

国際仏教学大学院大学研究紀要
第 11 号 (平成 19 年)

Journal of the International College
for Postgraduate Buddhist Studies
Vol. XI, 2007

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Āṭānāṭīya (Āṭānāṭika)-Sūtra in Sanskrit

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Preliminary remarks on two versions of the Āṭānāṭīya (Āṭānāṭika)-Sūtra in Sanskrit*

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At the end of the last century, news of the existence of the only known surviving manuscript of a Sanskrit Dīrghāgama[*DĀ*] spread among scholars. Since then a number of articles have appeared on the subject, for the most part by J.-U. Hartmann.¹ The birch bark manuscript is fairly complete, and its original contents can be reconstructed from *uddānas*.² Sold on the oriental book market in several bundles, parts of the manuscript are now in the possession of private collections in the United States of America, in Japan, with some fragments in Norway. It was in 2002 that my friend Professor Kazunobu Matsuda (Bukkyo University, Kyoto) offered me the opportunity to publish the Āṭānāṭīya- [ĀṭānSū(Gilgit)] and the Mahāsamāja-Sūtra from the section of the manuscript that is kept in the Hirayama Collection in Kamakura.³ The large folios are about 9.5 to 10 cm wide and about 50 cm long.

* This article based on a paper I read during my stay in the International College for Postgraduate Buddhist Studies in Tokyo in December 2004. I feel bound to say thanks to all my colleagues, who made my stay in the College one of the most intriguing and inspiring times of my life. In first place I thank Professor Imanishi, who kindly invited me, and Professor Hara for all his support. Both have always had an open ear for my problems. I also got support in every respect from Professor Deleanu, Professor Durt and Mr. Hori. Izawasan was my friendly and competent guide, not to forget the helpful staff of the library and the office.—My further thanks go to Professor Karashima, Dr. Skilling and last, but not least to Dr. Dietz. They supported my work with many suggestions. Peter Skilling was so kind to correct my English.

¹ Hartmann 2000, 2002, 2004. Remains of this manuscript where first published by Sadakata 1999.

² For details cf. Hartmann 2004: 119-120.

³ My sincere thanks go to Mrs Hirayama, who perfectly restored the folios. I had the

They are written in a variety of „Gilgit-Bāmiyān, Type II“,⁴ which is not the earliest form of the script, and they probably date to the 8th century.⁵ The script and the neat formatting of the folios resemble the Gilgit manuscripts. It is probable, although not absolutely sure, that the manuscript originated from this area. The *ĀṭānSū* is written on six and a half nearly complete pages ranging from folio 348 (obverse) to 354 (reverse, line four). It is written by a skilled hand in eight lines⁶ with a square string hole in the lines three to six measuring 3.5 to 3.5 cm. Moreover, it is a fairly good copy with not too many

pleasure to meet her in Kamakura together with my friends Professor Kazunobu Matsuda, Professor Jens Braarvig and Professor Jens-Uwe Hartmann in November 2000. Professor Matsuda provided me with all material needed for the edition.

⁴ How problematic it is to find a suitable name for this script, which is the basis for many North Indian alphabets, is detailed by Sander 2007 (forthcoming). For convenience I use the name for this script that I established (1968: 137).—Further remains of manuscripts written in the same type of script are known from the Bāmiyān area and from graffiti and inscriptions at the Upper Indus Valley (Fussman 1978, von Hinüber 1989a, b, 1994, 1997, 1999, 2001, 2003, 2004). The first manuscripts from Bāmiyān were found by Hackin; most of them formerly housed in the Kabul Museum (cf. Lévi 1932). Other fragments most probably originate from a different place in the same area. They now belong to the Martin Schøyen Collection in Norway. According to a first impression, which needs further investigation, the arrangement of the script on the folios from Bāmiyān differs slightly from that of the Gilgit manuscripts. Furthermore, most of them are written in a somewhat earlier type, using exclusively a tri-partite *ya*, which is not present in the *ĀṭānSū* (Gilgit). According to oral information of Gudrun Melzer both types of *ya* occur side by side in other Sūtras in the same DĀ manuscript.

⁵ The manuscript was sent for being tested by Sam Fogg in 2001. The radiocarbon date with 90% probability ranges between 764 and 1000; cf. Allon et al. 2007 forthcoming BMSC III. Our thanks go to our British colleagues Somadev Vasudev and Lance Cousins for providing us with all the information they gathered about the manuscript and the work they have already done on it.

⁶ Gudrun Melzer was so kind to show me the relevant chapter of her Ph. D. thesis, which has the title “Ein Abschnitt aus dem *Dirghāgama*”. For the first time she could convincingly show how ancient manuscripts were copied by a team of copyists. Her analysis is a model for further work with composite manuscripts.

scribal mistakes. Hartmann (2004: 121-128) showed in his analysis of the *uddānas* that it is Sūtra no. 32 and that it belongs to the *yuganipāta* “The Twin Chapter” of the DĀ. In the light of their contents the Āṭānāṭīyā- and the Mahāsamāja-Sūtra (no. 33) make up a pair.⁷ Both Sūtras are *raṅṅās*, protection texts, appearing in the same sequence in a list of Mahāsūtras in the Tibetan Mūlasarvāstivāda Vinaya.⁸

That this Sūtra was popular on the northern Silk Route—under the variant title Āṭānāṭika-Sūtra [ĀṭānSū(CASkt)]—is shown by the fact that fragments of 28 Sanskrit manuscripts have come down to us. Moreover, translations into the Uigur language written in Brāhmī⁹ and Uigur script¹⁰ demonstrate its importance for the Buddhist communities and lay followers,¹¹ although little of the manuscripts survive. Only one early manuscript (cat.-no. 33) contains remains from many parts of the text, but in a very fragmentary state. It originates from the annexes of the “Rotkuppelhöhle” (Chinese: Caves 66-67), and can be dated palaeographically into the 5th to 6th centuries (Sander 1968, alphabet q). Another fragmentary manuscript (cat.-no. 175) from the same find-spot consists of four nearly complete folios, which are of small size and therefore contain only little text. Two folios (36, 37) preserve text from the beginning, one folio (55) from the middle, and another folio ([6]X) from the end of the Sūtra. The four folios belong to a younger

⁷ Hartmann (2004: 122) remarks at the end of his discussion about the *yuganipāta*: „The reason for the application of the ordering principle, obviously the arrangement of pairs of Sūtras, is not very evident in every case and needs further consideration.”

⁸ Cf. Skilling vol. II 1997: 54 and 56. For the problem of whether the Sarvāstivādin and the Mūlasarvāstivādin were distinct schools cf. Enomoto 2000: 239-250.

⁹ Maue 1985: 98-122 and 1996: 67-70 cat.-no. 8-12, Plates 11, 34-36, 38.

¹⁰ Zieme 2005: 31-45.

¹¹ The Uigur fragment U 3831+3832 (no.1) published by Zieme (2005: 31) is a good example of the use of this powerful protective spell in daily cult. The concertina book clearly indicates that the two fragments were separately pinned on a wall for giving protection. Cf. also Skilling vol. II 1997: 559.

copy than cat.-no. 33 is, and may be roughly dated into the 7th century (Sander 1968, alphabet t). These are the two only manuscripts which can give a vague idea of how the Sanskrit text looked. Only isolated folios exist from other manuscripts, which are often very fragmentary. Although traces of this Sūtra have been found in the monasteries of the oasis towns along the northern Silk Route,¹² most manuscripts originate from Qizil. Judging from their script, they were written during a period of 200 years or more (ca. 6th to 8th century, or even later). Cat.-no. 33 was part of a DĀ manuscript, as is indicated by the textual sequence Śāṅkaraka- and Āṭānāṭika-Sūtra.¹³ But not all of the Āṭānāṭika texts belonged to DĀ manuscripts. Some belonged to other compilations with a different sequence of Sūtras, as shown by two fragmentary folios, cat.-no. 681b and cat.-no. 173a, which contain the end of the Dvajāgra- and the Daśabala-Sūtra(1) respectively, both are followed by the Āṭānāṭika-Sūtra. Moreover, the status of this Sūtra as a powerful protective text suggests that it was often copied alone, in its own right. Most fragments are too small to be assigned to any of these categories, but their phrasing indicates that they belong to the same Buddhist school, the Sarvāstivāda.

Hoffmann's 1939 edition of the Sanskrit text would not have been possible without the help of the Tibetan translation, and the many internal repetitions that are integrated into the text. Hoffmann reconstructed many parts of the text, based on considerably less evidence than that available today. Despite his learned attempt, doubts remain about some of his reconstructions in the light of the new material. For example, because the Sanskrit text has so many lacunas, he used the fragmentary leaf cat.-no. 31 (Hoffmann: 517) in his

¹² Most fragments originate from Qizil, fewer from Šorčuq (Qarašahr) in the west of the northern Silk Route and only some from eastern find-spots, such as Sāngim or Murtuq, from where also most of the fragments in Uigur language originate; cf. Maue 1985: 101 and Zieme 2005: 31–45.

¹³ Cf. Sander in SHT 4: 6–14; Iwamatsu 1990: 127–153; 1991: 75–80; Hartmann 1992: 25–31.

reconstruction, even though he himself had serious doubts about it, realizing that this fragment differs much in wording. These parts of the text can be improved by the more recently identified fragments. But even with the better textual situation lacunas remain, especially in the metrical parts. Moreover, there are uncertainties when the wording of the fragmentary manuscripts differs only slightly. Some fragments are closer to the text of ĀṭānSū(Gilgit) than others.¹⁴

Only in rare cases were Hoffmann's reconstructions based on wrong reading, something which easily happens when only a part of an akṣara is readable. One example is the phrase with which Vaiśravaṇa makes known the names of the Kumbhāṇḍas and their leaders before the Lord (Hoffmann 1939: 63 = MIAKPh 1987: 79): *kīrtayi(ṣyāmi bhadanta bhagavataḥ purataḥ kumbhāṇḍā) nām mahākumbhāṇḍā(nām)¹⁵ senāpatīnām se)nāyāḥ paricā(rakāṇām nāmāni tadyathā)*, "Venerable Ones, I make known before the Lord the names of the Kumbhāṇḍas, the Great Kumbhāṇḍas, the Generals and the Leaders of the army". Little remains of three fragments¹⁶ clearly show that the enumeration uses the accusative *kumbhāṇḍān* and not genitive *kumbhāṇḍānām*, and that therefore Hoffmann's addition of adding *nāmāni* in his reconstruction was influenced by the Tibetan translation¹⁷ although not supported by the manuscripts. This example further indicates that the wording preserved in the manuscripts from the northern Silk Route is closer to that of ĀṭānSū(Gilgit) than Hoffmann's edition suggests; the latter reads *kīrtayiṣyāmy ahaṃ bhadanta bhagavataḥ purasthāt kumbhāṇḍān mahākumbhāṇḍān kumbhāṇḍasenāpatī(ṇ)*

¹⁴ E.g. cat.-no. 33, 681b and 1242.

¹⁵ Hoffmann 1939: 22 (= MIAKPh 1987: 38) 459.4 (= cat.-no. 165) R4 reads *(kumbhāṇḍā)nām* and annotated „Lies: *kumbhāṇḍānām*“. His reading has to be corrected to *(kumbhā)nām*.

¹⁶ Cat.-no. 1189v3, cat.-no. 165v3-4, and cat.-no. 959r5. Only cat.-no. 165v3-4 (= 459) was at Hoffmann's disposal, and it is difficult to read; see also note 19.

¹⁷ Cf. Hoffmann 1939: 62 [= MIAKPh 1987: 78] and Skilling Vol. I 1994: 506.5.1: ... *kyi min* (name) *bryod par bgyi lags so*. I owe this reference to Siglinde Dietz.

senāyāḥ parināyakāṃ tadyathā.

Another problem concerns language. The manuscripts do not always follow the rules of classical Sanskrit. Hoffmann harmonizes the slightly differing readings according to the rules of classical Sanskrit and ignores traces of spoken language as, e.g., alpha privativum, which is preferred to sandhi in the most Central Asian manuscripts. In contrast, the new Āṭṇāṭṭya (Gilgit) manuscript observes the sandhi rules more strictly, which speaks in favour of a revision on the basis of written texts.

For the reasons mentioned, a new edition can hardly be without errors. However, it is useful to undertake the effort, because, especially in the later part, Hoffmann's text has many gaps, which can partly be filled by new fragments.¹⁸ In spite of the possibility of improving the text, one should never lose sight of the poor textual situation. Only in rare cases is the text preserved in more than one fragment, but this is necessary to affirm the reading and give a solid basis for the reconstruction.

In the following the condition of the text of the Āṭṇāṭṭya(CASkt) is demonstrated by a survey of the fragments from the beginning of the Sūtra. This survey shows dramatically how little text survives, even though four more fragments (cat.no. 681b, 1242b, 173a, and IOL Toch. 355) were identified after Hoffmann's edition was published. It also displays scribal errors, and in rare cases slightly diverging versions; both will be noted.

Cat.-no.¹⁹

175, fol. 37 r1: evaṃ mayā śrutam ekasamayam bhagavāṃ śrāvastyām

¹⁸ Most fragments were already gathered by me from various publications in an appendix to the reprint of Hoffmann's text (1987: 193–208). Some more were identified by Wille in SHT 6–9. For the fragments from the British Library London and the Bibliothèque Nationale Paris, cf. Hartmann-Wille 1992; Hartmann 1993; Wille 2005.

¹⁹ The following folios and fragments are already published by Hoffmann 1939 (= MIAPh 1987). He still used the numbers given by Heinrich and Else Lüders; cf.

	viharati	
174 r4:	... m.y. .ru ...	
681b v4:	...	ś(r)āvastyāṃ ²⁰ ni(dā)naṃ ²¹
175, fol. 37 r2:	smāj jetavane anāthapiṇḍadārāme	
175, fol.37 r2-3:	atha vaiśravaṇo mahārāja ²²	anekayakṣaśataparivāraḥ
33.11 r2:	...	ś(a)t(aparivā)raḥ
174 r3:	...	rā(jā) anekayakṣaśat(a) ...
681b v4:	atha vaiśravaṇ(o) ...	
1242b vy:	...	(ya)kṣaśatapari...
175, fol.37 r3-4:	anekayakṣasahasraparivāraḥ	atikkṛāntavarṇaḥ
33.11 r2:	anekayakṣas(a)h(a)srapari(vāraḥ) ...	
IOL Toch.355 rb:	... (saha)srapa(ri)vār(aḥ)	atikkṛānt(a) ...
681b v5-6:	(a)neka(yakṣasahasr(a)pariv(āraḥ	anekayakṣaśatasahas- ra)parivāraḥ atikkṛ(ā) ...

Waldschmidt in SHT 1: XIXf. The SHT numbers used in this article correspond to the following numbers in Hoffmann's edition: cat.-no. 33=531; 165=459; 174=523; 175=524; 180=537.

²⁰ The restored akṣaras or words are written in round bracket. Virāma is marked by an asterisk.

²¹ The opening of the Sūtra differs from that in the other manuscripts using the abbreviated form *śrāvastyāṃ nidānaṃ*; see other examples in SWTF *nidāna*(3). In the early DĀ manuscripts cat.-no. 32 and 33 from Qizil the complete wording interchanges with the abbreviated form; cf. SHT 4: 109, 130, 137 (cat.-no.32); 159, 164, 171 (cat.-no.33). Wille (SHT 8: 198) rightly remarks that the fragments cat.-no. 681b and 1242b had most likely the same wording as ĀtānSū(Tib) and therefore are also closer to ĀtānSū(Gilgit).

²² Read *mahārāja*; annotated by Hoffmann 1939: 18 (=MIAKPh 1987: 34), note 5.

- 175, fol.37 r4-5: abhikkṛāntāyāṃ rātrau yena bhagavāṃs tenopajagāma
- 175, fol.37 r5-6: upetya bhagavatpāḍau śirasā vantitvā²³ ekante²⁴
nyaṣīdad
- 33.11 r3: upetya bhag(a)v(at)pāḍ(au) ś(i)r(a)sā vanditvā ek(ānte
nya)ṣīdat* ...
- 165.26 va: (upet)y(a) bhag(a)v(a) ...
- 174 r4: ... (ekā)n(te)
nyaṣīdad
- 175, fol.37 r6-v1: apīd(ānīm) vaiśravaṇasya mahārājñah varṇānubhāvena
- 174 r4: apīdānīm vaiśr(avaṇa)sy(a ma)h(ā)r(ā) ...
- IOL Toch. 355 rc: ... rājño varṇānubh. ...
- 175, fol. 37 v1-2: sarvvaṃ jeta(va)nam udāreṇāvabhāsenā sphuṭam
abhūt*
- 33.11 r4: sarvaṃ jetavanam udāreṇāvabhāsenā sphu ...
- 165.26 vb ... (s)phuṭam
abhūd
- 175, fol.37 v2-3: ekāntaniṣāṇṇo vaiśravaṇo mahārājā tasyāṃ velāyāṃ
gāthā²⁵ babhāṣe ||
- 33.11 r4-5: ekānt(a) ... (velāyāṃ)

²³ *vantitvā* for *vanditvā* indicates that this manuscript was probably copied by a Tokharian. The Tokharian language does not distinguish between tenuis and media as the Sanskrit does. Cf. Krause-Thomas 1960: 39–42.

²⁴ Scribal error for *ekānte*, cf. Hoffmann 1939: 19 (= MIAKPh 1987: 35), note 1. Judging from the classical Sanskrit this manuscript has many orthographic mistakes. Furthermore, the sign for *-ā* as a prolongation of the head-line is not very pronounced and may therefore easily mixed up with *-a*.

²⁵ Anusvāra omitted by the scribe.

- gāthāṃ babhāṣe
 165.26 vb: e(kā)nta²⁶ ...
 174 r5: ... m(a)harājā-s.²⁷tasyāṃ vel(āyāṃ)
 gāthāṃ babhā(ṣe) ||
- 175, fol.37 v4-5: namastu te mahāvīra saṃbuddha dvipadottamaḥ
 33.11 r5: namastu te mahāvīra saṃ(buddha) dv(i)p(ad)o ...
 IOL Toch. 355 rd: ... te mahāvī(ra) ...
- 175, fol.37 v5-6: na tad devāḥ prajānanti yat prajānāsi cakṣumān*²⁸
 165.26 vc: ... y(a)t prajānāsi cakṣuṣ(mān)
 180 ra: ... (pra)jā(na)nti yat pra ...
 174 r6: ... n*
- 175, fol.37-38 v6-r1:pratyutpannān²⁹ atītāṃś ca ye ca buddhā anagatāḥ³⁰
 174 r6: (p)r(a)tyutpannam atītāṃś ca ye ca buddh(ā) anāgataḥ³¹
- 175, fol.38 r1: sarvvān ahaṃ namasyāmi tvam³² cāhaṃ śaraṇaṃ gataḥ |
 174 r6: sarvān āh(aṃ)³² ...
- 175, fol.38 r1-3: tadyathā | bilimāha | balimele | purā | pure | ghorī |

²⁶ °kā° omitted by the scribe.

²⁷ Read *mahārājā*. -s- is often inserted before *t*° by this scribe; see also below *viditvā-s-tasyāṃ*.

²⁸ Read *cakṣuṣmān*; scribal error; cf. Hoffmann 1939: 19 (= MIAKPh 1987: 35), note 6.

²⁹ Read *pratyutpannam*.

³⁰ Read *anāgatāḥ*; scribal error; cf. Hoffmann 1939: 19 (= MIAKPh 1987: 35), note 7.

³¹ Read *anāgatāḥ*; scribal error. Hoffmann 1939: 23 (= MIAKPh 1987: 39) read *anāgatāḥ*, but °ta is very sure.

³² Read *tvāṃ*. Hoffmann 1939: 19 (= MIAKPh 1987: 35), note 8; 174-6 read *ahaṃ*. Hoffmann 1939: 23 (= MIAKPh 1987: 39), note 5.

	gandhāri
174 r7:	... (ga)ndhāri
175, fol.38 r3-4:	cori caṇḍāli sopakke stulasāpati ³³ padumāpati svāha ³⁴
174 r7:	sobake sthulasāpati padumāpati svāhā ³⁵
175, fol.38 r4-5:	santi bhadanta bhagavataḥ śrāvakaḥ bhikṣavo bhik- suṇyaḥ ³⁶
165.26 vd:	... (bhikṣav)o bhikṣuṇya
33.11 v1:	... (ś)r(ā)vaḥ bhikṣavo bhikṣu(ṇya)
175, fol.38 r4-5:	upāsakā upāsikāḥ ³⁷ ye araṇyavanaprasthāni prāntāni śayanāsanāny adhyāvasanti
165.26 vd:	upās(akā up)āsikā ye a ...
180 rb:	... (u)pāsikā ye ...
174 r8:	... prasthāni prāntāni śayanāny ³⁸ adhy(ā) ...
33.11 v2:	... (adhyāva)s(aṃ)ti
175, fol.38 v1-2:	santi cātra vyāḍā yakṣā amanuṣyā nivāsikā ³⁹ ye bhagavatpravacane
33.11 v2:	santi cātr(a) v(yā)ḍā yakṣā amanuṣyā (naivāsi)k(ā) ...

³³ Read *sthula*°, scribal error.

³⁴ This *mantra* is missing in cat.-no. 33.11 and 165.26 as already annotated by Hoffmann 1939: 87.1 (=MIAKPh 1987: 103).

³⁵ *cori* | *caṇḍali* | omitted in this manuscript.

³⁶ Read *śrāvakā* and *bhikṣuṇya*. Cf. Hoffmann 1939: 19 (=MIAKPh 1987: 35), note 11 and 12.

³⁷ Read *upāsikā*; cf. Hoffmann 1939: 19 (=MIAKPh 1987: 39), note 13.

³⁸ °*asanāny*° omitted by the scribe.

³⁹ Read *naivāsikā*; cf. Hoffmann 1939: 19 (=MIAKPh 1987: 39), note 16.

175, fol.38 v2:	abhiprasannā anabhiprasannās ca
174 v1:	... (a)n(a)bhiprasannās ca
165.26 ve:	... (an)abhiprasannās (ca)
33.11 v3:	(a)lpatarās te vyāḍā yakṣā amanuṣyā naiv(āsikā) ye bhag(avatpravacane) ⁴⁰
174 v1:	alpatarās te vy(āḍā ya)kṣā ...
175, fol.38 v2-4:	atha ca punas te bahutara ⁴¹ vyāḍā yakṣā amanuṣyā naivāsikā
33.11 v4:	(atha ca pun)as t(e) bahutarā v(y)āḍ(ā) yak(ṣā) amanuṣyā naiv(āsikā)
165.26 ve:	(atha ca pu)nas te bahutarā vyā(ḍā) ...
175, fol.38 v4:	ye bhagavatpravācane anabhiprasannāḥ ⁴²
33.11 v5:	ye bhag. ...
175, fol.38 v5:	sādhu bhadanta bhagavataḥ śrāvakā bhikṣavo bhikṣu- ṇyāḥ ⁴³
33.11 v5:	... (bha)gav(ataḥ śrā)vakāḥ bhikṣavo bhi(kṣu)ṇyaḥ
175, fol.38 v5-6:	upāsakā-m ⁴⁴ -upāsikā idam eva āṭānāṭikam sūtram vidyām
33.11 v5:	upāsakā ...

⁴⁰ This sentence is omitted in cat.-no. 175, fol. 38.

⁴¹ Read *bahutarā*; scribal error.

⁴² Read *anabhiprasannāḥ*; cf. Hoffmann 1939: 19 (= MIAKPH 1987: 35), note 20.

⁴³ Read *bhikṣuṇyaḥ*; cf. also Hoffmann 1939 (= MIAKHPH 1987: 35), note 21. See also note 36.

⁴⁴ Hiatus bridger; cf. BHSG 4.59.

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174 v2: ... (u)pāsako⁴⁵ vā upāsikā vā ye idam evaṃ ātā(nāṭīkaṃ
s)ū(tram) ...

165.26 vf: ... ama(nuṣyā vā ye) idam eva ātā⁴⁶ ...

33.11 v6: ... udgrṇīyuh ...

174 v3: (yakṣā)ṇāṃ amanuṣyānāṃ naivāsikānāṃ abhipra-
s(ādāya)ḥ prasann(ānāṃ)

33.12 r1: ... (ama)nuṣyānāṃ nai(vāsikānāṃ abhiprasādāya
abhiprasannā)nāṃ ca ...

IOL Toch. 355 vb: ... (naivāsikānā)m abhiprasā(dāya) ...

33.12 r2: ... (ma)hārājñas tūṣṇī(mbhāvena ||)

33.12r2: (atha vaiśravaṇo mahārājā) bhagavatas ...

174 v4: ... (mahārāj)ā bhagavatas tūṣṇīmbhāvenādhivāsanam
viditvā-s⁴⁷-tas(yāṃ) ...

IOL Toch. 355 vb: ... (tū)ṣṇīmbhāv(e) ...

33.13 r3: ... (purata)ḥ

⁴⁵ Hoffmann (1939: 23 [=MIAKPh 187: 39], note 6) annotated the different wording; singular is used for the enumeration of followers, each separated by *vā*. Because singular is used for plural, *ye* is not “unnecessary” (“überflüssig”) as Hoffmann “remarks. See also cat.-no. 165.26vf, which seems to have had a different wording. See note 46.

⁴⁶ The fragmentary remains of the text are not in accordance with that of the other manuscripts. But the remains are too scanty to understand this deviation. There seems to be a repetition possibly saying that the “non-human beings” (*amanuṣyā*) will be appeased, when they hear this Sūtra. However, because of the rendering *ye idam ātānāṭīkaṃ* there is no doubt that the fragmentary text belongs to this passage.

⁴⁷ See note 27.

33.12 r3:	idam eva (āṭānāṭikaṃ sūtraṃ vidyāṃ) rakṣāṃ pā- (davandanīṃ)
173a r1:	... (rakṣ)ā(ṃ p)ād(a) ...
174 v5-6:	(tad)y(a)thā hili mahā hili mele phurā phure ...udāpati svāhā ³⁴

Even though the textual situation is poor in some places, it is evident that the manuscripts represent a fairly homogenous text, on the basis of which it is possible to reconstruct most of the ĀṭānSū(CASkt). Help comes also from the end of the Sūtra, where the Buddha repeats the same text that was originally recited by Vaiśravaṇa, the king of the North. By doing so, he sanctions this protection (*rakṣā*) for monks and nuns, and other members of the community living in the wilderness. The end of the Sūtra, only poorly preserved in Hoffmann's edition, could be improved with the help of a fragment from a manuscript found at Tumšuq-Maralbaši (SHT 1: cat.no.10), which was published by Waldschmidt already in 1961.

In the following the ĀṭānSū(CASkt) text is reconstructed from the extant manuscripts. The text is placed side by side with the text of ĀṭānSū(Gilgit), which is nearly completely preserved on folios 348 verso to 349 recto 1 of the DĀ manuscript. The division into paragraphs structures the text for the commentary below.

ĀṭānSū(Gilgit)

ĀṭānSū(CASkt)

§ 1 evaṃ mayā śrutam ekasmiṃ samaye bhagavāṃ śrāvastyāṃ viharati jetavane anāthapiṇḍadasyārāme	§ 1 evaṃ mayā śrutam ekasamayam bhagavāṃ śrāvastyāṃ viharati jeta-vane anāthapiṇḍadārāme ()
--	---

(||)

§ 2 atha vaiśravaṇo mahārājo
 ‘nekayaḥkṣaparivāro ‘nekayaḥkṣaśata-
 parivāro anekay(akṣasahasrapa)-
 rivāro ‘nekayaḥkṣaśatasahasrapari-
 vāro ‘tikrāntavarṇo ‘tikrāntāyāṃ rāt-
 ryāṃ yena bhagavāṃs tenopasaṃ-
 krāntaḥ (|) upasaṃkramya bhagava-
 taḥ pāḍau śīrasā vanditvaikānte
 niṣaṇṇo (||) ‘pīdānīm vaiśrava-
 ṇ(asya) mah(ā)r(ā)jasya varṇā-
 nubhāvena sarvaṃ jetavanam
 udareṇāvabhāsenā sphuṭam abhūd
 (||) ekāntaniṣaṇṇo vaiśravaṇo mahā-
 rājas tasyāṃ velāyāṃ gāthāṃ bhāṣate
 ||

§ 3
 namo ‘stu te mahāvīra
 saṃbuddh(a d)v(ipadot)t(ama |)
 na taṃ devāḥ prajānanti
 yaṃ prajānāsi buddhimān (|)
 pratyutpannam atītāṃs ca
 ye ca buddhā anāgatāḥ (|)
 sarvān ahaṃ namasyāmi
 tvāṃ cāsmi śaraṇaṃ gataḥ (||)

§ 2 atha vaiśravaṇo mahārājā ane-
 kayakṣaśataparivāraḥ anekayaḥkṣa-
 hasraparivāraḥ atikrāntavarṇaḥ
 abhikrāntāyāṃ rātrau yena bhaga-
 vāṃs tenopajagāma (|) upetya bhaga-
 vatpāḍau śīrasā vanditvā ekānte
 nyaṣīdat (||) apīdānīm vaiśravaṇasya
 mahārājñāḥ varṇānubhāvena sarvaṃ
 jetavanam udareṇābhāsenā sphuṭam
 abhūt (|) ekāntaniṣaṇṇo vaiśravaṇo
 mahārājā tasyāṃ velāyāṃ gāthāṃ
 babhāṣe ||

§ 3
 nam’astu te mahāvīra
 saṃbuddha dvipadottama (|)
 na tad devāḥ prajānanti
 yat prajānāsi cakṣuṣmān (|)
 pratyutpannam atītāṃs ca
 ye ca buddhā anāgatāḥ (|)
 sarvān ahaṃ namasyāmi
 tvāṃ cāhaṃ śaraṇaṃ gataḥ (|)

tadyathā | bilimahā | balimele | purā |
 pure | ghorī | gandhārī | corī | caṇḍālī
 | sopakke | sthulasāpati | padumāpati
 svāhā (|)

§ 4 santi bhadaṃta bhagavataḥ śrāvā-
kā bhikṣavo (bh)i(kṣuṇya) upāsakā
ye cāraṇyavanaprasthāni prāntāni
śāyanāsanāny adhyāvasanti (||) santi
cātra vyāḍā yakṣā 'manuṣyā naivāsi-
kā ye bhagavataḥ pravacane 'bhīpra-
sannās cānabhiprasannās ca (|)
alpakās te bhadaṃta vyāḍā yakṣā
amanuṣyā naivāsikā ye bhagavataḥ
pravacane 'bhīprasannāḥ (||)

§ 4 santi bhadanta bhagavataḥ śrāvā-
kā bhikṣavo bhikṣuṇya upāsakā u-
pāsikā ye araṇyavanaprasthāni prā-
ntāni śāyanāsanāny adhyāvasanti (||)
santi cātra vyāḍā yakṣā amanuṣyā
naivāsikā ye bhagavatpravacane
abhiprasannā anabhiprasannās ca |
alpatarās te vyāḍā yakṣā amanuṣyā
naiv(āsikā) ye bhaga(vatpravacane
abhiprasannāḥ |) atha ca punas te
bahutarā vyāḍā yakṣā amanuṣyā
naivasikā ye bhagavatpravacane
anabhiprasannāḥ (||)

§ 5 sādhu bhadanta bhagavataḥ
śrāvakā bhikṣavo (bh)i(kṣuṇya) u-
pāsakā upāsikā idam evāṭānāṭīyaṃ
sūtraṃ vidyārakṣāṃ pādavaṃdanīm
vistareṇodgrṇṇīyuh paryavāpnuyuh
yāvad evātmano rakṣāyai guptaye
sparśavihārāya anabhiprasannānām
ca vyāḍ(ā)nām yakṣāṇām amanu-
ṣyānām naivā(sikānām abhipra)-
sādāyābhiprasannānām ca bhūyobhā-
vāya | adhivāsaye bhagavāṃ vaiśra-
vaṇasya mahārājasya tūṣṇīmabhāvena
(||)

§ 5 sādhu bhadanta bhagavataḥ
śrāvakā bhikṣavo bhikṣuṇya upāsakā
upāsikā idam evāṭānāṭīkaṃ sūtraṃ
vidyāṃ (rakṣāṃ pādavandanīm vi-
stareṇa) udgrṇṇīyuh (paryavā-
pnuyuh yāvad evātmano rakṣāyai
guptaye sparśavihārāya anabhipra-
sannānām vyāḍāṇām yakṣā)ṇām ama-
nuṣyānām naivāsikānām abhiprasā-
(dāya)ḥ abhi)prasann(ā)nām ca
(bhūyobhāvāya | adhivāsayati bhaga-
vāṃ vaiśravaṇasya mahā)rājās
tūṣṇī(ṃbhāvena ||)

§ 6 atha vaiśravaṇo mahārājo bhaga-
vatas tūṣṇīmabhavenādhivāsanām

§ 6 (atha vaiśravaṇo mahārāj)ā bha-
gavatas tūṣṇīmabhavenādhivāsanām

viditvā bhagavataḥ purastād idam viditvā tas(yām velāyām bhagavataḥ
 evāṭānāṭīyaṃ sūtraṃ vidyārakṣāṃ purata)ḥ idam eva (āṭānāṭīkaṃ sū-
 pādavandanīm vistareṇa bhāṣate || traṃ vidyām) rakṣāṃ pād(avandanīm
 vistareṇa babhāṣe ||
 tad)y(a)thā (|) hilimāha | hilimele
 phurā phure udāpati svāhā | ||³⁴

Two characteristic differences that run throughout both texts should be mentioned, without further detailed. The first concerns the sandhi rules. As already mentioned above, in general they are better observed in the Gilgit manuscript, while in the manuscripts from the northern Silk Route, e.g., alpha privativum is preferred to sandhi, for example: *mahārājo* 'nekayakṣa'° ĀtānSū (Gilgit) and *mahārājā* *anekayakṣa*° ĀtānSū(CASkt) (see § 2 above). This indicates that in general the language of the Gilgit version is closer to classical Sanskrit. There are only rare examples, where the Central Asian version is more sanskritized (see §§ 3, 5). The second point concerns the inflection of *mahārāja*. In ĀtānSū(Gilgit) the *a*-stem °*rāja* is used, while all Central Asian manuscripts retain the *n*-stem °*rājan*.

§ 1 The Sūtra begins with the normal introduction *evaṃ mayā śrutam* "Thus I have heard". Ever since John Brough (1975: 416-426) published his famous article of the same title, the debate about how to understand this stereotyped Sūtra introduction has not come to an end.⁴⁸ In our versions there are two different renderings: ĀtānSū(Gilgit) and the Tibetan translation have the locative *ekasmin samaye*, while in cat.-no. 175, which is the only extant Central Asian manuscript for the part in question, the adverbial form *ekasamayam* is used, a form which Brough did not discuss. This manuscript is not a reliable

⁴⁸ I thank my friend Seishi Karashima for the many inspirations for this part. He provided me with numerous articles concerning this question. The best bibliography is found in Bongard-Levin et al. 1996: 90, note 1.

copy⁴⁹ and therefore the adverbial form could easily be a scribal mistake for *ekam samayaṃ*. But since the adverbial form is well attested in other Sūtra manuscripts from the “Turfan” finds (SWTF: 437, sic!), it may be correct. There is no doubt that the ĀṭānSū(CASkt) represents the older wording, which is close to the Pāli introduction of Suttas *ekam samayaṃ*, an accusative of duration immediately following *evaṃ mayā sutam*. Nowadays, most scholars follow Brough’s (1975: 416) well-founded translation affirmed by the Tibetan translation and now also attested in the Sanskrit DĀ manuscript. They connect the specification of time with *evaṃ mayā śrutam*, which is in Brough’s translation “Thus I heard on one occasion”, or more literal “Thus I have heard at one time” in the translation of the Nagaropama-Sūtra referring to Harrison’s (1996: 90) argument. Brough’s free rendering of *ekasmin samaye* points to a problem recently taken up by Tola and Dragonetti (1999: 53–55), who speak of a “criterion of usefulness”. They argue that the interpretations of Brough and Harrison do not add an significant information to “Once I have heard”, that is, it is more reasonable to connect it with the *place* where the Buddha was staying rather than with the *time* at which he preached a Sūtra: “Thus I have heard: at a time when the Buddha stayed at ...” Not only von Hinüber’s (1968: 84–87, § 72) syntactical consideration⁵⁰—that it is difficult to connect the accusative of duration *ekam samayaṃ* with *evaṃ mayā sutam*—but also Allon’s (1997: 195, 246f., 287) sophisticated analysis of a rhythmic rhetoric agreeing with the old *veḍha*, speak against Brough’s interpretation. These arguments count also for the adverbial rendering in ĀṭānSū(CASkt). Brough’s and Harrison’s interpretations are probably based on how the translators into the Tibetan and Chinese understood the phrase, which finally may have led to a general agreement preferring the locative *ekasmiṃ samaye*. The beginning of Sūtras handed down in the manuscripts from the northern Silk Route are not

⁴⁹ See above note 24.

⁵⁰ Cf. also Vetter 1993: 65, note 48.

consistent regarding the case, and there are examples of all the three renderings (SWTF: 431 and 437); but even there the locative occurs more frequently. The Sanskrit manuscripts from Central Asia show impressively that the case and possibly also the understanding of even such a stereotype as the opening of Sūtras was unstable until the locative seems to have become a standard.⁵¹ However, the problem of how to understand the beginning of the ĀṭānSū(CASkt) is not yet settled, and therefore no punctuation mark is added into the text above, which leaves it open to interpretation.

The second question in this paragraph concerns the ĀṭānSū(CASkt) only. The passage is again preserved in the not very reliable manuscript cat.-no. 175. It reads ... *śrāvastyām viharati smāj*⁵² *jetavane anāthapiṇḍadārāme*. Because *smāj*^o, suggesting *asmād*, is senseless in this context, Hoffmann (1939: 18=MIAKPh 1987: 34, note 4) conjectured to *sma*. Since most Central Asian Sarvāstivāda Sūtras published to day use the historical present *viharati* (Speyer repr. 1998: 244, § 236),⁵³ *sma* is omitted in my reconstruction, even though Hoffmann's conjecture may be correct.

§ 2 As Skilling (vol. II 1997: 562) has remarked, one difference between the two versions is the extension of the enumeration of Vaiśrāvaṇa's suite of

⁵¹ The oldest DĀ manuscripts from the northern Silk Route are cat.-no. 32 and 33. They date to approximately the 6th century AD (Sander 1968: alphabet q). They show that the introduction formula is not the same for all Sūtras within these manuscripts. Cat.-no. 32 preserves the abbreviated form with *nidānam* in two cases (SHT 4: 109 and 130), and cat.-no. 33 alternates between the abbreviated (SHT 4: 159) and the full rendering (SHT 4: 164, 171). *ekasamaya* is not completely preserved in cat.-no. 33. The fragmentary text breaks off after *e*^o, resp. *eka*^o (see also SHT 4: 171, note 4).

⁵² *-ā* in *smāj*^o is very sure, even though *-ā* is not very distinctly marked in this manuscript.

⁵³ This lemma has not yet been published in SWTF. See "word indexes" *viharati* in SHT 4, *vihr* in 7 and 9. The only Sūtra fragment reading *viharati sma* is the fragment cat.-no. 1493 (SHT 4: 161).

Yakṣas in ĀṭānSū(Gilgit). In ĀṭānSū(Gilgit) it begins with “many Yakṣas” (*anekayakṣa*) and ends with “many 100,000s of Yakṣas” (*anekayakṣaśaṭasa-hara*), while both are missing in ĀṭānSū(CA), except in cat.-no. 681b.⁵⁴ The early DĀ manuscript cat.-no. 33, which in other cases it is closer to the Gilgit version,⁵⁵ agrees here with most of the other Central Asian manuscripts.

Von Simson (1977: 479–488 and 1965: 81–83) discussed the phrase used to describe how a person approaches the Buddha and its variants in detail. According to him only the Sūtras of the Sarvāstivādins from the northern Silk Route have with rare exceptions *yena ... tenopajagāma | upetya*, but not their Vinaya texts, which preserve in general the same wording as ĀṭānSū(Gilgit), *yena ... tenopasaṃkrāntaḥ | upasaṃkramya*. Von Simson explains the different wording for the same phrase as a speciality possibly introduced by the Sūtra reciters (*bhāṇaka*). The same verb as in ĀṭānSū(Gilgit) is used in the Pāli Suttas, which is *upasaṃkram* in *yena ... ten' upasaṃkami | upasaṃkamitvā*, but here the aorist *upasaṃkami* is preferred to the past participle. The preference for an inflected form to express the past is maintained in ĀṭānSū(CASkt), but perfect often replaces the aorist. The interchange between aorist and perfect in the ĀṭānSū(CASkt) is characteristic for these texts, while the aorist is predominant in Pāli, and the past participle in the Gilgit manuscript. This observation agrees with those made by Ji already in 1949, when he compared BHS texts like the Mahāvastu and the Divyāvadāna with their Pāli counterparts. He observed a progressive aversion to using the aorist. His results (Ji 1949: 268) are:⁵⁶ 1. In Buddhist text written—as he names it—in

⁵⁴ Skilling (vol. II 1997: 563, note 44) rightly remarks that the fragment cat.-no. 681b recto agrees with ĀṭānSū(Gilgit) because *anekayakṣaśaṭasahasraparivāraḥ* fits perfectly into the gap. My suggestion (Sander 1987: 194, note 3) is wrong. The beginning of the Sūtra in Pāli differs considerably; therefore it can be used for comparison only in rare cases. Cf. Hoffmann 1939: 33 (= MIAKPh 1987: 49) and Skilling vol. I 1994: 463–467.

⁵⁵ E.g. it does not contain the *mantra*, which is present in cat.-no. 175 and 174. See §§ 3 and 6.

⁵⁶ This summary omits Ji's remarks on the relation to the “Urkanon”.

mixed dialect (“Mischdialekt”) and in Sanskrit the use of aorist is characteristic for the older parts. 2. Already in these older parts the aversion to the use of the aorist is obvious compared with the Pāli. 3. The younger texts and passages in the text often replace the aorist by other forms, but certain aorists are retained. Ji’s observations are also relevant for the two versions of the ĀṭānSū, which reveal, at least in this paragraph, that ĀṭānSū(CASkt) preserves an older linguistic stratum than ĀṭānSū(Gilgit).

A similar difference can be observed in the following sentences, which are also highly formulaic (von Simson 1977: 480). In the sentence which relates how respect is paid to the Buddha by bowing down the head at the Lord’s feet before taking a seat, the ĀṭānSū(CASkt) versions use the imperfect *nyaṣīdat*, —*upasaṃkramya bhagavataḥ pādaḥ śirasā vanditvaikānte nyaṣīdat*—, while in ĀṭānSū(Gilgit) the sentence ends with the past participle *nisaṇṇo*.⁵⁷ The next sentence, in which is said that the Jetavana shines from Vaiśrāvaṇa’s splendour, is an interpolation.⁵⁸ Both versions have the same wording ending with the aorist *sphuṭam abhūt*. In this case the formulaic rendering, namely that after having taken his seat the great king Vaiśravaṇa recited the appropriate verses (*ekāntaniṣaṇṇo vaiśravaṇo mahārājas/ā tasyām velāyāṃ gāthāṃ...*), is continued after the interpolated sentence in both versions, but the tense of the verb at the end of this sentence differs. The ĀṭānSū(CASkt) retains its style by using the perfect *vaiśravaṇo ... gāthāṃ babhāse*, while the

⁵⁷ The Pāli version differs because the four kings of directions approach the Buddha, but the relevant phrase ends also with the aorist *nisidimsu*. Cf. Skilling vol. I 1994: 463–64, and Hoffmann 1939: 33 (=MIAKPh 1987: 49).

⁵⁸ No direct parallel is present in Pāli, where Vessavaṇo is also the speaker.—*udāreṇābhāsenā sphuṭam abhūt* is a stock phrase, which occurs in different context in many texts, especially when an extraordinary event takes place. In the references checked, which are only texts related to the Sarvāstivādin, it occurs always together with the trembling of the earth: *mahāpṛthivīcalo ‘bhūt sarvaś cāyaṃ loka udāreṇā-vabhāsenā sphuṭo ‘bhūt* and variants. Cf. MPS § 17.9, 10, MAV(1) § 4a.1,2; Saṅghbh I 41.8, 46.21–47.1, 180.7, 190.7; Divy 157.19, 204.22, 205.3–4.

Gilgit version changes to the present tense *vaiśravaṇo ... gāthāṃ bhāṣate*, which is presumably a historical past.

§ 3 The following two *anuṣṭhups* praising the Buddha are not preserved in Pāli at this place. They do not differ much in the two Sanskrit versions. The Gilgit version uses the classical Sanskrit form beginning *namo 'stu*, while the Central Asian manuscripts preserve a hybrid form *nam' astu* (BHSG § 4.29).⁵⁹

Another difference already discussed by Skilling (vol. II 1997: 564–565), who quotes several parallels in Tibetan and Pāli, concerns the last two *pādas* of the first verse. As expected, the Tibetan translation has the same wording as ĀṭānSū(Gilgit), which is *na taṃ devāḥ prajānanti yaṃ prajānāsi buddhimān*, in Skilling's translation "what you, O wise one, know, that the gods cannot fathom". ĀṭānSū(CASkt) has the same wording, but with *cakṣuṣmān* "seer" instead of *buddhimān*. We may add to Skilling's remarks by noting that a similar wording occurs also in ĀṭānSū(Pāli), in a verse praising the former Buddha Vipassī, where the Buddha is called a "seer" (*vīpassissa nam' atthu cakkkhumantassa sirīmato*). Once again the ĀṭānSū(CASkt) is closer to the Pāli. The Tibetan translation *blo ldan* corresponds, as expected, to *buddhimān*.⁶⁰

The other deviation concerns the pronouns. Where three manuscripts of

⁵⁹ Cf. Hoffmann 1939: 39 (=MIAPh 1987: 55) and Skilling vol. I 1994: 469; for discussion see Skilling vol. II 1997: 567–68. In the Pāli version Vessavaṇa praises all the Buddhas, those of the past ending with Śākyamuni, with similar words, e.g., for Kakusandha: *nam' atthu kakusandhassa*.

⁶⁰ The Uigur version follows ĀṭānSū(CASkt) translating "seer"; cf. Zieme 2005: 35–36. As noticed by Zieme the Uigur version differs from both Sanskrit versions on mainly one point: Arhats and Pratyekabuddhas take the place of the gods (*devāḥ*): „Nicht erkennen die Arhats und Pratyekabuddhas, was du erkennst, o Seher.“ Most manuscripts in Uigur script date into the Yuan period; cf. Zieme 2005: 8. The Uigur manuscripts written in Brāhmī (Maue 1996: 67–70) and the Sanskrit manuscripts from the same places around the Turfan oasis are written in the later or eastern variety of "North Turkestan Brāhmī, Type b" (Sander 1968: alphabet u).

the ĀṭānSū(CASkt) affirm the reading *yat-tad*, the Gilgit version has *yaṃ-taṃ*. In this case the revisors of the Central Asian text decided for the classical Sanskrit neuter forms, while the BHS form is documented in the Gilgit manuscript (BHS § 21.11).

The last *pāda* does not differ in meaning but slightly in wording, in the translation of Skilling (vol. II 1997: 565) “to them all (the Buddhās of the past, the present and the future) I pay homage, and to you I go for refuge”. Where in the ĀṭānSū(Gilgit) the periphrastic perfect *asmi gataḥ* is used in the second *pāda*, the Central Asian manuscripts repeat *ahaṃ* constructed with the past participle *gataḥ*. In this case the Tibetan wording *bdag ni* likely corresponds to the Central Asian *ahaṃ*.⁶¹

The following *mantra* and also a similar spell coming before Vaiśravaṇa begins to recite the Sūtra are present only in two Sanskrit manuscripts from Qizil, which are cat.-no. 174 and 175. The *mantras* are not found in either the Tibetan or the Chinese translations,⁶² or in other Sanskrit manuscripts. Hoffmann (1939: 87, note 1=MIAKPh 1987: 103) already noted that the *mantras* are missing in cat.-no. 33 and 165. He argued that the *mantras* were evidently added to the text later, because the two manuscripts that does not contain them are older. In palaeographic terms, this is true only for cat.-no. 33. Cat.-no. 165, of which only a few fragments are preserved, is written in the same script as the two manuscripts that contain the *mantras*. Therefore Hoffmann’s argument is not valid. Furthermore, a late Uigur scroll originating from Murtuq and dated on palaeographic grounds to the Yuan time (U 4876), c. 12th cent. AD, has to be taken into consideration. Zieme (2005: 36) remarks that the *mantra* is missing at this place.⁶³ Is it possible that the two *mantras* were only integrated into manuscripts to be used for ritual purposes?⁶⁴ As

⁶¹ I thank my friend Siglinde Dietz for the references to Tibetan parallels.

⁶² Cf. also Skilling vol. II 1997: 565.

⁶³ “Es fällt auf, dass der Mantra *bilimahā* ... *svāhā*, der nach dem Sanskrittext von Xinjiang in Zeile A 009 gestanden haben müßte, fehlt.”

noted above, such compilations are not unusual. In cat.-no.174 the left margin is distorted and no folio number is preserved. In this case it is therefore impossible to determine whether or not the fragmentary folio belonged to a composite manuscript. This is not the case with cat.-no. 175, which was certainly a composite manuscript, since the Āṭānāṭīka-Sūtra begins with folio 37. The folios are small, measuring only 6.5 x 12 cm. The low folio numbers (fol. 37-6X) and the small size of the folios make it certain that the remains were not part of a DĀ manuscript, but it is impossible to say to which collection it originally belonged, because only the part with remains from the Āṭānāṭīka-Sūtra survives. Since the context of this composite manuscript is unknown, it is impossible to suggest why the *mantras* were introduced into the text.

Another possibility cannot be excluded is that the two *mantras* in question are Tokharian additions, and were not accepted by all Sarvāstivāda communities on the northern Silk Route. This assumption is supported by manuscript cat.-no. 175, which was probably written by a Tokharian scribe, as indicated by typical mistakes as the replacement of Sanskrit *d-* by *t-*.⁶⁵ Only this much can be said: that more than one version of this Sūtra existed at approximately the same time and even in the same monastery, in the library of Qizil. The magic syllables *ghori* (resp. *gori*), *gandhāri*, *cori*, *caṇḍāli*, *sopakke* (resp. *sopake*)⁶⁶ and *sthulasāpati padumāpati* are constituent parts of the *mantras*, some of them occurring at other places in this Sūtra.⁶⁷ All are probably

⁶⁴ E.g., the only extant book from Qizil (Sander 1994: 93-104), which was composed for donation ceremonies; it contains besides poems of praise and the Upasena-Sūtra, also *raṅṣās* and spells, side by side with donation formulas. See also note 68.

⁶⁵ See note 24.

⁶⁶ Siglinde Dietz suggests that *sopake* (from *sopaki*) could be related to *svapāka*, *svapāki*, *sopāka*, *sopāki*, *saupāka*; Pāli *sopāka*, *sapāka*; cf. MW *sopāka* „a man of degraded caste (the son of a Caṇḍāla by a Pulkasī)“.

⁶⁷ E.g. the *mantra* against malicious snakes (*nāga*); cf. Hoffmann 1939: 68-69 (= MIAPh 1987: 84-85). Cf. also Maue 1965: 110-111.

feminine vocatives, and may invoke dreadful and therefore powerful female beings. The creation of effective *mantras* was very popular on the northern Silk Route.⁶⁸ They were sometimes composed by authors who proudly mention their names. This is well documented by the only complete Sanskrit manuscript found at Qizil, in which protection spells are part of different texts collected for the celebration of a donation ceremony.⁶⁹ In this formula a certain Mokṣayaśas composed a protective spell, which is integrated into a short version of the Asilomapratishara (Sander 1994: 100, note 20).⁷⁰ Finally, it should be mentioned that the wording of the end of the two *mantras* in question, which is ... *padumāpati*, respectively ... *udāpati*, could be inspired by the end of the *mantra* against malicious Yakṣas (Hoffmann 1939: 75 = MIAKPh 1987: 91) within our Sūtra, which is ... *ghumāpati*.

§ 4 The following paragraph in prose does not vary much, except for the last two sentences. In this paragraph Vaiśravaṇa explains the need for a powerful protection against snakes, Yakṣas (giants), non-humans, and local goddesses,⁷¹

⁶⁸ Many examples in SHT 3. Cf. also the popularity of such Sūtras as the Nagaropama-Sūtra (Bongard-Levin et.al.1996: 82–103) on the Silk Routes, to which a protection text, the *vyākaraṇa*, is added, as the *hṛdaya* is to the ĀṭānSū in some manuscripts from Central Asia. See also § 5 below.

⁶⁹ Cf. Sander 1994: 93–104. The same stereotype renderings as in the ĀṭānSū occur there in magical verses (*sādhani*) helping to accomplish an unfinished work (*ucchiṣṭakarmasādhani*), among them the famous and powerful two pādas, which are a *satyakriyā*, a curse that becomes true: *saptadhāsyā sphalen mūrdhā āṛjukasyaiva mañjarī* „the head (of a stupid one) may burst into seven pieces as the blossom of the Ārjuka“; cf. Hoffmann 1939 (= MIAKPh 1987): 57 [73], 59 [75], 61 [77], 65 [81], 71 [87], 75 [91] and cat.no. 904 (SHT 3: 155). This curse in Brahmanic and Buddhist literature is discussed in detail by Witzel 1987: 363–415 (for Buddhist texts see pp. 381–383).

⁷⁰ See also cat.no. 60 (SHT 4: 273).

⁷¹ *vyādhā yakṣā amanuṣyā naivāsikā* is translated differently. Cf. SWTF *amanuṣya* and *naivāsika*. I follow Waldschmidt 1961: 201 (=1967: 414) who separates the names translating: „Schlangen (*vyādhā*), Riesen (*yakṣa*), Unmenschen (*amanuṣya*), Lokalgott-

for followers of the Buddha (*śrāvaka*)—monks, nuns, laymen and laywomen—who dwell in the wilderness. In the Gilgit version he simply says that some of the dangerous inhabitants are favorably disposed to the Lord’s words while others are not. Up to here the versions agree, but not in the following sentence. ĀṭānSū(Gilgit) adds only one sentence more, stating that only “a few” (*alpaka*) of them are favorably disposed, while ĀṭānSū(CASkt) emphasizes this fact by using the comparative *alpatarā*, which demands the repetition of the sentence with *bahutarā*, “more are not”.⁷² The Pāli text differs considerably classifying the Yakkhas into three categories from the most important to the lowest: *santi hi bhante nīcā yakkhā bhagavato paṣannā | yebhuyyena kho pana bhante yakkhā aṣannā yeva bhagavato*,⁷³ “Sir, there are low Yakkhas who are believing in the Lord, but really, Sir, almost all are not believing in the Lord.” As already mentioned by Hoffmann (1939: 88, note 4 [=MIAKPh 1987: 104]) the Tibetan translation corresponds word by word to the Central Asian version.⁷⁴ Hoffmann’s German translation of the 10th century Chinese translation of Fa Tian (since 982 Fa Xian) seems to be closer to the Gilgit

heiten (*naivāsika*)”. He refers to Edgerton BHSD sic! Hoffmann (1939: 80=MIAKPh 1987: 96) translates “böse Yakṣa-Ortsdämonen”. Skilling (vol. II, 1997: 566) speaks of “fierce yakṣas and non-humans”. The Pāli text (Hoffmann 1939: 35=MIAKPh 1987: 51; Skilling vol. I: 467) names only *uḷārā* “exalted” and *majjhimā yakkhā* “middling Yakkhas”.

⁷² Hoffmann 1939: 88, note 4 (=MIAKPh 1987: 104) rightly remarks that these sentences are not well documented in the manuscripts. The sequence of the two sentences beginning with *alpatarās*^o is preserved correctly only in cat.-no. 33. Cat.-no.175, fol.38 v2-3 and 165.26 (=K 459.1) v5 omit the first sentence with *alpatarā*. The missing akṣaras are too many for the full wording between v1-2 in cat.-no. 174, which suggests that the second sentence with *bahutarā* was omitted by the scribe, or that the wording was the same as in ĀṭānSū(Gilgit).

⁷³ Hoffmann 1939: 35=MIAKPh 1987: 51; Skilling vol. I 1994: 467; for discussion vol. II 1997: 566.

⁷⁴ Cf. Hoffmann 1939: 34.13-19 (=MIAKPh 1987: 50) and Skilling vol. I 1994: 466.3-6.

version. The other differences in this paragraph are minor.

§ 5 Similarly, the following prose part, in which Vaiśravaṇa extols the efficacy of the Sūtra, which he describes as a charm (*vidyā*), a protective text (*rakṣā*), and a reverence of the feet (*pādavandanī*)⁷⁵ taming the demonic creatures who can potentially molest the Buddha's followers—monks and nuns, layman and laywomen—who dwell in forests, does not differ much.⁷⁶

For the first time the word for the title of the Sūtra is mentioned in the stereotype *āṭānāṭṭiyaṃ/°ṭikaṃ sūtraṃ vidyārakṣāṃ/vidyāṃ rakṣāṃ pādavandanīṃ*, which occurs in the text in the nominative and, as in this passage, in the accusative case. It is obvious from the references in accusative that *vidyārakṣā* was always written as a compound in ĀtānSū(Gilgit), while the Central Asian manuscripts have two separate words. In the light of the Tibetan translation the compound can only be understood as a *dvandva* with the same meaning as the Central Asian reading.

More important are the different wordings for the title of the Sūtra, which is likely named after the air-borne city of Kubera/Vaiśravaṇa.⁷⁷ These have been discussed in detail by Hoffmann (1939: 8–10 [=MIAKPh 1987: 22–24])

⁷⁵ Waldschmidt (1961: 201=1967: 414, note 4) comments upon *pādavandanī* that it may refer to the powerful verses in this Sūtra and points with this note to a problem, namely, that *pādavandanī* in the meaning “reference of the feet”, a gesture of respect, does not fit into this sequence. One expects another expression of effective power.

⁷⁶ For the differences between the Tibetan, the ĀtānSū(CASkt) and the Pāli see Skilling vol. II 1997: 566.

⁷⁷ Cf. SWTF: *Ātānāṭṭā*. The name is only partly preserved in cat.-no. 621 r3 (°*nāṭa*), which should be restored to (*āṭā*)*nāṭā*. This manuscript was not yet identified, when Hoffmann worked on his edition. At this place Hoffmann (1939: 53=MIAKPh 1987: 69) followed cat.-no.31: *tadyathā āḍānāḍa*. Although he realized that the text of the fragmentary leaf cat.-no. 31 differs considerably from the wording in the other Central Asian manuscripts, he used this fragment for reconstructing the text. In the introduction of his edition he discussed the different orthographies of Vaiśrāvaṇa's town in detail (1938: 6–7=MIAKPh 1987: 20–21).

and Skilling (vol.II 1997: 557-58), which need not to be repeated here in detail.⁷⁸ Only some words about the Central Asian variant *āṭānāṭika* based on Hoffmann's argumentation. In an *hrdaya* appended to some of the Central Asian manuscripts⁷⁹ the word *āṭānāṭi* occurs in two *anuṣṭhubs* (Hoffmann 1939: 103-04 [=MIAKPh 1987: 119-20]), the meaning of which remains obscure. According to Hoernle it is the name of a demon, but Hoffmann's (1939: 10 [=MIAKPh 1987: 24]) interpretation that the Sūtra itself is meant by *āṭānāṭi* is more convincing, and is also followed by Skilling (vol. II, 1997: 159). The *hrdaya* is not appended to the Sūtra in canonical contexts, neither in Pāli, in ĀṭānSū(Gilgit), or in DĀ manuscripts from the northern Silk Route.

In the Central Asian manuscripts very little text is preserved from the part following the title and its characterization, in which is said that this Sūtra is a protection for followers of the Buddha (*śrāvaka*) etc., when they learn (*udgṛhṇīyuh*) and master (*pariyavāpnuyuh*) it in detail (*vistareṇa*). A little more text can be gained from the repetition at the end, which was published by Waldschmidt in 1961 on the basis of a fragment from Tumšūq (cat.-no. 10). While Hoffmann (1939: 37 [=MIAKPh 1987: 53]) restored the passage to *vi(dyām rakṣām pādavandanīm vistaren)odgṛhṇīyur (dhārayeyur ātmano guptaye rakṣāyai sukhasparśavihāratāyā)*, Waldschmidt (1961: 201 [=1967: 414], note 5) followed a similar wording in the Divyāvadāna, which increases the number of verbs. He restored the phrase to (*vistareṇa udgṛhṇīyur dhārayeyur vācayeyuh*) *pariyavāpnuyur yāvad evātma(no)* ... The ĀṭānSū(Gilgit) text is even shorter than Hoffmann's reconstruction; it reads *vidyārakṣām pādavandanīm vistareṇodgṛhṇīyuh pariyavāpnuyuh yāvad evātmano rakṣāyai guptaye sparśavihārāyā* ... The main difference between ĀṭānSū(Gilgit) and the two mainly

⁷⁸ For linguistic arguments cf. Skilling vol. II 1997: 557-58.

⁷⁹ For the Sanskrit manuscripts cf. Hoffmann 1939: 27-30 (=MIAKPh 1987: 43-46), which are Hoernle manuscript no. 149 x/6, cat.-no. 444 (=§ 1042), 372 (=518), 243 (=519), and another recently identified, but not yet published fragment cat.-no. 3164 (SHT 9: 436).

reconstructed versions concerns the verbs. The Tibetan translation has only two verbs, namely, *rgya cher 'dzin cin* | *kun chub par bgyid na* (Hoffmann 1939: 36.16–17 [=MIAKPh 1987: 52] and Skilling vol. I 1994: 468.2–3), which literally corresponds to ĀtānSū(Gilgit), namely, *vistarenodgrhṇīyuh paryavāpnuyuh*. This is not the only reason for having doubts about Hoffmann's and even more in Waldschmidt's reconstructions. Much speaks in favour of the same wording as in ĀtānSū(Gilgit), especially because the remains of cat.-no. 10, ... *paryavāpnuyuh yāvad evātmano...*, do not differ. Another difference between the two versions is the addition of *sukha*°, and °*vihāratā* for °*vihāra* in *sukhasparśavihāratāyā* in the reconstructed texts of both Hoffmann⁸⁰ and Waldschmidt. It is not at all certain whether *sukha*° originally belonged to the Central Asian text. The number of akṣaras missing in the fragments cat.-no. 33 and 10 speak in favour of a text similar to the Gilgit manuscript. Following Hoffmann (1939: 12 [=MIAKPh 1987: 26]) the average number of akṣaras in lines without string holes in cat.-no. 33 are 37 to 43. Even the short Gilgit version would exceed this average by 5 counting 48 akṣaras between cat.-no. 33.11 verso 6 and 33.12 recto 1. The same is true for cat.-no. 10. The text should fill the gap between recto 3 and 4; both lines are interrupted by a square empty space for the string hole. They should therefore have less akṣaras than the complete lines. Taking the missing number of akṣaras in recto 4 as guide-line, there should be not many more than 42 to 44 akṣaras in line three. Following Waldschmidt's reconstruction the number of missing akṣaras in this line is 54, which is too many, while the text of ĀtānSū(Gilgit) with 40 missing akṣaras without *sukha*° and °*tā* from °*viharatā* fits perfectly into the gap. A further difference concerns the position of *gūptaye* and *rākṣāyai*. Although the two nouns are not preserved in any Central Asian manuscript, the change of their position to *rākṣāyai gūptaye* as in ĀtānSū(Gilgit) is very

⁸⁰ Hoffmann (1939: 37 (=MIAKPh 1987: 53) and Skilling vol. I 1994: 466 1.8) likely followed the Tibetan translation *bde ba la reg par gnas par byi ba dan*, which corresponds to Sanskrit: *sukha-sparśa-vihāratā*. I owe this reference to Siglinde Dietz.

probable.

The last discrepancy in this paragraph concerns the tense of the verb *adhivas* in the sentence saying that the Lord consented to Vaiśravaṇa in silence. Hoffmann (1939: 37 [=MIAKPh 1987: 53]) restituted the phrase from the Tibetan *gnang bar mdzad do*, which corresponds to *adhivāsayaṭi*, but ĀṭānSū(Gilgit) reads *adhivāsaye(d^o)*.⁸¹ The meaning of this stereotype is quite clear, the Lord consents in silence: *adhivāsayaṭi ... tūṣṇīmabhāvena* (cf. SWTF *adhivas* 2). In this case the optative in ĀṭānSū(Gilgit) is strange. Because “may consent” gives no sense, Dietz proposes in a letter to understand it as a gnomic optative.⁸²

§ 6 Before the Sūtra proper, which is composed in *anuṣṭhups*, begins, it is said in a stereotyped phrase that after Vaiśravaṇa realized the consent of the Lord, that “at this time” he began to recite the Āṭānāṭīya/ṭika-Sūtra, the charm, the protection text, the reverence to the feet in full length. Small deviations in wording occur also in this paragraph. As before, the Central Asian version is not well preserved. Most of the text is reconstructed, partly with the help of the end of the Sūtra, and partly from the Tibetan. The Central Asian text reads *vaiśravaṇo ... tasyām velāyām...idam eva āṭānāṭikaṃ sūtraṃ...babhāṣe*. In ĀṭānSū (Gilgit) *tasyām velāyām*, which corresponds to the Tibetan translation *de'i tshe* (Skilling vol. I 1994: 468.8=Hoffmann 1939: 38.5 [=MIAKPh 1987: 54]), is omitted. It was possibly forgotten by the copyist at this place, because it is present in ĀṭānSū(Gilgit) in a similar wording at the end of § 2, ... *tasyām velāyām gāthām bhāṣate*.

Furthermore, ĀṭānSū(CASkt) reads *bhagavataḥ purataḥ*, where ĀṭānSū (Gilgit) has *purastād*, both meaning the same, namely, “before the Lord”. Hoffmann’s restoration is based on cat.-no. 33.12 recto 3, where only the

⁸¹ *adhivāsaye* is either a scribal error or BHS form; cf. BHS § 29.7.

⁸² The use of the optative in this place needs further investigation; it has to be checked whether it appears also in other Sūtras in this DĀ manuscript.

Visarga is preserved (*purataḥ*) followed by *idam eva*.⁸³

The last difference concerns the tense of the verbs, already detailed in § 2 above, which, in this case, is the historical present *bhāṣate* in ĀṭānSū(Gilgit) and the perfect *babhāṣe* in ĀṭānSū(CASkt).

From the above said is obvious that there are only relatively minor differences in wording and phrasing between the two versions. It is not a surprise that in general the ĀṭānSū(Gilgit) is closer to the Tibetan translation than the ĀṭānSū(CASkt). The differences between the two versions cannot be expressed better than with Peter Skilling's (vol.II 1997: 16–17) summary of the result of his comparison of the Tibetan translation of the Mahāsūtras with their Central Asian counterparts: "There are, however, a number of differences in phrasing and in inclusion or omission of certain elements between the Central Asian Sanskrit versions ... and the corresponding Tibetan Mahāsūtra versions. Since the Central Asian versions are considered to be Sarvāstivādin, and since such discrepancies are precisely of the type that distinguish Sarvāstivādin and Mūlasarvāstivādin recensions, this may be taken as further evidence for the Mūlasarvāstivādin affiliation of the Tibetan Mahāsūtras." It has to be added that the Central Asian tradition is not as uniform as the edition of Hoffmann's Āṭānāṭīka-Sūtra suggests. The fragments belong to different collections; some have additions, as the *mantras* in cat.-no.174 and 175, others are close to the Gilgit text and the Tibetan translation.⁸⁴ But all of them belong to a similar tradition, except the fragmentary folio cat.-no. 31, which does not contain a Sarvāstivāda text. For all these reasons it is

⁸³ *purataḥ* is used in the same phrase in the closely related MsjSū; cf. Waldschmidt 1980: 151, § 3: *catasro brahmakāyikā devatā ... bhagavataḥ purataḥ pratitasthuḥ*.

⁸⁴ Von Simson (2000: 14–15) showed that different versions from the Prātimokṣa-Sūtra were current on the northern Silk Route. He discussed their relation to the Mūlasarvāstivāda texts on the basis of many more manuscripts than preserved from the Āṭānāṭīka-Sūtra. See also Fukita 2003: XVIII–XX for the Mahāvādāna-Sūtra.

still risky to reconstruct a reliable text from the only fragmentary remains, even though it is desirable to have it.

Abbreviations

ARIRIAB	Annual Report of the International Research Institute for Advanced Buddhology at Soka University
ĀṭānSū	Āṭānāṭīya- or Āṭānāṭika-Sūtra
ĀṭānSū(CASkt)	Āṭānāṭika-Sūtra (Central Asian, Sanskrit)
ĀṭānSū(CAUig)	Āṭānāṭika-Sūtra (Central Asian, Uigur)
ĀṭānSū(Gilgit)	Āṭānāṭīya-Sūtra (Gilgit)
ĀṭānSū(Pāli)	Āṭānāṭīya-Sutta (Pāli)
ĀṭānSū(Tib)	Āṭānāṭīya-Sūtra (Tibetan)
BEFEO	Bulletin d'École Française d'Extrême Orient
BHSD	Edgerton: Buddhist Hybrid Dictionary
BHSG	Edgerton: Buddhist Hybrid Grammar
BMSC	Buddhist manuscripts in the Schøyen Collection
BSOAS	Bulletin of the School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London
cat.-no.	Catalogue number (SHT)
DĀ	Dīrghāgama
Divy	Divyāvadāna; ed. E.B. Cowell, R.A. Neil.
IJ	Indo-Iranian Journal
IOL	India Office Library
JA	Journal Asiatique
JICABS	Journal of the International College for Advanced Buddhist Studies
MIAKPh	Monographien zur indischen Archäologie, Kunst und Archäologie, herausgegeben im Auftrag des Stiftungsrates

	der Stiftung Waldschmidt vom Direktor des Museums für Indische Kunst der Staatlichen Museen Preußischer Kulturbesitz Herbert Härtel
MAV(1)	Mahāvadānasūtra; see Waldschmidt 1953
MsjSū	Mahāsamāja-Sūtra; see Waldschmidt 1980
MPS	Mahāparinirvāṇasūtra; see Waldschmidt 1950-51
MW	Sir Monier Monier Williams Sanskrit-English Dictionary, new edition greatly enlarged and improved
Sanḡbh	Sanḡhabhedavastu; see Gnoli
ŚāṅkSū	Śāṅkaraka-Sūtra
SHT	Sanskrihandschriften aus den Turfanfunden; see Waldschmidt
SWTF	Sanskritwörterbuch der buddhistischen Texte aus den Turfanfunden see Bechert
VOHD	Verzeichnis der Orientalischen Handschriften in Deutschland, hrsg. von W. Voigt, D. George und H.-O. Feistel
WZKSO	Wiener Zeitschrift für die Kunde Süd- und Ostasiens

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