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Saya Hamanaka, Alla A. Sizova

Imperial Postscript to the Tangut, Chinese and Tibetan Editions of the Dhāraņī-sūtras in the Collection of the IOM, RAS*

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Abstract: Three parallel editions of dhāranī-sūtras in Tangut, Chinese and Tibetan languages were published in the Tangut state in 1149. The Tibetan edition is of particular importance, because until recently specimens of printing in Tibetan, that could belong to an earlier date, were not extant. All the editions are equal in terms of their contents and contain the postscript written by the Emperor Renzong. The main goal of this article is to introduce the previously unpublished Tibetan text of the postscript in correspondence with the Tangut and Chinese versions. Besides, the article provides information about the study, preservation state, and codicology of all the three editions.

Key words: Tibetan block prints, Tangut block prints, Chinese block prints, Khara-Khoto, Xi Xia, Emperor Renzong

During the long reign of the Emperor Renzong of Western Xia (1139– 1193) the propagation of Buddhism in the Empire, including translation and publication activities, reached its heights. Colophons of Tangut texts state that various Buddhist texts were published in Tangut, Chinese and Tibetan in thousands of copies for distribution among the participants of the local Dharma assemblies.¹ However, currently we have at our disposal only one example of such an edition in all the three languages, that survived to our time. Namely,

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¹ SOLONIN 2015: 849.

this is the Avalokiteśvara dhāraņī-sūtra and Uṣṇīṣavijayā dhāraņī-sūtra, printed together in one volume and provided with the postscript written by the Emperor Renzong himself. The books were published in 1149, the first year of the new reign period, called "Heavenly Prosperity".² The Tibetan edition is of particular importance, because until recently specimens of printing in Tibetan, that could belong to an earlier date, have not been found anywhere.³

The book (under the call number Kh. Tib. 67) became famous thanks to the State Hermitage Museum exhibition "Lost Empire of the Silk Road", that was held from June 25 to October 31, 1993 in Switzerland with the support of the Thyssen-Bornemisza Collection Foundation.⁴ In 1996, the exhibition catalogue was published in Chinese,⁵ thus introducing Kh. Tib. 67 to scholars from China and Japan. During the first decade of the new century they made a significant contribution to the study of this block print.

In 2004, Shirai Satoko published an article on the first of the three texts of Kh. Tib. 67 (see the Table "Contents of the Editions" below), namely, the Avalokiteśvara dhāraņī-sūtra. She transliterated and translated the Tibetan text into Japanese and described the linguistic features of this version of the text in comparison with its variants from the Beijing and Derge canons.⁶

Tangutologist Shi Jinbo in his article "A brief study of the earliest Tibetan block prints"⁷ paid special attention to Kh. Tib. 67 (as well as Kh. Tib. 63/68) as the example of "butterfly-binding". Speaking about its contents, he expressed the opinion that Kh. Tib. 67 could contain numerous descriptions of rituals. He

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 $^{^2}$ For the Tibetan edition this date is applicable with a high degree of probability, for reasons discussed below.

³ The situation changed when Matthew Kapstein discovered a large block-printed protective circle (with the syllables of Sanskrit dhāranī printed in Tibetan letters) in the collection of Dunhuang texts of Paul Pelliot at the National Library of France. He presented a paper dedicated to this discovery under the title "The Earliest Example of Printing in the Tibetan Script: Remarks on a Dhāranī-amulet from Dunhuang" at the conference "The Written Legacy of Dunhuang" (September 3, 2016, IOM, RAS). This item can be considered the earliest identified Tibetan block print. In addition, among the finds made in Turfan there are numerous prints of YE DHARMA. Radiocarbon analysis of one of the examples (from the Otani Collection at the Ryukoku University) showed that the sheet was printed between 880 and 1140. At the same time, if we limit ourselves to the texts in the Tibetan language (and not only in Tibetan script), the block print discussed in this article appears to be the earliest example known to us.

⁴ A description of Kh. Tib. 67 for the exhibition catalogue was prepared by Lev S. Savitsky (PIOTROVSKY 1993: 278).

⁵ Xiaoshi de wangguo 1996.

⁶ Shirai 2004.

⁷ Shi 2005.

identified the first text, giving its name in Chinese, and mentioned the translator Jayānanda, whose name is found in the colophon of the second text.

Unlike the dhāranī-sūtras, that became a subject of textual analysis conducted by Shirai Satoko and Duan Yuquan,⁸ the Tibetan text of the Imperial postscript (more precisely, its fragments) has never been published. Prof. Lin Ying-chin greatly contributed to the study of the Tangut and Chinese texts of the postscripts, making their collation and interlinear translation into Chinese.⁹ However, she did not use the Tibetan text and her work is not easily accessible to non-Chinese speakers.

Saya Hamanaka, one of the authors of this article, made a translation of the Tangut text of the Imperial postscript into English. We introduce the translation with a brief overview of the important issues connected with the study, preservation state, and codicology of all the three editions.

Establishing the Connection Between the Tangut, Chinese and Tibetan Editions

The article written by Shen Weirong, based on his report at the Paris seminar "Edition, éditions: l'écrit au Tibet, évolution et devenir" in May 2008, turned out to be a breakthrough in establishing the connection between the editions. He indicated the existence of the Chinese equivalent for the Tibetan book.¹⁰ He was also the first to identify the second text as a version of the Uṣṇīṣavijayā dhāraṇī-sūtra that has not been preserved in the existing editions of the Tibetan Buddhist canon. He did not describe the third text of the collection (the postscript) in any detail, since it was beyond the scope of his interests. However, the call numbers of the corresponding Chinese block prints in the St. Petersburg collection (TK-164 and TK-165) which he referenced sufficed to locate the missing information in the catalogue of Lev N. Menshikov.

Meanwhile, as it later became clear, the Tangut Collection of the IOM, RAS contained a book completely identical to TK-164 and TK-165 — Tang. 109 (old inv. No. 6796, 6821). The connection between Tang. 109 and the Chinese block prints TK-164 and TK-165 was revealed and described by Nishida Tatsuo in the introduction to "The Catalogue of Tangut Buddhist Texts".¹¹ The colophon

⁸ DUAN 2010.

⁹ Lin 2011.

¹⁰ Shen 2010.

¹¹ Kychanov 1999: XXV–XXVI.

of Tang. 109 mentions the exact date of the edition: "...the text was distributed to the people by Emperor Ren-xiao I title 1 / in the first year under the reign title of *Heavenly Prosperity* under the cyclic signs of Snake-Earth (in 1149)" (KYCHANOV 1999: 581; see also our translation of the postscript).¹² Nishida rightfully assumed that the same dating is applicable to the Chinese edition, where the corresponding part of the postscript is lost.

Summarizing the above, the connection between the Chinese and Tibetan editions was identified by the Chinese researcher Shen Weirong. However, he was unaware of the existence of the exact Tangut counterpart, containing the date of the publication (year 1149). According to Kurtis Schaeffer, Shen Weirong in his report gave the exact year 1153,¹³ the reasons for giving this particular date remain unclear.

The first clearly articulated reference unifying together the three editions was made in the article written by the Tangutologist Duan Yuquan.¹⁴ Following the indications of Shen Weirong, he used Kh. Tib. 67 in the study of certain aspects of the Tangut version of the Uṣṇīṣavijayā dhāraṇī-sūtra. He worked with particular fragments of the Tibetan block print, namely the right side of f. 49 and ff. 50–53.

The history of the studies on this Tibetan block print and its Tangut and Chinese counterparts has been discussed in greater detail in an article written by Alexander Zorin and Alla Sizova.¹⁵ Beyond that, the authors found that all Tibetan block-printed fragments, that received different call numbers at the time of the formation of the Tibetan collection of the texts from Khara-Khoto — Kh. Tib. 63, 64, 67, 68 — belong to the same edition. While Kh. Tib. 64 was immediately connected to Kh. Tib. 67 and was never treated as something different, the two other items appeared separately in the academic literature. Meanwhile, these two items make up two fragments of the whole, the part of the dhāraṇī-sūtra of Uṣṇīṣavijayā, that consists purely of sacred Buddhist formulae that are traditionally believed to have a great magical power. These fragments are absent among the folios of Kh. Tib. 67, so it can be assumed that they were extracted by the owner of the book

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¹² In the catalogue itself Tang. 109 (old inv. Nos. 6796, 6821) is not described in detail. In addition to Tatsuo Nishida's remarks in the introduction, it contains only a description of the second text, the dhāraņī-sūtra of Uṣṇīṣavijayā. The first text (the dhāraņī-sūtra of Avalokiteśvara) is not mentioned anywhere, although it is fragmentarily preserved; the postscript is not marked as a separate structural unit of the book.

¹³ Schaeffer 2009: 9, 165–166.

¹⁴ Duan 2010: 29.

¹⁵ ZORIN & SIZOVA 2019.

for making an amulet, etc. However, one cannot be completely sure of this assumption because of some differences in sizes of the folios of Kh. Tib. 67 and Kh. Tib. 63/68. The scope of the extant Tibetan text was extended by identifying the item Or. 8212/1914 kept at the A. Stein Collection in the British Library¹⁶ as part of the edition. Finally, in 2019, in the process of inventorying the Serindia Collection of the IOM, RAS, a small fragment of the block print was found, that was the left part of f. 39 (based on the comparison of the fragment with the manuscript Kh. Tib. 126 containing text 2). Another page, that should be attributed to Kh. Tib. 63/68 (identified as the left side of f. 40), was among the disjointed fragments in the Tibetan Collection of the IOM, RAS. It was published by H. Stoddard (based on a photograph provided by V.L. Uspensky).¹⁷

Contents of the Editions

No.	Title
1	> 創数 薪緣 談 蘇 疑 種 / 20 / 20 / 20 / 20 / 20 / 20 / 20 /
2	

¹⁶ Такеисні 1997–1998: No. 674.

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¹⁷ Stoddard 2010: 364.

¹⁸ The colophon of the first Tibetan text has not been preserved; the title was reconstructed on the basis of colophon of the same work found in the manuscript Kh. Tib. 126 (with a slight editorial revision). The original title in Kh. Tib. 126 reads as follows (reconstructed text is marked with angle brackets): <'phags pa?>' I spyan ras gzigs kyi dbang phyug | thugs rje chen po'i gzungs phan yon <dang bcas pa mdo>' las btus pa. The version of this work contained in Kagyur is entitled '*phags pa spyan ras gzigs dbang phyug thugs rje chen po'i gzungs phan yon mdor bsdus pa zhes bya ba* ("Dhāraṇī of the Holy Compassionate Avalokiteshvara with a summary of [its] benefits") (D723; UI et al. 1934: 123).

Part No. Block print	1	2	3 (Postscript)
Tangut	?~	 	
Tang. 109	[f. 1R–13R]	[f. 13R–21R]	[f. 21R–23L]
(old inv. No. 6796, 6821)	12, 13R	all	all
Chinese	-~ +	+-~++	十八 ~二十一
	[f. 1R–10L]	[f. 11R– 17L]	[f. 18R–21R]
TK 164	all	all	all
TK 165	f. 1L–10L	all	f. 18R–20R
Tibetan	$-\sim$?	?~ 五十四	五十五 ~?
	[f. 1–?>27]	[f. ?<34–54]	[f. 55->61]
Kh. Tib. 67	2L, 3–5, 6L, 9R, 10–12, 13L, 23R, 24–26, 27L	34R, 35L, 37R, 38L, 49R, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54L	56R, 57, 58, 59L, 60R, 61L
Kh. Tib. 63/68		40R, 41–44, 45R	—
Serindian collection		39L (fragment)	
Or. 8212/1914		36R	—
(Stoddard 2010, 364)		40L	—

Preservation State and Location of the Tangut, Chinese and Tibetan Block Prints

Format and Other Features of the Editions

Folio. Two pages of the text were carved on one woodblock and printed on the recto side of the folio. The verso side remained empty.

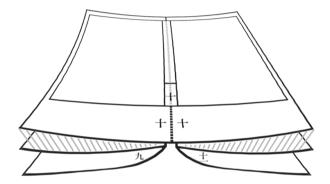
Sizes of the folios slightly vary: for Tangut — $17.3/17.5 \times 12.2/12.5$, for Chinese — 17.5×13.0 (TK 164), $16.5/18.0 \times 13.0$ (TK 165), for Tibetan — $17.5 \times 12.6/12.8$ (Kh. Tib. 67), $16.0/16.3 \times 11.0/11.5$ (Kh. Tib. 63/68). Meanwhile, the sizes of the woodblocks are almost identical: for Tangut — $15.3/15.5 \times 9.3/9.5$,

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for Chinese — 15.5×9.0/9.3 (TK 164, TK 165), for Tibetan — 15.7×9.3/9.5 (Kh. Tib. 67), 15.5/15.7×9.3/9.4 (Kh. Tib. 63/68).

Format. TK 165 has not undergone conservation. Tang. 109 was restored the purpose of publishing this article in August, 2020.¹⁹ Both provided clear evidence of the original appearance of the editions.

Each folio was folded in its center. Blank pages of the verso side were glued to the adjacent folios, as it is shown in a scheme (dotted line shows the fold, hatch shows the adhesive joint).



As a result, folded folios formed a Western-style codex, that greatly resembled a so-called "butterfly"-format, with the only difference that the blank pages could not be seen.

In the course of time the paper on the folds frayed, and folios began to fall apart. Intact folios and folios half-separated and completely separated into left and right halves can be found in Kh. Tib. 67, Tang. 109 and TK 165.

Pages of Kh. Tib. 63/68 remained glued only on the joints, therefore it resembles "concertina" (on the blank sides of the folios it has remnants of the Tangut manuscripts used for pasting purposes: strengthening the original paper and joining the pages together). TK 164 underwent conservation procedures and now appears as a pile of flattened folios, though the folds can be clearly seen.

Lines. Vertical Tangut and Chinese lines go from right to left. One page has 9 lines, one line has 14 characters (for both Tangut and Chinese).

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¹⁹ We express our sincere gratitude to the Chief Conservator of the IOM, RAS Liubov Kriakina for the microscopic examination of the cover, that made possible the exact identifying of its fabric and pigment.

Horizontal Tibetan lines go from the left page to the right page. One folio has 6 lines.

Foliation. In all the three editions foliation is situated on *baikou*. Tangut and Chinese have their respective designation, in the Tibetan edition Chinese numerals are used. Furthermore, in the Tibetan edition, foliation is given additionally (but also in Chinese) in the lower margin on either side from the fold.

Short title on baikou.

Cover. Tang. 109 has detached remnants of the blue silk cover. The ornamented fabric was dyed with indigo. The silk fragment used to be on a spine of the codex and has three stitches made with the blue thread. The fold of the book bears traces of stitches, one still with a blue thread.

According to Menshikov's catalogue, TK 165 had "a cover made of blue cloth with ornaments", however, it seems that it was separated in the course of the preservation procedures.

Engravings. TK 164 has three engravings thematically connected to the dhāraņī-sūtras.²¹

²¹ All the three engravings are printed on the whole folio.

Engraving 1. On the left side: the Eleven-faced Great Compassionate Avalokiteśvara, who sits in vajrasana on a lotus throne with two rows of petals, in the center of the throne is the syllable $hr\bar{i}h$ (Pala script), two offering goddesses to the right and to the left; on the right side: four bodhisattvas facing Avalokiteśvara.

Engraving 2. On the left side: Uşnīşavijayā, who sits on a lotus throne inside a richly decorated caitya, the syllable hūm is located in the center of the throne, in the space above the caitya there are two offering goddesses on the right and on the left; on the right side: four bodhisattvas facing Uşnīşavijayā, objects hovering in the space above them symbolize various types of offerings.

Engraving 3. On the left side: the Buddha on a lotus throne, hands folded in dharmachakramudra; flanked by two disciples (Ānanda and Mahākāśyapa) and two bodhisattvas, behind him a bodhi tree; on the right side: the eight deities of the planets.

Imperial Postscript

Imperial postscript consists of (i) main text, (ii) aspiration, (iii) verses (gāthās) and (iv) colophon.

In the main text the Emperor explains the benefits of the dhāranīs, retelling in an extended or abridged manner the contents of the dhāranī-sūtras published in this edition, as demonstrated by the following examples.

Postscript: "If [one] wash [himself] in the flowing water or ocean, all the aquatic sentient beings that contact purified water will exhaust all the heavy karma [and] will be reborn in the Buddha-field (buddhakşetra)" (Tangut 22R5–7, Chinese 19R1–3, Tibetan 59L3–5).

Dhāraņī-sūtra: "If those, who recite and grasp the dhāraņī of Mahākaruņā, wash themselves, entering into the flowing water or into the ocean, and if the water that washed their bodies touches the sentient beings, who reside there, all [their] heavy evil transgressions will be purified, and they will be born miraculously in lotus at the other Pure Lands".²²

Postscript: "[Even when one] encounters the shadow [of the *dhāraņī*] and touches the dust [of the *dhāraņī*], [he] will not fall into the three lower realms" (Tangut 22R9–L1, Chinese 19R5–6, Tibetan 60R2).

Dhāraņī-sūtra: "If [someone] will write down this *dhāraņī* and attach it to the top of the flag, or place it on the top of the mountain, or on the high building, or on the top of the stūpa, [those on whom] its shadow will fall, [whom] its dust will touch, even if only for a moment, will never be reborn in the three lower realms".²³

Furthermore, the Emperor lists his own meritorious deeds, including the publication of these very editions (Postscript: Tangut 22L2–4, Chinese 19R7–9, Tibetan 60R4–61L1): this part is of particular importance, because it provides us with information on the number of printed copies. It is noteworthy, that in the Tangut and Chinese versions there are no mentions about the Tibetan language.

²² |gal te thugs rje chen po'i gzungs 'dI 'don cing yongs su 'dzin pa de dag chu klung 'am | rgya mtshor zhugs te khrus byas pa las | de nas gnas pa'I sems can de dang | de dag gi lus bkrus pa'I chus lus la reg par gyur na| |sdig pa'I las dang kha na ma tho ba lci ba thams cad yongs su byang nas| |zhing yongs su dag pa gzhan dag du | pad ma la rdzus te skye bar 'gyur bas (Manuscript Kh. Tib. 126, f. 41).

²³ gal te gzungs 'dI bris nas | rgyal mtshan gi rtse mo la btags nas | ri rtse 'am | rtsegs khang 'am | mchod rten gyi thog de bzhag la | de'i grib ma phog gam | de'i rdul phog gam | yud tsam mngon na | de yang nang song gsum de myi skye| (Manuscript Kh. Tib. 126, f. 48).

Moreover, the number of copies in Tibetan version is different, being seventeen thousand instead of fifteen. It seems unlikely that the number of Tibetan texts could exceed the Tangut and Chinese ones. It can be assumed that the Tibetan version was printed last, and that the total number of copies was corrected: the number of Tibetan copies was simply added to the original fifteen thousand. Based on this assumption, we can determine the exact number of Tibetan editions — two thousand. The fact of the Tibetan version printed last (and not mentioned in Tangut and Chinese text) cast doubt to its immutable dating. However, taking into account the very purpose of the publication, distribution to the people at the Dharma gathering, we nevertheless can assume that the Tibetan edition must have been printed almost simultaneously with the others.

The Tibetan language of the postscript is characterized by grammatical deviations, that effect the supposed meaning of the text. For example, the phrase "all the virtuous benefits will be gained" (Tangut 21L7–8, Chinese 18L2–3) is rendered into Tibetan as *thams cad dge ba'I don 'grub*, where the word *thams cad* ('all') that should be placed in the postposition, precedes its object, *dge ba'I don* ('virtuous benefits'). The phrase "[they] wild aid the creatures and deeply benefit the sentient beings" (Tangut 21L6–7, Chinese 18L2) in Tibetan translation is rendered into: "[they] aid wide creatures (*skye bo rgya chen*) and benefit deep sentient beings (*zab pa'I sems can*)". These deviations can be explained by the tendency to follow the Tangut word-order and prove that the Tibetan text of the postscript was translated from Tangut.

Considering the fragmentary state of the Chinese and Tibetan texts, the translation was based primarily on the Tangut version. In the aspiration part several passages of Chinese texts have no correspondent parts in Tangut (they are marked in brackets).

Translation

Title

21R4–6	<u> </u>
18R1–3	御製聖觀自在大悲心惣持并頂尊惣持惣持後序發願文

Imperially composed postscript-aspiration to [the edition] of the "Dhāraņī of the Holy Compassionate Avalokiteśvara" and "Dhāraņī of the Victorious Uşnīşavijayā".

(i) Main text

18R4 朕伏以神咒威靈功被恆沙之界

I respectfully explain. The power and virtue [of these] dhāranīs will encompass the worlds as numerous as [the grains of] sand [in] the Ganges.

21R7–8	藏髿矿级处獭皴硫藏硥
18R4–5	玄言勝妙力通億刼之多
56R1	<> la 'das pa

The exceedingly wonderful power of [these] profound words transcends a hundred million of kalpas.

21R8-L1	剗큟旕彨豖蕔麯沎矫舵筋糵
18R5–6	惟一聽於真筌可頓消於塵累
56R1–2	gal te gzungs <> myur zhing rings par sgrib pa' I dri <>

The stains of obscurations will instantly disappear when these dhāranīs are heard.

21L1-2	旗瓶裤皴影毅成庋
18R6	其於微密豈得名言
56R3	<> bu zab pa'I don brjod du myi lang

How this profound meaning can be expressed [in words]?

- 18R6-7 切謂自在大悲冠法門之密語

56R4 <...> chos kyi sgo mo'i nang du khyad bar <...>

Therefore, the dhāranī of Īśvara Mahākarunā stands out amongst [the other teachings of the] doctrine (*dharmaparyāya*).

21L3-4	ក 翻蹤了了一下,你是你是你的你,你是你是你的你,你是你是你的你,你是你是你的你,你就是你的你,你不是你,你不是你,你你不是你,你你你你你,你你你你你你,你你你
18R7–8	頂尊勝相惣佛印之真心一存救世之至神
56R56	<> rgyal snying po sangs rgyas kyi rgya <> 'dren par byed
	pa

Uşnīşavijaya consolidates true essence of the mūdras of Buddha, it is the one power that saves the universe.

21L4–5	荡额 飜 轍刻鉫 繈 萮雜麵麵膛勴雜
18R8–9	一盡利生之幽驗大矣受持而必應
56R6–	gcig ni sems can don byed nus pa nus pa che ba 'chang zhing
57:1–2	nges par phan yon thob bo

[It is the only] one, [that] brings welfare [to] the sentient beings. [We] accept and maintain [its] great miraculous efficacy, [and] the benefit is certain to be received.

- 18R9-L1 聖哉敬信而無違
- 57:2 |'phags rgyas dad gus bslu ba myi mnga'|

Sacred reverence and faith are indisputable.

21L5-6	켞锋 쮆遼廰钀絋麬兪爒 偋 謻
18L1-2	普周法界之中細入微塵之內
57:3	bskyed nas chos nyid kun khyab bskyungs nas rdul phran nang
	du thim

As [they] arise, [they] encompass all dharmadhātu. As [they] diminish, [they] dissolve into particles of dust.

- 18L2 廣資含識深益有情
- 57:4–5 skye bo rgya chen la don mdzad cing| |zab pa'I sems can la don byed pa|

[They] widely aid the creatures and deeply benefit the sentient beings.

If the sound is heard, the great exceeding cause will be earned. If the shadow is touched, all the virtuous benefits will be gained.

- 18L3-5 點海為滴亦可知其幾何碎剎為塵亦可量其幾許
- 57:6–58:2 rgya mtsho 'i thigs ba bgrang na yang grangs shes su rung| 'jig rten rdul phran phye na tshod 'dzin de btub|

[If one] divides the sea into drops, [he can] know the amount. [If] the world is divided into particles, [they] can be counted.

21L9–22R1	縱旗茫來發形藏紋顯軟條級茲編
18L5–6	唯有慈悲之大教難窮福利之玄功
58:2–3	thugs rje chen po 'i gzungs chos kyi sgo mo bsod nams tshad
	gzung du myed

Only the merits of the doctrine (*dharmaparyāya*) of Mahākaruņā (Great Compassionate) cannot be measured.

22R1	郑 · 衚 �� �� �� �� ��
18L6	各有殊能迥存異感
58:3–4	so so nus pa dang ldan gnyis ka phan yon dang bcas pa

Each [dhāraṇī] possesses superior ability, both have [their] respective benefits.

22R1-4	斴 滕森 維 多 新 新 新 新 新 新 新 新 新 新 新 新 新 新 新 新 新 新	
	泵 貢婲 杧 榄毵毦糵	
18L6–9	故大悲心感應云若有志心誦持大悲咒一遍或七遍者即能超滅	
	百千億劫生死之罪	
58:4–59L1	.1 des na thugs rje chen po'i phan yon nang na bshad pa gang zhig rtse gcig sems kyis thugs rje chen po'i gzungs lan gcig gam lan	
	bdun bton na skal pa brgyad stong khrag khri 'khor ba'I sgrib	
	pa zad	

Therefore, as it is explained in "[Dhāranī of the] Holy Compassionate Avalokiteśvara [with the exposition of its] benefits", if the dhāranī of Mahākarunā is recited one or seven times with concentration, the samsaric obscurations of the hundred billion of kalpas will be exhausted.

22R4–5	綐桟繉 翪鸁偢 蒧 妦廰 伅 峎 纇 蒧褯 愵 偋锨穮 貁 莁
18L9–19R1	臨命終時十方諸佛皆來授手隨願往生諸淨土中
59L1-3	'chI ka na phyog< <> phyag rkyong zhing zhing 'khams dag pa <> 'gyur ro

[If] life is about to be lost, various Buddhas of ten directions will come to stretch out their hands, and according to aspirations [the person] will be reborn in the Pure Land.

22R5-7	戴 蔣璨赦蔱 ቩ 屝藸窲璨籬閷٬繉窲璨贂 虠 鼤鍬廰薽 妦 險 屝 豺
19R1–3	若入流水及大海中而沐浴者其水族眾生占浴水者皆滅重罪
	往生佛國
59L3-5	gal te 'bab chu dang rgya <> gnas pa'I sems can chu de phog
	nas <> zhing 'khams su skye 'o

If [one] washes [himself] in the flowing water or ocean, all the aquatic sentient being that contact purified water will exhaust all the heavy karma [and] will be reborn in the Buddha-field (*buddhakşetra*).

22R7–9	烿 髒
	姚 軃 指 { { } } { } } 亂 麗 祇
19R3–5	又勝相頂尊感應云至堅天子誦持章句能消七趣畜生之厄若
	壽終者見獲延壽

59L5–60R1 yang gtsug <...> 'chad||lha'I bu shin du brtan pa| <...> |tshe zad pa yang tshe ring bar 'gyur |

Also, as it is stated in the "[Dhāranī of the] Victorious Uṣnīṣavijayā [with the exposition of its] benefits", the devaputra Supratiṣthita recited the sentences of dhāranī and thus [he] was released from the harm of being born as seven kinds of animals, [and] also gained a long life.

22R9–L1	衰藏 矫膨棄
19R5–6	遇影占塵亦復不墮三悪道中
60R2	<> ngan 'gro gsum las myi lhung

[Even when one] encounters the shadow [of the dhāranī] and touches the dust [of the dhāranī], [he] will not fall into the three lower realms.

22L1-2	鎃輆菲雜絓獼䅟颏
19R6–7	授菩提記為佛嫡子
60R2–3	byang <> sras su gyur to

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By predictions given to bodhisattvas [he] will turn into a son of Buddha (bodhisattva).

22L2	旗预航赋航航
19R7	若此之類功效極多
60R3	'dI lta bu'I phan <>

These [dhāraņīs] have many such benefits.

19R7–9 朕覩茲勝因倍激誠懇遂命工鏤板雕印番漢一万五千卷普施

60R4–61L1 <...> khyad bar du 'phags pa'I phan yon <...> 'o spyan drangs| par brkos nas | <...> khri tso gcig dang bdun stong par la brgyab nas phul|

I, seeing these exclusive benefits, arose pure faith, requested the craftsmen to carve and publish [both dhāraņī-sūtras in] fifteen thousand (in Tibetan: seventeen thousand) copies in Tangut and Chinese [and] donated [them].

22L4–5	隨娏朡瓶緓繞騺敽癁蕂锻邈奫
19R9–L1	國内臣民志心看轉虔誠頂受
61L1–2	rgyal 'khams kyi <> kyi sgo nas 'don zhing 'chang ba dad
	<>

Officials and [common] folk in the Tangut state should read and recite [these texts] sincerely, respectfully receive and put them on the elevated place (or one's head).

22L5	錵 斮 郬 蘒 黼 绎 耢 殚 敽 颎 礀 餓 郯 韯
19L1–2	朕亦躬親而□服毎當竭意而誦持欲遂良緣廣
61L3–4	<> lus kyi gos la btags na rtse <> na khyad bar du 'phags pa'I rgyu rdzog <>

I also will attach [these dhāraņī-sūtras] on [my] clothes, will recite the dhāraņīs with one-pointed concentration and aspire the prominent cause to be fulfilled.

- 19L3 修衆善開闡真乘之大教

61L5 <...> sgrub rgos pas| theg pa chen po 'i <...>

To accomplish many virtues, [I] ordered the propagation of the true doctrines of Mahāyāna.

22L6-8	該 释 · 齋 嘉 成 靴 强 清 浦 能 授 彩 離 罷 液 衰 欬 險 尬 刹 惫 廆 罷 彬
	谻 襉骸豨薂顟藱駀裔

- 19L3-6 燒結秘密之壇儀讀經不絶於誦聲披典必全於大藏應干國内 之聖像悉令懇上於金粧遍施設供之法筵
- 61L6 <...> dkyil 'khor dang sbyin srags bzheng <...>

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[I ordered] to establish [rituals of] fire-offerings and secret mandalas, to read the sūtras aloud incessantly, to distribute (spread) Tripitaka in golden letters, to dress all the sacred statues in the Empire in gold, to worship [them] and make offerings.

[I] requested monks to fast upon performing a great assembly. I [organized] food donation ceremony in the chambers of the Palace and a Buddhist service in front of the statue of the Buddha in the Temple.

23R1–2	旐 Ҟ腋緑 曅 穣 ��f 兪 魣 豖 庉 �� � � � � � � � � � � � � � � � �
19L8–9	然斯敬信之心悉竭精誠之懇今略聊陳於一二豈可詳悉而
	具言

Only few of such good deeds [done] with respect and true faith can be mentioned, as all cannot be explained.

23R2	旐齭豮赧燚爷
19L9–20R1	以茲勝善伏願

Based on these exclusive good [deeds], I aspire:

(ii) Aspiration

23R3-4	麵狼發艱驗刻殼就說就就於了藏錦龍
20R2-3	神考崇宗皇帝超昇三界乘十地之法雲

May the Holy Emperor Chongzong (wa tju) transcend the three realms [and] ride on the cloud of Dharma (dharmameghabhūmi) of the Ten stages.

23R4–5	姻 貄聯 徹 죄 静 啟
20R3-4	越度四生達一真之性海默助無為之化

May [he] avoid the four forms of births [and] attain the ocean of Bhūtatathātā of One Truth. May [he] silently help [the world] to be governed peacefully by itself without any action.

23R5-6	薪穮藏硫쪲鼤敽祿禘禘葴흃峳敽
20R4–5	潛扶有道之風之子之孫益昌益盛

May [he] calmly help [the state to follow] the ideal way of maintaining peace and order. May [his] descendants flourish.

20R5-6 又願以此善力基業泰定{迩遐揚和睦之風}²⁴

Also, by these virtuous powers, the empire of the founder [will be] stable and prosperous, {[and] the winds of harmony [will] spread near and far}.

20R6-L2 ①國本隆昌②{終始保清平之運③延宗社而克永④守曆數以 無疆}⑤四方期奠枕之安⑥九有獲覆盂之固⑦{祝應□誠之 感⑧祈臻福善之徵⑨長遇平□⑩畢無變亂}

The foundations of the state [will] flourish, (2) {a destiny of morality and peace [will be] protected from beginning to end, (3) the Imperial ancestral temple and temples of land and grain (i.e. the state) [will] continue and be sustained forever, (4) and Imperial succession [will be] unending.}
The four quarters [of the Tangut state will] be firmly established in serenity, (6) [the peace will be] solid and unshakable in the universe²⁶.
{Worship [will be] responded to with feelings of ... and sincerity.
Prayers [will] bring the signs of good fortune. (9) Peace [will] long be sustained, (10) [and] in the end [there will be] no upheaval}.

23R7–8	<u> </u>
20L2-3	普天率土共享□□□有所求隨心皆遂

May the whole country under Heaven live peacefully. May all the things [we] desire be accomplished.

23R8–9	敎鷳貘	綾釚������	就假
20L3-4	為祝	神聖乃為頌曰	

[I] want to record the divine merits [of the dhāranīs], therefore [I] compose a hymn. The gāthās say [the following]:

(iii) Gāthās (Verses)

23L1	藏報幾鉸殘藏쯅	核 氮 截 該 藤 報 筋
20L5	法門廣闢理淵微	持讀□□□□□

²⁴ Fragments in curly brackets have no correspondence in the Tangut text.

²⁵ Due to the discrepancies between the Tangut and Chinese versions, phrases were numbered for the convenience of comparison.

²⁶ In Chinese: the nine provinces [will] achieve an unshakable stability.

Gates [of] Dharma open widely, the truthfulness is profound. By reading [and] reciting [the dhāraṇīs] the pure faith [becomes] exceptional.

23L2	泥彞紁颏獟侧豟	髒瓢伉餮绯毵
20L6	大悲神咒玄宻語	

Avalokiteśvara-dhāraņī has secret and profound sentences. Uṣṇīṣavijayā [is] the seal [of] the essence of the Buddhas.

[They] are able to reduce and eliminate the transgressions [of] the seven realms. [They are] a surpassing cause to be reborn in the Pure Land.

The Great Dharma burns a torch and makes it light up brightly, [it] drives the boat of compassion [that] crosses the sea of suffering.

[One] gains full satisfaction [for the things he] is supposed to want or hope for. In accordance with the heart and wishes, all matters [get] accomplished.

23L6 刻 藏 謙 嚴 核 氮 择 刻 藏 腕 解 预 微 旅 解 预 微 能 解 预 然 能

If one constantly holds and recites [the dhāranīs], consequently [he] obtains [the four] Immeasurables (*apramāna*) [and] the ten stages (*daśabhūmi*) of the Noble path.

(iv) Colophon

First year [of] the "Heavenly Prosperity", Earth-Snake [1149]. Month: ... Day: ...

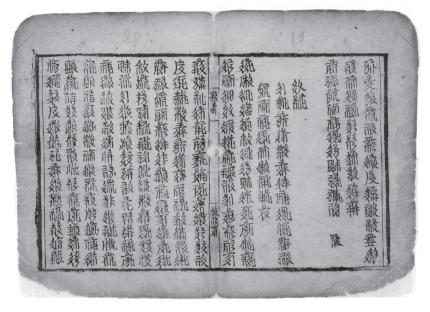
23L8-9	祄 翞̈̈̈̈̈́溉蔬瓶菜葱০০০০০০০০০০০০০০০০০০০০০০০০০০০০০০০০০০০০	敝释
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21R4-5 奉天顕道耀武宣文□□□□□[神謀睿智制義]去邪惇睦懿 恭皇帝□□

Devoted to Heaven, exemplary of the Way, glorious in martial affairs, patron of the arts, of godly deliberations and divine intelligence, he who judges the causes, repulses the demons, integral, harmonious, elegant and venerated Emperor, respectfully bestowed [the publication of this edition].²⁷

 $^{^{27}}$ The translation of the Emperor's title is based on (SHI 2020: 277).

Tangut text



Tang. 109, f. 21



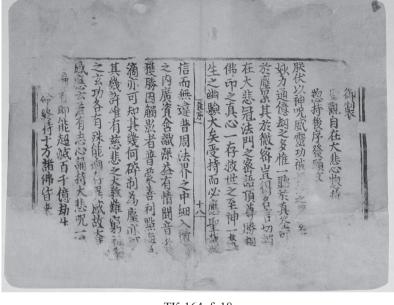
Tang. 109, f. 22

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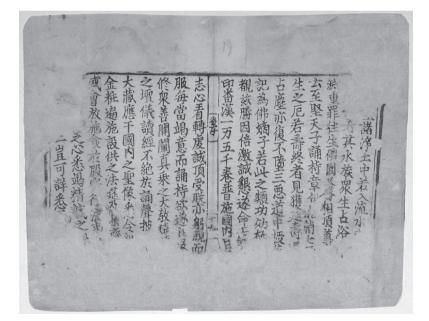
前旗 該廠 刻 澈 藏殺聚教發燕散 和 回聽配者補弱能 新就能 能產雜酒 羅 額数輪酸有意腳備故鏡齋赦続 離散 我散發領統 オンハ 新品 シャーサンテ 設総 魗 毵 「藤蔵 颜藏 報皮 徽核魏翰 瓴 羅 旗熱旅夜額 氚 佛 魏 瓢 符瓶 統風融嚴發語話該發於 德心 徿 剑 狼 庸 認影 新飛船 織鹿年罰鄉於新貨 設約該新額 総設 X 私銀形致 取利 - ALAN 領請教翻額 彪 叙 解設結後 禄 載凝風能 "唐 なるないが 貌 研好祖 銅龍 鹿翻 北日文山 粥 瓢 融

Tang. 109, f. 23

Chinese text

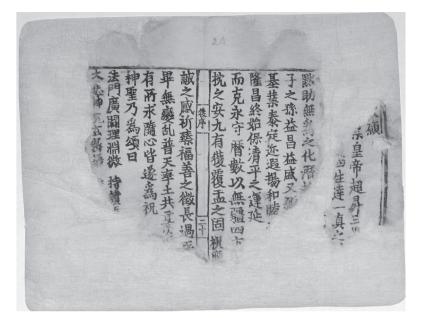


TK-164, f. 18



TK-164, f. 19

-85



ТК-164, f. 20



TK-164, f. 21

罪路 七遍者即能超城百千億劫生死之 感應云若有志心誦持大悲咒 之玄功各有殊能過存異感故大悲 其幾許唯有慈悲之大致難的福加 滴亦可知其幾何碎利為虛亦可是 獲勝因觸影者普蒙善利點海為 之內廣資含識深為有情間音者大 信而無違普周法界之中細 生之幽驗大矣受持而必應聖哉敬 佛中之真心 在大悲冠法門之家語頂尊勝相物 於歷累具於微容完得名言切謂自 城力通信刻之多惟一聽於真拳可煩酒 朕伏以神咒威靈功被恒沙之界玄言勝 御制 聖朝自在大悲心物 物持後序發願文 合印象時 一存放世之至神一盡利 十方諸 佛 首来授 勝相原 入微產

TK-165, f. 18

印番漢 之擅儀讀經不絕於誦發 修聚善開 服每當遇 而休俗者 記為佛嬌子若山 原往生諸淨 正推遍施設供之法遊及集齋僧 ロ産が復 至堅天子 藏應 一之厄若 兹勝因倍激誠親逐命工錢板雕 會放施食放殿守行法事 故信之心悉遇 赤 往生 万五千卷垂施國内 二出可詳悉而 國內之聖像彩合魏 意而誦特欲遂良 了誦持章句能消七趣畜 六水族思 不墮三惡道中授善提 土中若入流水或 終者見獲延壽遇影 真乘之大赦焼結松家 國又勝相頂黃 頂受朕亦躬 之類功効 生古浴水 松典な 和多联 小者皆 感願 入海中

TK-165, f. 19



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TK-165, f. 20

Tibetan text

वादर्याय. 1 Jiai FA ð

Kh. Tib. 67, f. 56R

NOVRECTOS 1 SWALAA dil' 23 न्रु:सद বৃদ্ধ 25 र्थावया संग *46 वि इन्द्रांस्थ्राज्य तयन्भायतज्ञ मय 'ap র্মনার প্রধায় দেয়ব STA

Kh. Tib. 67, f. 57

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तह्वादेवद्वरा अवस्थेनका खग्रदन, भर ग्रेस स्वर श स्वर तियान्द्राहेशामुद्धामप्राद तहीरे यहा ख़ियारिकेवरें कुराय'दर'पूद्र' 1 ज उद्दे' ज खद वयराद्धात्र महिंदेर हिंदेर भारत हिंदेवर्यतेषव पववाद राषा याँद्र दर पठवा य रेशव (दुग्रा धानदादवी से या ठेवा से अस रेशा ्यग्रा हेकेव EW.MY. ৰি বিশ ধুমেম্ব কুমুদ্রির यहिंगयायायायहुन यहेंच्य 58

Kh. Tib. 67, f. 58

গণ্য বিষ্ণার উল্মা 活まっていいであってい বের্বেয়য विदावदात्विकार्श्वार्थः Marcha Gride SALAD. ANA AN 0.2002 BLATZERAD MAGAGA वर्षाठव कि रियोदस ধার্বাবন त्युर्द्धता यसराय दे दि पि दि 35 শ্রিত্তব 1351 I.U.

Kh. Tib. 67, f. 59L-60R

Kh. Tib. 67, f. 61L

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