



THE MANICHAEAN DICTIONARY PROJECT

by Dr Gunner Mikkelsen

In November 1999, Professor Nicholas Sims-Williams, School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London, was awarded a grant of over £0.5 million by the Arts and Humanities Research Board (AHRB) for a five-year research project on a "Dictionary of Manichaean Texts". The first volume of the Dictionary was published by Brepols in Spring 1999 [nominally 1998]: Sarah Clackson, Erica Hunter, Samuel Lieu in collaboration with Mark Vermes, *Dictionary of Manichaean Texts, Vol. 1: Texts from the Roman Empire (Texts in Syriac, Greek, Coptic and Latin)*. The SOAS project has as its primary aim the compilation of the final two volumes of the Dictionary: Vol. 2: *Texts from Central Asia and China* (covering texts and citations in Syriac, Arabic and Zoroastrian Middle Persian) and Vol. 3: *Texts from Central Asia and China* (covering texts in Middle and New Persian, Parthian, Sogdian, Bactrian, Old Turkish, Tocharian and Chinese). Like Volume 1, these volumes will consist of a series of glossaries to edited Manichaean texts – and historical, institutional, literary and polemical texts concerning the Manichaeans and their religion – in the individual languages. A consolidated English index at the end of the final volume will make it possible to locate all available material on any name, term or concept, whatever the language of the text in which it occurs.

The working plan for the project involves in the first place the creation of a relational database of all the published Manichaean material in the relevant languages. Where possible, the accuracy of the published texts will be checked by reference to photos or to the original manuscripts, and each word of the text will be provided with translation, grammatical analysis and essential references to secondary literature. It is hoped that, in addition to publishing the Dictionary in printed form, it will be possible to make



the underlying database available in fully searchable electronic form (on CD-ROM or via the Internet).

The SOAS Manichaean Dictionary project has established its base at the Ancient India and Iran Trust in Cambridge, where one great advantage is the easy access to the late Sir Harold Bailey's comprehensive library of books on Iranian and Central Asian studies. The AHRB grant has enabled the project to employ two full-time researchers for the whole five-year period. The first post has been filled since the beginning of the project in January 2000 by Dr Gunner Mikkelsen, whose primary task is the compilation of the Chinese glossary. The second post was held for the first 18 months by Dr Desmond

Durkin-Meisterernst. By the time he left the project in the summer of 2001 to take up a position at the Berlin-Brandenburg Academy's Turfan project he had already completed a first draft of the Manichaean Middle Persian and Parthian database. His successor is Dr François de Blois, who is currently working on the Arabic texts. As Dr de Blois is currently taking up a teaching position at Hamburg University, the project has employed Dr Larry Clark (formerly at University of Indiana) to work on the Old Turkish glossary. A separate grant from the British Academy made it possible for Dr Enrico Morano to join the project for five months in 2000/2001 to begin work on the Sogdian database and glossary; this is expected to be completed by François de Blois in collaboration with Nicholas Sims-Williams.

Not all the Dictionary will be compiled "in-house". Dr Clark started his work at the Trust in February-April and is now based at Bloomington. The compilation of the Syriac glossary has been entrusted to Dr Erica Hunter (SOAS), and it is now nearing completion. Most recently, Prof. Georges-Jean Pinault (ÉPHÉ, Paris) has agreed to compile the Tocharian glossary.

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THE ANCIENT INDIA

The aim of this Newsletter is to keep Friends of the Trust and others interested in the realisation of its aims and objectives informed of what is happening.

 IRAN TRUST

RECENT EVENTS

Visit of Members of the Royal Society of Arts on the evening of 8th April 2002

The visit was arranged by Philip Woolford, Chairman of the East Anglian Branch, and about 40 Members took part. They saw some of our manuscripts and rare printed books, and were shown around the house and library. The Secretary gave a short talk about the history and aims of the Trust. This was well received and evoked lively discussion. It was a very enjoyable occasion and all were extremely interested and enthusiastic about the work of the Trust. We for our part were impressed by the wide range of background, and business and professional expertise of the members and their lively interest and comprehension of both our aims and our problems.

Dinner for Dasturji Dr Kotwal

Dasturji Firoze M Kotwal was brought by Rusi and Roshan Dalal to visit the AIIT on Monday 22nd April 2002, when a Reception and Dinner was hosted by the Trust to mark the occasion. This was attended by members of the London and Cambridge Zoroastrian community, several Trustees, staff members and by Professor Gregory Possehl. This was a very successful event and much enjoyed by Dasturji, who recited grace in Avestan at the Dinner, as too did the other guests.

Symposium 10th-12th June

See next column

Garden Party 12th June

The Trust's annual garden party to which all British and International Friends within reach are invited, took place on June 12th at Brooklands House, this year combined with the Symposium. We had good weather, and a good attendance, and the party went extremely well. Among our guests were three former Ambassadors and two Heads of Houses, our distinguished lecturers and members of our American and International Friends organisations.

SYMPOSIUM: TRAVEL IN AFGHANISTAN AND THE DIGITISATION OF THE PHOTOGRAPHIC RECORD

The Symposium was held at Brooklands House and it began with a Reception on the evening of the 10th June. Presentations were made on the 11th and 12th June and included:-

Buddhist Monks on the Silk Road

by Dr Martha Carter, Chair of the American Friends Committee illustrated by a lovely series of slides, some taken in the course of her travels in Central Asia.

"Seek ye knowledge even unto the borders of China": The literature of travel in the lands of Islam

by Professor Carole Hillenbrand, Dept. of Islamic & Middle Eastern Studies, Edinburgh University, illustrated by a dazzling series of slides, many from original Islamic sources in several languages.

Charles Masson, a 19th Century traveller in Afghanistan, and the Priest King

by Professor Gregory Possehl, University of Pennsylvania illustrated by slides from his collection. Masson was an intriguing and enigmatic figure of 19th century British India, about whom Greg Possehl is currently writing a biography.

Thoughts on Bamiyan

by Dr Haruko Tsuchiya of Japan, who has travelled widely in the remoter parts of Afghanistan, and illustrated by her own slides. This focussed on the Bamiyan Buddhas and their destruction.

Coins of Rulers and Mints Along the Silk Road

by Dr William Spengler including a display of a number of coins from his collection, representing stages along the Silk Road.

The Architecture of Turkmenistan in the Medieval Period: Buildings of the Silk Road

by Professor Robert Hillenbrand of the Department of Fine Art, Edinburgh University, with a series of slides illustrating the development of the dome as an essential feature of the regional brick architecture.



*Han Watchtower, Kucha, Central Asia.
Courtesy of Martha and Tom Carter.*

Travelling the Silk Road from the Desktop.

Stein's Expeditions Online

by Dr Susan Whitfield, of the British Library Dunhuang Project, illustrated by slides from Aurel Stein's collection made on his journeys in Central Asia.

Exploring the Frontiers of 21st Century Art Presentation Technology

by Dr Carolyn Woodford Schmidt, Professor Greg Possehl and Mrs Marti Wilson, director of our Digitisation Project, with illustrations from the splendid website Dr Woodford Schmidt created, and which has enjoyed over two million visits in less than two years.

Guests were accommodated at Madingley Hall and meals were served at Brooklands House by the Custodian, Mr James Cormick.

On 11th June a Wine Party was held at the Master's Lodge, Churchill College, by invitation of the Master, Sir John Boyd and Lady Boyd, followed by a Buffet Supper also at Churchill College, at the invitation of Raymond and Bridget Allchin, the Chairman & Secretary of the Ancient India and Iran Trust.

The Symposium ended with a Garden Party on 12th June. The weather was fine and this proved a convivial occasion. See left hand column.

WELLERS IN CENTRAL ASIA

IMAGE 10th-12th JUNE 2002



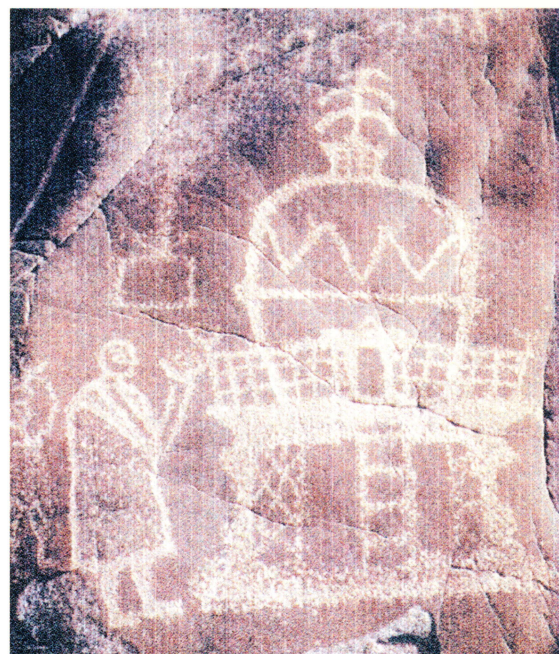
Fragment of a wall painting "Buddha and six monks" from Miran, Central Asia and now in the collection of the National Museum, New Delhi.

Courtesy of Martha and Tom Carter. (Original published by Stein Serindia, vol. 1, chap. xiii).



Master snuff jar ornamented with dragons and bat cut in high relief. Probably late Ming Dynasty of the 17th century. The brass insert is probably a 19th or early 20th century addition. Pale green translucent nephrite jade. H. 8cm x greatest diam. 14 cm. After John Huntingdon, Columbus Museum of Art Huntingdon Collection.

Courtesy of Dr Carolyn Woodford-Schmidt.



Bruised rock drawing of figure approaching a stupa, from the banks of the Upper Indus, just below Chilas, from a site known as Chilas II

Courtesy of Martha and Tom Carter.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Sir Harold Bailey's Birthday

16th December 2002

Sir Harold Bailey Memorial Lectures.

The 103rd anniversary of the birth of Sir Harold Bailey will be marked on 16th and 17th December 2002 by a series of three illustrated lectures on "Life and language in Ancient Afghanistan". These will be given at the Moller Centre, Churchill College, by Professor Nicholas Sims-Williams, who will introduce the exciting discovery of a large archive of documents written in Bactrian, the ancient language of northern Afghanistan.

Charles Wallace India Visiting Fellow

Dr Nagaraja Sharma of the Oriental Research Institute, University of Mysore will begin his Visiting Fellowship on September 20th. He is a Sanskritist, working on the oldest known manuscript of Kautilya's "Arthashastra".

NEW ETYMOLOGICAL VOCABULARY OF PUSHTO

Georg Morgenstierne, the leading expert in Pashto of his time, published his *Etymological Vocabulary of Pashto* in 1927, the first work of its kind. But he intended the work to be only a preliminary sketch for a later definitive major study, and he began immediately after its publication to collect more material for it. As the years passed, however, he never found the time to organise his collections of materials, which had become very extensive, and only many years later did he secure the collaboration of another leading expert, D N MacKenzie, for what had now become a much larger project. Unfortunately their joint effort was of all too

brief duration and had to be broken off when Morgenstierne died in 1978.

MacKenzie later accepted a call to the Professorship of Iranian Studies at the University of Göttingen and left the whole project in suspension for some years, until he in turn secured the assistance of J Elfenbein, who had (in 1988) been for some time in charge of Iranian Studies at the University of Mainz; he also secured a generous grant in support from the Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft. This was to fund a 2-year project, during which Elfenbein would work over and arrange for publication, together

with MacKenzie, the mass of unedited material left by Morgenstierne.

Unfortunately the time allotted for the project was too brief, and it had to be abandoned again in 1991, uncompleted; it was possible to resume work on it again only in 2002, this time by Elfenbein alone (MacKenzie had died in 2001). Thanks to the generous provision of a splendid word-processor and other help by the Ancient India and Iran Trust in Cambridge, it seems likely that the project, now renamed *New Etymological Vocabulary of Pashto*, will at last see a successful conclusion. J. ELFENBEIN

TRUSTEES ACTIVITIES

Professor Nicholas Sims-Williams has been elected an "Associé Étranger" of the Académie des Inscriptions et Belles-Lettres in Paris (one of a group of 5 Academies which make up the Institut de France). This category of membership is limited to 40 and is, we believe, the highest class of membership open to foreigners, equivalent to "membre de l'Institut" for French scholars.

Awarded a Leverhulme Major Research Fellowship, 2002-4, to write a Bactrian Dictionary and Grammar.

Elected Chairman of the Corpus Inscriptionum Iranicarum in succession to Prof. A.D.H. Bivar.

Appointed Associate Editor of *Encyclopaedia Iranica* (for Pre-Islamic Iran).

Appointed member of the Kommission "Turfanforschung" of the Berlin Brandenburgische Akademie der Wissenschaften. Appointed member of the International Committee of Silk Road Studies, Belgium.

Elected Member of the Philological Society.

In memoriam, for violin, viola and cello, Lancaster 2002 composed 2001 in memory of Ilya Gershevitch, Ron Emmerick and Neil MacKenzie.

Drs F R & B Allchin on March 21st attended a Seminar at Peterhouse, Cambridge organised by the Charity Finance Directors Group of Carr Sheppard Crosthwaite, the Trust's fund managers. This proved interesting and informative.

From February 25th to March 4th they were guests of the Istituto Orientale of Naples University for a Memorial Meeting for Professor Maurizio Taddei, former Italian Representative of the EASAA. As General Secretary of the EASAA Bridget Allchin read a paper on his contribution to the development of the organisation.

On March 8th Dr Bridget Allchin gave a lecture in the Friday Series on "The Pathans as I have known them"

Dr Giles Tillotson chaired a panel of the Conference on "Past Practice, Living Traditions" at De Montfort University, 25th-26th June. Publication of a book co-authored with Vibhuti Sachdev, entitled *Building Jaipur: The Making of an Indian City*, Reaktion Books, London, is imminent.

Dr Almut Hintze has given lectures on "The Ritual Significance of the Yasna Haptanajaiti" at a conference in Heidelberg, on "The Compositional Structure of the Avestan Gâhs" in Copenhagen and on "Prophetic and Priestly Authority in Zoroastrianism" in Berlin. In June, she gave the Ilya Gershevitch Memorial Lecture on "Do ut des: Patterns of Exchange in Early Zoroastrian Texts" at the Royal Asiatic Society in London.

Publications: "On the literary structure of the Older Avesta". In *Bulletin of the School of Oriental and African Studies* 65, 2002, 31-51.

Edited with E. Tichy: *Anusantatyai*.

Festschrift für Johanna Narton zum 70. Geburtstag. Dettelbach: Röhl, 2000 (Münchener Studien zur Sprachwissenschaft, Beiheft 19).

Dr Andrew Topsfield has written and published a book, *Court painting at Udaipur: Art under the patronage of the Maharanas of Mewar*, *Artibus Asiae Supplementum* XLIV, Zurich, 2002. He has also had an article published in D. Khera and R. Manuskhani, eds. "The city within a city: Jagmandir on Lake Pichola", New Delhi, 2002.

Sir Nicholas Barrington at the end of 2001 gave a well-attended lecture in London on "A Diplomat's experience of Christianity and other faiths". He has been in demand, in the aftermath of September 11th, to talk to undergraduates and others about Afghanistan, where he served as a diplomat, and its history. This included a talk to the Trust in February 2002.

He continues to be active as Trustee in support of the British Empire and Commonwealth Museum. The Museum's first permanent exhibition finally opens in Bristol in September 2002. He has donated an Afghan jezail dated 1799, and an East India Company rupee dated 1840!

He is preparing for publication an account of an adventurous journey with two Diplomatic colleagues, to Nuristan in 1960. This has involved research on that remote and fascinating corner of Afghanistan.



FRIENDS OF THE AIIT

All those in Britain who regularly give us £100 or more p.a. we automatically regard as "Friends of the Ancient India and Iran Trust", and they receive our Newsletter, our lecture programmes, invitations to our annual garden party and notification of other events.

American Friends of the Ancient India and Iran Trust receive our Newsletter and if

they wish can receive lecture programmes, invitations and notifications of events, all of which they are most welcome to attend when in Britain. We are grateful to them for their financial support and encouragement.

We also have a number of Friends in Europe and India, and would like to form a group under the heading "International Friends"