



Study of a Newly Identified Sanskrit Manuscript of the *Saptajinastotra*

Enbo Hu

Abstract: This paper focuses on a newly identified Sanskrit manuscript of the *Saptajinastotra* (*Praise of the Seven Buddhas*) that was found at the Drepung Monastery in Tibet. By providing a critical edition and translation, as well as a comparison of the parallel Tibetan and Chinese texts, it presents the Sanskrit version of T 1682 *Qi fo zan bai jia ta* 七佛讚唄伽他 for the first time and corrects several mistakes, misspellings and misreadings of the manuscript, Tibetan and Chinese works.

Keywords: Sanskrit manuscripts in Tibet, *Praise of the Seven Buddhas*, *Saptajinastotra*, *De bzhin gshegs pa bdun gyi bstod pa*, T 1682

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1. Introduction

A Sanskrit text of the *Saptajinastotra* (*Praise of the Seven Buddhas*, henceforth Saj) was identified in 2019 in a manuscript preserved at the Drepung Monastery ('Bras spungs dgon pa, 哲蚌寺) in Tibet. Kazunobu MATSUDA 2019 listed a series of Buddhist *stotras* contained in this Sanskrit manuscript, including Saj, and stated that it consisted of 63 folios in palm-leaf form, with each folio measuring 31.6 cm x 5 cm. According to Matsuda, the text of Saj runs from folio 6v2 to 7r4, with five lines in each folio, and is written in the Nepalese *Brāhmī* script, which is thought to date from the 12th to the 13th centuries.¹

The Sanskrit text of the *stotra* in this manuscript has nine stanzas, but it does not provide information about the author. The poet uses different metres: *rucirā* (stanzas 1 and 5), *anuṣṭubh* (3), *upajāti* (2, 4, 7–9) and *triṣṭubh/jagatī* (6).

The poet praises each of the seven Buddhas individually in the first seven stanzas, and then praises the future Buddha in the eighth stanza and provides a dedication in the ninth stanza. The seven Buddhas in Saj refer specifically to the seven Buddhas in the past, that is, Vipaśyin (rNam par gzigs; Pi po shi 麵婆尸), Śikhin (gTsug tor can; Shi qi 式棄), Viśvabhū (Thams cad skyob pa; Pi she fu 毘舍浮), Krakucchanda (Log pa dad sel / 'Khor ba 'jig; Ju liu sun 俱留孫), Kanakamuni (gSer thub; Jia nuo jia mou ni 迦諾迦牟尼), Kāśyapa ('Od srung; Jia she bo 迦葉波) and Śākyamuni (Śākyā thub pa; Shi jia mou ni 釋迦牟尼). Maitreya (Byams pa; Ci shi 慈氏), the future Buddha, is also praised by the poet (see Table 1).

Table 1. Seven past Buddhas and the future Buddha

	Se- quence	Saj (Skt.)	Saj (Tib.) = D 1165	Saj (Chin.) = T 1682	Meaning of the names ²
the seven past Buddhas (Saptajina / Saptatathāgata)	1	Vipaśyin	rNam par gzigs	毘婆尸	observing carefully
	2	Śikhin	gTsug tor mnga' ba	式棄	having a tuft of hair
	3	Viśvabhū	Thams cad skyob pa	毘舍浮	all becoming (Skt.); all protecting (Tib.)
	4	Krakuc- chanda ³	Log dad sel ⁴	俱留孫	taking wrong beliefs away (Tib.)

¹ The original Sanskrit manuscripts have been published “not publicly” in the facsimile edition of the Sanskrit manuscripts kept in Tibet: *Xizang zizhiqiu zhencang beiyejing yingyin daquan* 西藏自治区珍藏貝葉經影印大全 (61 vols), *Xizang zizhiqiu beiyejing baohu gongzuo lingdao xiaozu bianzhi* 西藏自治区貝葉經保護工作領導小組, eds. 2011. For details about this book, see MATSUDA 2019 and LIU and SCHNEIDER 2022: 3–4.

² Based on BOTH 1997: 57–73.

³ For the meaning and variations of Krakucchanda, see BOTH 1997: 66, fn.3.

⁴ Also 'Khor ba jig, “destroyer of the *samsāra*”.

	Se- quence	Saj (Skt.)	Saj (Tib.) = D 1165	Saj (Chin.) = T 1682	Meaning of the names ²
the seven past Buddhas (<i>Saptajina</i> / <i>Saptatathāgata</i>)	5	Kanaka- muni	gSer thub	迦諾迦牟 尼	the golden sage
	6	Kāśyapa	'Od srung	迦葉波	guarding the light
	7	Śākyā- muni	Śākyā thub pa	釋迦牟尼	the sage of Śākyas
the future Buddha	8	Maitreya	Byams pa	慈氏	the benevolent one

2. Previous studies

The Sanskrit text was sought for over one hundred years. Alexander von STAËL-HOLSTEIN 1913: 67–84 (henceforth SH) reconstructed the Sanskrit version based on the canonical Chinese parallel text *Qi fo zan bai jia ta* 七佛讚唄伽他, which was translated by Dharmadeva 法天 (?–1001), and included the Tibetan version, D 1165, entitled *De bzhin gshegs pa bdun gyi bstod pa*. This title differs from the title written on the manuscript, which is *rGyal ba⁵ bdun la bstod pa* (*Praise of the Seven Victors*).

Ryōzaburō SAKAKI 1914 (henceforth RS) restored another version based on the same Chinese text *Qi fo zan bai jia ta* 七佛讚唄伽他⁶ and translated his version into Japanese, but it appears that he was not aware of von Staël-Holstein's work. He also compared his version to the Sanskrit manuscript of the *Saptabuddhastotra* kept in Kyoto University and translated the *Saptabuddhastotra* into Japanese.

PANDEY 1994 included von Staël-Holstein's restored version with other *stotras* as *Bauddhastotrasamgraha*; thus, the version that is currently in the *108 Buddhist stotras* in GRETEL⁷ is ultimately von Staël-Holstein's version.

BOTH 1997: 57–73 compared the *Saptabuddhastotra* and the *Saptatathāgata-stotra*. He believed that the *Saptabuddhastotra* was composed in Nepal after the year 1000, and that the *Saptatathāgata-stotra* was older. He also translated the Tibetan version P 2054 (=D 1165) and the Sanskrit version that was restored by von STAËL-HOLSTEIN (1913: 67–84) into English.

⁵ Tib. *rgyal ba* ~ Skt. *jina* could also mean “a Buddha”.

⁶ It appears that SAKAKI 1914 confused Dharmabhadra 法賢 with Dharmadeva 法天 as the translator of *Qi fo zan bai jia ta* 七佛讚唄伽他, which should be corrected to Dharmadeva.

⁷ http://gretil.sub.uni-goettingen.de/gretil/1_sanskri/4_rellit/buddh/bst-108u.htm (accessed 2 October 2022).

3. Tibetan version⁸

There is one Tibetan version, which is entitled *De bzhin gshegs pa bdun gyi bstod pa* according to the colophon in D 1165. It was translated by Padmākaravarman and Rin chen bzang po (958–1055).⁹ The colophon runs as follows:

de bzhin gshegs pa bdun gyi bstod pa rdzogs so || || rgya gar gyi mkhan
po padma ka ra warma dang | zhu chen gyi lo tsā ba dge slong rin chen
bzang pos bsgyur cing zhus te gtan la phab pa || (Ka 238a6)

padma ka ra warma] shraddha ka ra CGNP; zhu chen gyi lo tsā ba] *om.*
CGNP; zhus te] *om.* CGNP; pa] *pa'o* C.

Thus ends the *Saptatathāgatastotra*. The Indian mKhan po Padmākara-varman and the great Lo tsā ba Bhikṣu Rin chen bzang po translated, edited and asserted it.

The Sanskrit title at the beginning of the Tibetan text, *sapta ta thā ga ta sto trah*, i.e., *Saptatathāgatastotra*, corresponds to the Tibetan title *De bzhin gshegs pa bdun gyi bstod pa*:

rgya gar skad du | sapta ta thā ga ta sto trah | bod skad du | de bzhin
gshegs pa bdun gyi bstod pa | 'jam dpal gzhon nur gyur pa la phyag 'tshal
lo || (ka, 237b5)

trah] traṃ CGNP.

The Tibetan title might indicate the existence of a version of **Saptatathāgatastotra* that is different from *Saptajinastotra*, although Skt. *jina* could also refer to the Buddha; however, as Skt. *stotra* and Skt. *stava* share the same meaning, **Saptatathāgatastotra* might be the same as *Saptajinastotra*. In addition, we can see that the third stanza of Saj only has eight syllables in each *pāda*, while the others have 11 or 13 syllables; thus, the corresponding stanza in D 1165 *ye shes dang ni spyod pa'i ngang tshul rnames las kyang* might indicate two possibilities:

- a) The Tibetan version contains not only the translation of the Sanskrit words but also a further explanation of the Sanskrit words; or
- b) the Tibetan version was based on a different Sanskrit version.

⁸ A full comparison of the Sanskrit and Tibetan texts is provided in the appendix.

⁹ The information about the translators differs in other canonical versions: Śraddhākara[varman] and Rin chen bzang po in CGNP.

4. Chinese version¹⁰

There is one phonetic transcription of the *Praise of the Seven Buddhas*, i.e., Chin. *Qi fo zan bai jia ta* 七佛讚唄伽他 (**Saptabuddhastotragāthā*)¹¹ by Dharmadeva, who lived in the Song Dynasty. This text was included in the Chinese *Tripiṭaka* as T 1682, and although it is a transcription, not a translation, the ninth stanza had been both transcribed and translated. T 1682 also contains nine stanzas, which include the titles of each praise (*zan* 讚) of the seven Buddhas, i.e., *pi po shi fo zan* 毘婆尸佛讚, *shi qi fo zan* 式棄佛讚, *pi she fu fo zan* 毘舍浮佛讚, *ju liu sun fo zan* 俱留孫佛讚, *jia nuo jia mou ni fo zan* 迦諾迦牟尼佛讚, *jia she bo fo zan* 迦葉波佛讚, *shi jia mou ni fo zan* 釋迦牟尼佛讚 in the past and Maitreya (*Ci shi* 慈氏) in the future 當來化主慈氏菩薩讚. The title of the last stanza *hui xiang jie zan* 迴向結讚 provides the concluding dedication.

Moreover, Chin. *bo luo mo* 播囉麼 (Skt. **parama*) in stanza 7d should be deleted: 薩怛(二合)薩昧(二合)曩莫{播囉麼}迦(弓|)嚕泥(尼整反)迦(弓|)野設(弓|)悉底哩(三合引|)(四句), since it is neither attested in the Sanskrit text *tasmai namah kārunikāya śāstre* (Saj 7d) nor in the Tibetan version and would ruin the metre. Therefore, the reconstructions of this stanza in SH and RS are problematic.

Furthermore, each stanza in a Sanskrit verse contains four *pādas* and they have been marked as *yi ju* 一句 (the first *pāda*), *er ju* 二句 (the second *pāda*), *san ju* 三句 (the third *pāda*) and *si ju* 四句 (the fourth *pāda*). The only exception is the second stanza, which ends with *er* 二 (two) in the first *pāda* and *er he* 二合 (indicates the two combined *akṣaras*)¹² in the second *pāda*. These two mistakes are corrected as *yi ju* 一句 (the first *pāda*) and *er ju* 二句 (the second *pāda*), respectively, according to the newly identified Sanskrit manuscript.¹³

Finally, apart from the title Chin. *Qi fo zan bai jia ta* 七佛讚唄伽他 of T 1682 suggesting a Sanskrit text **Saptabuddhastotragāthā*, the colophon, which is strangely positioned before the last stanza, 麟鉢哆(二合)囉曩薩怛(二合)囉(無博切)三(去)麼(弓|)鉢哆(下字入聲呼二合) *sah poh ch'ē 'rh nang sah tah foh san mo poh ch'ē*,¹⁴ could be reconstructed as Skt. **saptajinastavaḥ samāptah*, as opposed to *saptajinastotram samāptam iti* in the Sanskrit manuscript.

¹⁰ A full comparison of the Sanskrit and Chinese texts is provided in the appendix.

¹¹ **Saptabuddhastotragāthā* is reconstructed from Chin. *Qi fo zan bai jia ta* 七佛讚唄伽他, in which Chin. *jia ta* 伽他 is reconstructed as Skt. *gāthā*. There is one Sanskrit text entitled *Saptabuddhastotra* (see PANDEY 1994: 249–250 and the 108 Buddhist stotras in GRETL), but the content thereof is not identical to T 1682.

¹² Such as *pta*, *sma*, and so forth.

¹³ SAKAKI 1914 cited this stanza with the correct characters.

¹⁴ Transcription follows VON STAËL-HOLSTEIN 1913: 81.

5. Transliteration¹⁵

6v2: jagadgurum suranara ○ lokapūjītam kṛpāpaṭum¹⁶ parahitamokṣadeśakam
| vipaśyinam tribhavamahoghapāragam na

6v3: māmi tam sugatagatim tathāgataṁ || anantapāre bhavaśāgare smi: ○ n
nimajjamānam prasamīkṣya lokam | prakāśito yena hitāya dharmo namo stu
tasmai śikhine

6v4: jināya || vande viśvabhuvaṁ buddhaṁ candrārkkādhikatejasam |
sāgaraugham i: ○ vāgādham jñānena vinayena ca || yasyenduraśmipratimair
yaśobhir alaṅkṛtābhāti vasundhareyam |

6v5: adumbaram puṣpamivādbhutam tam vande krakucchandamahāmunīndram,
visāriṇā vigatamalena cetasā virāgiṇā satatahitānukāriṇā | hataṁ tam{{au}}
o vigatamalena yena tam surā

7r1: rccitam kanakamunim namāmy aham prataptacāmīkaragauraraśmi
saḥasrasaṁśyādhikeśam | lokottamaṁ sarvvajinābhivandyam
vandāmy aham kāsyapanāmadheyam vākyāṁśujālai

7r2: h̄ pratibodhya lokam sūryāṁśujālair iva padmaṣaṇḍam, | yo nirvṛtaḥ
śā ○ kyamuniḥ pradīpas tasmai namaḥ kāruṇikāya śāstre maitreyanāmā
tuṣitālayasth{{au}} o ya

7r3: syaikajanmāntaritā hi bodhiḥ | utpatsyate yaḥ sugataḥ pṛthivyām, ○
sarvvātmanāḥam praṇato smi tasmai stutvā mayā saptajinān atītān anāgatañ
cāṣṭamabo

7r4: dhisatvam | yat puṇyam āśāditam aprameyan nirāmayās tena bhavantu
satvāḥ ○ saptajinastotram samāptam iti ||

¹⁵ Some of the transliteration of this manuscript is based on the paleographical *akṣara* table by Prof. Zhen LIU and on Prof. Johannes SCHNEIDER's "Liu-Schneider-Hymns" (2021, unpublished, later published in LIU and SCHNEIDER 2022: 7–11). The latter introduces the series of the Buddhist hymns accompanied by exhaustive paleographical information of the Old Bengali *Brāhmī* script. However, the script in this manuscript, the Nepalese *Brāhmī* script, differs from the Old Bengali *Brāhmī* script.

¹⁶ Here the *akṣara* in the manuscript is quite strange, it would be a small round circle or point indicating an *anusvāra*, but here it looks like a right-falling stroke: ፩. It is preferable to take it as an *anusvāra* according to the corresponding Tib. *gsal* ~ Skt. *paṭu* (NEGI 1993–2005: 7342) and Chin. 用 *yong* (indicates also an *anusvāra*).

6. The critical edition, translation, and a comparison of the parallel Tibetan and Chinese texts

Verse 1. Praise of Vipaśyin

jagadgurum suranaralokapūjitam
 krpāpatum parahitamokṣadeśakam |
 vipaśyinam tribhavamahaughapāragam
 namāmi tam sugatagatim tathāgatam || 1 ||

- a. °gurum] °gurur RS; suranaralokapūjitaṁ] yo 'maranaralokapūjitaḥ RS.
- b. °paṭum] °pado RS; parahitamokṣadeśakam] yaḥ parahitamokṣadeśakaḥ RS.
- c. vipaśyinam] vipaśyinas RS; tribhavamahaughapāragam] trāibhavamahaughapāragaḥ RS; °ughapāragam] °oghapāragam Ms.
- d. sugatagatim] sāugatagataṁ RS.

D 1165:

'gro ba'i (N262a4) bla ma lha mi 'jig rten phyir mchod (C277a7) cing ||
 (D237b6) (G 343a4) thugs rjes gsal zhing gzhan la phan pa'i thar pa ston ||
 srid gsum (P278a6) chu chen mthar phyin bde 'gror son pa po ||
 de bzhin gshegs pa rnam par gzigs la phyag 'tshal lo || 1 ||

- b. gsal] bsal GP; la] las CGPN.
- c. 'gror son] la 'gro bar ston CGNP.

T 1682:

毘婆尸佛讚

惹(仁拶反)識捺麁(二合)龍勇(二合反)秫囉囊囉路(弓)迦布(弓)囉鐙(一句)
 認哩(二合)播(弓)鉢吒用(二合反)跛囉呬怛謨(弓)乞叉(二合)禰(泥曳反)捨亘(二句)
 尾鉢始也(二合)能(上)底哩(二合)婆(去)嚙(武鉢反)摩護伽播(弓)囉口*儼(三句)
 囊麁(弓)弭鐙蘇(上)識哆(去)識底孕(二合反)怛他(去引)識怛麁(二合反弓)(四句) || 1 ||

I pay homage to him, the teacher of sentient beings, revered by the world of gods and men, skilled in benevolence, who indicates liberation for the benefit of others, to Vipaśyin, who has reached the opposite shore of the great torrent of the three states of existence, the Tathāgata, whose path is well gone.¹⁷

Verse 2. Praise of Śikhin

anantapāre bhavasāgare 'smin
 nimajjamānam prasamīkṣya lokam |

¹⁷ Skt. *sugatagati* here must be understood as a *bahuvrīhi*, but it also hints at one of the ten epithets of the Buddha.

prakāśito yena hitāya dharmo
namo 'stu tasmai śikhine jināya || 2 ||

- b. nimajja°] nimaja° SH.
- d. dharmo] dharmah RS.

D 1165:

srid pa'i rgya mtsho mtha' (N261a5) dang pha (C277b1) rol med pa (G343a5)
'di ||
'jig rten nub cing 'dug pa rab tu (P278a7) gzigs (D237b7) nas kyang ||
phan gdags phyir ni *chos rnams ston pa* gang yin pa ||
rgyal ba gtsug tor mnga' ba de la phyag 'tshal lo || 2 ||

c. *chos rnams*] Skt. sg. *dharmo*; *ston pa*] *rab tu ston pa* CGNP.

T 1682:

式棄佛讚

阿(去)難(上)哆播(引)嚟婆(去)囉(無可反)娑(去引)謔嚟悉弭(二合)({二}<一>句)
黠(重呼)麼惹拽(二合反)麼(引)能(去)鉢囉(二合)捨銘(引)乞史也(三合)路(引)亘(二{合}<句>)
鉢囉(二合)迦(去引)始姤(引)曳曩醯哆(去)野達(轉舌呼)謨(去引)(三句)
曩謨(引)窣堵(二合)怛薩昧(二合)式企(引)寧囉曩(引)野(四句) || 2 ||

Hail to him, the Jina Śikhin,
who, after witnessing the whole world engulfed,
in this endless ocean of existence,
illumined the dharma for its sake.

Verse 3. Praise of Viśvabhū

vande viśvabhuvaṁ buddhaṁ
candrārkādhikatejasam |
sāgaraugham ivāgādhaṁ
jñānenā vinayena ca || 3 ||

D 1165:

nyi zla dag las 'das pa'i gzi (C277b2) brjid mnga' ba des ||
(G343a6) (N261a6) (P278a8) ye shes dang ni spyod pa'i ngang tshul rnams las
kyang ||
rgya mtsho'i 'jing ltar gting dpag nus par (D238a1) mi 'gyur ba'i ||
sangs rgyas thams cad skyob pa de la phyag 'tshal lo || 3 ||

- c. 'jing] 'jings P.
- d. skyob] bskyob CGNP.

T 1682:

毘舍浮佛讚

鏤(無滿反)禰(泥曳反)尾濕囉(二合)部吻(無肯反)沒鄧(一句)
 讚捺囉(二合引)迦(去)地揭帝惹(仁左反)僧(去)(二句)
 婆(引)訥噦伽弭囉(引)訥(引)鄧(三句)
 倪野(二合反)禰(泥曳反)曩尾曩曳曩拶(四句) || 3 ||

Whose grandeur surpasses the moon and the sun,
 and who is as deep as the waters of the ocean
 in his sagaciousness and discipline,
 I pay homage to Viśvabhū Buddha.

Verse 4. Praise of Krakucchanda

yasyenduraśmipratimair yaśobhir
 alamkṛtābhāti vasundhareyam |
 udumbaram puṣpam ivādbhutam tam
 vande krakucchandamahāmunīndram || 4 ||

c. udumbaram] adumbaram Ms., audumbaram SH, audumbaram RS.

D 1165:

gang gi grags pa zla ba'i 'od (P278b1) zer 'dra ba yis ||
 (C277b3) sa stengs mtha' (G343b1) dag rab tu (N261a7) brgyan par snang ba
 dang || u dumwā ra'i me tog bzhin du rmad byung ba ||
 thub dbang chen po log dad (D238a2) sel la phyag 'tshal lo || 4 ||

b. stengs] steng CGNP; u dumwā ra'i] u dumwā ra'i CGN, u du ma wa P.

T 1682:

俱留孫佛讚

野薩拽(二合反)弩(鼻音重呼)囉始銘(二合短呼)鉢囉(二合)底(丁以反)昧哩
 野(二合)戌(引)鼻(一句)
 囉¹⁸囉(去引)訥哩(二合)哆(引)婆(去引)底(丁以反)囉(武鉢反)遜馱哩琰(二
 句)
 噢努沫囉(二合)囉補瀝播(二合)弭囉(引)那部(二合)鐙鐙(三句)
 鏤(無滿反)禰(泥曳反)訥囉(二合)矩礎捺摩賀(引)母顛(寧頂反引)捺囉(二合
 引)(四句) || 4 ||

I pay homage to Krakucchanda the Indra among the great sages,
 with whose fame, like the rays of the moon,
 this earth appears to be decorated,
 to him who is marvelous as the *Udumbara* flower.¹⁹

¹⁸ Chin. *luo* 囉 is transcribed considering -r of Skt. *yaśobhir* in *pāda* a.

¹⁹ This is also endorsed by Tib. *u dumwā ra* in D 1165 and 噢努沫囉(二合)囉 *yü nu moh*

Verse 5. Praise of Kanakamuni

visāriṇā vigatamalena cetasā
 virāgiṇā satatahitānukāriṇā |
 hatam tamo vigatamalena²⁰ yena tam
 surārcitam kanakamunim namāmy aham || 5 ||

c. tamo] tamau Ms.

D 1165:

dri ma med cing rtag tu (P278b2) phan par mdzad pa dang ||
 chags pa med pa gang gi dri ma med (G343b2) pa'i (C277b4) thugs ||
 rnam par 'phro bas (N261b1) mun pa'i thibs po rab bcom zhing ||
 lha yis mchod pa'i gser thub de la phyag 'tshal lo || 5 ||

b. gi] gis CGNP.

T 1682:

迦諾迦牟尼佛讚

尾娑(去)哩擎(弓)尾讖怛沫嚙曩唧怛娑(去)(一句)
 尾囉(弓)口*儻(霓以反)擎(弓)薩怛怛醯哆(去弓)弩(鼻音)迦(去弓)哩擎(重呼)(二句)
 喝怛怛謨(弓)尾讖多(沫)<沫>²¹嚙曩曳曩鐙(三句)
 蘇(上)囉(弓轉舌呼)唧鐙揭曩揭母黠曩麼(弓)麼野(二合弓)憾(四句) || 5 ||

I venerate Kanakamuni, esteemed by the gods,
 that faultless one who, going in all directions with his faultless mind,
 free of passion and constantly doing good,
 and annihilated the darkness.

Verse 6. Praise of Kāśyapa

prataptacāmīkaragauraraśmīm
 sahasrasūryādhikadīptitejasam |
 lokottamam sarvajanābhivandyam
 vandāmy aham kāśyapanāmadheyam || 6 ||

a. °raśmīm] °raśmi Ms.; °raśmigauram] °gauraraśmī SH, raśmigāuram RS.

foh lan in T 1682, reconstructed as *audumbaram*; *udumbara* is “*Ficus glomerata*, ein hochwachsender Baum. Die reifen Früchte sind orangefarbig, halten viel milchigen Saft und werden genossen” (PW: I.920).

²⁰ *vigatamalena* shows up both in *pāda* a and c, which seems to be a *dosa* (poetic error).

²¹ Chin. *mo li nang* 沫嚙曩 ~ Skt. *malena, mei/hui* 沫 does not work here.

- b. °dīptitejasam] °dīptatejasam SH, RS.
- c. sarvajanā°] sarvvajinā Ms., sarvajanā° SH, RS; °bhivandyam] °bhipūjyam RS.
- d. °dheyakam *ex conj.*] °dheyam Ms.

D 1165:

(P278b3) btso ma'i gser gyi phung po'i kha dog 'dra (D238a3) ba yi ||
 gzi brjid 'bar ba nyi ma stong bas lhag (G343b3) pa mnga' ||
 skye bo kun gyis (C277b5) phyag byas 'jig rten mchog gyur pa ||
 (N261b2) 'od srungs mtshan gsol gang yin (P278b4) de la phyag 'tshal lo || 6 ||

- b. ba] ba'i CGNP.
- c. pa] pa'i CGNP.

T 1682:

迦葉波佛讚

鉢囉(二合)怛鉢怛(二合)左(引)弭迦囉囉濕銘(二合)偶(引)啜(去)(一句)
 娑賀娑囉(二合)素哩野(二合引)地迦(去聲呼)禰(泥曳反引)鉢哆(二合)
 帝惹(仁左反)僧(去)(二句)
 路句(引)怛懵薩(轉舌)囉(無可反)惹(仁左反)曩(引)鼻吻(無肯反)寧孕(二合反)(三句)
 吻那(去引)沫野(二合反)憾迦(引)捨鉢曩(引)麼地啞(四句) || 6 ||

I worship the one named Kāsyapa,
 the one who has the pure light of the glowing shining gold,
 the one who has the splendor and brilliance surpassing one thousand suns,
 the best in the world, the one who is praiseworthy for all sentient beings.

Verse 7. Praise of Śākyamuni

vākyāmśujālaiḥ pratibodhya lokam
 sūryāmśujālair iva padmaṣaṇḍam |
 yo nirvṛtaḥ śākyamunih pradīpas
 tasmai namah kāruṇikāya śāstre || 7 ||

- a. vākyāmśujālaiḥ] vākyārcijvalāiḥ RS.
- b. sūryāmśujālair] sūryārcijvalair RS.
- c. śākyamunih pradīpas] śākyamunipradīpas SH, RS.
- d. kāruṇikāya] parama° add. SH, RS.

D 1165:

nyi ma'i 'od zer mang pos padma'i tshal *phye ltar* ||
 gsung gi 'od zer mang pos 'jig rten sad (G343b4) par mdzad ||

(D238a4) ston pa shākyā thub pa thugs *rje* sgron (C277b6) ma can ||
 mya ngan 'das (P278b5) *pa* gang yin de la phyag (N261b3) 'tshal lo || 7 ||

- a. phye] 'byed CGNP.
- c. *rje*] *rje'i* CGNP.
- d. *pa*] ston D.

T 1682:

釋迦牟尼佛讚

嚙(無个反)搃野(二合反)穢惹嚙鉢囉(二合)底(丁以反)冒(重呼)轍路(弓)亘
 (一句)
 素哩琰(二合引)穢惹嚙哩嚙(武鉢反)鉢那麼(二合)訕(去)轍(二合)(二句)
 愈黠沒哩(二合)哆(入)設搃也(二合反)母黠鉢囉(二合)禰(泥曳反)鉢薩(三
 句)
 恒(二合)薩昧(二合)曩莫{播囉麼}迦(弓)嚙泥(尼整反)迦(弓)野設(弓)悉底
 哩(三合引)(四句) || 7 ||

Homage to that compassionate teacher,
 Śākyamuni, a lamp which has gone out,
 after waking up the world with the spreading rays of his words,
 as the spreading rays of the sun would a patch of lotuses.

Verse 8. Praise of Maitreya

maitreyanāmā tuṣitālayastho
 yasyaikajanmāntaritā hi bodhiḥ |
 utpatsyate yaḥ sugataḥ pṛthivyāṁ
 sarvātmanāham praṇato 'smi tasmai || 8 ||

- a. °sthō] °sthau Ms.
- b. hi bodhiḥ] hi'bodhi(r) RS.
- c. yaḥ] 'syām RS.²²

gang *gi* byang chub skye ba gcig gis thogs gyur cing ||
 byams pa zhes bya dga' ldan gnam gyi gnas na bzhugs ||
 sa (G343b5) *stengs* bde bar gshegs par 'gyur ba (P278b6) gang yin pa ||
 (C277b7) de la (D238a5) bdag ni *rtag tu dad pas* phyag 'tshal lo || 8 ||

- a. *gi*] gis CGNP.
- b. *na*] nas CGNP.

²² Here SAKAKI might take the corresponding Chin. *nie/zhe* 囉 into consideration, while VON STAËL-HOLSTEIN took it only as a question mark. The original Skt. *yah*, however, can be proved by Tib. *gang*; T 982 *Fo mu da kong que ming wang jing* 佛母大孔雀明王經 (*Sūtra of the Great Peahen, Queen of Mantras*) used the same word to transcribe Skt. *da-* from *Āryamahāmāyūrīvidyārājñī* (ed. TAKUBO 1972: 55).

- c. stengs] steng CGNP.
- d. rtag tu dad pas] snying nas rtag tu CGNP.

T 1682:

當來化主慈氏菩薩讚

昧怛嚙(二合)野曩(引)麼(引)覩史哆(引)羅野薩吐(二合)(一句)
 野薩曳(二合反)迦(去)惹曩麼(二合引)怛哩哆(引)醯冒(重呼)地(二句)
 嘯²³怛鉢(二合)喰(入)帝囉蘇(上)謔哆(入)畢嘍(二合)體尾琰(二合反)(三句)
 薩(轉舌)嚙(無可反引)怛麼(二合)曩(引)憾(胡敢反)鉢囉(二合)擎妬(引)濕銘
 (二合)怛薩昧(二合)(四句) || 8 ||

I, with my whole heart, bow to him,
 the one named Maitreya, abiding in the abode of the Tuṣita heaven,
 whose awakening is only one more birth away,
 the one who as a Sugata will be born on the earth.

Verse 9. The stanza of concluding dedication

stutvā mayā saptajinān atītān
 anāgatam cāṣṭamabodhisattvam |
 yat puṇyam āśāditam aprameyam
 nirāmayās tena bhavantu sattvāḥ || 9 ||

- b. anāgatam] anāgatañ Ms.; cāṣṭamabodhisattvam] cāṣṭam bodhisatvam Ms.,
 cāṣṭam bodhisattvam RS.

'das pa'i (N261b4) rgyal ba bdun po *dang ni* phyis gshegs pa ||
 bryad pa byang chub sems dpa' bdag gis bstod *pa* yis ||
 bsod nams (P278b7) (G343b6) mtha' yas dpag med bdag gis gang thob pa ||
 des ni sems can rnams kyang skyon *dang* bral (D238a6) gyur cig || 9 ||

- a. dang ni] dag dang CGNP.
- b. pa] om. P.
- d. dang] chen CGNP.

T 1682:

窣堵(二合)怛嚙(二合引)麼野(引)颯鉢哆(二合)囉(一句)
 囊(引)曩底(丁利反)哆曩(引)孽鐙左(引)瑟吒(二合)麼冒(重呼)地薩怛鑽
 (二合)(二句)
 野怛奔(去二合)扼野(二合反)榦(牟敢反)姿(去)爾(泥以反)怛麼鉢囉(二合)
 弥琰(三句)

²³ *u-* is transcribed as Chin. *ru* 隻, which suggests that it might be *-r* of the last Sanskrit word in *pāda* a, i.e., Skt. *bodhir* when it was transcribed, rather than Skt. *bodhiḥ* as the Ms. presents.

黠囉(弓)沫野(弓)悉帝(二合)曩婆(去)饅(無滿反)覩薩怛縛(二合引)(四句)
 || 9 ||

過去七佛我讚竟，
 未來慈氏次稱揚，

我所造福無邊，
 願諸眾生皆解脫。

Having praised the seven Buddhas in the past,
 and the eighth Bodhisattva in the future,
 may the immeasurable merit I have obtained,
 by this, free all sentient beings from illness!

Thus ends the *Saptajinastotra*.

7. Concluding remarks

- 7.1. The newly identified Sanskrit manuscript of Saj presents a new version that is not identical to the canonical Tibetan translation or to the canonical Chinese transcription. Both VON STAËL-HOLSTEIN and SAKAKI did excellent work in reconstructing the Sanskrit version based on the Chinese transcription, but naturally had no access to certain details, such as a *visarga* (*pāda* 7c), and they were unable to correct the mistakes (*pāda* 7d and so on). However, despite a handful of truly variant readings, it is clear that the Drepung ms. contains the same text as that presented by SH (based on T 1628), RS, and D 1165. Nevertheless, while the tremendous value of canonical Tibetan translations has been acknowledged, the value of the canonical Chinese transcriptions has received less attention;²⁴ thus, further studies identifying the Sanskrit Buddhist *stotra/stava* with the phonetic Chinese transcription are still required.
- 7.2. Further study of the worship of seven past Buddhas, particularly a comparative study of the worship of the seven past Buddhas with the seven Tathāgatas including Bhaiṣajyaguru, is recommended.
- 7.3. A comparative study of the phonetic Chinese transcriptions and the Sanskrit text from the perspective of phonology studies is also needed.

Appendix: Sanskrit, Tibetan and Chinese Texts

Tibetan: D 1165, Ka 237b5–238a6; P 2054, Ka 278a4–278b8; N Ka 261a3–261b5; C Ka 277a6–278a2; G Ka 343a3–343b6;

²⁴ Except for the representative study by ZHANG 2020.

Chinese: CBETA 2022.Q3, T32, no. 1682, p. 769a23–c25.

Skt.

jagadgurum suranaralokapūjītam
kṛpāpāṭum parahitamokṣadeśakam |
vipaśyināṁ tribhavamahaughapāragam
namāmi tam sugatagatīṁ tathāgatam || 1 ||

Tib.

rgya gar skad du | sapta ta thā ga ta sto trah | bod skad du | de bzhin gshegs pa bdun gyi bstod pa | 'jam dpal gzhon nur gyur pa la phyag 'tshal lo ||

'gro ba'i bla ma lha mi 'jig rten phyir mchod cing ||
thugs rjes gsal zhing gzhan la phan pa'i thar pa ston ||
srid gsum chu chen mthar phyin bde 'gror son pa po ||
de bzhin gshegs pa rnam par gzigs la phyag 'tshal lo || 1 ||

Chin.

七佛讚唄伽他
西天中印度摩伽陀國那爛陀寺傳教大師三藏賜紫沙門臣法天奉 詔譯

毘婆尸佛讚

惹(仁拶反)謔捺麁(二合)龍勇(二合反)秌囉囊囉路(弓)迦布(弓)囉鐙(一句)
訖哩(二合)播(弓)鉢吒用(二合反)跋囉呬怛謨(弓)乞叉(二合)爾(泥曳反)捨
亘(二句)
尾鉢始也(二合)能(上)底哩(二合)婆(去)囉(武鉢反)摩護伽播(弓)囉口*儼(三
句)
曩麼(弓)弭鐙蘇(上)謔哆(去)謔底孕(二合反)怛他(去弓)謔怛麁(二合反弓)
(四句) || 1 ||

Skt.

anantapāre bhavasāgare 'smin
nimajjamānam prasamīkṣya lokam |
prakāśito yena hitāya dharmo
namo 'stu tasmai śikhine jināya || 2 ||

Tib.

srid pa'i rgya mtsho mtha' dang pha rol med pa 'di ||
'jig rten nub cing 'dug pa rab tu gzigs nas kyang ||
phan gdags phyir ni chos rnams ston pa gang yin pa ||
rgyal ba gtsug tor mnga' ba de la phyag 'tshal lo || 2 ||

Chin.

式棄佛讚

阿(去)難(上)哆播(弓)|嚟婆(去)囉(無可反)娑(去引)譏嚟悉弭(二合)(一句)
 鮎(重呼)麼惹搜(二合反)麼(引)能(去)鉢囉(二合)捨銘(引)乞史也(三合)路
 (弓)亘(二句)
 鉢囉(二合)迦(去引)始姤(弓)曳曩醯哆(去)野達(轉舌呼)謨(去引)(三句)
 囊謨(引)窣堵(二合)怛薩昧(二合)式企(弓)寧囉曩(弓)野(四句) || 2 ||

Skt.

vande viśvabhuvaṁ buddhaṁ
 candrārkādhikatejasam |
 sāgaraugham ivāgādham
 jñānena vinayena ca || 3 ||

Tib.

nyi zla dag las 'das pa'i gzi brjid mnga' ba des ||
 ye shes dang ni spyod pa'i ngang tshul rnam las kyang ||
 rgya mtsho'i 'jing ltar gting dpag nus par mi 'gyur ba'i ||
 sangs rgyas thams cad skyob pa de la phyag 'tshal lo || 3 ||

Chin.

毘舍浮佛讚

鏤(無滿反)禰(泥曳反)尾濕囉(二合)部吻(無肯反)沒鄧(一句)
 讚捺囉(二合引)迦(去)地揭帝惹(仁左反)僧(去)(二句)
 娑(弓)譏嚟伽弭囉(弓)譏(弓)鄧(三句)
 倪野(二合反)禰(泥曳反)曩尾曩曳曩拶(四句) || 3 ||

Skt.

yasyenduraśmipratimair yaśobhir
 alaṁkṛtābhātivasundhareyam |
 udumbaram puṣpam ivādbhutaṁ tam
 vande krakucchandamahāmunīndram || 4 ||

Tib.

gang gi grags pa zla ba'i 'od zer 'dra ba yis ||
 sa stengs mtha' dag rab tu brgyan par snang ba dang ||
 u dumwā ra'i me tog bzhin du rmad byung ba ||
 thub dbang chen po log dad sel la phyag 'tshal lo || 4 ||

Chin.

俱留孫佛讚

野薩拽(二合反)弩(鼻音重呼)囉始銘(二合短呼)鉢囉(二合)底(丁以反)昧哩
 野(二合)戌(引)鼻(一句)
 囉囉(去引)訖哩(二合)哆(引)婆(去引)底(丁以反)囉(武鉢反)遜馱哩琰(二句)
 噴努沫囉(二合)囉補灑播(二合)弭囉(引)那部(二合)鐙鐙(三句)
 鎔(無滿反)禰(泥曳反)訖囉(二合)矩璨捺摩賀(引)母顛(寧頂反引)捺囉(二合
 引)(四句) || 4 ||

Skt.

visāriṇā vigatamalena cetasā
 virāgiṇā satatahitānukāriṇā |
 hatāṁ tamo vigatamalena yena tam
 surārcitāṁ kanakamuniṁ namāmy aham || 5 ||

Tib.

dri ma med cing rtag tu phan par mdzad pa dang ||
 chags pa med pa gang gi dri ma med pa'i thugs ||
 rnam par 'phro bas mun pa'i thibs po rab bcom zhing ||
 lha yis mchod pa'i gser thub de la phyag 'tshal lo || 5 ||

Chin.

迦諾迦牟尼佛讚

尾娑(去)哩擎(引)尾讖怛沫嚙曩唧怛娑(去)(一句)
 尾囉(引)口*儻(霓以反)擎(引)薩怛怛醯哆(去引)弩(鼻音)迦(去引)哩擎(重
 呼)(二句)
 喝怛怛謨(引)尾讖多沫嚙曩曳曩鐙(三句)
 蘇(上)囉(引)轉舌呼)唧鐙揭曩揭母黠曩麼(引)麼野(二合引)憾(四句) || 5 ||

Skt.

prataptacāmīkaragauraraśmīm
 sahasrasūryādhikadīptitejasam |
 lokottamāṁ sarvajanābhivandyam
 vandāmy aham kāsyapanāmadheyam || 6 ||

Tib.

btso ma'i gser gyi phung po'i kha dog 'dra ba yi ||
 gzi brjid 'bar ba nyi ma stong bas lhag pa mnga' ||
 skye bo kun gyis phyag byas 'jig rten mchog gyur pa ||
 'od srungs mtshan gsol gang yin de la phyag 'tshal lo || 6 ||

Chin.

迦葉波佛讚

鉢囉(二合)怛鉢怛(二合)左(弓)弭迦囉囉濕銘(二合)偶(弓)唼(去)(一句)
 姿賀姿囉(二合)素哩野(二合弓)地迦(去聲呼)禰(泥曳反弓)鉢哆(二合)帝惹
 (仁左反)僧(去)(二句)
 路句(弓)怛懵薩(轉舌)囉(無可反)惹(仁左反)曩(弓)鼻吻(無肯反)寧孕(二合
 反)(三句)
 吻那(去弓)沫野(二合反)憾迦(弓)捨鉢曩(弓)麼地吽(四句) || 6 ||

Skt.

vākyāmśujālaiḥ pratibodhya lokam
 sūryāmśujālair iva padmaṣaṇḍam |
 yo nirvṛtaḥ śākyamuniḥ pradīpas
 tasmai namaḥ kāruṇīkāya sāstre || 7 ||

Tib.

nyi ma'i 'od zer mang pos padma'i tshal phye ltar ||
 gsung gi 'od zer mang pos 'jig rten sad par mdzad ||
 ston pa shākya thub pa thugs rje sgron ma can ||
 mya ngan 'das pa gang yin de la phyag 'tshal lo || 7 ||

Chin.

釋迦牟尼佛讚

(此讚一首先已到中夏流行，出正密三藏新讚集中收錄)。

囉(無个反)枳野(二合反)穢惹嘸鉢囉(二合)底(丁以反)冒(重呼)轍路(弓)亘
 (一句)
 素哩琰(二合弓)穢惹嘸哩囉(武鉢反)鉢那麼(二合)訕(去)轍(二合)(二句)
 愈黠沒哩(二合)哆(入)設枳也(二合反)母黠鉢囉(二合)禰(泥曳反)鉢薩(三
 句)
 忒(二合)薩昧(二合)曩莫迦(弓)嚕昵(尼整反)迦(弓)野設(弓)悉底哩(三合弓)
 (四句) || 7 ||

Skt.

maitreyanāmā tuśitālayastho
 yasyaikajanmāntaritā hi bodhiḥ |
 utpatsyate yaḥ sugataḥ pr̄thivyām
 sarvātmanāham praṇato 'smi tasmai || 8 ||

Tib.

gang gi byang chub skye ba gcig gis thogs gyur cing ||
 byams pa zhes bya dga' ldan gnam gyi gnas na bzhugs ||
 sa stengs bde bar gshegs par 'gyur ba gang yin pa ||
 de la bdag ni rtag tu dad pas phyag 'tshal lo || 8 |

Chin.

當來化主慈氏菩薩讚

昧怛嚙(二合)野曩(引)麼(引)覩史哆(引)擇野薩吐(二合)(一句)
 野薩曳(二合反)迦(去)惹曩麼(二合引)怛哩哆(引)醯冒(重呼)地(二句)
 噇怛鉢(二合)喰(入)帝囉蘇(上)謔哆(入)畢嚕(二合)體尾琰(二合反)(三句)
 薩(轉舌)嚙(無可反引)怛麼(二合)曩(引)憾(胡敢反)鉢囉(二合)擎妬(引)濕銘
 (二合)怛薩昧(二合)(四句) || 8 ||

Skt.

stutvā mayā saptajinān atītān
 anāgataṁ cāṣṭamabodhisattvam |
 yat punyam āśāditam aprameyam
 nirāmayās tena bhavantu sattvāḥ || 9 ||

Tib.

'das pa'i rgyal ba bdun po dang ni phyis gshegs pa ||
 brgyad pa byang chub sems dpa' bdag gis bstod pa yis ||
 bsod nams mtha' yas dpag med bdag gis gang thob pa ||
 des ni sems can rnams kyang skyon dang bral gyur cig || 9 ||

Chin.

迴向結讚一首

窣堵(二合)怛嚙(二合引)麼野(引)颯鉢哆(二合)囉(一句)
 囊(引)曩底(丁利反)哆曩囊(引)孽鐙左(引)瑟吒(二合)麼冒(重呼)地薩怛鏗
 (二合)(二句)
 野怛奔(去二合)扼野(二合反)榦(牟敢反)姿(去)爾(泥以反)怛麼鉢囉(二合)
 弶琰(三句)
 駑囉(引)沫野(引)悉帝(二合)曩婆(去)鏗(無滿反)覩薩怛縛(二合引)(四句) || 9 ||

Skt.

saptajinastotram samāptam iti ||

Tib.

de bzhin gshegs pa bdun gyi bstod pa rdzogs so || || rgya gar gyi mkhan po
 padma ka ra warma dang | zhu chen gyi lo tsā ba dge slong rin chen bzang
 pos bsgyur cing zhus te gtan la phab pa |

Chin.

颯鉢哆(二合)囉曩薩怛(二合)嚙(無博切)三(去)麼(引)鉢哆(下字入聲呼二合)
 過去七佛我讚竟，未來慈氏次稱揚，
 我所造福無邊，願諸眾生皆解脫。

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Editorial signs and abbreviations

*	reconstruction
,	<i>virāma</i>
	<i>danda</i>
	double <i>danda</i>
{ } { }	erased/deleted by the scribe
{ }	deleted by the editor
<<>>	added by the scribe
<>	added by the editor
○	string-hole
]	separates a word from its variant readings
[s]	supplements; illegible or disappeared, but supplied by the editor
:	slot filler before a string-hole or at the end of a line
<i>add.</i>	added (<i>addit</i>)
<i>ex conj.</i>	conjecture (<i>ex conjectura</i>)
Ms.	the present manuscript
<i>om.</i>	omitted (<i>omittit</i>)

Abbreviations and sigla

C	Co ne <i>bsTan 'gyur</i>
Chin.	Chinese
D	sDe dge <i>bsTan 'gyur</i>

G	gSer bris ma (dGa' ldan) <i>bsTan 'gyur</i>
GRETEL	Göttingen Register of Electronic Texts in Indian Languages. http://gretel.sub.uni-goettingen.de/gretel.html (accessed 12 December 2023).
N	sNar thang <i>bsTan 'gyur</i>
P (Q)	Pe cin (Qian Long) <i>bsTan 'gyur</i>
PW	<i>Sanskrit-Wörterbuch (Petersburger Wörterbuch)</i> = BÖHTLINGK and ROTH 1855–1875.
RS	SAKAKI 1914
Saj	<i>Saptajinastotra</i>
SH	VON STAËL-HOLSTEIN 1913
Skt.	Sanskrit
T	<i>Taishō Shinshū Daizōkyō</i> (大正新修大藏經, <i>The Tripitaka in Chinese</i>). Ed. by Junjiro TAKAKUSU and Kaigyoku WATANABE. 100 vols. Tokyo: Taisho Issaikyo Kankokai, 1924–1934.
Tib.	Tibetan

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