DIS-Asia- Gandhara-Buddhist nun in preaching posture, ca. 200-300 C.E.-terracotta.

# Gandhara terracotta Buddhist nun in preaching posture (with wide-open eyes), ca. 200-300 C.E. Height: 9.5 cm. x 4.5 cm., no restoration, fine condition. Buddhist texts record of eminent saintly *Bhikkhunis*, who were very learned and who were experts in preaching the *Dhamma*. *Dhammadinna* was one such *Bhikkhuni*. *Khema* and *Uppalavanna* are two others. The *Theri-gatha* contains numerous stanzas that clearly express the feelings of joy experienced by saintly *bhikkhunis* at their ability to enter the Order and realize **great compassion, or *bodhi-citta* (in Sanskrit, meaning “mind of enlightenment” or “spirit of awakening,” from *bodhi*, “enlightenment” and *cittá*, “mind”) for the benefit of all sentient beings.**

