

Khotanese language. Contents not identified. No. 3, Hoernle Reg. 4'0" x 10". Pl. CXLVII.

Ch. 0044. Roll, practically complete; dirty dun-coloured paper, much damaged in the upper portion (c. 10 ft.) and along middle and R. edge. Inscr. on obv. with Chin., on rev. with 70 ll. in Cursive Gupta chars. and bad Skr. language; remaining space, c. 18 ft., blank.

Contents: *Kausaki-prajñā-pāramitā*. See *J.R.A.S.*, 1911, p. 473. No. 4, Hoernle Reg. 23'10" x 10". Pl. CXLVII.

Ch. 0045. Roll, incomplete; on dun-coloured paper; fr. torn off a roll. On rev. portions of 12 ll. in Cursive Gupta chars. and Khotanese language. No. 5, Hoernle Reg. 15½" x 4¾".

Ch. 0046. Roll, three sets of small frs. apparently from three different rolls. (1) Three torn frs. of dirty brown colour, inscr. on rev. with Cursive Gupta chars., in Khotanese. (2) Three torn frs. of dun-coloured paper; each inscr. on rev. with identical remarks in Khotanese and Cursive Gupta. (3) One large and one small fr. inscr. on rev. with Cursive Gupta alphabetic table, but not in usual order. Quoted in *J.R.A.S.*, 1911, p. 458, and shown, *ib.*, Pl. IV. No. 5 (con.), Hoernle Reg.

Ch. 0047. Roll, practically complete but lower end damaged. Inscr. on rev. with 35 ll. in fair Cursive Gupta script, partly in Khotanese, partly in corrupt Skr.

Contents: text commences with 14 ll. in Khotanese, not identified. Then follow 10 verses in corrupt Skr., and finally, short sentence in Khotanese. No. 6, Hoernle Reg. 2'3½" x 12¾".

Ch. 0048. Roll, complete; dun-coloured paper, slightly damaged along L. edge; inscr. on obv. with Chin.; on rev., upper portion, with 71 ll. in crude Cursive Gupta and Khotanese language; bottom, about 15", blank. Along top line of writing is faint impression of two seals, apparently Chinese.

Contents: Khotanese text commencing with a date, quoted in *J.R.A.S.*, 1911, p. 470. Then follows Buddhist story with introduction; both quoted, *ibid.*, p. 474. No. 7, Hoernle Reg. 7'11" x 12¾".

Ch. 0049. Roll, shapeless fr. torn off larger roll; at bottom, a pasted-on strip, 9¾" x 1¼". Inscr. with 7 ll. in Khotanese and Cursive Gupta. In top line traces of a date. Also another small fr. No. 8, Hoernle Reg. 8½" x 5" to 6".

Ch. 0079. a. Palm-leaf Pōthī, on 69 fols. R. and L. margins of fols. bounded by inked lines. String-hole at 6½" from L. end (or at ⅓ of whole leaf), and between two inked lines crossing from upper to lower edge of leaf; the space between these two lines divides the surface of the fol. into two inscr. areas, the lines of which are, however, continuous. Fol. No. on L. margin of obv. Leaves on the whole well preserved, except some which are mutilated, e.g. fol. 62, which has lost about 6" at R. end; in five fols. L. margin is gone, together with fol. numbers. Six ll. writing on page.

Script an early form of Nepalese, rather than a late form of Upright Indian Gupta. A marked peculiarity is the exaggerated knot attached to foot, and R. side of top of such letters as *ga*, *śa*, *dha*, *tha*, etc. (cf. Nos. 1702 and 1049 of the Table of Letters in Bendall, *Catalogue of Buddhist Sans-*

krit MSS.). This points to the eighth or ninth century as date of Pōthī.

The preserved fol. Nos., arranged in centuries, are as follows:—

		Total.
1st cent.	12, 25, 41, 57, 60, 62, 63, 82, 85, 94, 97	11 fols.
2nd cent.	101, 102, 120, 124, 129, 140, 160, 167, 169, 180, 182, 195 ...	12 "
3rd cent.	205, 221, 242, 273, 279, 284, 291, 295	8 "
4th cent.	310, 317, 343, 364, 373, 395 ...	6 "
5th cent.	404, 405, 407, 460, 461, 463, 465, 468, 492, 493	10 "
6th cent.	524, 553, 560, 564, 575, 599 ...	6 "
7th cent.	None.	0 "
8th cent.	721, 771	2 "
9th cent.	811, 813, 860, 865, 866, 893, 894, 895	8 "
10th cent.	913	1 "
		Total 64 "

In four of existing fols. (310 *bii*, 395 *bvi*, 895 *ai*, *civ*) there occur numeral figures, marking the end of a section, but without mentioning the name of the work.

From the non-consecutive order of figures (28, 77, 65) it is clear that they do not indicate sections or chapters, but either subsections or the number of verses in the subsections. Bendall (*loc. cit.*, p. 2, l. 21) says with reference to the *Aṣṭasāhasrikā* that the figures refer to the number of verses in each chapter; and that, no doubt, is correct with regard to the *Aṣṭasāhasrikā* redaction; for the total of figures amounts to 8,164. All the redactions of the *Prajñā-pāramitā* are written in prose; and the Indian method of estimating the extent of prose writing is to count the number of Ślokas (aggregate of 32 Akṣaras) contained within it. On the other hand, a similar remark of Bendall (*loc. cit.*, p. 146, l. 6) leaves it doubtful whether he took the figures to refer to 'subdivisions' or to the verses contained in a 'subdivision'. This doubt can be set at rest only by referring to an actual complete MS. of the *Śatasāhasrikā*, such as is not accessible to me.

From colophon of unnumbered fol. (*civ*) it is seen that the surviving fols. belong to one of the redactions of the *Prajñā-pāramitā*. This may be seen also from many other passages: e.g. on fol. 25 *ai*.

Seeing that the last extant fol. is numbered 913, and that there are 12 ll. on each fol., with about 96 Akṣaras (or 3 Ślokas) on each line, i.e. 36 Ślokas on each fol., it follows that 913 fols. yield a total of 32,868 Ślokas. Now there are five redactions of the *Prajñā-pāramitā*, of 125,000, 100,000, 25,000, 10,000, and 8,000 Ślokas respectively. The total of 32,868 excludes the last three redactions. It can belong only to either the redaction of 125,000 or to that of 100,000. The latter is the better known redaction, and our MS. probably belonged to it. On that premise, about two-thirds of the Pōthī are missing; for three times 32,868 comes to 98,604 Ślokas. Now,