THE OLDEST DATED MANUSCRIPT OF THE MILINDAPAÑHA

As stated by V. Trenckner in his classic though pioneering edition of the Milindapañha(Mil),1 the end of the text has been lost, and the missing parts have been supplemented in the surviving manuscripts as far as they were accessible to Trenckner, from Mil 418, 21 onwards 'perhaps in Siam'. Therefore it is not without interest to have a glance at the last folios of an old manuscript of the Mil from North Thailand. This manuscript has been microfilmed at Wat Lai Hin, Amphoe Ko Kha, in 1972/4 by Dr. H. Hundius, at present University of Chiang Mai, during his research on Northern Thai literature, which has been supported by the German Research Foundation (Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft). According to the colophon preserved on the verso of the last folio: sakrāj dai 857 tva nai pī dap hmau Milindapañha nāy sin prahyā sān vai kap ham pitak dā soy lee 'Sakarāja 857, in the year dap hmau, the Milindapañha has been donated by Nāy Sin Prahyā to the Dā Soy library' the manuscript is dated in CS 857, dap hmau, Chinese tho and Thai kratāy 'year of the hare', which corresponds to BS 2038 and AD 1495. The extraordinary high age immediately ranks this manuscript as number four, if other known dated manuscripts are compared.² Thus it is almost certainly much older than Trenckner's Sinhalese manuscript B, which he cautiously estimated to be about 400 years old, and consequently written during the late 15th century (Mil p. III). However, a more realistic date may be the 16th or even the 17th century.3

The donor, the $prahy\bar{a}$ Sin, who gave the manuscript to the monastic library ($ham\ pitak$ corresponding to modern Thai $ho\ trai$), is unknown, while the place name Dā Soy of unknown location⁴ occurs more often in colophons of old manuscripts from Wat Lai Hin. Unfortunately, only about half of this valuable manuscript has survived, which, most probably consisted of 15 $ph\bar{u}k$ (fasciculi) originally. For the last $ph\bar{u}k$ should have been no. 16 (ha, la) rather, if the

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number of folios necessary to cover the text is calculated, in spite of the fact that the text ends in the extant $ph\bar{u}k$ no. 15 (va, sa). The $ph\bar{u}k$ nos. 3, 8, 9, 12, 13, 14 have been lost. The following table shows the surviving parts of the text:

phūk 1: folios ka-kaḥ, kha-khaḥ
Begins: namo tassa tthu. milindo nāma so rājā, 1, 1
(photo 1)
Ends: dutiyaṃ pi kho sabbadi[nno], 30, 7 (photo 48)

phūk 2: folios ga-gaḥ, gha-ghaḥ Begins: [sabbadi]nno āha(āha ex corr.)gacchatu, 30, 7 (photo 48) Ends: āṇāpeti, 57, 29 (photo 1)

phūk 4: folios cha-chaḥ, ja-jaḥ
Begins: [mahārā]ja pañcayojanikassa(!) macchassa,
85 16 (photo 5!)
Ends: kaṇṭhakaṃ niha[r]e[yya], 112, 29 (photo 1)
[om. na.]

phūk 5: folios jha-jhaḥ, ña-ñaḥ Begins: [niha]r[e]yya maraṇaṃ, 112, 29 (photo 1) Ends: nipatitā yo pi mahā[rāja], 137, 11 (photo 48)

phūk 6: folios ṭa-ṭaḥ, ṭha-ṭhaḥ Begins: [mahā]rāja bhagavato, 137, 11 (photo 1) Ends: °vibhūsanābhirato ti ara[hati], 163, 25 (photo 48)

phūk 7: folios da-daḥ, dha-dhaḥ Begins: [ara]hati upāsako, 163, 25 (photo 1) Ends: pāṇippahāre hattha[cch]e[jjaṃ], 193, 17 (photo 48)

phūk 10: folios dha-dhaḥ, na-naḥ Begins: sacetanā buddhā(!), 247, 21 (photo 1) Ends: suriyo mandam tapati, 273, 27 (photo 48)

phūk 11: folios pa-paḥ, pha-phaḥ Begins: ime kho, 273, 27 (photo 50) Ends: so tassa kālo kā[le], 302, 2 (photo 1)

phūk 15: folios va-vaḥ, sa-saḥ (The pagination is mostly broken away, but still clearly readable in one or two instances).

Begins: [o]namati, 400, 15 (photo 23)

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Ends: pūjayan ti. milindapañhā samattā paripuṇṇā niṭṭhitā, 420, 22 ff. (photo 57)

Those *akṣaras* enclosed in brackets are supplemented from the preceding or succeeding folios respectively.

A marginal title has been given to the left of the text on the recto or verso of the folios khaḥ, gaḥ, etc. (not on the kafolios): milindapaṇhā nāy sin prahyā sān vai kap haṃ piṭak dā soy.

On each folio there are six lines of writing. Information on the size of the manuscript, which could not be traced at Wat Lai Hin in January 1986, is not available. The serial number in the Hundius collection is no. 685 on microfilm roll no. 8. The sequence of the $ph\bar{u}k$ on the microfilm is nos. 1, 2, 10, 7, 5, 4, 11, 6, 15, $ph\bar{u}k$ nos. 2, 11 being photographed beginning with the end of the respective text. The remark 'photo' in the table of contents as given above refers to the page number on the microfilm.

The manuscript has been written in a clear hand and on the whole very correctly. To give an impression of the quality of the text, which is almost identical with Trenckner's edition, the first $ph\bar{u}k$ has been compared to the printed text of the PTS edition:

1,3 sāgalānam; 1,8 abbhūtā (always -ū-); 1,11 bhāsayitvāna; 1,12 °vidālaye; 1,18 °andāla°; 1,19 °parikhāra°; 1,21 suppasāditâ° (thus always); 2,2 bhimagiri°; 2,7 f. °vatthābharaṇasampannam; 2,10 °singādivānija°; 2,11 °rajata° (so always); 2,13 bahunnapānam; 2,19 om. ti; 2,23 pubbayoggo; 2,25 paţivasanti; 2,27 āvajjento; 2,32 om. bhikkhu; 3,5 paţhamam pathamam patthapesi; 3,25 nikumbam; 3,27 om. rājā; 3,28 samantā yoga°; 3,30 niggahitāni; 3,31 om. gaņikā; 3,32 yudhā chandā muttā pāvacanena ekavīsati; 4,1 duppāsaho; 4,3 om. koci; 4,4 addho; 4,7 °kāmya°; 4,8 senāgaņam; 4,13 samghagaņī; 4,14 parijāyamāno; 4,17 puraņo (so always); 4,17 gosānelā(!); 4,18 sañjayo veddhalhapatto (cf. Sn 92, 3 with Pj II 423, 10 foll.); 4,21 foll. pativinassu ti; 4,24 bhadūvahanam; 5,8 phalavipāko; 5,27 kam nu nv(!) ajja; 6,7 sotuyā; 6,9 om. bhikkhu; 6,32 after vihethetīti inserted on the lower margin of the page by a second hand: sabbe pi te bhikkhū tassa paņhe

vissajjetum asakkontā nagarato nikkhamitvā yena vā tena vā pakkamanti. sāgalanagaram dvādasa vassāni samanebhi suññam ahosi. tasmi bhagavato sāsanam palutam ahosi.; 6,33 om. assaguttam; 6,34 kho mahantena ketu°; 7,4-7 om. atha kho . . . °pattiyāti; 7,18 kiñci (so read here and elsewhere, e.g. Mil 122,31 with all manuscripts including this one: O. v. Hinüber: Die Grundlagen des älteren Mittelindisch. Wien 1986 §379 and addenda); 7,23 hatthatuttho; 8,3 khanam yeva; 8,7 pamujjante; 8,9 tenāvuso; 8,13 upapajjissati; 8,15 foll. om. nīharitvā; 8,22 sammā for dhammā; 8,23 abhipathanam; 8,27 abhivādanañ ca; 9,4 gamtvā (thus always); 9,10 hiyo (thus always); 10,4 sippāni for sippam; 10,5 om. ācariyabrāhmanassa; 10,2 om. ahesum; 10,15 anvavo; 11,11 kocchapalibodho sucipalibodho kappakapalibodho: this brings the number of palibodha up to 16; 11,16 om. yathā; 11,23 dātum sa/kkhā; 12,3 santi pabba/jissa detīti; 12,9 vijamhavatthum: -m- ex corr.; 12,10 vijamha°; 12,21 dhammasanginim; 13,9 om. vitthārena; 13,11 appothesum (thus always); 13,11 dibbāni ca nānācunnāni; 13,15 pubbanha (thus always); 13,17 upādisi; 13,23 parivitakkesi na kho; 13,27 yam nūnāham; 14,18 added by the scribe of the manuscript at the bottom of the folio in front of ko nāmo: tvam kimnāmo si ti vutto nāgaseno ti vadesi; 14,30 upajjhāyo me; 15,7 sammajjāţthānam; 15,9 tam danta°; 15,17 tumhākam assagutta; 16,5 dhammakathāya; 16,5 suññaṭāya paṭī°; 16,7 tasmiñ ñeva; 16,7 dhammacakkhu (thus always); 16,13 foll. nisinno dvinam(!); 16,24 kim viduram, -am ex corr. from -e by a second hand; 16,28 labhissāsi; 16,28 foll. vigatakālikam; 17,16 kimnāmo; 17,20 *ăbhidhammiko* written twice; 17,23 yeva ca; 18,16 foll. hotu bhante ettakena pi ten' eva; 18,23 foll. himavantapabbate; 18,25 pāhensu; 18,32 panham pucchāya; 19,6 akaminsu (thus here only); 19,9 foll. kam nu khv ajja; 19,12 kankha(!)paţivinodetun ti; 19,17 bhaddantassa, thus only rarely; 19,30 after pabbajjā (pa is ommitted by mistake in the manuscript) follows an insertion mark for devamanussanam atthava hitāya sukhāya written at the bottom of the folio by a second hand; 19,32-20,1 bhagavatā . . . pavattentena; 20,4-10 na pabbajitā/tena hi, om. puna ca . . . pabbajitā ti, at the right margin following pabbajitā by a second hand: eka yeva, and

The Oldest Dated manuscript of the Milindapanha 115 by the same hand at the bottom on the right side of this folio pabbajito ti. It is not clear how these additions should fit into the text; 20,23 pana vo bhante; 20,23 bhikkhū(abbhokasika) nesajjikā: parentheses as in the manuscript; 20,24 panthe dūsakā; 21,13 °gaņa° added by a second hand below the line; 21,16 pabhinnasambhido; 21,20 durattaro; 21,21 asankhobbho; 21,24 rājamattānam; 21,24 gurukato; 21,25 °pindipāta° (thus always); 21,30 ussāpento (for yajanto) dhammayāgam pagganhanto; 21,31 °ketum ussāpento dhammasankham; 22,2 °vijjuthāla°(?); 22,3 sakalam lokam; 22,5 patto; 22,16 tad avasi; 22,24 foll. pucchasu ti; 22,27 om. va; 23,13 °sahassena; 23,22 kotthuko; 23,28 vessavannā°; 24,4 foll. tassam . . . °parisāyam; 24,7 vuddhataro; 24,17 anakkhātañ neva; 24,18 milindarañño; 24,26 cittam nāsakkhitan ti kathā(!) nitthitā; 25,7 kimnāmo; 25,10 foll. om. sīhaseno ti vā; 25,13 puggalo ti; 25,23 om. ko before adinnam; 25,27 phalavipākam; 26,5 kinu kho (thus frequently); 26,8 mansanahārū; 26,8 atthimañjam; 26,11 foll. muttam matthalungam; 26,12-15 om. kin nu . . . mahārājā ti; (26,28 unhāya: E^e misprint: un^o); 26,28 sakkharakalalavālirhakā; 26,29 rujjhanti; 27,8 patodayatthi, cf. BHS pratodayasti; 27,13 pucchanto (only once); 27,17 bhāsitvā; 27,21, kalla nu; 28,12 visajjitāni nāmapañham/pathamam nitthitam. kativasso: The colophon of this chapter has been added at the right and left margins almost certainly by the scribe himself, Be (1962) vassaganapañhā dutiyā, 27,14; 28,24 om. satta; 29,1 paţiviseso, paţi° added below the line by a second hand, Be has vissaso, pativissaso, which may be a reading influenced by 29,8 vissattho, for viseso cf. Mil 94,7; 29,18 yā ca, ex corr. yāni ca by the same hand as in Mil 29,1; 29,19 atthan; 29,20 yanunāham; 29,32 $\tilde{a}gacchatu = B^e$; 30,7 saabbadi: end of phūk 1.

Letters marked as the here have been cancelled by the scribe; a vertical stroke (/) has been put between two words, if the first stands at the end, and the second at the beginning of a line.

The variants given above do not include the here very occasional confusion between -t- and -t- common in SE Asian manuscripts of inferior quality. The word for 'silver' rajata is

written thus in accordance with the SE Asian Pāli orthography. The vowels i/\bar{i} and u/\bar{u} have been distinguished only rarely, a common use in Thai Pāli manuscripts. There is no visible distinction in this manuscript between th/tth and dha/ddh. Instead of the anusvāra, which is hardly ever marked after -i, the manuscript has -is- regularly as in the aorists ending in insu, in hansa, 24,11 etc., what has not been noted in the preceding collation. The most conspicuous, though isolated form in this context is pāhensu, 18,25, which is a BHS form alien to Pāli. There are, however, some very slight traces of Sanskritization to be observed in this particular case and very occasionally elsewhere as in patodayatthi, cf. pratodayaşthi, Divyāvadāna (index) or perhaps mañja for miñja or guru for garu. The frequent kinu, kalla nu, 27,21 and first of all yanu, 29,20 are forms similar to those met with in Mūlasarvāstivāda texts from Gilgit.5

The ultimate origin of this manuscript seems to be Ceylon as shown by some very characteristic misreadings confusing akṣaras of the Sinhala alphabet: bh/h: $bh\bar{a}sayitv\bar{a}na$, 1,11 for h° ; bhimagiri, 2,2 for $hima^\circ$; vijamhavatthum, 12,9.10 for -mbh. Further, $-\bar{u}$ - and subscript -r- have been confused in $bhad\bar{u}^\circ$, 4,24 for $bhadra^\circ$, and finally ca stands for va in $y\bar{a}va$: $y\bar{a}ni$ ca, 29,18.

The oldest manuscript used by Trenckner, his B, breaks off at Mil 418,10,6 and most of the rest of the text has been supplemented in A from a Siamese Pāli manuscript. The wording of this supplement is the same as in his Burmese manuscript M and in the Siamese printed edition (S^e 1923: BE 2466).⁷

Now the manuscript from Wat Lai Hin offers a slightly different end of Mil, which may be the original one. And even in this manuscript, which is based on the Sinhalese tradition as stated above, the last folio bristles with corrected miswritings. This may point to an original, in which the last folio was difficult to read because its writing was partly effaced already. Therefore it is tempting to think that this Mil manuscript from North Thailand has been copied shortly before the last two folios of the only(!?) surviving manuscript at that time in Ceylon were finally lost. On the other hand,

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the manuscript from Wat Lai Hin seems to mark a dead end of the tradition, as no further trace of the end of the text as given here can be found, and as in addition to this the need was felt to compose a new end to the text as a substitute for what was lost. This new text comprises Mil 419,14 foll. only, as we can see now, that is only the last folio was really lost at a certain time in SE Asia as well, which had to be rewritten almost certainly not earlier than the 16th century, if not later. This supplement, the new end as we have it today, reads as if somebody, who still knew this passage more or less by heart, wrote down a slightly enlarged version as a substitute for the lost folio. And it is only in this late supplement that the somewhat confusing calculation of the number of questions is mentioned, which therefore seems to be a fairly recent addition to the text.⁸

The following text of the two 'lost' folios can be found in the manuscript from Wat Lai Hin:

418,21 imasmi: the anusvāra is not marked after -i throughout; 418,22 °āļakaṃ; 418,23 vaka°; 418,28 anattato as M; 418,28 rogato pey gaṇḍato; 418,29 ītito as M; 418,30 attāraṇato against all of Trenckner's manuscripts; 418,31 aļenato; 418,31 araṇato by mistake; 419,4-6 The text is disturbed by repetition: imasmi kāyogāvacarena sāyapā/taṃ ārammaṇe upāsitabbaṃ idaṃ mahārāja issatthassa catutthaṃ aṅgaṃ gahetabbaṃ. bhāsitaṃ petaṃ mahārāja yoginā yogāvacarena sāyaṃ pā/taṃ ārammaṇe . . ., M and the Wat Lai Hin manuscript have sāyaṃ pātaṃ throughout. The lines 3 and 4 of photo no. 55 are identical for the better part, and identical akṣaras have been written below each other; 419,11* sāyātaṃ by mistake; 419,12* labhati bhattavettanaṃ.

The text following the verses differs from the one known so far:

419,14* foll.: . . . adhigacchatīti. milindapañho nitthito. milindapañhavyākaraṇāvasāne samuddakucchiyā nighoso viya sādhukara/56,1/saddo + (bahu)lo ahosi. (de)vasabhā milindoft rājā pa (miswritten for ca) orodhagaṇā parisā ca añjalī panāmetvā vandisu. so nihatamānathambho

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uddhaṭadāṭṭho viya bhujagindo evam āha. sādhu bhante nāgasena buddhavisayo pañho tayā visajjito imasmi sāsane ṭhapetvā dhammadesanā(!)pati sāriph(!)/puttattheraṃ añño tayā sadiso pañhāvi(ss)ajjane natthīti. khamatha me bhante nāgasena ma(ma) dosaṃ upāskaṃ ca maṃ dhāretha ajjatagge pāṇupetaṃ saraṇaṃ gatan ti. tathā rā(jā) saha balanikāyehi na(!)gasenattheraṃ pariyupāsitvā milindavihāraṃ nāma mahāvihāraṃ kāretvā therassa niyādetvā (ca)tūhi paccayehi nāgasenassa koṭisahassabhikkhūhi saddhi paricaritvā nāgasenassa paññāya pasīditvā puttassa rajjaṃ niyādetvā agārasmā anāgāriyaṃ pabbajitvā aharahattaṃ pāpuṇi. tena vuttam

The concluding verse is the same as in E^e. However, the following variants may be noted: 420,17* lokasmī katā; 420,20 °visesassādhāro aggaseṭṭho anuttaro as in B^e; 420,21* hitam attano as in B^e for attham attano; 420,22* paññāvantaṃ bhipujeyya.

The text ends: . . . pūjiyan ti. milindapañhā samattā paripuṇṇā niţthitā.

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Notes

1 A bibliography of studies on editions and translations of Mil has been collected by S. Behrsing: Beiträge zu einer Milindapañha-Bibliographie. BSOS 7. 1933-5. 335-348, 517-439, cf. L. de La Vallée Poussin, Mélanges Chinois et Bouddhiques 5. 1937.245; further: C. O. Blagden: A passage from the Môn version of the Mil, in: Festschrift. Publications d'hommage offertes au P. Wilhelm Schmidt. Wien 1928. 43-50; C. A. F. Rhys Davids: The Milinda-Questions. An inquiry into its place in the history of Buddhism with a theory as to its author. London 1930; F. O. Schrader: Two unexplained names in the Mil. JRAS 1939. 606-608; K. de Vreese: Het Milindapañha. Rede uitgesproken bij de opening zijner lessen in het Pali . . . Leiden 1948; J. Gonda: Tarn's hypothesis on the origin of the Mil. Mnemosyne 4. 1949. 44-62 = Selected Studies IV. Leiden 1975. 496-514; Thich Minh Chau: Mil and Nāgasenabhiksusūtra. A comparative study through Pāli and Chinese sources. Calcutta 1964; J. P. McDermont: Kamma in the Mil. JAOS 97. 1977. 460–468; R. N. Basu: A critical study of the Mil. A critique of Buddhist philosophy. Calcutta

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- 1978; T. Pobozniak: The problem of dream in Mil., in: L. Sternbach Felicitation Volume Lucknow 1979[1981]. II 675-678. - The critical edition by Maung Tin: Milinda Pañhā. Rangoon 1915, which covers Mil 1,1-123. 7 used manuscript material other than Trenckner. It should have been listed in the Epilegomena to the CPD as E^c(2). Mil has been retranslated by I. B. Horner: Milinda's Questions. London I 1963, II 1964. - The Samantapāsādikā quotes Mil as mendakamilindapanhesu, Sp 742,27 (cf. Epilegomena to the CPD 2.6 Mil), which comprises the text up to Mil 362. It may be worth while pointing out that the semi-canonical character of Mil is underlined by the statement that what has been used by Nāgasena to instruct Milinda (rañño saññāpanattham āharitvā) is considered as canonical, while his own ideas are not (therassa sakapatibhāne). A hitherto unknown modern Pāli commentary on Mil written in Burma is described by M.M. Deshpande: Introducing the Milindapañha-Atthakathā of Thaton Mingun Sayadaw, in: Amrtadhārā. Professor R. N. Dandekar Felicitation Volume. Delhi 1984. 95-103.
- 2 Old dated Pāli manuscripts are listed JPTS 10. 1985. 3: SN (Colombo Museum) AD 1412, Spk (National Library, Bangkok) AD 1440 to which may be added now a fragmentary Ja-manuscript (Wat Lai Hin) AD 1471. A considerable number of Pāli manuscripts dating from the 16th century are preserved in this Wat.
- 3 C. É. Godakumbura: Catalogue of Ceylonese Manuscripts. Copenhagen 1980, p. 50, no. PA(Sinh.) 28. The manuscript is dated, but unfortunately the date is effaced according to Godakumbura.
- 4 According to Dr. H. Hundius, to whom I am indebted for permission to use his collection and for help in reading the colophons written in North Thai. The colophons of this collection will be published in a future issue of JPTS.
- 5 O. v. Hinüber: Die Bestimmung der Schulzugehörigkeit buddhistischer Texte nach sprachlichen Kriterien, in: Zur Schulzugehörigkeit von Werken der Hinayana-Literatur. Abhandlungen der Akademie der Wissenschaften in Göttingen. Phil.-Hist. Klasse. Dritte Folge, Nr. 149. Göttingen 1985. 57-75, esp. p. 72
- 6 The statement by Godakumbura (see above n. 3), p. 50b: 'The final portion of a newer MS . . .' contradicts Trenckner, Mil p. IV note 1, where it is said that only Mil 401,9-416,17 are supplemented by a more recent hand.
- 7 Contrary to this I. B. Horner, Milinda's Questions I p. XXIX states: 'Si. does not give either of these supplements'. It is not clear, to which print this refers: no year is quoted on p. LVII s.v. 'Si.'.
- 8 On the confusion of figures: I. B. Horner (see n. 7) I p. XXX.

AN ADDITIONAL NOTE ON THE OLDEST DATED MANUSCRIPT OF THE MILINDAPANHA

Since writing the article for the previous issue of this journal continuous research on Pāli manuscripts in North Thailand led to the discovery of further parts of this invaluable manuscript. These researches were greatly facilitated by project started by the initiative of Dr.H.Hundius, Chiang Mai, financed for the better part by the German Foreign Office (Auswärtiges Amt), and run by the Centre for the Promotion of Arts and Culture Project, Chiang Mai University, under the directorate of Dr. M.L. Rujaya Abhakorn. The aim of this project is to preserve palm leaf manuscripts in Vat (monastery) libraries of North Thailand and to microfilm a selection of the more important manuscripts in North Thai (Thai Yuan) and also in Pāli. It is hoped that a catalogue of the microfilmed Pāli manuscripts will be produced in due course to facilitate the access to this material.

In August 1987 renewed searches in the library of Vat Lai Hin, which also resulted in a complete rearrangement of the manuscripts, brought to light two most probably complete $\underline{ph\bar{u}k}$ (fasciculi) and some stray leaves. Lack of time prevented a more exact description of the newly discovered parts than the following:

phūk 8: ṇa-ṇaḥ, ta-taḥ

phūk 9: folios thū, du-dam, three folios without pagination belonging to this phūk most probably.

phūk 14: ra-rah, la-lah

Thus, only phuks 3, 12, and 13 are entirely lost, and there does not seem to be much chance to recover them, as all manuscripts in the library of Vat Lai Hin have been checked by now.

As far as the bibliography of the Milindapañha is concerned, a few titles may added now to those given in note 1, JPTS 11. 1987, p. 118 foll.:

Milindapañha Pāli. Ed. (N^e) by Dwarikadas Shastri. Bauddha Bhāratī Series. 13. Benares 1979

Milindapañha. Die Fragen des Königs Milinda. Aus dem Pāli übersetzt von Nyanatiloka, herausgegeben und teilweise neu übersetzt von Nyanaponika. Interlaken 1985.

This new and revised edition of the translation of 1919/1924 also contains an important introduction by H.Bechert.

T.Pobožniak: Dilemma no. 56 in the Questions of King Milinda, in: Proceedings of the Fifth World Sanskrit Conference, Varanasi, India, October 21-26, 1981. Delhi 1986. 613-615

T.Pobožniak: Genesis of the Milindapañha, in: Sanskrit and World Culture. Proceedings of the Fourth World Sanskrit Conference. Weimar May 23-30, 1979. Schriften zur Gesellschaft und Kultur des alten Orients 18. Berlin 1986. 508-510

The opinion put forward here that the Milindapañha had been con-

ceived in Greek originally, can hardly be substantiated by any facts. The only thing really Greek in this text seems to be the (distorted) name of king Menandros.

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REMARKS ON A LIST OF BOOKS SENT TO CEYLON FROM SIAM IN THE 18TH CENTURY

The letter sent to the royal court at Kandy (Sirivaddhanapura) on behalf of the king of Siam, and published in the present issue, includes some information of considerable interest for the study of the history of Pāli texts. For a shipment, which comprised no less than 97 books (sattanavutipakaranāni) containing texts no longer extant on the island, and therefore asked for in a second document accompanying this letter (samanasandesa, § 2 at the end), is said to have been dispatched together with the letter. That the Siamese side readily complied to the request from Ceylon can be gathered from § 15 of the letter: "In the auspicous letter (subhakkhara) sent by you (i.e. the aggamahāsenāpati of Kandy: § 1 at the end) it is said that books on dhamma, vinaya, etc. are not available in Ceylon. Having heard this, and that no other books on dhamma and vinaya than those mentioned in the letter on religious matters (samanalekha, cf. § 13 and elsewhere) have been asked for to reestablish these texts there (i.e. in Ceylon), I reported this to the best of lawful and pious kings with all due respect and having risen my folded hands over my head. <§ 16> The best of lawful and pious kings joyfully gave 97 texts, namely ... to establish them in Ceylon."

For easy reference the list is repeated here with a number given to each individual text:

- 1. Sumangalavilāsinīcatuatthakathāsuttapitaka²
- 2. Pathamasamantapāsādikādipañcavinavatthakathāpitaka
- 3. Moggallānapakarana
- 4. Aţţhakathāvinayasaţīkā
- 5. Vimativinodani
- 6. Rúpasiddhi
- 7. Bālapabodhisatīkā
- 8. Bālāvatārasatīkā
- 9. Saddasārasatīkā
- 10. Saddabindupakarana
- 11. Kaccayanatthapakarana
- 12. Sampindamahānidāna
- 13. Vimanavatthupakarana
- 14. Petavatthupakarana
- 15. Cakkavāļadīpanīpakaraņa
- 16. Sotabbamālinīpakarana
- Solasakimahānidāna
- 18. Lokadīpaka
- 19. Lokavināsa
- 20. Jambūpatisutta
- 21. Theragāthāpakarana
- 22. Therigathapakarana
- 23. Anutikāsangaha