

TEXTS AND MANUSCRIPTS: DESCRIPTION AND RESEARCH

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UNKNOWN SANSKRIT FRAGMENTS FROM CENTRAL ASIA

I. DIDACTIC FRAGMENTS

This fragment is preserved in the Central Asian fund of the manuscript department of the St. Petersburg Branch of the Institute of Oriental Studies under the call number SI B/24, 14. It was found in the region of Kucha, at the site of On Bash Minuj by Russian explorer M. M. Berezovsky in 1907.

The size of the fragment: 9.0×8.0 cm. It is a part of a *poṭhī* type folio of brown paper, its left and right edges are missing. On each of its sides it has eight lines in Sanskrit, which are written in the fourth century Indian Brāhmī script. Since this and the next text form no recognizable context, for this reason we give here only transliteration.

Transliteration

Recto (?)

1. ...] *śr[]pam. śrīr-hatāha X [*
2. ...] *sya ca viniggrahaḥ etat-pavitram X [*
3. ...] *dām laṅghāyanti ca. pānaṃ prasaktā X [*
4. ...] *svargāc-ca varcānām strī-pprasaktā []i [*
5. ...] *-tr-bhyaśca bharatarṣabha.anyabhyā [m] [*
6. ...] *śyān-naḍo naiśadha-puṅgavaḥ yudhiṣṭhira [*
7. ...] *sata marati vardhanam asatā matra jā [*
8. ...] *X X varātaka vyasanādhi X X [*

Verso (?)

1. ...] *X X jitā doṣāni hatā ssa [*
2. ...] *X ⊕ puruṣo ^[1] na sukhaṃ vindate kvacit tall [*
3. ...] *prajñayāpāyitaṃ budhaḥ śrutena teja [*
4. ...] *puttram-āttra-jñō vicakṣaṇaḥ aśakyam [*
5. ...] *lobhād-aiḍa ⊕ purūravāḥ brahmasva [*
6. ...] *sya vaśago bhavat sobhinad-bhāratī [*
7. ...] *X śśriyaman-uttamām vadhaṃ duryodhana [*
8. ...] *X X dutaḥ lobha ⊕ prajñāma[ma?] [*

There is another fragment linking to the first one, from the same manuscript but of another leaf, the right side of a *poṭhī* type folio. The paper, the script and the

handwriting are the same. It is smaller than the first one: 7.5×7.0 cm. Of the eight lines only seven have partly survived.

Transliteration

Recto

1. ...] *X X [10]*
2. ...] *bhūya evābhivardhate. [11]*
3. ...] *-[nī?]tvā jaya-parājayau [12]*
4. ...] *ya paṇḍitair-ap[r]atvakṣitam 1[3]*
5. ...] *ptato yuddhaṃ pravartate. 14*
6. ...] *śo X-i kaścanaḥ 15*
7. ...] *liyasām. [16]*
8. ...] *ṣiṇaḥ 17*

Verso

1. ...] *kṣaṇaḥ 1[8]*
2. ...] *[t]tarāḥ 19*
3. ...] *X d- X X śyati. 20*
4. ...] *X diśo gacchanti tadgatāḥ 21*
5. ...] *yuddhamabhikāmkṣase. 22*
6. ...] *yaṃ prāpya naśyati. 23*
7. ...] *[catu] sviṅśatimaḥ 24 ⊕ 24*
8. ...] *X X X X X X X X*