *Upakārastava* (“The Praise of the [Buddha’s] Blessings”). The chapter describes the benefits that the Buddha’s Teaching brings to people — liberation from afflictions (*kleśas*), the achievement of Nirvāṇa, the practice of arhat, pratyekabuddha, bodhisattva, ‘four analytical knowledge’ (*catvāri pratisaṃvidah*).

9. *Apratikārastava* (“The Praise of the impossibility of repaying [the Buddha for his beneficence]”). The chapter says that it is impossible to thank the Buddha for his immeasurable deeds aimed at saving all sentient beings.

10. *Śarīraikadeśastava* (“The Praise of the parts of the [Buddha’s] Body”). The chapter describes the iconic marks (special characteristics of the body’s parts) of the Great Person (*Mahāpuruṣa*).

11. *Prabhūstava* (“The Praise of the Great [Buddha’s tongue]”). The chapter describes the Buddha’s tongue; epithets for beautiful women are actively used. At the end of the chapter, a comparison is made with the goddess Sarasvatī.

12. *Bhavodvejaka* (“The Creation of Fear of Existence”). The chapter says that, despite the impeccability of the Buddha’s teaching, after his Parinirvāṇa, the world is gradually moving towards the “Age of the Dharma’s End”.

The fragment we are studying contains the end of the 7th chapter (*Brahmānuvāda*) — stanzas 17–22, its colophon, and the beginning of the 8th chapter (*Upakārastava*) – stanzas 1–7.

The manuscript description

Description of the German fragments: SHT I: 286 (and SHT VI: 218 with the identification of the fragments 2–4 as belonging to one folio and covering the verses VAV 6.25–40); the manuscript contains VAV, Jm, KalpM.¹³

¹³ For a survey of fragments in the German collection written in Proto-Śārada cf. HARTMANN 2017: 79–82.

Facsimiles: folio 421 (= dd) of the KalpM as plate 37 in SHT I.¹⁴

Although the folio number is lost, our fragment must belong to folio 25, since the text immediately precedes the verses preserved in SHT 638 b. This is a fragment from the left part of the folio, where the folio number 26 is preserved.¹⁵

Since the edition of VAV, one fragment has been published which confirms text reconstructed in 7.17c. This is Or.15007/189 (published by Klaus Wille in BLSF III: 59) which adds two vowels: recto d /// .ā .e + + /// for *(sugat)ā(v)e(n)[i]kaivaiṣā*. Together with SI 3696/1 r2 the gap is closed.

Symbols used in the transliteration

- + — a lost glyph(s)
- [] — glyph(s) whose reading(s) is (are) uncertain
- .. — one illegible glyph
- . — illegible part of a glyph
- /// — beginning or end of a fragment when damaged
- || — the double daṇḍa — punctuation mark

Transliteration of the fragment

SI 3695/1 *recto*: VAV 7.17b–colophon

- 1 /// ++ .. + + + + .. + + + + + + ///
- 2 /// nāt* suga[t]. veṇi + + + ///
- 3 /// [kt]. vi○ghasāśinaḥ || ito [bā] + ///
- 4 /// sya○ti taṃ tasmim pūrvāpa + + ///
- 5 /// + ni yaḥ śraddadhyāt tanmayānīti sa bā[h].e ///
- 6 /// + + s[t]i sambhavaḥ || brahmān[u] .ā[d]o + + ///

¹⁴ Folios 13, 26 and 31 (all VAV) in SCHLINGLOFF 1968: no. 227–232; facsimiles of all fragments available on <http://turfan.bbaw.de/idp-berlin/>.

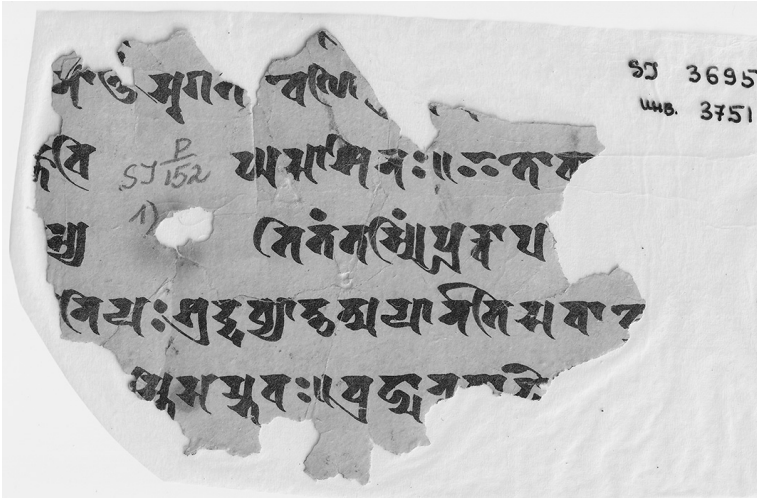
¹⁵ See: SCHLINGLOFF 1968: no. 230.

- r2: cf. VAV 7.17b–c *sarvaṃ tat tava śāsanāt | sugatāveṇikaivaiṣā;*
 r3: cf. VAV 7.18d–19a *tvatsūktavighasāsinaḥ || 18 ito bāhyeṣu yat sūktam;*
 r4: cf. VAV 7.20a–b *kaḥ śraddhāsyati tat tasmin pūrvāparaparāhatam |;*
 r5: cf. VAV 7.21b–d *sahakāraphalāni yaḥ | śraddadhyāt tanmayānīti sa bāhyeṣu subhāṣitam ||;*
 r6: cf. VAV 7.22d–colophon *tvadanyatrāsti saṃbhavaḥ || 22 varṇārharvarṇe buddhastotre brahmānuvādo nāma saptamaḥ paricchedaḥ 7 ||;* in this manuscript the colophon is abbreviated to the chapter title.

SI 3695/1 verso: VAV 8.1d–8c

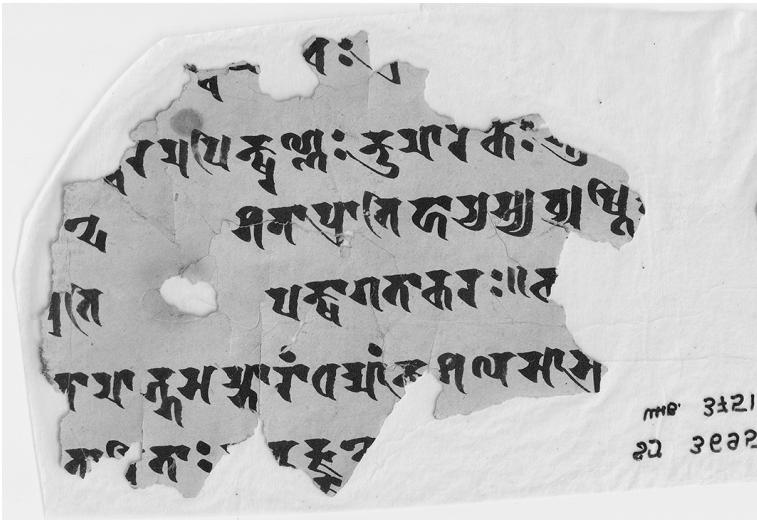
- 1 /// + + + .v. [y]. + [va]ḥ .r. + + + + +
 2 /// + .v.ram api kṣuṇṇaḥ kumāraḥ [st]r. + ///
 3 /// de○śanāprātihāryasya vy. ṣṭi .. ///
 4 /// [pr]. ti○pakṣāgatākaraḥ || [k]. + + ///
 5 /// [t]ā mārggasambhārām dharmām [k]. śalasā[sr]. ///
 6 /// + [t]ā[ḍi]tāḥ | + [t]. rjja[no] + + + + + ///

- v1: cf. VAV 8.1d–2a *svayambhuvaḥ || 1 praṇāśapathabāhulyāt;*
 v2: cf. VAV 8.3a–c *mahānāgair iva svairam api kṣuṇṇaḥ kumārakaiḥ | strījanenāpi;*
 v3: cf. VAV 8.4c–d *deśanāprātihāryasya vyuṣṭir vyuṣṭimatām vara ||;*
 v4: cf. VAV 8.5d–6a *-pratīpakṣāgadākaraḥ || 5 kāmarāgādidagdhānām; -āgatā-* against the well-attested *-āgadā-* must be a scribal error;
 v5: cf. VAV 8.7a–b *bruvatā mārgasaṃbhārān dharmān kuśalasāsravān |;* here (*mārgga-*) and in the next line (*saṃtarjjano-*) the manuscript shows gemination, a rather typical phenomenon in later manuscripts from the northwest of the subcontinent.
 v6: cf. VAV 8.8b–c *sāmānyākāratāḍitāḥ | saṃtarjjano[mukānīva].*



Pl. 1.

A fragment of Varṇārhavarṇa from the Serindia Collection, Petrovsky Sub-Collection.
 The Institute of Oriental Manuscripts RAS.
 SI 3695/1 *recto*



Pl. 2.

A fragment of Varṇārhavarṇa from the Serindia Collection, Petrovsky Sub-Collection.
 The Institute of Oriental Manuscripts RAS.
 SI 3695/1 *verso*

Translation

7. *Brahmānūvāda*

17. Everything that is beautifully spoken in the world is said in your **Teaching**; [ability to] speak beautifully is **Sugata**'s exceptional ability.

18. But all the Dharma scholars who, apart from you, are seen in an impeccable practice of speech, are **devourers of the remnants of what [you] said beautifully**.

19. The 'beautiful speech' of **those who are outside** [Dharma] is also [similar to the Buddha's words], as are the footprints of the woodworm [similar to] writing; their nature is unequal, as are gold and iron.

20. How **can one believe this** ['beautiful speech'] **of that** [non-Buddhist teaching], contradictory **before** and after? [This is also ridiculous] as if the *Gośīrṣa* sandalwood tree was growing in the Castor-oil plant.¹⁶

21. Whoever **believes** that 'beautiful speech' can come from **external** [teachings] is [like] **those who** believe that ripe mango **fruits** grow on the Neem tree.¹⁷

22. There is no other 'birth place' for the pearls of 'beautiful speech' except for you. As well as for sandalwood, there is **no other place of growth** than the Malaya Mountains.¹⁸

8. *Upakārastava*

1. [The Path] by which 'Rhinoceroses'¹⁹ sometimes walk at some point in a mighty, silent, carefree, **self-arising** step,

¹⁶ *Gośīrṣa* Sandalwood has a great value in the Indian religious tradition. Castor-oil (*Ricinus*) is poisonous to living beings.

¹⁷ Fruits of Neem tree is bitter and its leaves are chewed at funeral ceremonies.

¹⁸ The Malaya Mountains are a range of mountains, mentioned in Indian sacred texts.

¹⁹ Here the one of two types of Pratyekabuddhas are meant. According to Vasubandhu, the author of *Abhidharmakośa* (5 c.), Pratyekabuddhas are of two kinds: 'those who live in communities' (*varga-cāriṇaḥ*), and 'rhinoceros-like' ones (*khadgaviṣāna-kalpāḥ*), i.e. living alone, not needing others (AKB: 181–183). According to Yaśomitra, the author of *Sphuṭārthā Abhidharmakośavyākhyā*, the *varga-cāriṇaḥ* are the first śravakas to attain arhatship on their own as early as the Buddha's time (SAKV: 337). According to another point of view, 'Those who live in communities' cannot be included in the category of the first śravakas. These are 'ordinary people' (*prthag-jana*) who in previous births realized the dharmas leading to the four stages of the 'deep penetration' (*nirvedhabhāgiya*), and in the present birth, following their own path, have reached Awakening. The status of 'Those who are like a rhinoceros' is acquired within one hundred Great Kalpas through the special practice of achieving the conditions of Awakening (*bodhisambhāra*). The conditions are as follows: moral behavior (*śīla*), the practice of concentration of consciousness (*samādhi*), wisdom (*prajñā*). Just like

2. this path to Nirvāṇa, which is so extremely difficult to achieve because of the many paths [leading] **to the loss** of [achieved progress in the religious practice],²⁰ you turned into the Great Royal Path.

3. [The path is so easy] that the **‘crown princes’-*kumārakāḥ***²¹ **walk leisurely** along it like the ‘Great Nāgas’,²² even **women** whose strength and insight are two fingers wider;

4. it results from the **miracle** of your **Teaching**, which has immeasurable power (and) belongs only to the Buddha, the best of those who have **beauty**.

5. For those bitten by various venomous vipers, you are the source of **specific and general antidotes**.

6. For those who are burned by the **passion of desire**, etc., you offer a cure for this disease by proclaiming the dharmas that begin with the meditation on impurity²³.

real rhinos live alone, the Khaḍgaviṣāna-kalpāḥ avoid other people, do not preach the Dharma, because they are afraid to be distracted from the state of deep concentration of mind.

²⁰ According to Vasubandhu, it is necessary to distinguish three kinds of falling away: the loss of what was gained; the loss of the unacquired and the loss of the object of pleasure. The first type of loss occurs when an arhat falls away from previously gained spiritual or good qualities. The second is if he does not gain any of those good qualities that should be gained. The third, losing the object of pleasure — if the arhat can no longer realize the previously gained qualities (AKB: 345–346).

²¹ *Kumāra(ka)* (‘crown prince’) is the bodhisattva who will become a Buddha because of the Buddha is the *Dharmarāja* (‘King of Dharma’).

²² ‘Great Nāgas’ (*mahānāgāḥ*) is the epithet of great śravakas (MV: 82), i.e. arhats.

²³ *Navāśubhāḥ saṃjñā* — ‘nine realizations of the abominable’. This practice of yogic concentration is necessary for ascetics, whose main opponent is their own passionate attraction to color, form, touch, vanity. So, someone who is seduced by color should contemplate figuratively or, in reality (in a cemetery, in places of cremation, blue or blackened corpses; those who are attracted by the form should meditate on a corpse whose integrity is broken — cut into pieces, gnawed by animals, etc.; those subject to a passion for pleasant tactile sensations should observe corpses at various stages of decomposition — infested with worms, overflowing with pus, etc. The contemplation of any corpse contributes to getting rid of vanity. With figurative (only in one’s own mind) contemplation of repulsive objects, one should subject to mental ‘corpse decomposition’ first a part of one’s body, then the whole body; after that, the ‘procedure’ should be repeated on third-party objects, expanding the area of contemplation to the ‘sea of skeletons’. There are three stages of cultivation in this practice: ‘beginner’, ‘having mastered the skill’, ‘having outstanding mental concentration’ (AKB: 337; Mppu: 1314–1316, 1320–1326).

The Mahāyāna ‘innovation’ consists in the observation that, unlike the śravakas, whom, according to *Mahāprajñāpāramitā-upadeśa* (Mppu), the practice of contemplation of repulsive objects should turn away from color, form, etc. and bring them closer to attaining Nirvāṇa, bodhisattvas comprehend this type of concentration in order to teach it to other people. In addition, the concept of *śūnyavāda* prescribes to treat the type of decaying corpses

7. **By speaking of the good and** (at the same time) **impure dharmas**²⁴ that make up the **Path**, you have created an inner and mutual distinction of things.

Abbreviations

- AKB: Vasubandhu. *Abhidharmakoṣabhāṣyam*. Ed. by P. Pradhan 1975.
- BLSF III: Karashima, Seishi, Jundo Nagashima, Klaus Wille 2015: *The British Library Sanskrit Fragments III*, Tokyo: The International Research Institute for Advanced Buddhology, Soka University.
- Mppu: *Le Traité de la Grande Vertu de Sagesse de Nāgārjuna (Mahāprajñāpāramitāsāstra)*. Introduction par É. Lamotte. T. III, Ch. XXXI–XLII, Louvain: Université de Louvain, Institut Orientaliste 1970.
- MV: *Mahavyutpatti Index Honyaku Meigi Daishu: Bon-Zo-Kan-Wa Shiyaku Taiko. Dictionary of terms in Sanskrit, Tibetan, Chinese, and Japanese, Sanskrit and Tibetan Index*. Tokyo: Suzuki Gakujutsu Zaidan 1973.
- SAKV: Yaṣomitra. *Sphuṭārthā Abhidharmakoṣavyākhyā*. Ed. by U. Wogihara, Tokyo: Sankibo Buddhist Book Store 1971.
- SHT I: *Sanskrihandschriften aus den Turfanfunden*, Teil I, ed. Ernst Waldschmidt unter Mitarbeit von Walter Clawiter und Lore Holzmann, Wiesbaden: Franz Steiner 1965 (VOHD, X,1).
- SHT VI: *Sanskrihandschriften aus den Turfanfunden*, Teil VI, ed. Heinz Bechert, beschrieben von Klaus Wille, Stuttgart: Franz Steiner 1989 (VOHD, X,6)
- VAV(UH): Jens-Uwe Hartmann 1987: *Das Varnārhavarṇastotra des Mātrceta*, Göttingen: Vandenhoeck & Ruprecht, (Sanskrittexte aus den Turfanfunden, XII; Abhandlungen der Akademie der Wissenschaften in Göttingen, 160).

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neutrally, without a feeling of disgust and the color of a decaying corpse (a blue-colored corpse, yellow, decaying sludge, red blood and muscles, white bones of the skeleton) to contemplate only as colors — blue, yellow, red, white. (Mppu: 1327–1328).

²⁴ It means good dharmas but ‘with afflictions’ (*sāsrava*) and ‘causal’ (*saṃskṛta*), for example, the dharma of the ‘Truth of Path’ (*mārgasatya*) (AKB: 3).

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Elena V. Tanonova

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

© Elena V. Tanonova, Cand. Sci. (Philology), Research Fellow, Scientific Secretary of the Institute of Oriental Manuscripts, Russian Academy of Sciences (St. Petersburg, Russian Federation) (etanona@yandex.ru)

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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: Bammaera 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: Sitaramāñḥasaneyasamvada

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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Tatiana A. Pang

Nikolay Karamzin’s Dedication to the Emperor Alexander I as a Preamble to the “History of Russian State” in Manchu and Chinese Translation by Zakhar Leontievsky

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Abstract: The first official history of the Russian state “*Istoriia gosudarstva Rossijskogo*” (“History of Russian State”) was compiled by Nikolay Karamzin in 12 volumes (published in 1816–1828). The first eight volumes were printed in 1816–1818 and were most probably taken to Beijing by the members of the 10th Ecclesiastic mission (1820–1830). Among the students of that mission was Zakhar Leontievsky (1799–1874), who had spent ten years in Beijing and had perfectly mastered the Chinese and Manchu languages. During his stay in China, Leontievsky has translated into Chinese three volumes of Karamzin’s “History of Russian state”. Nowadays, the manuscript copies of this translation are kept in the Oriental collections in St. Petersburg, Russia. The Russian original by Karamzin begins with the Dedication to the Russian tzar Alexander I. Only the manuscript from the Oriental department of the Scientific library of the St. Petersburg state university has the Dedication translated into two languages — Manchu and Chinese. The comparison of the Russian original with the Manchu and Chinese versions shows that the translations turn to be Leontievsky’s interpretations of the original text written according to the rules of Chinese addresses to the throne. Additional translator’s comments were added to explain some episodes from the Russian history to the Chinese reader. Zakhar Leontievsky’s translation of the “History of Russian state” was the first introduction of Russian history to China.

Key words: Nikolay Karamzin, “History of Russian State”, dedication, Zakhar Leontievsky, Manchu translation, Chinese translation

The first official history of the Russian state was compiled by Nikolay M. Karamzin (1766–1826) and is titled “*Istoriia gosudarstva Rossiiskogo*”. It covers the period of the Russian history from ancient times until Ivan the Terrible (1530–1584) and the disturbance period of *Smutnoe vremia*

© Tatiana A. PANG, Cand. Sci. (History), Leading Researcher, Head of the Department of Far Eastern Studies, Deputy-director for Science, Institute of Oriental Manuscripts, Russian Academy of Sciences (St. Petersburg, Russian Federation) (ptatiana@inbox.ru).

(1598–1613). This grand project was initiated by N. Karamzin in 1790s when he became interested in the studies of the Russian historical documents and thought of a literary description of the events. In 1803, he asked the Russian Emperor Alexander I for a paid position of an official historiographer with an access to the historical archives. Karamzin was granted this position and started writing the “History of Russian state” based on the original historical sources. The main idea of Karamzin’s “History” is glorification of a strong monarchy guided by a wise ruler. It was clearly expressed in the author’s dedication of the “History” to his patron Alexander I. The 19th c. editions begin with the “Dedication to the Monarch Emperor Alexander Pavlovich, the autocrat of All Russia”. It was not included in the later editions. This is why the early editions and the text of the dedication are bibliographic rarities.

The Russian text of Karamzin’s dedication is as follows:¹

ПОСВЯЩЕНИЕ

ВСЕМИЛОСТИВѢЙШІЙ ГОСУДАРЬ!

Съ благоговѣніемъ представляю ВАШЕМУ ИМПЕРАТОРСКОМУ ВЕЛИЧЕСТВУ плодь усердныхъ, двѣнадцати-лѣтнихъ трудовъ. Не хвалюся ревностію и постоянствомъ: ободренный ВАМИ, могъ ли я не имѣть ихъ?

Въ 1811 году, въ счастливѣйшія, незабвенныя минуты жизни моей, читаль я ВАМЪ, Государь, нѣкоторыя главы сей Исторіи — объ ужасахъ Батыева нашествія; о подвигѣ Героя, Димитрія Донскаго — въ то время, когда густая туча бѣдствій висѣла надъ Европою, угрожая и нашему любезному отечеству, ВЫ слушали съ восхитительнымъ для меня вниманіемъ; сравнивали давно-минувшее съ настоящимъ, и не завидовали славнымъ опасностямъ Димитрія, ибо предвидѣли для Себя еще славнѣйшія. Великодушное предчувствіе исполнилось: туча грянула надъ Россією — но мы спасены, прославлены; врагъ истребленъ, Европа свободна, и глава АЛЕКСАНДРОВА сіяетъ въ лучезарномъ вѣнцѣ безсмертія. Государь! Если счастье ВАШЕГО добродѣтельнаго сердца равно ВАШЕЙ славы, то ВЫ счастливые всѣхъ земно-родныхъ.

¹ KARAMZIN 1816: 1–4.

Новая эпоха наступила. Будущее извѣстно единому Богу; но мы, судя по вѣроятностямъ разума, ожидаемъ мира твердаго, столь вожде-лѣннаго для народовъ и Вѣнценосцевъ, которые хотяють властвовать для пользы людей, для успѣховъ нравственности, добродѣтели, Наукъ, Искусствъ гражданскихъ, благосостоянія государственнаго и частнаго. Побѣдою устранивъ препятствія въ семь истинно Царскомъ дѣлѣ, даровавъ златую тишину намъ и Европѣ, чего ВЫ, Государь, не совершите въ крѣпости мужества, въ теченіе жизни долговременной, общаемой ВАМЪ и закономъ Природы и теплою молитвою подданныхъ!

Бодрствуйте, Монархъ возлюбленный! Сердцевѣдецъ читаетъ мысли, Исторія предаеть дѣянія великодушныхъ Царей, и въ самое отдаленное потомство вселяеть любовь къ ихъ священной памяти. Примите милостиво книгу, служащую тому доказательствомъ. Исторія народа принадлежитъ Царю.

ВАШЕГО ИМПЕРАТОРСКАГО
ВЕЛИЧЕСТВА,
вѣрноподанный
Николай Карамзинъ.

Translation from Russian

Most grateful Your Majesty,

With reverence I present to Your Imperial Majesty the result of my twelve years diligent labor. Not boasting of being ardent and constant, encouraged by You, how could I have done it?

In 1811, in the happiest and unforgettable moments of my life, when I read to You, Your Majesty, some chapters of this History — about the horror of Batiy's invasion, about the great deeds of the hero Dmitry Donskoy — at the times when a dark cloud of distress was hanging over Europe threatening our beloved fatherland, You listened to me with admirable attention, comparing the remote past with our days, without envy to the dangers of Dmitry, since You had predicted even greater for Yourself. Majesty's premonition realized: the cloud burst over Russia — but we are saved, glorified, the enemy is destroyed, Europe is free, and the head of Alexander shines with the wreath of Majesty's eternity! If the happiness of Your

virtuous heart is equal to Your glory, then You are the happiest of all creature.

A new era has arrived. Only God knows the future, but we according to the capabilities of the mind expect solid peace which is so wished by the peoples and monarchs who want to govern for the sake of people, virtue, Science, civil Arts, prosperity of state and individual. Victoriously destroying all the obstacles to this real Tzar's deeds, granting golden peace to us and Europe, what would not You, Your Majesty, accomplish in courage during Your long life, which is promised to You by the law of Nature and warm pray of subjects?

Keep awake, beloved Monarch! Clairvoyant reads thoughts, History tells about the deeds of generous Tzars and inspires love of the far descendants to their holly memory. Graciously accept this book as a proof that History of the people belongs to the Tzar.

Your Imperial Majesty's
Loyal subject
Nikolay Karamzin

Although Nikolay Karamzin officially started working on the "History" in 1803 when he became a court historiographer, the dedication mentions the year of 1811. That year, upon the request of Ekaterina Pavlovna, a sister of Alexander I, Karamzin compiled "A note on ancient and new Russia in its political and civil state" and delivered it to the Emperor. This note was a short program of the "History of Russian state", and from that date Karamzin started his work on the compilation of his great masterpiece. In his dedication Karamzin compares Alexander I battles against Napoleon with the Duke Dmitry Donskoy war against the Tatar-Mongols: both invasions were stopped by brave and wise leadership of Russian rulers.

The first eight volumes of the "History of Russian state" were printed in 1816–1818. The last volume number twelve was published in 1828 after Karamzin's death. The work was so popular that the first three thousand copies of the first edition were sold out in twenty-five days, and the second edition of the first eight volumes was published in 1818–1819.

Most likely, this edition of the "History of Russian state" was taken to Beijing in 1820 by the members of the Tenth Ecclesiastic Mission (1820–

1830). Among the students of that Mission was Zakhar Fedorovich Leontievsky (1799–1874), who had spent ten years in Beijing and had perfectly mastered the Chinese and Manchu languages. His knowledge of these languages is proved by numerous Russian translations of Chinese and Manchu historical and literary texts that were published in St. Petersburg after his return to Russia.² During his stay in Beijing, Leontievsky has translated into Chinese three volumes of Karamzin’s “History of Russian state”. Nowadays, the manuscript copies of this translation are kept in St. Petersburg: one copy at the Russian National library, three at the Oriental department of the Scientific library of the St. Petersburg state university, four copies at the Institute of Oriental manuscripts, RAS.³

The manuscripts are written on Chinese paper, the fascicles in yellow cover are put into a cardboard cover/*tao* with yellow silk cover. The information on the attached labels tells that Zakhar Leontievsky has presented four fair copies of his translation to four St. Petersburg centers of Oriental studies: Imperial library (now — Russian National library), Asiatic department of the Ministry of Foreign affairs and Asiatic Museum (now both collections are kept at the Institute of Oriental manuscripts, RAS) and Petersburg university (now — Scientific library of the St. Petersburg state university). Draft copies are also kept in IOM, RAS and Russian National Library. According to the studies of Sergei Peshtich and Isolda Ciperovich, the fair copy from IOM, RAS (M-30) was most probably aimed for the Chinese Emperor, since it is of big format, bound in golden silk and has a red label with golden printed title.⁴ Two draft copies of the “History of Russian state” were possibly acquired by the Petersburg university library from the private collection of Zakhar Leontievsky (Xyl. 1062 и Xyl. 2565). According to the studies of the manuscripts, the fair and draft copies were definitely done by Chinese scribe, while corrections in draft copies were made by a foreign hand. The corrections mainly concern style, as well as transcription of geographic and personal names. Characterizing the Chinese translation of the “History”, the scholars write that “the translator left behind four chapters (from the 4th to the 7th) of the third volume; the translation

² SKACHKOV 1977: 134–1384; PANG 2021: 84.

³ For detailed descriptions of the St. Petersburg copies see PANG & MAYATSKY & LIU RUO-MEI 2019: 5–35. The Chinese texts of the St. Petersburg manuscripts are published in LIU RUO-MEI 2021.

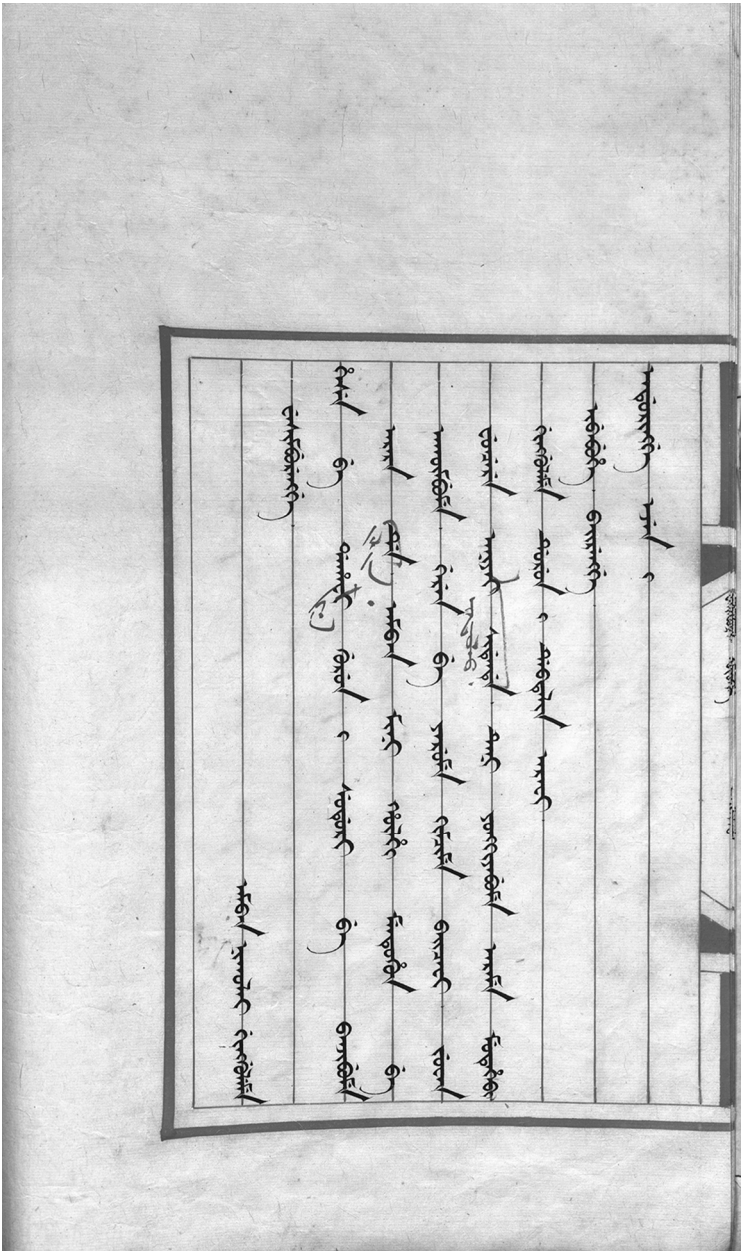
⁴ PESHTICH & CIPEROVICH 1968: 126.

does not include Karamzin's "Commentaries", <...> as well as chapters where Karamzin lists the sources for his multivolume "History". All this indicates a popular character of the Chinese translation".⁵

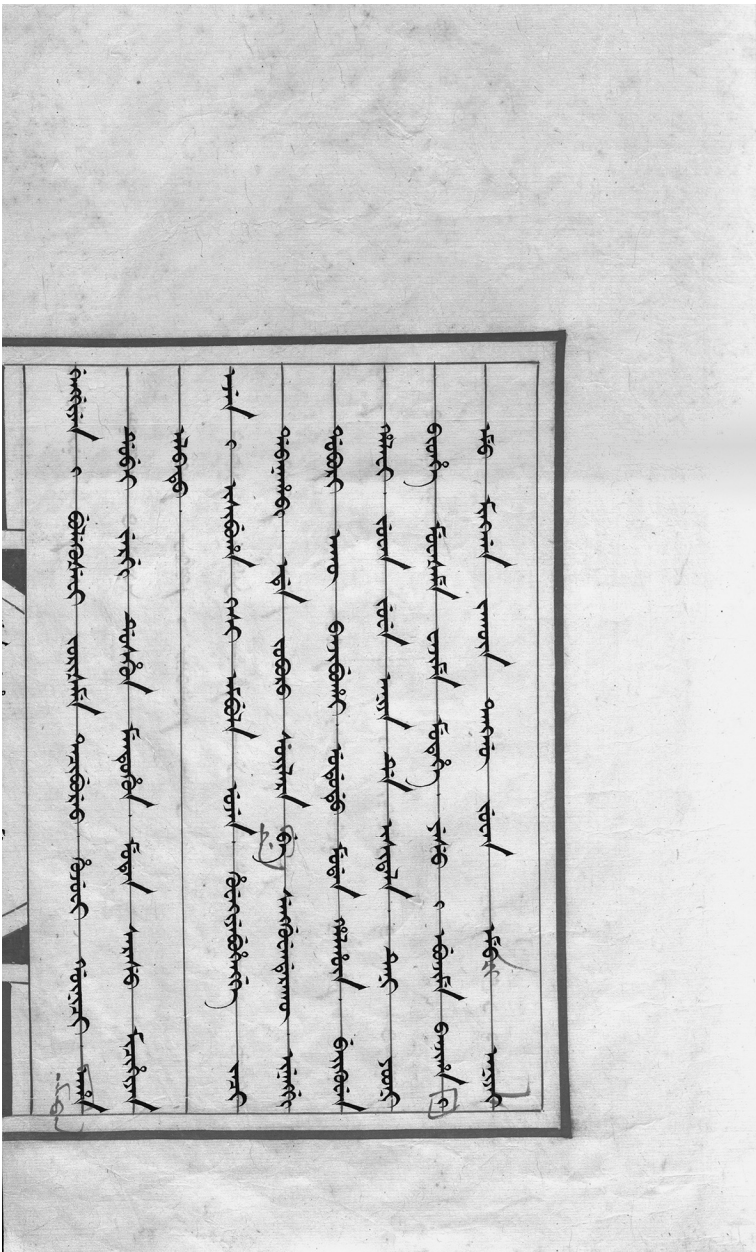
All existing copies of the Chinese translation of the "History of Russian state" are almost identical, but only two manuscripts begin with Karamzin's Dedication to the Russian Emperor Alexander I: The first fascicle of the Russian National library manuscript has the text in Chinese, the copy of the University library begins with the Dedication in Chinese and Manchu (Xyl. F-60). It is the only sample with Manchu language translation of the Dedication. The Manchu text is written in black ink from left to right (ff. 1a–5a), after it goes the Chinese translation, but written from right to left (ff. 1a–3a). The Manchu text bares corrections in red ink done by another hand. The main corrections concern the style of the language: the Manchu *aha* 'slave' is regularly changed to *amban* 'official' that also corresponds to the Chinese version of the text. The translator did not understand the Chinese sentence 波及大西洋 ('[this] also influenced Europe') and translated it as *amba si yang ni niyalma de isitala* ('reached the people of great Si-yang') not recognizing the word 'Europe'. These small hints lead to a conclusion that the Chinese version was done first and then translated into Manchu. Dedications in Manchu and Chinese languages are not direct translations of the Russian original, but have more detailed references to the Russian history and sometimes need comments for the foreign reader.

⁵ PESHTICH & CIPEROVICH 1968: 126.

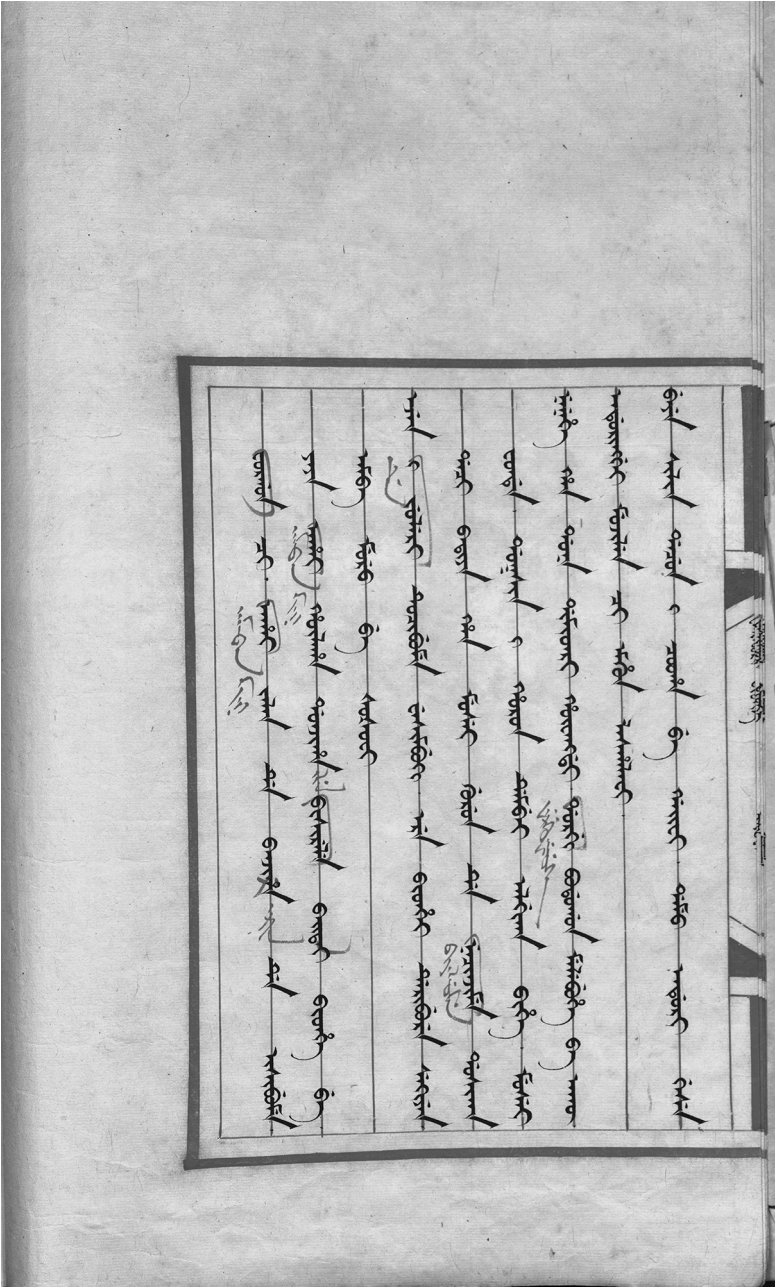
Dedication in Manchu



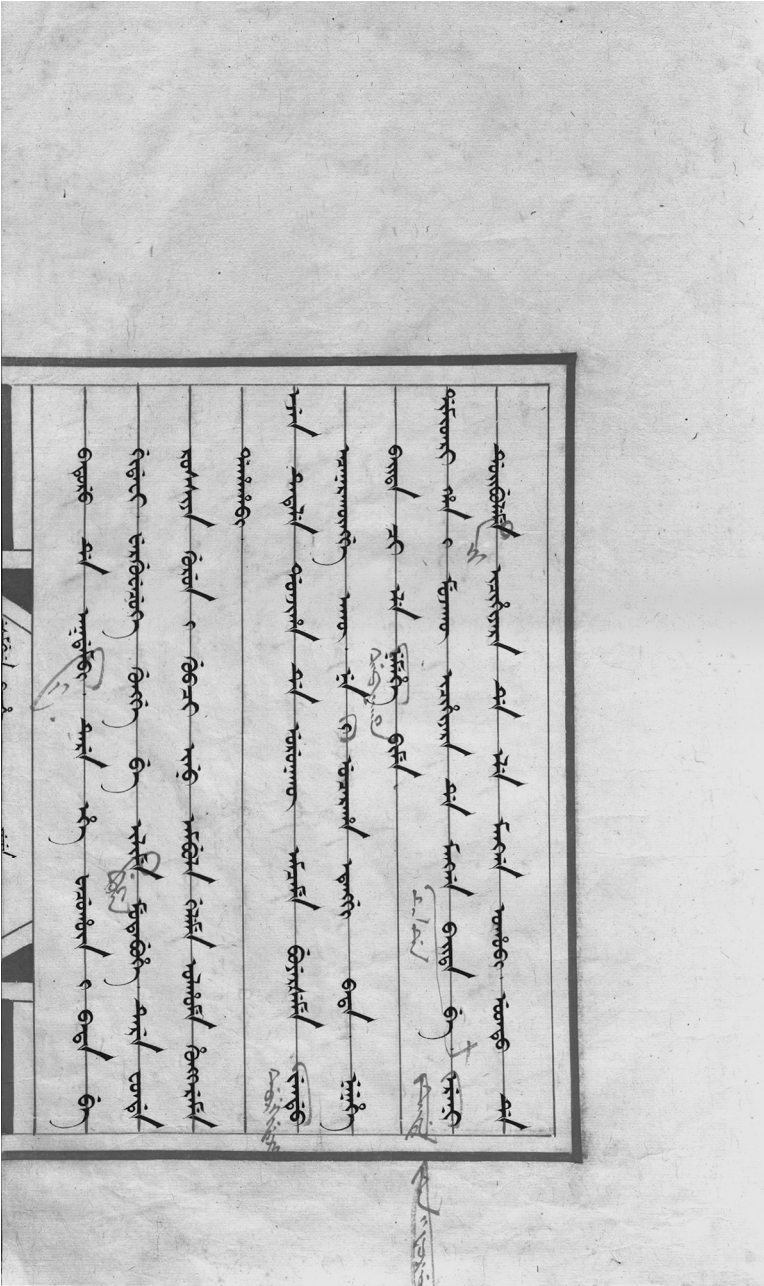
Pl. 1. НБ СПбГУ, Xyl. F-60, f. 1a



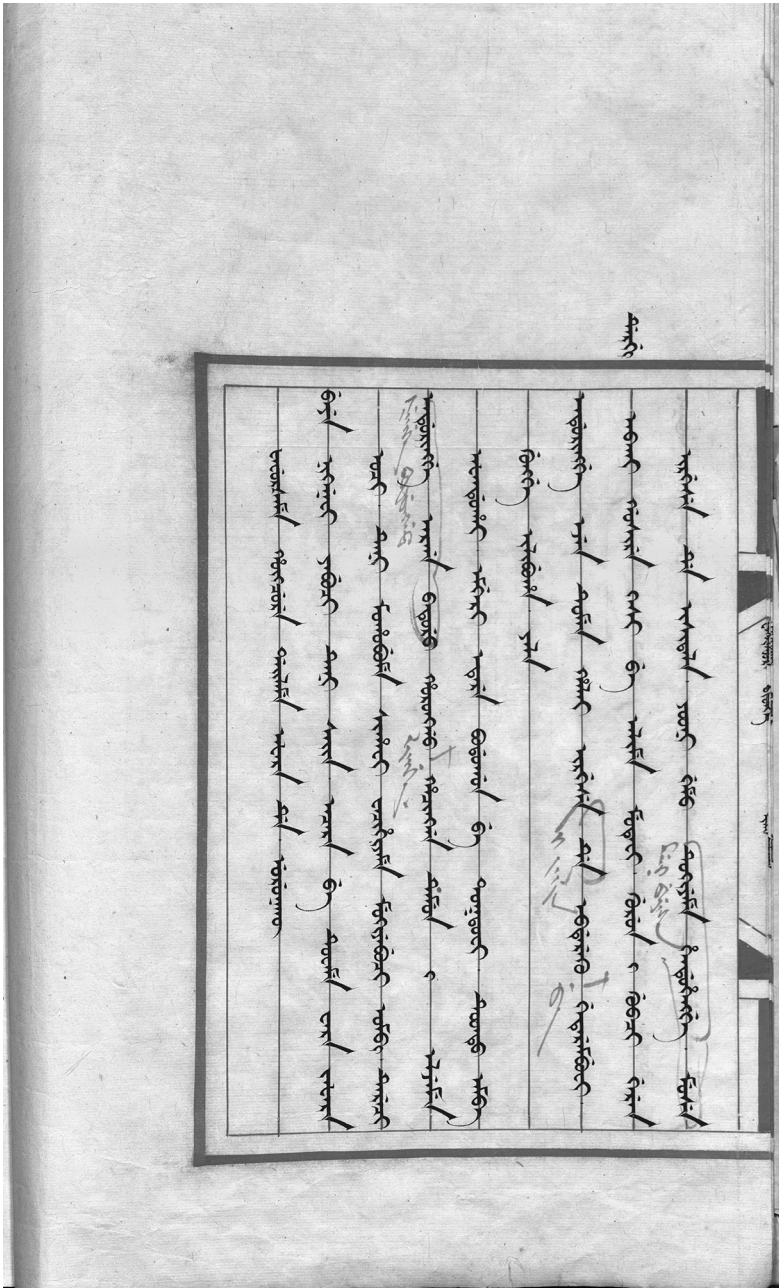
Pl. 2. НБ СПбГУ, Xyl. F-60, f. 1b



Pl. 3. НБ СПбГУ, Xyl. F-60, f. 2a



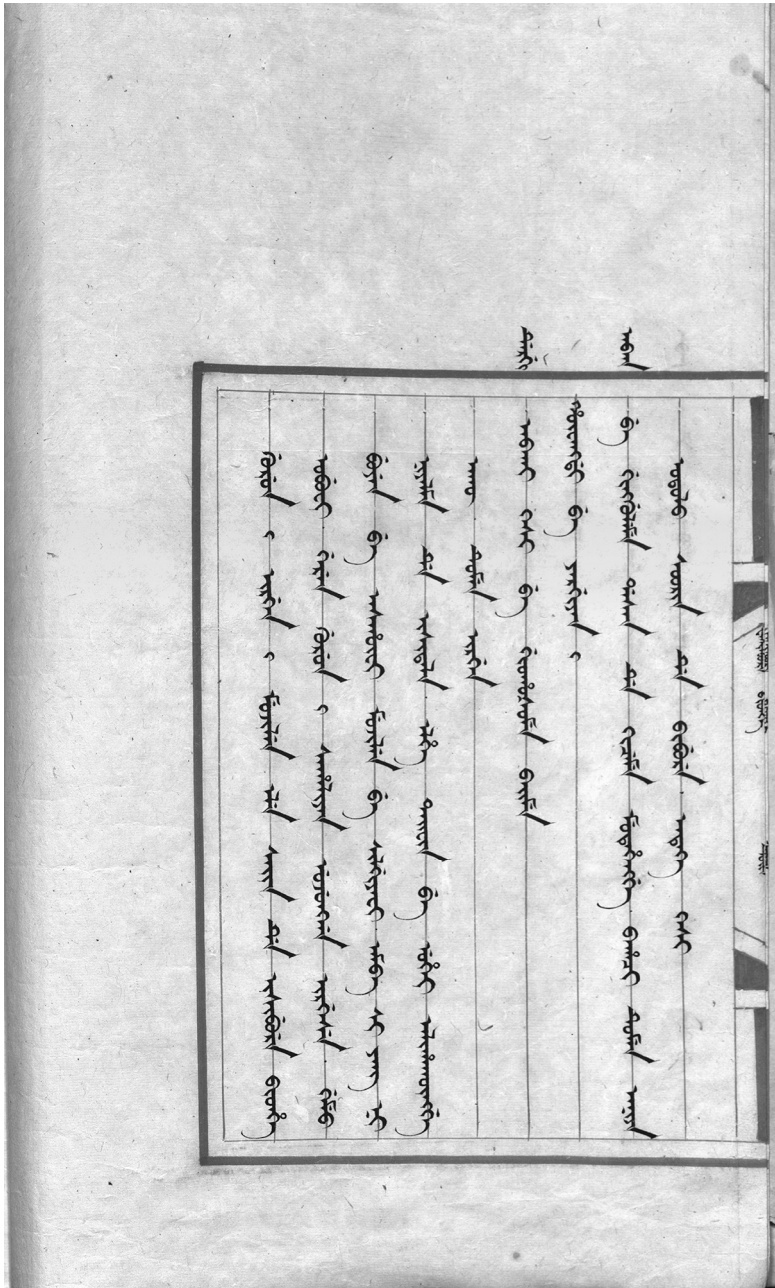
Pl. 4. НБ СПбГУ, Xyl. F-60, f. 2b



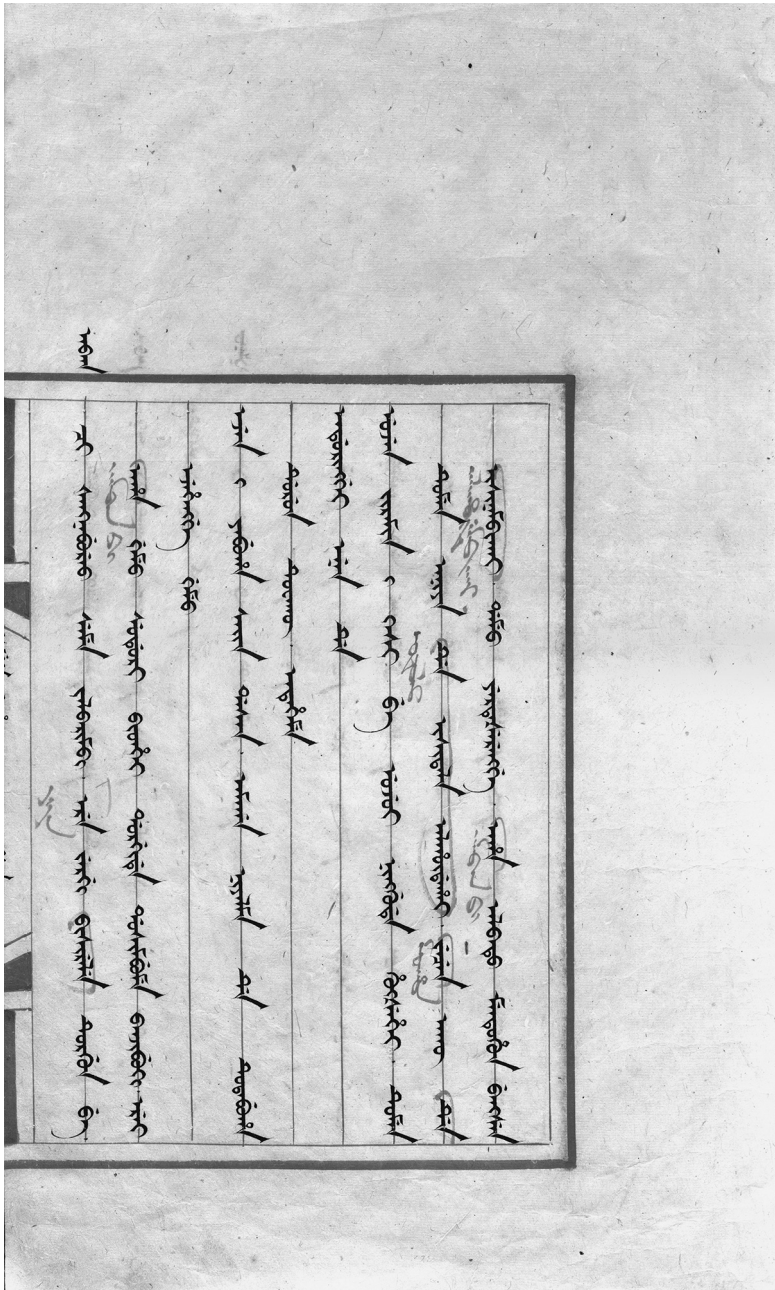
Pl. 5. НБ СПбГУ, Xyl. F-60, f. 3a



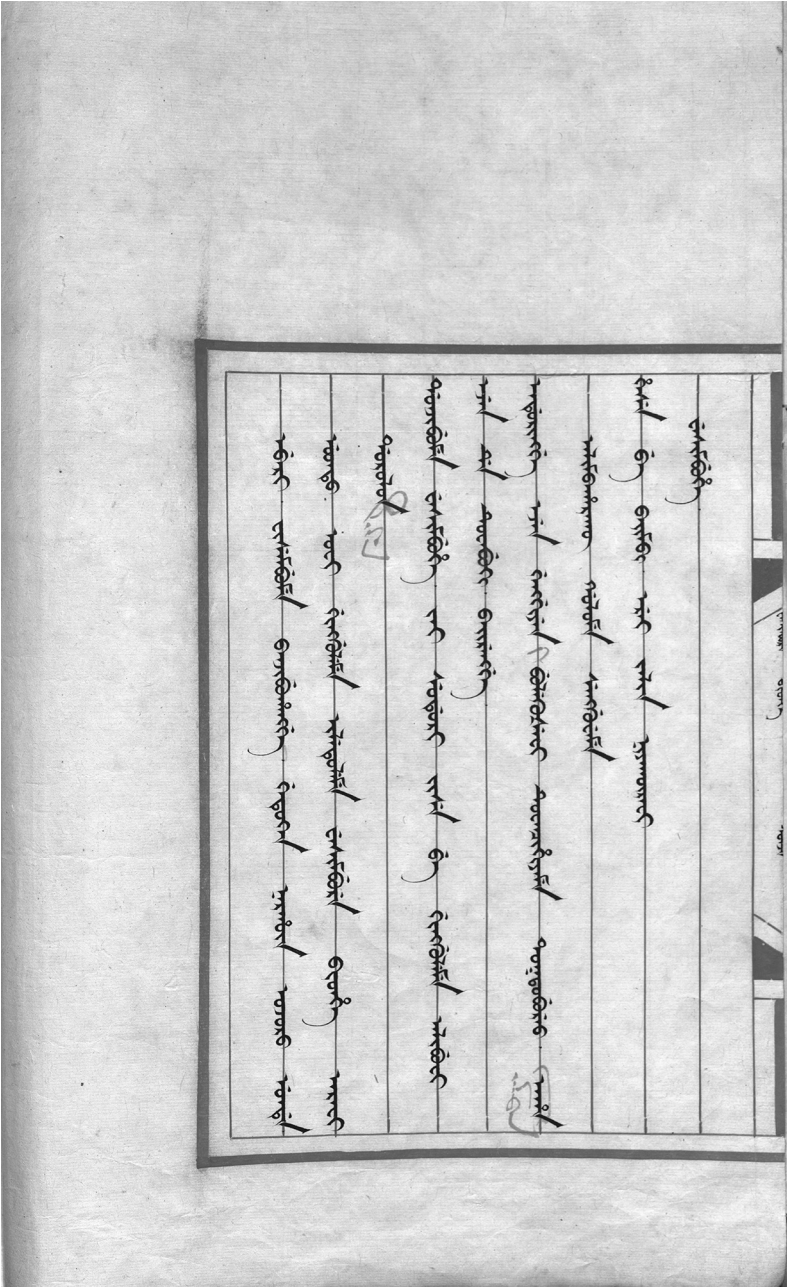
Pl. 6. НБ СПбГУ, Xyl. F-60, f. 3b



Pl. 7. НБ СПбГУ, Xyl. F-60, f. 4a



Pl. 8. НБ СПбГУ, Xyl. F-60, f. 4b



Pl. 9. НБ СПбГУ, Xyl. F-60, f. 5a

Transliteration

[f. 1a] amban Nikolai gingguleme / wesimburengge / hese be dahafi (*changed to: dahame*) gurun-i suduri be banjibume / arara de (*changed to: jalin*) amban mini hûlhi mentuhun be / akûmbume. geren be yarume kimcime baicafi. juwan / funcere aniyai sidende (*changed to: aniya otolo*). teni iongiyabume arame mutehebi. / gingguleme durun-i debtelin arafi / ibebuhe. bairengge / enduringge ejen-i // [f. 1b] genggiyen-i bulekušefi jorišame tacibureo. hujufi gûnici aha (*changed to: amban*) / dubei jergi dushun mentuhun. muten sarasu micihyan / albatu.ejen-i isibuha kesi ambula ujen. huwekiyebuhengge jaci / dabanahabi. ede joboro suilara be (*changed to: de*) sengguwenderakû inenggi / dobori akû banjibuhai. ududu mudan halhûn. beikuwen / halafi. juwan juwe aniya de isitala teni iooni / bithe muwašame wajime mutehe. Iesu-i ebunjime banjiha-î (*-i — cancelled*) / emu minggan jakûn tanggû juwan emu aniyai // [f. 2a] forgon (*changed to: emuci aniya*) ci. ahai (*changed to: amban mini*) jalan de banjiha (*changed to: banjirarin*) de isibume / yaya ahai (*changed to: amban mini*) hûlaha donjiha (*changed to: donjihale*) bisirele (*cancelled*) baitai (*changed to: baita*) bithe be / amba muru be šošofi / ejen-i juleri (*changed to: de*) tucibume wesimbuki. ere bithei deribure sekiyen / daci Batiya han musei gurun de necinjime (*changed to: biyalume*) dosikan / fonde doksin-i horon dembei algika bihe. musei / nenehe han Dona Dimitri hûwangdi dorgi (*changed to: ferguwecuke*) bodogon melebuhe ba akû / enduringgei mujilen ci emhun lshalafi. / beye silin dacun-i cooha be gaifi. damu enduri gese // [f. 2b] baturu de akdambi (*changed to: akdafi*). tere ehe facuhûn-i bata be / gidafi. ferguwecuke gungge be ilime (*changed to: ilibume*) mutebuhe. tere fonde / Rossiya gurun-i gubci inu ambula geleme olhome hungkereme / dahahabi./ ejen tetele donjiha de urunakû amcame buyeršeme jendu (*changed to: dorgideri*) / acanarakûngge akû. ne-î (*i — cancelled*) ucarahe etenggi bata nenehe / baita ci ele nelehe (*changed to: dabinaha*) bime. / Dimitri han-i mujakû icihiyara de mangga baita be (*inserted: te de*) ereni (*cancelled, two other corrections are also cancelled: tede, te-i fonde*) / duibuleme (*changed to: duibuleci*) icihiyara de ele mangga ohobi. uttu de // [f. 3a] fafuršame hûkcure dailame afara de urunakû / beye nikenefi yabuci teni sain acara be tuwame wara jafara / oci teni mohobume sihafi wacihiyame mukiyebugi ombi. tereci / enduringge arga baturu (*changed to: šengge bodonggo*) horonggo (*added: linge*) hacingga tumen-i eljeme / afanduhai emgeri etere

bodogon be toktofi tuttu amba / gungge ilibuha yala / enduringge ejen tumen halai irgese de (*changed to: irgese-i jalin*) ebdereku (*added: be*) geterembufi / dergi abkai gosire kesi be alime mutefi. gurun-i gubci geren / irgese de isitala iooni gemu tukiyeme henduhengge muse (*changed to: meni beyese*) // [f. 3b] amba hûwangdi-i deserengge kesi be alihangge. urunakû tumen / aniya otolo ferguwen elden tutabuci ogoro yargiyan-i / dele-i gosin şenggin (*changed to: jurgan*)-i amba hûturi. inu / ejen-i gosin algin ambarame badarambure adali (*added: seme maktame hendure*) oci (*changed to na: ohore*) abkai / fejergi-i niyalma. gemu kesi fulehun (*added: be*) de baimbikai (*changed to: alimbikai*). aha (*changed to: amban*) / uthai te-i forgon-i ejeme araci acara baita / teisulebuhede. daci dubede songkolome hacin dendeme narhûşame / faksalafi isamjame banjibumbi (*changed to: banjibume*). jai aha (*changed to: amban*) jalan-i baita be / tuwaci. tumen aniya iooni hûwaliasun oho manggi. meimeni // [f. 4a] gurun-i irgen-i mujilen ele sain de isibure bithe / obufi geren gurun-i sahaliyan ujingga irgese gemu / buyen be ashûfi mujilen be silgiyafi. amba si yang ni / niyalma de isitala. elhe taifin be uhei alihakûngge / akû tumen irgen / dergi abkai kesi be giyošoşome baime / hûwangdi be yargiyan-i / abka be gingguleme dasan de kiceme mutehengge bahaci tumen aniya / otolo soorin de bibure. enteke kesi // [f. 4b] abka ci şangnabureo seme jalbarimbi. ere (*changed to: yaya*) jergi bisirele turgun be / aha (*changed to: amban bi*) gemu suduri bithei dorgide dosimbume banjibuki. erei / ejehengge gemu / ejen-i yabuha sain dasan. amgan niyalma de tutabuha / durun tuwakû. enteheme / enduringgei enen de / ujen jiramin-i kesi be ujui ninggude hukşehi. tumen / tumen aniya de isitala alhûdahai (*changed to: otolo*). jecen (*changed to: mohon*) akû de isinambikai (*changed to: alahûndambikai*). damu yerteşerengge. aha (*changed to: amban bi*) albatu mentuhun bengsen // [f. 5a] eberi fisembume banjibuhangge. getuken narhûn ogoro unde / uttu ofi gingguleme iletuleme wesimbure bithe arafi / dorolon (*changed to: dorolohame*) / donjibume wesimbuhe. jai suduri jise be gingguleme alibufi / ejen de tuwabuki. bairengge / enduringge ejen genggiyen (*added: -i*) bulekuşefi tuwancihiyame tokto bureo. aha (*changed to: amban*) / alimbaharakû golome sengguweme / hese be baimbi. erei jalin niyakûrafi / wesimbuhe //

Translation from Manchu following the corrections in the text

[f. 1a] Official Nikolay respectfully reports:

Following the Imperial order to compile the history of the state, I, humble person, with all my efforts have checked all the facts and after more than ten years have finished (writing the history). With respect I present the final version (of the text). [f. 1b] Submitting it for Imperial consideration, I humbly ask for corrections and instructions of the sage Monarch. With bound head I dare to think that I, an official of low grade, stupid and boor, had been bestowed an exceptional grace of the Monarch. That is why day and night I have worked selflessly. Heat and cold have changed each other many times, and after twelve years I have finished the draft of the book. [f. 2a] Starting from the year 1811 from the Nativity of Christ I have collected almost everything that I had heard or read from my birth in order to present all this to the Monarch.

This book begins with the time when Batyi-han invaded our state being known for his cruelty. Our blessed duke Dmitry Donskoy himself compiled a secret plan, not missing anything, himself collected selected and brave troops. [f. 2b] Relying on the Spirit of War, he destroyed bad enemy and performed miraculous feats of valor. At that time the whole Russian state was seized by fear, the leaders were persecuted(?), nobody met secretly. Now, when they faced a strong envy, all forces were collected. And when the duke Dmitry headed a great affair, everybody bravely set out. [f. 3a] They were fighting courageously unexpectedly attacking the enemy. When he caught the enemy, he killed him; when chased the enemy, he brought him to exhaustion and completely destroyed. Various fearsome, sagacious, divine heroes were fighting with numerous enemies, but once decided to win a victory, they accomplished a great feat.⁶ Indeed, the wise Monarch has destroyed the villain for the sake of ten thousand families of his state; have received the grace of the Heaven which has reached everyone in the state. Everybody was praying: may this mercy pour out [f. 3b] and may its light remain for ten thousand years, as well as great happiness of high and fair love. Indeed, the while spreads the fame of the Monarch's love, everybody in the Underheaven receives alms. I, an official, when compiled and wrote

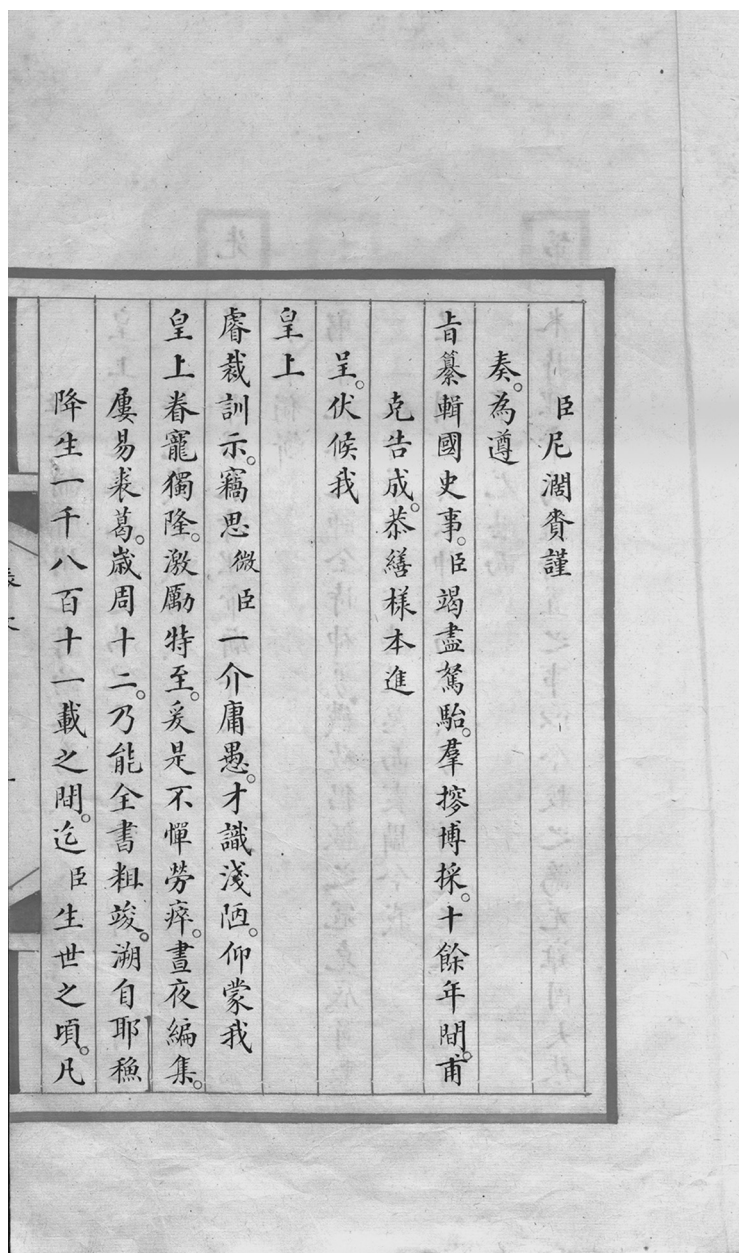
⁶ The battle on the Kulikov field on September 8, 1380.

down the events of our times, I thoroughly selected them and put into chapters in consecutive order. Then, I, an official, have checked all deeds of all generations that lived in peace for ten thousand years, wrote down about good and bad affairs of every people of the states; refused from the desires of common people of [f. 4a] these states, and with clear heart reached the peoples of great Siyang (Europe). Haven't they reached prosperity(?) Ten thousand people prayed for the grace of the Heaven asking for ten thousand years rule of the Emperor who venerates the Veritable Heaven. We pray for this Heaven grace.

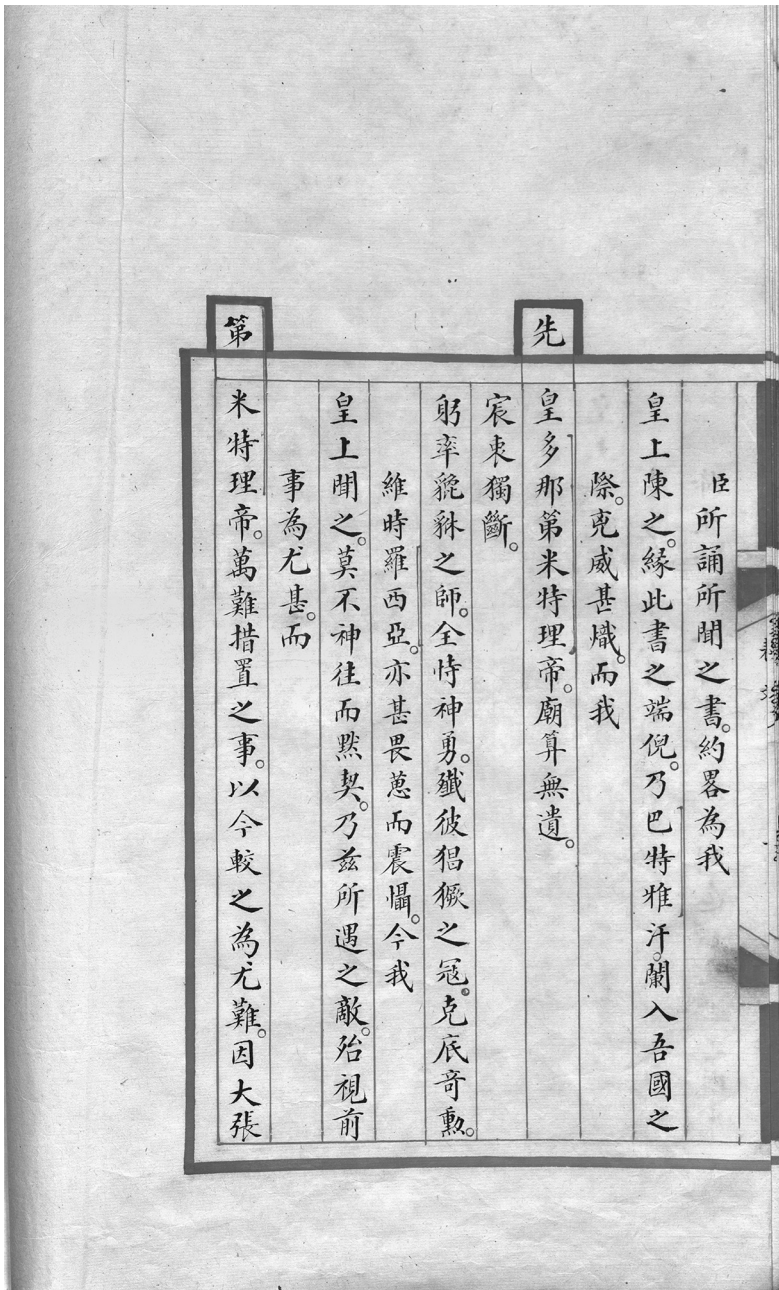
[f. 4b] That were the reasons why I, an official, have compiled this book of history. Everything what is written there will be an example for future generations and will be useful for good governing. May it be a sample for imitation to eternal sage coming generations for ten thousand years and forever.

[f. 5a] With great embarrassment I, an official, humble and stupid, have told and collected [the stories]. Though haven't made [the book] clear and well organized, I dare to report and present the book for the Monarch will look through the respectfully delivered the draft of the history. [I] humbly ask the sage Monarch to check, correct and approve [the book]. I, an official, am much timid and scared to receive the [imperial] decision. For this I report [to the Monarch] standing on my knees.

Dedication in Chinese



Pl. 10. НБ СПбГУ, Xyl. F-60, f. 1a



Pl. 11. НБ СПбГУ, Xyl. F-60, f. 1b

上

捷伐。必繫乎

親行。相機勦捕。乃可掃穴犁庭。於是

神謨武烈。多方捍禦。既握勝算。乃奏膚功。洵為我

皇上為萬姓除殘。克邀

天眷佑。遂及普地。人氏胥稱。我等景仰

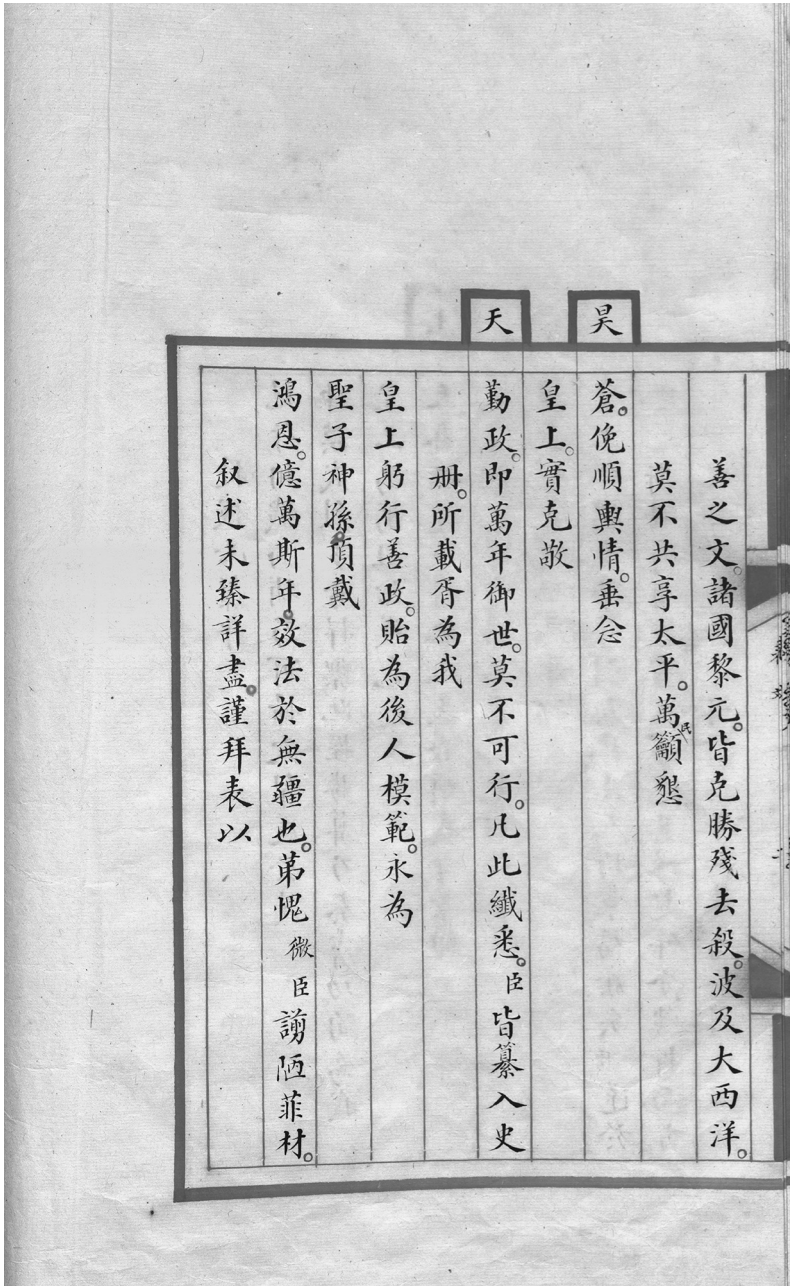
大皇帝之澤。實貽萬載之光明。誠

皇帝仁義之洪庥。亦似

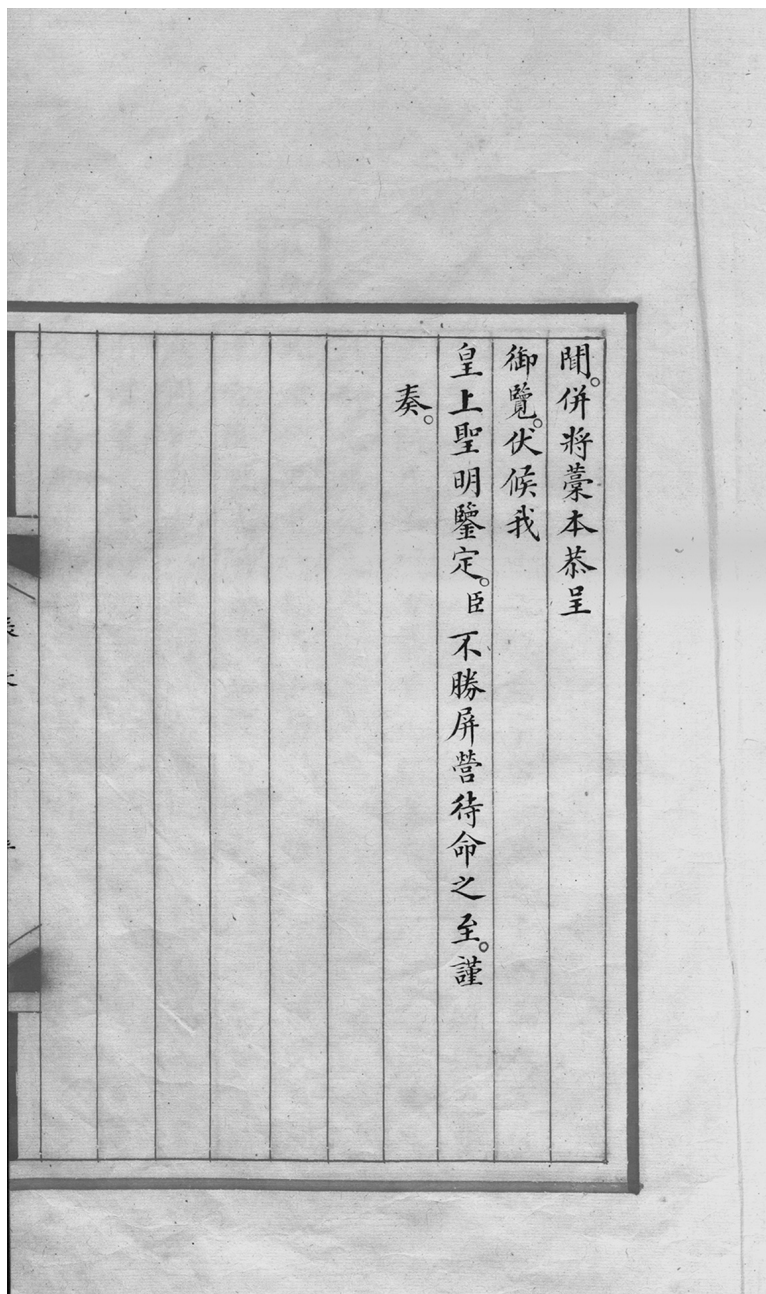
皇上仁聞之芳聲。則大地生人。均蒙福蔭矣。臣遂於

斯世。遇有可書之事。迺具緣起。條分縷析。而書

之。抑臣觀今事。因念萬年和睦。為各國民心益



Pl. 13. НБ СПбГУ, Xyl. F-60, f. 2b



Pl. 14. НБ СПбГУ, Xyl. F-60, f. 3a

[f. 1a] 臣尼濶賚謹奏為遵旨纂輯國史事。 臣竟盡驚駭。
 群摛博採。十餘年間。 甫克告成。 恭繕樣本進呈。
 伏候我皇上睿裁訓示。 窮思微臣一介庸愚。 才識淺陋。
 仰蒙我皇上眷寵獨隆。 激勵特至。 爰是不憚勞瘁。 晝夜編集。
 屢易裘葛。 歲周十二。 乃能全書粗竣。
 溯自耶穌降生一千八百十一載之間。 迄臣生世之頃。 凡 [f. 1b]
 臣所誦所聞之書。 約畧為我皇上陳之。 緣此書之端倪。
 乃巴特雅汗。闡 吾國之際。 兇威甚熾。 而我先皇多那第米特理帝。
 廟算無遺宸衷獨斷。 躬率貔貅之師。 全恃神勇。 殲彼猖獗之寇。
 克底竒動。 維時羅西亞。 亦甚畏憚而懼。 令我皇上聞之。
 莫不神往而默契。 乃茲所遇之敵。 殆視前事為尤甚。
 而第米特裏帝。 萬難措置之事。 以今較之為尤難。 因大張 [f. 2a]
 撻伐。 必擊乎親行。 相機剿捕。 乃可掃穴犁庭。 於是神謨武烈。
 多方捍禦。 既握勝算。 乃奏膚功。 洵為我皇上為萬姓除殘。
 克邀上天眷佑。 遂及普地人民胥稱。 我等景仰大皇帝之澤。
 實貽萬載之光明。 誠皇帝仁義之洪庥。 亦似皇上仁聞之芳聲。
 則大地生人。 均蒙福蔭矣。 臣遂於斯世。 遇有可書之事。
 跡其緣起。 條分縷析而書之。 抑臣觀今事。 因念萬年和睦。
 為各國民心益 [f. 2b] 善之文。 諸國黎元。 皆克勝殘去殺。
 波及大西洋。 莫不共享太平。 萬民籲懇吳蒼。 俛順輿情。
 垂念皇上。 實克敬天勤政。 即萬年禦世。 莫不可行。 凡此纖悉。
 臣皆纂入史冊。 所載胥為我皇上躬行善政。 貽為後人模範。
 永為聖子神孫頂戴。 鴻恩。 億萬斯年。 效法於無疆也。
 第愧微臣譎陋菲材。 敘述未臻詳盡。 謹拜表以 [f. 3a] 聞。
 併將藁本恭呈禦覽。 伏候我皇上聖明鑒定。 臣不勝屏營待命之至。
 謹奏。

Translation from Chinese

[f. 1a] The official Nikolay respectfully reports:
 Following the Imperial order to compile the history of the [Russian] state,
 I, humble person, with all my efforts have collected all the facts and after
 more than ten years can report on the end of the work. With respect I present

the final version of the book and ask for corrections and instructions of the sage Monarch. With bound head I dare to think that I, a humble person, stupid and boor, had been bestowed an exceptional grace of the Monarch and was greatly encouraged. That is why day and night I have worked selflessly compiling the History, changing winter to summer clothes many times, and after twelve years I have finished the draft of the book. Starting from 1811 from the Nativity of Christ I have collected almost everything that I had heard or read from my birth in order to present all this to the Monarch. [f. 1b] The reason why I started compilation of the book from the times when Batyi-han invaded our state being known for his cruelty. The duke Dmitry Donskoy himself decided to fight a battle and lead his brave troops. He defeated those rampant rebellions relying on [his] exceptional courage, and thus shook the foundations [of the Mongol rule]. Our Emperor knows that in those days Russia was in fear and embarrassment, he thought on the [history of the duke Dmitry] and understood it. But the war of Our Emperor was even more cruel⁷ than before. The duke Dmitry with great effort planed his strategy, while the war of our times was much difficult — it was not a battle, but a war. [f. 2a] The Emperor had to lead the war himself, and command according to the circumstances to win, completely destroy the enemy and push him from the country. Carefully planning, fighting bravely, protecting his forces (army), he was sure in his victory. Finally, he won a crushing victory. Indeed, Our Emperor has destroyed the villain for the sake of all peoples, and hence have received the grace of the Heaven and approval of the peoples of different countries. Peoples respect benevolence of our Emperor. Our Emperor has bestowed us with eternal light, happiness of imperial humanity and justice, as well as great happiness of high and fair love. Indeed, the while spreads the fame of the Monarch's love, and people everywhere receive alms. I live in the time which should be described. I have studied the roots of those events, collected them, and thoroughly put into chapters in consecutive order. That is how I saw the events and why it is necessary to preserve peace and eternal tranquility. I have compiled a book which would be useful to the peoples of different countries. [f. 2b] Common people of various states stopped fighting and killing, and that influenced on Europe. All peoples enjoy peace together. Ten thousand people prayed for the grace of the Heaven asking the Heaven to protect the Emperor. Our Emperor venerates the Heaven, rules diligently and protects the world. We

⁷ Karamzin speaks about the Russian war against Napoleon in 1812 and the battle of Borodino on September 7 (old style — August 26), 1812.

believe in it. I wrote about it in the book of History, and it contains the description of good government of my Emperor. It will be an example for future generations and will be useful for good governing. May it be a sample for imitation to eternal sage coming generations for ten thousand years and forever. With great embarrassment I, humble and stupid, though haven't made [the book] clear and well organized, [f. 3a] I dare to report and respectfully present the book for the Monarch. [I] humbly ask the sage Monarch to check, correct and approve [the book]. I am much timid and scared to receive the [imperial] decision. For this I report with respect [to the Monarch].

In “The History of the Russian State” the Dedication of Karamzin is addressed to the Russian tsar Alexander I, but the Manchu and Chinese texts are written according to the Chinese tradition of this genre, and actually they are interpretations of the Karamzin's original. The Manchu text is inserted only into the manuscript kept at the Scientific library of the St. Petersburg state university, the other copies of the translation are written entirely in Chinese. Zakhar Leontiyevsky follows the Chinese ethic rules referring to the Emperor calling himself 臣 — “your subject, official”, in Manchu version original *aha* — “a servant, slave” was changed to *amban* — “a subject, an official”. The main idea of Manchu and Chinese versions of the dedication is the importance of nourishing good moral qualities which help the monarch to fight against the enemy.

The translation of Karamzin's “History of Russian state” into Chinese was the first introduction of Russian history to the Chinese reader. The work by Zakhar Leontievsky have been kept in manuscript form for many years and only recently was published in China.⁸ The comparison of the original Karamzin's Dedication to the Russian tsar Alexander I with its Manchu and Chinese versions clearly shows the translator's way of interpretation of the text.

⁸ LIU RUOMEI 2021.

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Mark A. Kozintcev

The Letter of Tsar Peter I to Sultan Ahmed III on the Occasion of the End of the Northern War

Introduction, Translation from Ottoman-Turkish and Commentary

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Abstract: The Treaty of Nystad signed between Russia and Sweden put an end to the prolonged Northern War (1700–1721). Russia gained an access to the Baltic Sea, acquired new territories and strengthened its international prestige. In a letter written on September 30 (October 11), 1721, Tsar Peter I informs the Ottoman Sultan Ahmed III about Russian military and diplomatic success. Till nowadays, there is no information about the original letter, but its text has been preserved in translation into Ottoman-Turkish. The contents of the letter reflect the desire of the Russian Tsar, who had just finished a long war, to maintain good-neighborly relations with the Ottoman Empire. Being a source on the history of Russian-Turkish diplomatic relations, the letter is also an example of the Ottoman-Turkish language of the first half of the 18th c.

Key words: Great Northern War, Treaty of Nystad, Russia-Turkey relations, Russian-Turkish diplomatic correspondence, Ottoman manuscripts

The letter in question was written by the Russian Tsar Peter I shortly after the end of the Great Northern War (1700–1721). Russia gained an access to the Baltic Sea, acquired new territories and strengthened its international prestige. At the same time, the state was weakened by the long war. Therefore, one of Peter's concerns was to avoid military confrontation with the Ottoman Empire, relations with which were very tense at the beginning of the 18th c. The contents of the letter sent to the Ottoman Sultan Ahmed III (ruled 1703–1730) reflect this desire of the Russian Tsar.

The letter is a part of the manuscript known as “İbretnümâ-yı Devlet-i Câvid” (“Instruction to the State by Jâvid”),¹ kept at the Rare Works Library

© Mark A. Kozintcev, Institute of Oriental Manuscripts, Russian Academy of Sciences; HSE University (m.kozintcev@mail.ru)

¹ Jâvid is listed as the compiler of the manuscript by mistake. See KESBİ 2002: XXIX–XXXI.

of Istanbul University (shelf mark: İÜNEKTY 5943). The manuscript includes texts of different official documents copied by an Ottoman official who wrote under the pseudonym Kesbî. The documents were used by this Turkish historiographer in his work “İbretnümâ-yı Devlet” (“Instruction to the State”). The manuscripts of this work have been preserved in Istanbul,² Paris and St. Petersburg.³ Writing his work, Kesbî did not use all the material available to him; many documents, including the letter in question, were not introduced into the final text. The letter of Peter I was copied by the historiographer along with some other samples of diplomatic correspondence. Among them are letters from Russian monarchs: Anna Ioannovna (ruled 1730–1740), Ivan VI (formally ruled 1740–1741), Elizabeth Petrovna (ruled 1741–1762), Catherine II (ruled 1762–1796), as well as from rulers and diplomats of some European and Asian states.

As indicated in the text itself, the letter is dated by September 30 (October 11),⁴ 1721. It seems that this is one of the last letters to foreign monarchs written by Tsar Peter before accepting the title of “Emperor of All Russia” on October 22 (November 2), 1721. Translation of the letter allows to see the differences of the title of the Russian Tsar before it was officially changed to the Emperor.⁵ Besides, some features of the translation of the monarchic title into the Ottoman-Turkish can be seen.

² The text of Kesbî’s work “İbretnümâ-yı Devlet” was published in 2002 by Ahmet Öğreten based on the manuscript Ali Emîri, Tarih nr. 484 kept at the National Library of Turkey. The text of the manuscript İÜNEKTY 5943 was also included into the publication. See KESBÎ 2002. Unfortunately, the publication does not contain a facsimile reproduction of the Ottoman-Turkish text in Arabic script. I express my gratitude to the colleagues from the Rare Works Library, Library and Documentation Department of Istanbul University who kindly provided me with a digital copy of the manuscript İÜNEKTY 5943.

³ One of the later copies of “İbretnümâ-yı Devlet” is kept in the collection of the Institute of Oriental Manuscripts, RAS (Collection of manuscripts written in Arabic script, shelf mark: B 747). In 1881 it was published by Vassily D. Smirnov (1846–1922). See *Sbornik* 1881.

⁴ Until 1918, the Julian calendar was officially used in Russia. The corresponding dates in the Gregorian calendar are given in parentheses.

⁵ According to Peter’s decree, issued on November 11 (November 22), 1721, the title of the Emperor of All Russia in the correspondence with foreign sovereigns had to be written as follows: “By the Grace and Aid of God, We Peter the First, Emperor and Sovereign of All Russia, of Moscow, Kiev, Vladimir, Novgorod; Tsar of Kazan, Tsar of Astrakhan, Tsar of Siberia; Sovereign of Pskov and Grand Duke of Smolensk; Duke of Estland, Lifland, Korelia, Tver, Yugria, Permia, Vyatka, Bolgary and others; Sovereign and Grand Duke of Novgorod of the Lower Land, Chernigov, Ryazan, Rostov, Yaroslavl, Beloozero, Udoria, Obdoria, Kondia, and Ruler of all Northern territories; and Sovereign of Iberia, Kartalinian and Georgian Tsars; and hereditary Sovereign and Ruler of the Kabardinian lands, Circassian and Mountain Princes and others.” See *Polnoe sobranie* 1830: No. 3850.

Most of the names of Russian cities and territories are transliterated accurately. However, in some cases, the Turkish translator resorts to transliterating the words that should be translated. This refers, for instance, to the words “cümle Siveryâ memleketlerinin” which definitely should be translated as a “(Ruler) of all Northern territories”. Another example is “Novgrod’in, Nijoya’nın” which can be recognized as Nizhny Novgorod (in the original the city’s name “Novgorod of the Lower Land” is used). The Tsar’s title of Grand Duke, which in the letters of later monarchs is usually translated as “Büyük Duka”, here is partly transliterated, partly translated, and looks like “Büyük Knez”. Similarly, the Russian interpreters from Ottoman-Turkish in the Ambassadorial Office, when unable to find synonyms for the Sultan’s titles, transliterated them. For instance, the Ottoman title of Persian origin “Hudâvendigâr” (‘the second or the other God’, ‘godlike’) was never translated: it was usually rendered in various distorted forms (“Khandyker”, “Khanker”, etc.) in Cyrillic script. At the same time, in the absence of the original text, this approach allows, if necessary, to recreate it accurately enough.⁶

The text of the letter contains the names of the territories conquered by Russia during the war. Despite the peculiarities of Arabic script, toponyms are transmitted quite accurately and can be easily recognized. They include such regions as Liflandia,⁷ Estlandia,⁸ Ingermanlandia⁹ and half of Karelia, as well as the largest and most significant cities and fortresses: Riga, Dünamünde,¹⁰ Pernov,¹¹ Revel,¹² Dorpat,¹³ Narva, Vyborg, Kexholm.¹⁴

⁶ ZAYTSEV 2006: 56.

⁷ Before 1713 — Swedish Livonia; now its territory partly lies in Latvia, partly in Estonia.

⁸ Northern part of today’s Estonia.

⁹ Historical region which now lies within the territory of Leningrad Oblast, Russia.

¹⁰ Daugavgrīvas fortress near Riga, Latvia.

¹¹ Now Pärnu, Estonia.

¹² Now Tallinn, Estonia.

¹³ Now Tartu, Estonia.

¹⁴ Now Priozersk, Russia.

The text in Ottoman-Turkish (Pl. 1–3)

۱۵۱۱۳۴ سنه ذو القعدة سیدر ۲۵ (f. 146 v.) مسقو جاری طرفندن کلان نامه سی ترجمه سیدر ۲۵ ذو القعدة سنه ۱۱۳۴¹⁵
 بز پتروس الکسیوج که بعنایتہ اللہ تعالیٰ مسقوک جاری تماماً بیوک | و کوچک روسک مستقل
 حاکی کیویانک ولاده مریانک نووگرادیانک | بیوک کنزی قزانک اژدرخانک سپریانک چاری
 پسقویانک | اسمولنجقیانک طوه ریانک اوغوریانک پرمیانک | بولغاریانک نورغروک¹⁶ نژیوانک
 وتوابع دیارلرک | جرنحویانک رژیانانک روستویانک یاروسلاویانلری | پلوژیانک اوبدوریانک
 اودوریانک قوندنیانک وجمله | سوریا مملکتلرینک واپوه ریانک مالکی قرطالک غرو[ژک] |
 (f. 147 r.) حاکیلرینک حاکی قباردیانک جرکسک وسائر شرق وغرب وشمالده | واقع نجه
 بکلکیرک ویرلرک حاکی وصاحب ووارثیوز طرفمزدن | اعظم سلاطین عظام واکرم حواقین کرام
 مکة مکرمه مدینه منوره | وققدس مبارکه نک پادشاهی وحامیسی اناتولی وروم ایلینک اقدکز |
 وقره دکنک وسائر نجه مملکتلرک صاحب ومالک ووارثی اولان | شوکتلو عظمتلو قدرتلو شهنشاه
 معظم پادشاه ال عثمان سلطان احمد خان | بن سلطان محمد خان بن سلطان ابراهیم خان اولو
 دوستمز حضرتلرینک طرف همایونلرنه | دوستانه عرض خلوص ابلاغندن صکره محبانه انها
 اولنان بودر که بتقدیر | خدای لایزال نیجه مدّت بو دوستکز واسوج قرالی بیننده نائره جنک |
 وجدال اشعال و حرب و قتال مشدد وممتد اولوب بعنایتہ اللہ تعالیٰ | الانه شقاق ونفاق ودّ وفاقه
 مبدل وبرودت عداوت | مودّته محوّل اولمق میسر اولمغله ارادت خدای متعال تعلق ایدوب |
 طرفیندن مرخصلر نضب وتعیین ونشتاد نام محل مکالمه ایچون | امتیاز ومحل مرقومه جمع
 اولندقده بعد مکالمه والمذاکره الی الیوم | قرالغندن ضرب دستمز ایله اخذ وقبض ایلدیکمز
 ایالتلر که لفلانديا | اسلانديا کرمولانديا وقره لیانک نصفی وبونلره تلبع ولاحق | سواحل
 وشهرستان ریغا دینامند پرنّاو رۆل درپت ناروا | ویبورغ کشغولم جمله نواحی وجزایرلیله ضبط
 وتصرفمده قالمق اوزره | اشبو میلاد حضرت عیسانک بیک یدپوز یکریمی برنجی سنه سنده ماه |
 اغستوسک اوتوز دردنجی کوننده تأییدا مصالحه و مسالمه عقد اولنوب | ختام وفیصل ویرلمکله
 جناب همایونلریله ارامزده نشو ونما بولان | موالاته مؤبده ومصافات مؤکده یه بناءً وطرف
 پادشاهانه لرینه | واقع کمال میل ومحبتمزى اظهاراً جمله دن اقدام اشبو صداقت نامه مز ایله |
 اخبار واعلامده تکاسل روا کورلمیوب افاده سی تعجیل اولندی وبو خبر دوستلغه | بناءً مقبول
 همایونلری اوله جغنده اشتباهمز یوقدر بناءً علی ذلك | (f. 147 v.) حالا در دولت علیه لرنده
 اقامت اوزره اولان قپوکتخدازم دخی احوال مرقومه بی | علی التفصیل لساناً عرض واعلامه
 مأموردرد وبوندن بویله ارامزده اولان | دوستلق واتفاق کمال خلوص وطویّت برله الی الابد

¹⁵ The title of the letter added by the compiler as well as the Sultan's name printed in bold here, in the manuscript are written in red ink.

¹⁶ Should be read: نووغرودک.

طرفمزدن مرعی ومخرم | طوتله جغنه ارتياب بيورلميوب طرف پادشاهانه لرندن دخی کماينبغی مصافات | وموالاتک رعایت واحترامنده همت ملوکانه لری درکار بيورلمق ملحوظدر | وطرفينک رعایا وبراياسنک مصالحه مؤبده نک مقتضاسنجه آسوده | حاللقلری وراحت وامنيتلریچون زیر دست وحکومتکرده اولنلره | علی الخصوص طوائف تاتاره بر در خسارت وایصال مضرتدن احتراز واجتنبابلی | ایچون محکم تنبیه اولنمق التماس اولنور طرفمزدنخی زیر دستمزده اولنلره حقوق | جواری کمال مرتبه ده مراعاتلریچون محکم ومؤکد تنبیهلر اصدار ایلدک باقی | حق تعالی حضرتلری جناب همایونلریبی سریر سلطنتلرنده طول عمر ایله معمر ایلیه | میلاد حضرت عیسانک بیک یدییوز یکریمی برنجی سنه سنده ماه | ایلوک اوتوزنجی کوننده چارلغمزک قرقنجی سنه سنده پتیه بورغ نام شهریمزده تحریر اولنمشدر

Transcription

(f. 146 v.) **Moskov Çarı tarafından gelen nâmesi tercemesidir. 25 Zi'l-ka'de sene 1134 |**

Biz Petrûs Aleksiyâvic ki bi-inâyeti'l-lâhi teâlâ Moskov'un Çarı tamâmen Büyük | ve Küçük Rus'un müstakıl hâkimi Kiyevyâ'nın, Vlâdemiryâ'nın, Nôvgrâdyâ'nın | Büyük Knezi, Kazân'ın, Ajderhân'ın, Sipiryâ'nın Çarı, Piskovyâ'nın, | Esmûlenkyâ'nın, Tıveryâ'nın, Ogûryâ'nın, Permyâ'nın, | Bûlgaryâ'nın, Nôrgrôd'ın (sic!)¹⁷, Nijjôyâ'nın ve tevâbi' diyârların, | Cernihovyâ'nın, Rijânyâ'nın, Rôstovyâ'nın Yârôslâvyânları (sic!), | Plôjriyâ'nın (sic!),¹⁸ Obdôryâ'nın, Odôryâ'nın, Kôndinyâ'nın ve cümle | Siveryâ memleketlerinin ve Apôhriyâ'nın Mâliki, Kartâl'ın, Grû[j]ın || (f. 147 r.) hâkimlerinin Hâkimi, Kabârdiyâ'nın, Çerkes'in ve sâir şark ve garb ve şimâlde | vâkı' nice beyliklerin ve yerlerin Hâkimi ve Sâhib ve Vârisiyüz. Tarafımızdan | a'zam-ı selâtîn-i izâm ve ekrem-i havâkin-i kirâm, Mekke-i mükerreme, Medîne-i münevvere | ve Kuds-i mübârekenin Pâd-şâhi ve Hâmisi, Anadolu ve Rumeli'nin, Akdeniz | ve Karadeniz'in ve sâir nice memleketlerin Sâhib ve Mâlik ve Vârisi olan | şevketlü azametlü kudretlü Şehinşâh-ı mu'azzam, Pâd-şâh-ı âl-i Osmân **Sultân Ahmed Hân** | bin Sultân Mehmed Hân bin Sultân İbrâhim Hân ulu dostumuz hazretlerinin taraf-ı hümâyûnlarına | dostâne arz-ı hulûs iblâğından sonra muhibbâne inhâ olunan

¹⁷ Should be read: *Nôvgorôd'ın*.

¹⁸ Should be read: *Belôzeryâ'nın*.

budur ki bi-takdîr-i | hüdâ-yı lâ-yezâl nîce müddet bu dostunuz ve İsvec Kralı beyninde nâ'ire-i ceng | u cidâl iş'âl ve harb u kıtâl-i müştedd ve mümtedd olup bi-inâyetihi'l-lâhi teâlâ | el-ânehû şikak u nifâk vedd u vifâka mübeddel ve bürüdet <u> adâvet | meveddete muhavvel olmak müyesser olmağla irâdât-ı hudâ-yı müteâl taalluk edüp | tarafeynden murahhaslar nasb u ta'yîn ve Nişâd nâm mahal mükâleme için | imtiyâz ve mahall-i merkuma cem' olundukda ba'de'l-mükâleme ve'l-müzâkere ile'l-yevm | krallığından darb-ı destimiz ile ahz u kabz eylediğimiz eyâletler ki Liflândiyâ, | İslândiyâ, Kermûlândiyâ ve Kareliyâ'nın nısfı ve bunlara tâbi' ve lâhık | sevâhil ve şehristân Rîgâ, Dînâmend, Pernâv, Revel, Dörpt, Nârvâ, | Vîpürg, Kişgûlm cümle nevâhî ve cezâyirleriyle zabt u tasarrufumda kalmak üzere | işbu Mîlâd-ı Hazret-i İsâ'nın bin yediyüz yigirmi birinci senesinde mâh-ı | Ağustosun otuz dördüncü (*sic!*) gününde te'yi'den musâlaha ve müsâleme akd olunup | hitâm u feysal verilmekle cenâb-ı hümâyûnlarıyla aramızda neşv ü nemâ bulan | muvâlât-ı müebbede ve musâfât-ı müekkedeye binâen ve taraf-ı pâd-şâhânelerine | vâkı' kemâl-i meyl ü muhabbetimizi izhâren cümleden akdem işbu sadâkat-nâmemiz ile | ihbâr u i'lâmda tekâsül revâ görülmeyüp ifâdesi ta'cîl olundu. Ve bu haber dostluğa | binâen makbûl-ı hümâyûnları olacağında iştibâhımız yokdur. Binâen alâ-zâlik || (*f. 147 v.*) hâlâ Der-i Devlet-i Aliyyelerinde ikamet üzere olan kapukethüdâmız dahi ahvâl-i merkumeyi | ale't-tafsîl lisânen arz u i'lâma me'mûrdır. Ve bundan böyle aramızda olan | dostluk ve ittifâk, kemâl-i hulûs ve taviyyet birle ile'l-ebed tarafımızdan mer'î ve mahrem | tutulacağına irtiyâb buyurulmayup taraf-ı pâd-şâhânelerinden dahi kemâ-yenbağı müsâfât | u müvâlâtın ri'âyet ve ihtirâmında himmet-i mülûkâneleri derkâr buyurulmak melhûzdır. | Ve tarafeynin re'âyâ u berâyâsının musâlaha-i müebbedenin muktezâsınca âsûde-|hâllıkları ve râhat u emniyyetleriyçün zîr-i dest ü hükûmetinizde olanlara | ale'l-husûs Tavâif-i Tatar'a bir dür hasâret u îsâl-i mazarratdan ihtirâz ve ictinâbları | için muhkem tenbîh olunmak iltimâs olunur. Tarafımızdan dahi¹⁹ zîr-i destimizde olanlara hukuk-ı | civârî kemâl mertebede mürââtlarıçün muhkem ü müekked tenbîhler ısdâr eyledik. Bâki | Hakk teâlâ hazretleri cenâb-ı hümâyûnlarını serîr-i saltanatlarında tûl-ı ömr ile mu'ammer eyleye. | Mîlâd-ı Hazret-i İsâ'nın bin yediyüz yigirmi birinci senesinde mâh-ı | Eylûlün otuzuncu gününde Çarlığıımızın kırkıncı senesinde Petreburg nâm şehrimizde tahrîr olunmuşdur.

¹⁹ In the manuscript it is written together with the previous word.

له بشی خطمانی کند و منصفیده کال اول قائم اول نویزیم بشفه جوت عمده طرفین اعتدال
 و اشاعه اولشان اراده عقیدت مفضضا سنجیم له یونک سزوط سزوستیلدی
 محافظه و صیانتی امرزه الالان امکانی مرتبه مناسبت اظهار تمسکین
 خطمان مومالی بهک تامورا و مسکت یوار الفظه بتلاقات و بلا سئوب
 انضراف خصوصی له بکراه سنک حرکات مرضیه حمل اولوب بشی خطمانی
 یوشلر تحقیق کونه معامده مخالفی اولدی فرقیه موجب انشراح و غور برجات
 اول نویزیم بشفه له بشی خطمانی طرفیزه انسانه اصاده بیث اولدی کلان
 له بکراه لرر و له جمهوریت قیوتلر لرر و لایقین عودت ایتدی کدره
 زاس حدوده و ارنجه نقیله کونم اقتضا ایزم عوبه و بار کبر و سانه لازمه سنک
 انعام و احسانی جوت عقیده نیک داب قریب لرر فی اولدی منظر حصور ایزم
 یورلورده جوت عقیده ایزمونه کمال اخلاص و اختصاصی توصیفه لایق
 و جمهوریت قواعد قریبه لرر محافظه و صیانتی امرزه جیت و عقیده تحسینه
 موافق اولدی بشی خطمانک مالامه مذکور ایزم له بکراه سنک و
 انضراف تغلب و اعیسنده اولدی فرقه به موجب هرور و بشی خطمانه
 سبب مرآت اولدیق نامولیده شان و الا نشان کریمه لرره و زالی
 مرزین مساطف قرین اصفانه لرره حواله و نقولین فنون بانی خطان
 مسقوجاری طرفین کلان نامه ترجمه سوره ۵۵ و ۵۶

بز بنردوس الکسیویچ که بعنایه الله تعالی مسقوک جاری ناما کیموت
 دو کولک روسک مسقل عالمی کیویانک ولاده مریانک نوغورایانک
 یوک کنزی قرانک ازور خانک سپر بانک جاری بسقویانک
 اسمولنجقیانک طوبه رایانک اوغورایانک هر میانک
 بولغاربانک نوغوروت تیزویانک و توابع و بار لرک
 جرنجویانک رزانیانک دوستوبانک باروسلا و یاندرک
 پوز رایانک اویدورایانک او دوربانک فونزنیانک و جله
 سوربا مکلدرنیک واپوه رایانک مالکی قریطانک غوزنک

مسقوجاری

Pl. 1.

۱۰۴
۱۰۹

حاکم دینک حاکمی قبادیانک جوکک دسان شرق و غرب و شماله
 داغ نیجه بکلکرت و برکت حاکمی و صاحب دوارشوز طرغوزن
 اعظم سلاطین عظام و اکرم جوانین کرام مکّه مکرمه مدینه منوره
 و قدس مبارکک نیک بادشاهی و صاحبی انانطو دردم بیک آفدکن
 و قره دکنک دسان نیجه مملکت صاحب و مالک و وارث اولک
 شوکتو عظمو فرزندشاه معظم پادشاه عثمان کط احمدخان
 بن کطان محمدخان بن کط ابراهیم کات او کونفر حضرت نیک طرف هایدیز
 دوستانه عرض خصی باعزت صکه محبانه انانان بودرک تقدیر
 خدای لایزال بنجهدت بود و سکر داسوج خال بنده نره حک
 و جوال اشغال و حرب و قتال مشند و عمد اولوب بعثت انفق
 الایه شفاق و نفاق و در و فاقه تبدل و هر دورت عداوت
 سوره محول و لقی سیر و لغنه ارادت خدای شغال تعلق اربوب
 طرفینه و حضرت نص و تعیین و نشاند نام محل مکالمه بکون
 امتیاز و محل مرقوم جمع اولوفه بولمکاله و المذکره الایوم
 قرالغنه صذب و سترابه اخذ و صیق ایوکیز ایاناکره لغلا نیا
 اسل نیا کر مولانیا قره لیا نیک لقی و یوندره جمع و لایحق
 سواصل و شهرت کربغا دینا مند پیرنا و رول درت ناروا
 و بیورغ کش غولم حمد نواج و جزیر بریم ضبط و تصرفه قالمق اوزره
 اشوبلاد حضرت عیسانک بیک بدیوز بدیمی بدیجی سنه سنه ماه
 اغتوسک ارفوز دردی کونزه تابیلدا مصالحه و مساله عقد اولوب
 ختام و فیصل در بیکه جناب هایدیز اراندر نشودرنا بولان
 سواله موبده و مصافات مؤکده ببناء و طرف پادشاهانه لرینه
 واقع کمال میل و محترم اظهار حمد و ذم اقدم اشوبلاد فتنه مزایم
 اخبار و اعداده نکاس راکور لوب فاقه تمجیل اولور و بدیجی حقیقه
 بناء مقبول هایدیز اوله جفنده اشبا همز یوقدر بناء علمی ذکرت

Pl. 2.

حالا در دولت عمیده روزه اقامت اولی قیومت از و غیر احوال مرقوم بی
 عی الشفیع الشا عرضی و اعدامه نامور در و بونزه بویه اراضه اولی
 حوسنی و انفاق کمال خلوص و طوبی برله الالاب طرفه زرعی و محرم
 طوبیه جیفه ارباب بولوب طرف با دشانا زرمه دخی کما بنی مصفا
 و موالانک رعایت و احسانه همت ملکانه زر در کار بولوبی محظور
 و طرفینک رعایا و برابانک مصالحه مؤبدیه نک منفضا بنی امور
 حالله در و راحت و استیجابون زیرک و حکومته اوده
 عی المحضی طوائف ناره بردخسارت و ایصال مصلحتون احضار و احضار
 ابجون حکم نوبه الوفق العالی و لوز طرفه زرعی زیر و مقروض اوده حقوق
 جواری کمال مریه مرا عا بنی حکم و مؤکد نسیه اصدار بوک باقی
 حق نقضه در جنابها بوندی سر بر سطنده طول عمر ابد معمرایه
 میدار حضرت عیسانک یک بیوز بری ریگی نه سزواه
 ابولک ادنورچی کوزه جبارتک فرقی سینه پیره بوغیم نه بیزه بوزنده
 رهابها بون نه باری مسعود جابکم طرفینک کلا نامه نک زرعیه
 اعظم س طین عظام و اکرم خواقین کرام شوکتو عظمتو قدرتمو
 شهنشاه معظم که ملک مکره و مدینه موره بارشاهی و قوس مبارک
 حامسی اندک و زده ذکرک و در دمی دان طوره بنج مالک صیغه قضا
 مالکی السط ابن السط سله محمود بن کلا مصطفی ان اولور دوزخه زرعیه
 حضورها بون شوکت و قدره بزا دانکه بعینه الله تعالی روس ملکد بانک
 امیر طریکم مسعود بانک نیوی بانک اولور دوزخه بانک نو خود بانک
 قازانک اذره بانک سپه بانک بسفد بانک اسمو محفونک
 استویانک لودیانک قدر لسانک او پور بانک قوزنیانک
 و شالوه واقع نیجه برکت جابکم و غنودوسی و ابور بانک
 و قار طابک و غوزلشم و قیاردیانک و جوق شایانک
 و طاعت نک هاکه سی و کله بیوز طرفینک المشار به جناب

بیگانه
 بیگانه

Translation

Translation of the letter from the Russian Tsar. 25 Dhu al-Qa'dah 1134

We Petrus Alekseevich,²⁰ by the Grace of God, Tsar of Moscow, Sovereign of All Great and Small Russia, Grand Duke of Kiev, Vladimir, Novgorod; Tsar of Kazan, Astrakhan, Siberia; Sovereign of Pskov, Smolensk, Tver, Yugria, Permia, Bolgary, Novgorod of the Lower Land, and others; Chernigov, Ryazan, Rostov, Yaroslavl, Bielo-ozero, Obdoria, Udoria, Kondia, and Ruler of all Northern territories; <Sovereign> of Iberian lands, Ruler of Kartalinian and Georgian rulers; hereditary Sovereign, and Ruler of Kabardinian, Circassian, and many other provinces and lands in the East, West, and North. From our side, to the Greatest of the Great Sultans and the Most Venerable of the Glorious Rulers, the Sovereign of Monarchs and the Protector of Mecca the Honored, Medina the Enlightened, and the Holy City of Jerusalem; hereditary Sovereign, and Ruler of Anatolia and Rumelia, the White and the Black Seas and many other places; Monarch of the House of Osman, **Sultan Ahmed Khan**, the son of Sultan Mehmed Khan, the son of Sultan Ibrahim Khan; our great friend His Royal Majesty, with the announcement of the most sincere friendship, the following is amicably proclaimed. Without the approval of the Almighty God, for such a long time hot battles and fights between your above-mentioned friend and the Swedish King had been flaring up and protracted wars and murders had been carried out. At the same time, as, by God's grace, it became possible to turn discord and strife to friendship and consent and to change cooling and hostility to amity, which refers to the permission of the Great God, delegates were appointed and approved from both sides, and a place called Nystad was chosen for negotiations, and when they gathered in that place, then, after discussion and conversation to this day, by the power of our hands, we have annexed from his kingdom such lands as Liflandia, Estlandia, Ingermanlandia and half of Karelia, and the adjacent coasts related to them. And the large cities of Riga, Dünamünde, Pernov, Revel, Dorpat, Narva, Vyborg, Kexholm with all districts and islands have been conquered and they will

²⁰ A latinized version of the name "Piotr" (Russian for: Peter) is used. Tsar's patronymic is given in transliteration.

remain in my possession, in confirmation of which on August thirty fourth²¹ of this year of our Lord seventeen hundred twenty one, peace was established and at the same time the end and resolution were laid. On the basis of the growing and developing eternal friendly ties between Your Royal Majesty with us, first of all, with this message of our devotion, we hasten to express our highest degree of affection and love to Your Imperial Majesty, carelessness in the expression of which we do not consider appropriate. And we have no doubt that this news, based on amity, will be received joyfully. Therefore, our representatives, currently residing in Your High State, have been instructed to inform <You> in detail verbally. And because of this, the endless friendship and unity that exists between us, along with the most sincere intentions, is not subjected to any secret or obvious doubts from our part, and from Your Royal part, the consent of the undoubted royal favor in respect and reverence of friendly ties is also expected, as it should be. And in accordance with the eternal peace it is requested that for the serenity, security and welfare of the subjects on both sides, it should be strongly prescribed especially to the Tatar tribes that are under Your subjection and authority, that they avoid and refrain from causing any harm and damage. On our part, we have also issued strict decrees to ensure that those who are in our subjection, respect to the highest degree the rights of their neighbors. May the Almighty God send down from His bounty in the splendor of His kingdom a prosperous health throughout <Your> life. Recorded on the thirtieth of September, in the year of our Lord seventeen hundred twenty one, in the fortieth year of our reign in our city of Petersburg.

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²¹ The word “four” is clearly a scribe’s mistake. The Treaty of Nystad between Russia and Sweden was signed on August 30 (September 10), 1721.

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