



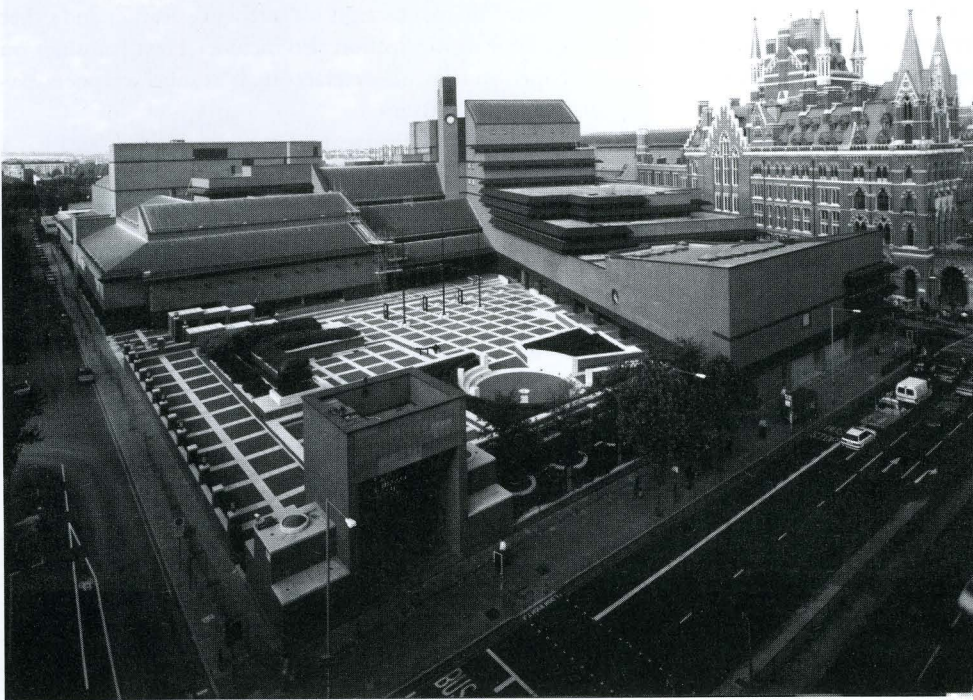
IDP NEWS

IDP — TO PROMOTE THE STUDY AND PRESERVATION OF THE
DUNHUANG LEGACY THROUGH INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATION
國際敦煌學項目 (IDP) - 通過國際合作以促進敦煌文化遺產的研究和保護

No. 12, Winter 1998-9 ISSN 1354-5914

The Stein Collection in the British Library

Having introduced the major collections of Dunhuang manuscripts in the National Library of China, Beijing (IDP News 6, November 1996), The Institute of Oriental Studies, St Petersburg (IDP News 2, January 1995), and the Bibliothèque nationale de France, Paris (IDP News 4, January 1996), as well as private and public collections in Japan (IDP News 10, Spring 1998) and manuscripts from Turfan in the Staatsbibliothek, Berlin (IDP News 3, July 1995), this issue concentrates on the last large collection, that at the British Library, as well as giving a report on three collections in Taipei (pp. 4-5). The next few editions of the newsletter will introduce smaller collections worldwide. A listing will be added to the IDP web pages bringing all this information together later this year.



The new British Library building, built next to the neo-Gothic St. Pancras railway station (seen in right of picture), was completed in 1996 and houses nearly 12 million volumes in four levels of basements.

Photograph by Irene Rhoden

Collection history

The British Library's Stein collections have a complicated history resulting from the economics of exploration and the division of artefacts collected by Stein on his first three Central Asian expeditions to Chinese Turkestan. Financial support offered by the Trustees of the British Museum and by the Government of India was acknowledged in a division of his finds made largely on the basis of language, style and type. All the material was first sent back to London for division between the British Museum (various departments) and the Government of India. The latter materials were divided between the National Mu-

seum in Delhi (3D materials, wall-paintings and some graphic works), and the India Office Library (textual materials, mainly in Sanskrit and Tibetan). The division, particularly of textual material, was further complicated by the fact that many documents had inscriptions in different languages on recto and verso.

When the British Library was founded in 1973, textual material from the Stein collection mainly in Chinese but including documents in Tibetan, Sanskrit, Kharoshthi script, Khotanese, Uighur and Turkic was transferred from the British Museum's Department of Oriental Manuscripts and Printed Books.



The OIOC reading room is a double height space allowing paintings from the collection to be displayed on the wall above the 78 readers' desks. There are also 10 carrels, 2 of which are reserved for IDP use. Anyone wishing to view the Stein manuscripts must make a request in advance and will normally be directed first to the microfilms and other facsimiles.

In 1982, the India Office Library (IOL) was transferred from the Foreign and Commonwealth Office to the British Library, joining the Oriental Collections (Or.) to form the Oriental and India Office Collections. The transfer included collections of materials mainly in Tibetan and Sanskrit but also including some Chinese, Khotanese and Kharoshti script material, collected on Stein's first three Central Asian expeditions which had been lodged with the India Office. The collections are therefore numbered with the prefix 'Or.' or 'IOL' to show their origin. Within the 'IOL' prefix, they are categorised according to language (IOL San, IOL Khot, IOL Tib etc.), and within the 'Or' prefix, according to expedition number (1st exp.: Or.8211; 2nd exp. Or.8210; 3rd exp. Or.8212), but manuscripts have not always been assigned correctly. The database of the Stein collection is available on the web (<http://idp.bl.uk>) and contains this number as well as expedition number and languages of the documents so that any incorrect categorisations can be clarified.

There is also a small group of photographs of artefacts collected on Stein's Fourth Central Asian Expedition of which the originals are now lost (see Wang Jiqing 1998).

Also included with the Stein material in the British Library collections are fragments, scrolls and woodslips etc in the above languages collected among others by :

- Dr. A. F. Rudolf Hoernle, Educ. Dept, Bengal. Principal Calcutta Madrasah Feb 1884, and later adviser to Government of India.
- Captain Stuart H. Godfrey, British Joint-Commissioner of Ladak and later Assistant to Resident at Kashmir
- Sir George Macartney, Special Assistant for Chinese Affairs, and later British consul-general in Kashgar
- H. I. Harding, H. B. M.'s late Vice-Consul, Kashgar
- Sir Adelbert Cecil Talbot, Resident Kashmir June 1896
- N. Fitzmaurice Esq
- Captain G. Sherriff
- R.A. F.W.Thomas, Librarian of the India Office 1903-27

Collection Description

Chinese

- c. 14,000 scrolls and fragments from Dunhuang, Cave 17 (2nd & 3rd expeditions)
- c. 1000+ fragments on paper from other sites including Chinese on Tibetan c.500
- c. 3000 woodslips, fragments and shavings

Tangut c. 4000 fragments on paper

Khotanese

- c. 50 scrolls
- c. 1600 paper fragments
- c. 100 woodslips

Tibetan

- c. 1400 fragments on papers
- c. 2300 woodslips

Kucuan c.300

Sogdian c. 50

Uighur c.100

Eastern Turkic/Runic Turkic c. 9

Sanskrit/Prakrit, inc. Brahmi & Kharosthi scripts c. 1500

Mongolian c. 26

These are approximate categories only. Some of the manuscripts contain more than one language and some are indecipherable. There are manuscripts on birchbark, leather and other materials. The Stein Collection also includes a few paintings on silk and paper, and various artefacts such as sutra wrappers, paper cuts, and paste brushes.

The British Library Prints and Drawings Department has a collection of 11,000 prints, negatives and lantern slides taken by Stein in India, Pakistan Chinese Central Asia, Iran, Iraq and Jordan from 1890s to 1938.

Main Publications

The following is a list of the major catalogues of the material published to date as well as work in progress. Most of the material is also available on microfilm and on the International Dunhuang Project Database. The latter includes full colour images. Work will start this year on the Tibetan woodslips (mainly unpublished) and the Tangut material.

Bailey, H. W., 'Codices Khotanenses', *Monumenta linguarium Asiae Majoris*, II (1938) Copenhagen.

— *Khotanese Texts*, 7 vols., Cambridge 1945-85.

— *Khotanese Buddhist Texts* (Cambridge Oriental Series 3), London, 1951.

Boyer, A. M., Rapson, E. J., and Senart, E., *Kharosthi Inscriptions Discovered by Sir Aurel Stein in Chinese Turkestan*, Part I, *Text of Inscriptions discovered at the Niya Site 1901*, Part II, *Text of Inscriptions discovered at the Niya, Endere, and Lou-lan Sites 1906-7*, Part III, *Text of Inscriptions discovered at the Niya and Lou-lan Sites 1913-14*, Oxford, 1920-29.

The British Library et al., *Dunhuang manuscripts in British Collections (Chinese Texts other than Buddhist scriptures)*, 15 vols., Chengdu, 1990-.

Burrows, T., *A Translation of the Kharosthi Documents From Chinese Turkestan* (James G. Forlong Fund, v.xx), London 1940.

Chavannes, E., *Les documents chinois découverts par Aurel Stein dans les sables du Turkestan Oriental*, Oxford 1913.

Corpus inscriptionum Iranicarum: pt. 2 Inscriptions of the Seleucid and Parthian period and of Eastern Iran and Central Asia: Vol. 5 Saka, Corpus Inscriptionum Iranicarum, London 1955-.

Saka Documents I-IV, H.W. Bailey (ed.) Saka Documents V-VI, R.E. Emmerick (ed.) Text volume, H.W. Bailey Dresden, M.J., 'Khotanese (Saka) manuscripts, a provisional handlist', *Varia* 1976, (*Acta Iranica*, 3rd series, 12, textes et mémoires V), Téhéran-Liege 1977.

Giles, L., *Descriptive Catalogue of the Chinese Manuscripts from Tunhuang in the British Museum*, London 1957.

Hoernle, A. F. R., *Manuscript Remains of Buddhist Literature found in Eastern Turkestan*, v. 1, Oxford 1916.

La Vallée Poussin, L. de, *Catalogue of the Tibetan Manuscripts From Tun-Huang in the India Office Library*, Oxford 1962.

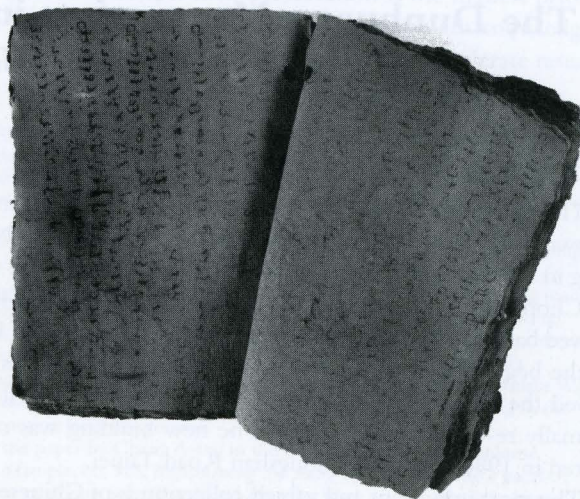
Mackenzie, D.N., *The Buddhist Sogdian texts of the British Library*, Bibliothèque Pahlavi, Téhéran-Liege 1976.

Maspero, H., *Les documents chinois de la troisième expédition de Sir Aurel Stein en Asie Centrale*, London 1953.

Reichelt, H., *Die Soghdischen Handschriftenreste des Britischen Museums: in Umschrift und mit Übersetzung*, 2 vols., Heidelberg 1928-31.



Photograph of Islam Akhun taken by Stein in 1900.



One of Islam Akhun's forged books in a made-up script.

Rong Xinjiang, *Yingguo tushuguan zang Dunhuang Hanwen fei fojiao wenxian can juan mulu* (Catalogue of the Chinese Non-Buddhist Fragments (S.6981-13624) from Dunhuang in the British Library), Shin Wen Feng Printing Co., Taipei 1994.

Sims-Williams, N., 'The Sogdian fragments of the British Library' *Indo-Iranian Journal* 18 (1976), pp. 43-82.

Sims-Williams, N. & James Hamilton, *Documents turco-sogdiens du IXe-Xe siècle de Touen-houang*, Corpus Inscriptionum Iranicarum, London 1990.

Skjaervo, P.O., *Catalogue/concordance of the Khotanese manuscripts in the British Library*, British Library, forthcoming.

Stein, M. A., *Ancient Khotan: Detailed Report of Archaeological Explorations in Chinese Turkestan*, 2 vols., Oxford 1907.

— *Serindia, Detailed Report of Explorations in Central Asia and Westernmost China*, 5 vols., Oxford 1921.

— *Innermost Asia, Detailed Report of Explorations in Central Asia, Kan-su and Eastern Iran*, 4 vols., Oxford 1928.

Takeuchi, Tsuguhito, *Old Tibetan Manuscripts from Eastern Turkestan in the Stein Collection of the British Library* (Bibliotheca Codicum Asiaticorum II), 2 vols., The Centre for East Asian Cultural Studies for UNESCO, The Toyo Bunko and The British Library 1997-.

Wang Jiqing, 'Notes on the Photographs of Documents and Manuscripts from Sir Aurel Stein's Fourth Central Asian Expedition Preserved in the British Library', *British Library Journal* Spring 1998.

Forgeries

The British Library collection also includes one group of documents (see example above) purchased by George Macartney in Kashgar in the 1880s and 1890s which are forgeries in a made-up language, produced by Islam Akhun (left) and his associates and sold to both the British and Russian consuls at this time. In 1900 Stein spoke to Islam Akhun and managed to get him to admit to the deception.

In addition, it is believed by many scholars that some of the 600 or so scrolls bought by Stein on his 3rd expedition in the town of Dunhuang and also at Ganzhou to the east are also forgeries. These are currently being examined.

This is a shortened and amended version of the entry for the British Library, Oriental and India Office Collections appearing in the just published Handbook of Stein Collections in the UK (ed. H. Wang, the British Museum Occasional Papers, London 1999). For details on ordering see 'Publications' on p. 6 of this newsletter.

The Dunhuang Manuscripts in the Taipei National Central Library

Lou Kamtong

Introduction

The planning department of the National Library, formerly known as the National Central Library, was founded in Nanking in 1933. During the Sino-Japanese War it had to move west to Chongqing and was formally established there in 1940. It moved back to Nanking after the war and from the end of 1948 to the beginning of 1949 its rich and valuable collections followed the Nationalist government to Taiwan. In 1955 it was formally re-established in Taipei. The new building was completed in 1986 on South Zhongshan Road, Taipei.

The most important and valued collection is of Chinese rare books, comprising about 125,000 volumes. As for Dunhuang manuscripts, the Library has a collection of 144 items. These comprise 155 separate scrolls, and are catalogued under the Library's Special Collections. This paper offers an introduction to this collection and relevant discussion, its provenance, characteristics, arrangement and preservation in the Library.

Provenance

Many of the Dunhuang scrolls were acquired from Ye Changchuo and came from Li Shengduo's collection. Ye Changchuo (1881-1968) was from Fanyu in Guangdong Province. During the Japanese War he took part in the search for ancient books and, apart from being responsible for purchasing antiquarian books from Hong Kong, he was also in charge of the important matter of the transport of valuable items from Shanghai to Hong Kong. In a manuscript about his collection he writes: 'Dunhuang fragmentary scrolls were acquired by Liu [Yanshen], Li [Shengduo], and He [Zhenji]. Mr He died first and, apart from those manuscripts given to his friends during his lifetime, I have heard that his collection went to Li. The Li and Liu collections comprise many scrolls of known sutras but there are also some fragmentary texts which are difficult to identify. Mr Li and Mr Liu have both died in recent years and their collections were divided and dispersed. A couple of hundred items were purchased by the National Central Library following my recommendation. I have heard that about a hundred sutra scrolls from Mr Liu's collection went to Zhang Zihou, a relative of his. Mr Li's collection was also divided and sold, and it is now not possible to reconstitute it.'¹

Apart from these, there are also those purchased from Ye Changchuo's own collection.² As for the scrolls purchased from Li Shengduo's daughter, because neither Li's seals, colophons or any other distinguishing features are to be found on them, they are problematic. But because these scrolls show seals and colophons of Xu Chengrao and Yuan Kewen, then they can be verified.³

The contemporary records and reports of purchases show that the manuscripts acquired in its early years by the Library were most probably purchased from Shanghai, Hong Kong, Beijing, Nanjing and other places following the Sino-Japanese War.⁴ Once in Taiwan, the Library also bought some items from Zhang Boqian among which were Tang dynasty Dunhuang scrolls.

Characteristics

The manuscripts date from the Six Dynasties to the Five Dynasties period, with the majority from the Tang. Apart from four Buddhist Tibetan scrolls and three copies of the *Daojing*, all the rest are Chinese Buddhist texts. One has printed Buddha images but the remainder are all manuscripts. There are 26 with colophons: among them are seven which are clearly dated and 20 which name the scribe, the maker or the donor. Three contain seals of the original collector, two contain Empress Wu Zetian characters and three have phonetic notation at the end. There are only 13 scrolls with texts which are not included in various versions of the Tripitaka, and one which is not in the Daoist Canon.

In his preface to 'Dunhuang Scrolls in the National Central Library', Wu Qiyu says that perhaps there are some scholars who believe that 'the collections in Taipei consist of many frequently seen Buddhist texts, and outstanding examples are few, but all are forgeries', but then adds an explanation. After the Japanese War, the Library received ancient Japanese manuscripts and several of them mistakenly found their way into the Dunhuang collection. Apart from the question of whether Li Shengduo collection contained fakes, certain scholars therefore believed the forgers did not make the actual manuscript themselves but simply added false colophons or inscriptions.⁵ This can be seen from a comparison of the collection with those in Paris and London.

Ordering

A *Catalogue of the Rare Books in the National Central Library* was published in 1957 by Zhonghua Publishers in Taipei in which the Dunhuang scrolls were included under 'Buddhist texts'. There were revised and expanded editions in 1967 and 1986. In addition, in 1968 Professor Pan Zhonggui published 'Titles of Dunhuang Scrolls in the National Central Library'.⁶ In 1973 my colleague, Li Qingzhu, wrote 'Guoli Zhongzheng tushuguan suozang Dunhuang juanzi jiao du luan ji', and distributed the typescript among his colleagues and friends. In it he noted the paper colour, margins and guidelines, number of panels, whether beginning and end are complete, incipit, size, differences and similarities with other texts in the collection and in the *Taisho* and, finally, a concordance to the *Taisho* and other Dunhuang manuscripts, so greatly aiding the work of scholars. In 1975, Pan Zhonggui made a collection of all the titles and it was published in *Dunhuangxue*.⁷

The Library started to microfilm the collection in the early 1970s thus making it possible for scholars to read them, and also thereby avoiding overuse of the originals so extending the manuscripts' life. By 1976, Taiwan Shimen Library Co. published a complete facsimile of the collection. In six volumes, *Guoli Zhongyang tushuguan zang Dunhuang juanzi*, can be called a pioneering work.

Conservation

The Library has naturally been very cautious when it comes to the preservation of its rare books. This was seen after the move

to the new library building in 1986 when all the existing facilities for book storage and security were modernized. The rare books storage area is now equipped with heat and humidity controls, keeping the temperature below 20° C and the humidity between 50–60%. Because ultra-violet light makes it easier to see the faded colour and yellow dye on the paper of these collections, and also to distinguish changes in the brittleness of the paper, such lighting has been installed in appropriate areas.

Apart from this, specialist restoration expertise has been developed with responsibility for ancient documents with insect and other damage and fragile paper and such manuscripts are backed with a sheet of lining paper. But when it comes to the Dunhuang scrolls, because they are so old their paper has special characteristics. It is also hand-made, and therefore we have to pay even more attention to find suitable paste and backing paper. We must not act rashly or hastily. At present, the preservation environment is relatively good and even though it is not possible at present for these documents to undergo restoration their condition is not deteriorating.

Conclusion

The Dunhuang scrolls are primary research material for all aspects of the history and literature of ancient China. From the viewpoint of the Library it does not matter where they come from or whether they are genuine or forged, because for this

group of manuscripts their preservation is the highest priority. The Library welcomes visits from colleagues with knowledge in this field and hopes to build co-operation to accelerate research into the preservation of Dunhuang materials.

Low Kamtung is Head of Special Collections at the National Central Library, Taipei. Translated by Susan Whitfield. A longer version of this paper will be published in the forthcoming volume, Dunhuang Manuscript Forgeries (British Library Studies in Conservation and Science: III), London 1999 (details in next newsletter).

¹ Su Ronghui, *Dunhuangxue gaiyao* (Outline of Dunhuang Studies), Zhonghua yeshu weiyuanhui, Taipei 1964, p. 8.

² Pan Zhonggui in 'Guoli Zhongyang Tushuguan suo zang Dunhuang juanzi tiji' writes: 'I enquired of the Library Director, Professor Qu Penghuang (Wanli) and the former Director, Jiang Weidang (Fuzong), whose understanding was that most were from given from the collections Li Muzhai's (Shengduo) daughter and Ye Yuhu (Changchuo) after the Sino-Japanese War.' (*Dunhuangxue* 2 (Dec. 1972)). But see the paper by Rong Xinjiang in the forthcoming forgeries volume.

³ See the paper by Chang A-tsai in the forthcoming forgeries volume.

⁴ For example, no. 118, *Jingguangming zui sheng wang jing*, has the a hand-written catalogue note: 'Purchased after the War'; no. 65, *Miaofalianhua jing*, has the note: 'Purchased in the capital on the 10th May, 1937'; under Pan's inscription to no. 50, *Bannuopoluomijing*, is the comment: '...in no. 3 box from the Library sutras, and written on the wrapping paper: "Purchased by the Library's Director in Beijing [Beijing], on 7th September, 1935."'; in the report of his Hong Kong purchases dated 4th December, 1941 and published in *Guoli Zhongyang Tushuguan guan kan* 16.1 (April 1983), p. 99, Ye Changchuo wrote: 'recently someone came with Dunhuang scrolls for sale, among which were very many fine examples, and I therefore purchased them. The 30 items cost exactly 2000 Hong Kong dollars.'

⁵ Op. cit. n.5

⁶ *Xin Ya bao*, 8.2.

⁷ *Dunhuangxue* 2 (Dec. 1972)).

Dunhuang Manuscripts at Academia Sinica, Taipei

Tu Cheng-sheng

Academia Sinica was founded in 1928 and soon after established a Dunhuang document research team devoted to the collation of Dunhuang material with an eye to facilitate historical and textual studies. Over the next several years the library acquired 49 Dunhuang scrolls. Among them *Daboniepanjing* (one juan) and *Fahuayiji* (one juan) were from Wu Baohui's collection as shown by his seal. Another scroll, *Suiqiuji de dazizaituoluoni shenhou* (one juan) has a colophons by the original collectors, namely Xu Chengrao (on two pages) and Wu Boquan (one page).

The Dunhuang materials have recently been placed under the care of the Rare Books Department in Fu Ssu-nien Library. The department's excellent storage conditions and specialist restorers will ensure the long-term future of the manuscripts. In 1988 the 'Project for Rare Books on CD' was initiated so as to protect the Library's most valuable material for the future while, at the same time, providing readers with a convenient and speedily accessed surrogate. The Dunhuang scrolls have now been digitised and stored on CD. Although the manuscripts are not yet listed in the Rare Books Catalogue, the library has recently mounted a web page through which users can access the Online Public Access Catalogue (home page (<http://www.sinica.edu.tw>), click 'Academia Sinica Services: Library'). By typing 'Dunhuang Scrolls' under 'Subject' the user obtains a list of the Dunhuang holdings in the Fu Ssu-nien Library collection. Readers who need to consult the originals or obtain reproductions for research purposes, must apply for permission to get copies from the CD. It is hoped that a separate web page will be devoted to these materials and it will then be possible for scholars worldwide to apply for authorisation to access a complete text image of the manuscripts via Internet.

Professor Tu Cheng-sheng is Director of the Institute of History and Philology, Academia Sinica, Taipei.

本所自1928年成立之初，便設有「敦煌材料研究」組，著重敦煌材料之整理，俾有助於中國史學及文籍校訂等學術研究，陸續收得四十九卷敦煌卷子，其中《大般涅槃經 存一卷》及《法華義記 一卷》為吳寶燁舊藏，並有其鈐印，另《隨求即得大自在陀羅尼神咒經 一卷》則有原藏者許承堯手題記二紙及吳博全手題記一紙。

目前這批文獻均存放在本所傅斯年圖書館善本室，該室有較佳之古籍保存環境，並有專人負責維護工作，期能達永久保存之目的。為避免珍貴圖籍因一再使用造成損傷，及為提供讀者更方便、更迅速的檢索利用，故在1988年開始進行「善本書光碟影像計劃」，已利用光碟來儲存此批敦煌卷子。

敦煌卷子在本所編印之《善本書目》並未列入，目前圖書館已完成回溯建檔，所有珍藏古籍文獻皆可利用 <http://www.sinica.edu.tw> 於中央研究院Home Page「院內服務/圖書館」連線線上公用目錄檢索，在「主題」欄鍵入「敦煌卷子」便可獲得傅斯年圖書館所藏敦煌卷子之書目資料。

讀者因研究需求，可調閱原件，複製則需經過申請同意後，由光碟印出影像。此批文獻不久將建置在本所網頁上，世界各地之學術研究機構均可經由INTERNET，並以授權、認證方式，閱覽全文影像。

Note: There are also two Dunhuang scrolls in the **History Museum in Taipei**: a *Dabanniepanjing* (*Mahaparanirvanasutra*) and a *Lotus sutra*. They have been studied by Jin Ronghua ('Taipei Guoli Lishi Bowuguan cang Dunhuang juanzi ba' in *Huagang foxue xuebao* 12 (Mar. 1980), pp. 269–70).

(Details from Cheng A-tsai whose paper in the forthcoming volumes on Dunhuang forgeries provides an overview of the Taipei collections.)

Publications

Conservation des manuscrits de Dunhuang et d'Asie centrale

sous la direction de Monique Cohen
Conference papers from the second IDP
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Handbook to Stein Collections in the UK

Helen Wang (ed.)

(British Museum Occasional Paper No.
129)

This handbook aims to serve as a finding list
for the collections of objects, manuscripts
and archives of correspondence that are
associated with Sir Aurel Stein's (1862-1943)
visits to India, China, Iran, Iraq and Jordan
between the 1890s and 1938. In the UK, the
collections are now scattered in various
organisations in London, Oxford and
Cambridge.

The entries have been written by the
curators, librarians and archivists who work
directly on the Stein collections, and the
information is arranged in terms of collec-
tion history, collection description, publica-
tions, accessibility and contact details.

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Sir Aurel Stein Bibliography

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by Laszlo Bardi and Miklos Erdy
(Arcadia Bibliographica Virorum
Euritorum, Fasciculus 17)

Eurolingua/Eurasian Linguistic Association,
Bloomington, Indiana 1999

64 pp. US\$26 (pb).

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Manuscripta Orientalia

Note from the Editorial Board

We are glad to inform you about the end of
the transitional period caused by the death of
our Finnish distributor of *Manuscripta
Orientalia* and financial collapse in Russia. It
was not an easy time for us and we are happy
that we were able to fulfill all our obligations.
We would like to thank you for your support
and inform you that we are planning to
publish in the nearest future the electronic
version of our journal supplying it with
dozens of new color illustrations related to
the articles.

Please, visit our web-site at:

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Central Asia Resource News

The February issue can be located via NEWS at:

<http://home.iSTAR.ca/~jmjenies>

Hare from a Dunhuang printed almanac
(British Library: Or.8210/P.6).

Other Projects

Merit, Opulence and the Buddhist Network of Wealth

This is an interdisciplinary, cooperative
project sponsored by **Northwestern Univer-
sity, Evanston, Illinois** and the **Dunhuang
Research Academy**. The goals of the project,
made possible with a generous grant from the
Henry Luce Foundation, are two fold. The
international research team will address 10th
century art and culture examining the ways
in which merit-making activities in temples
impacted on the material culture of western
China. The dramatic structural shift in the
arts industries during the 10th century oc-
curred when demands on workshops from lay
patrons prompted a professionalization of craft
production. Fieldwork will be conducted this
summer at Dunhuang and in three regions of
Sichuan. Secondly, caves will also be docu-
mented in new, 3D computer models devel-
oped with the Dunhuang Research Institute.
These models will be accompanied by a data-
base of information on caves crucial to the
project.

For further information contact:

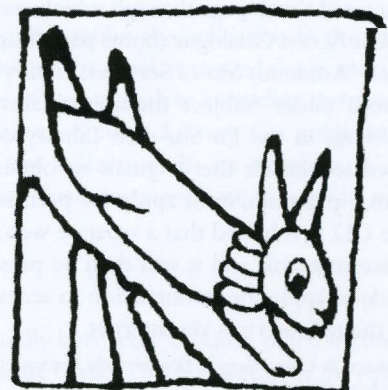
Asst Professor Sarah E. Fraser

s-fraser2@nwu.edu

Site URL: [http://court.it-services.nwu.edu/
dunhuang/Merit/](http://court.it-services.nwu.edu/dunhuang/Merit/)

Virtual Dunhuang Art Cave

A site developed by the **Artificial
Intelligence Institute of Zhejiang
University**, Hangzhou, China and the
**Fraunhofer Institute for Computer
Graphics**, Rostock & Darmstadt, Germany.
The site provides a virtual walk through the
Dunhuang caves with some historical
context on the caves and the area. Although
not yet completed it is possible to get guest
access contact: sybill@rostock.igd.fhg.de
Site URL: [http://www.egd.igd.fhg.de/
~dunhuang/welcomeE.html](http://www.egd.igd.fhg.de/~dunhuang/welcomeE.html)



Conferences

Institute of Oriental Studies Russian Academy of Sciences Orientalists' Society

Orientalist Information Centre Eurasian Oriental Server

would like to invite you to take part in the
International Workshop
*Mongolian and Tibetan Historical Sources:
Computer Approaches*

14-16 July 1999, Moscow, Russia

Items under discussion:

Electronic editing, describing and systematising of Mongolian and Tibetan manuscripts and inscriptions, fine arts masterpieces, folklore texts and artefacts, etc. Discussion of theory, methods and technology of creating electronic catalogues and databases of Mongolian and Tibetan texts, their keeping and handling, also exchanging electronic copies of these texts and promoting long-distance access to them. If you wish to take part please send the following details:

Given Name:

Family Name:

Institute/Organisation & Position:

Title of your presentation:

Postal address:

Tel/Fax & email:

AV equipmt required for your presentation:

Please send these details and an abstract of your presentation (200-300 words) to:

Email: postmaster@orient.ru or

ivran@glasnet.ru

Fax: +7 95 9257788

Lists of participants and presentations will be placed on the Eurasian Oriental Server (EAOS): <http://www.orient.ru>

Dimitry D.Vasilyev

Vice-president

Orientalists' Society of the RAS

Tel: 7 95 9285764

Email: dmivas@glas.apc.org

Permanent International Altaistic Conference (PIAC)

42nd Meeting

22-27 August 1999, Prague, Czech Republic

*Language and Culture Maintenance
in the Altaic World*

For details contact:

Secretary General, PIAC

Goodbody Hall

Indiana University

Bloomington

Indiana 47405, USA

Fax: +1 812 855 7500

Email: sinord@indiana.edu

The International Association of Buddhist Studies (IABS)

XIIth Conference

23-28 August, 1999, Lausanne, Switzerland

For details contact:

XIIth IABS Conference

Dept. of Oriental Languages and Cultures

University of Lausanne

B.F.S.H. 2

CH-1015 LAUSANNE

Switzerland

Fax: +41 21 692 3045

Email: iabs99@orient.unil.ch

WWW: <http://www.unil.ch/orient>

DUNHUANG 2000

The International Academic Conference on
the Centenary of the Discovery of the
Dunhuang Manuscript Cave (No. 17)

21-25 June, 2000, Beijing, China

To be held at Capital Normal University.

For details contact:

Hao Chunwen

Dept. of History

Capital Normal University

BEIJING 100089

The People's Republic of China

Tel: +86 10 6890 3561

Fax: +86 10 6890 2315

Email: Haochunwen@ihw.com.cn or

Haocw@mailhost.cnu.edu.cn

2000 International Conference on Dunhuang Studies

August, 2000, Dunhuang, China

The conference is scheduled to last six days, the first four days for papers and discussion and the last two days to include visits to the Mogao caves, Yulin caves, West Qianfodong, Yumen Pass and the Han dynasty Great Wall. Spaces are limited to 170 delegates. Participants will be expected to pay a registration fee (which includes local travel for the cave visits), travel to and from Dunhuang, accommodation and other expenses. Further details will be sent with the second announcement in August.

For details contact:

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Assistant Secretary General

Commission of Academic Research

Dunhuang Research Academy

Mogaoku, DUNHUANG 736200

The People's Republic of China

Tel: +86 937 886 9027

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Project News



Professor Katsumura (left) with Dr Susan Whitfield and Professor Takata in the courtyard of the Jinbunken, Kyoto.

People

Colin Chinnery and **Susan Whitfield** presented a joint paper in January 1999 at the joint meeting of the Pacific Neighbourhood Consortium (PNC), Electronic Buddhist Text Initiative (EBTI) and Electronic Cultural Atlas Initiative (ECAI) held at Academia Sinica, Taiwan.

Susan Whitfield went to Kyoto in February at the invitation of **Kyoto University Institute for Research in Humanities (Jinbunken)** to talk with **Professors Katsumura Tetsuya and Takata Tokio** on the International Dunhuang Project and Chinese characters on the web as part of the Institute's project, 'Chinese characters on the Internet', funded by a grant-in-aid of the Japanese Ministry of Education.

Thanks are owing to my hosts for such an enjoyable and interesting visit and we look forward to future collaboration.

Sponsors

During her visit to Taiwan, Susan Whitfield visited the **Chiang Ching-Kuo Foundation for International Scholarly Exchange**, being hosted by the President Li Yih-Yuan, Vice President James Chiang and Secretary Mrs Yu Shufen. She also met with Harold H. C. Han, President of the **Himalaya Foundation**. The Himalaya Foundation has also generously provided funds through a joint grant with the Chiang Ching-Kuo Foundation.

The Project relies on external funds and we remain extremely grateful to all our sponsors. If you would like information on how you can help IDP then please contact us at the address overleaf.

Project News

St Petersburg Conference

The 4th conference on the 'Preservation of Dunhuang and Central Asian Material' will be hosted by the Institute of Oriental Studies at St. Petersburg. Details are currently being finalised and further information will shortly be sent out. It is scheduled for Wednesday 8 to Saturday 11 September, 1999 and sessions will be split into three workshops and general presentations.

Specialist Workshops

Informal workshops involving practical work and informal presentations. The three sessions will take place concurrently. Co-ordinators are:

Paper: Mark Barnard (London) and Anna-Grethe Rischel (Denmark)

Textiles: Barbara Schroter (Berlin)

Wall-Paintings and sculptures: Mr Gabsch (Berlin) & Kira F. Samosyuk (St. Petersburg)

Computer Programmes for cataloguing and digitisation of manuscripts: Erim Rezvan (St. Petersburg)

General presentations

Lectures on conservation and science of interest to all participants.

Call for Berlin papers

During the 'Third International Conference on the Preservation of Dunhuang and Central Asian Collections', held in Berlin last year it was decided to publish the papers as soon as possible. We should like to take the opportunity to thank all participants who have already sent us their manuscripts. We also ask those, who have not yet sent us anything, to do so as soon as possible. Send papers to:

Dr Hartmut-Ortwin Feistel

Orientabteilung

Staatsbibliothek zu Berlin

- Preussischer Kulturbesitz -

Potsdamer Strasse 33

D-10785 Berlin

Tel: +49 30 266 2415

Fax: +49 30 264 5955

French papers published

Papers from the 'Second International Conference on the Preservation of Dunhuang and Central Asian Material' held in Paris have now been published (see Publications, p. 6)

Donation

The Cultural Section of the Chinese Embassy in London made a generous donation of GB£600 towards the project work. It will be used to digitise a group of Dunhuang manuscripts.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank them for their interest and support.

Launch of Bookbinding Web

Site

Colin Chinnery of IDP has prepared a web site on the history of Chinese bookbinding as shown by the Dunhuang manuscripts. It offers a full survey of all the different types of binding, from whirlwind to pothi, illustrated with both diagrams and photographs of examples. It is directly accessible from the IDP web site front page (<http://idp.bl.uk>).

This is the first of many specialist web sites that IDP will be mounting over the next few years.

Sponsor a Sutra

The International Dunhuang Project (IDP) 'Sponsor a Sutra' scheme allows you to help in the digitisation of the Dunhuang manuscripts held at the British Library for as little as GB£50. Just like donors of old, you can arrange for the copying of a sutra and add your name and a message at the end. The difference with donors of the past is that instead of paying a scribe to copy the sutra by hand, you will pay for the sutra to be photographed and digitised. The digitised image with your name and message will be added to the IDP interactive web database (<http://idp.bl.uk>) where it will appear whenever anyone worldwide accesses the sutra.

Several people have already very generously sponsored sutras. You can view these on the database. For example, search under 'Specific Search: Ms. No' for any of the following:

Or.8210/P.8

Or.8210/S.4289

Or.8210/S.5642

Thank you to these pioneering sponsors. If you want to sponsor a sutra yourself the procedure is very simple.

1. Choose a sutra or other manuscript/document that you would like to sponsor

Note: You can only sponsor manuscripts that are not already sponsored and you must

sponsor the whole text. In some cases this is only a few lines, in other one sutra takes up the entire scroll which may be over 20 metres long. There is a scale of charges depending on how many images will need to be scanned starting at GB£50 for the first image and GB£25 for each extra image thereafter. You can also sponsor a group of texts, e.g. all copies of a text in the collection. The cost of sponsorship in this case will be estimated separately.

There are catalogues of the sutras in the British Library collection. If you would like help or suggestions then please contact IDP at the address below. We will be adding a list of sutras on the web site in the near future.

2. Contact IDP (address below).

3. We will confirm the cost of sponsoring the sutra you have chosen and send you details of how to pay.

Note: The British Library is a non-profit organisation and therefore in the UK if the cost of sponsorship is more than GB£250 you can use 'GiftAid' which enables us to reclaim tax. If you are a US tax-payer you can also pay through the 'American Trust of the British Library' which enables you to reclaim tax. Details will be sent on request.

4. Once payment is received we will place the sutra/manuscript on a priority list for digitisation

In most cases the sutra will be digitised and will appear on the database with your name as sponsor within 8 weeks. For long sutras or at certain times depending on staff availability it may take slightly longer, but we will keep you informed.

IDP News is edited and designed by:

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<http://idp.bl.uk> (online database)

Please send contributions or comments to the above address. The newsletter is free: send a mailing address if you would like to subscribe.