



Rare Buddhist Sanskrit Manuscripts

Research Collection in Microfilm

Between February 1873 and May 1876, Dr. Daniel Wright, surgeon to the British Residency at Kathmandu, Nepal, collected a large number of Buddhist manuscripts. They are recognized as a unique group of priceless cultural and historical artifacts.

“The main historical importance of the collection consists in the names of kings given, in so many cases, along with the carefully and minutely expressed dates of writing...”, states the guide to the collection, authored by Cecil Bendall, Cambridge University Press, 1883. Bendall explains that keeping in view the double local origin of the collection, the subject of History, like that of Palaeography, falls into two main divisions, relating respectively to Bengal and Nepal.

As Bendall states, the collection allows the user to gain fresh and valuable pieces of contemporary testimony about events happening at the time of writing. The preponderance of these valuable manuscripts are documented in Cecil Bendall’s Guide, but the collection also includes a number of exclusive Sanskrit manuscripts filmed from the Cambridge collection.

Parts I and II of the microfilm collection are comprised 267 manuscripts containing approximately 23,000 leaves, and includes the oldest Buddhist Sanskrit and Nepalese manuscripts ever found, including two extraordinary documents from the 9th century A.D. *Full MARC records and a microfilm print index are also available.*

Subject Areas: Asian Studies, South Asian, Religious and Buddhist Studies

Access: Printed guide included: Catalogue of Buddhist Sanskrit Manuscripts in the University Library, Cambridge, by Cecil Bendall, Cambridge University Press, 1883.

Overall dates of coverage: 862 AD through 1952 AD

Rare Buddhist Sanskrit Manuscripts, Part I

Media: 80 reels microfilm
Total titles covered: 234 manuscripts

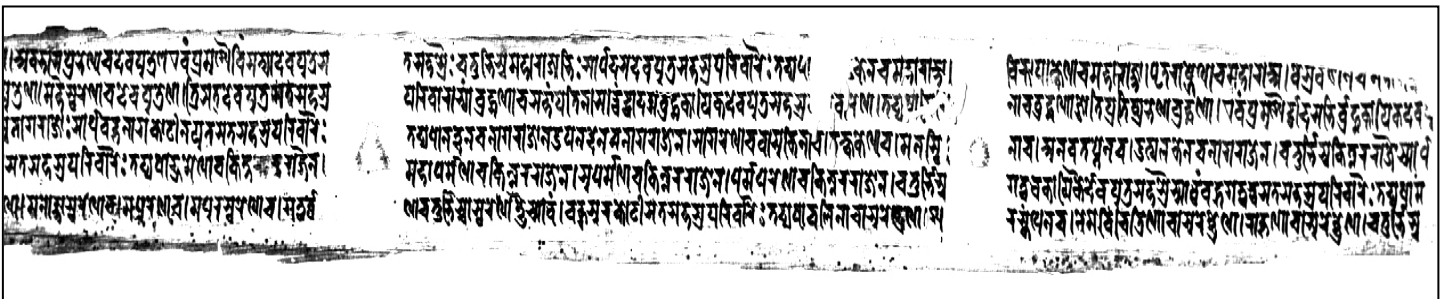
Now held at Cambridge University Library, Part I comprises 234 manuscripts containing approximately 23,000 leaves, and includes the oldest Buddhist Sanskrit and Nepalese manuscripts ever found, including two documents from the 9th century AD.

Rare Buddhist Sanskrit Manuscripts, Part II (previously unavailable manuscripts)

Media: 11 reels microfilm
Total titles covered: 33 manuscripts

This second part of the Rare Buddhist Sanskrit Manuscripts consists of 33 previously unavailable manuscripts from the Cambridge collection.

Full MARC records for both collections now available!



Excerpt from Saddharma-pundarikā – Palm Leaf – Nepalese Hand of the 11th Century, Rare Buddhist Sanskrit Manuscripts, Reel #72, Add.#1682

Contact your UMI Representative for more information: umisalesinfo@il.proquest.com

