

Zeitschrift: Asiatische Studien : Zeitschrift der Schweizerischen Asiengesellschaft = Études asiatiques : revue de la Société Suisse-Asie

Herausgeber: Schweizerische Asiengesellschaft

Band: 53 (1999)

Heft: 1

Buchbesprechung: Buchbesprechungen = Comptes rendus

Autor: [s.n.]

Nutzungsbedingungen

Die ETH-Bibliothek ist die Anbieterin der digitalisierten Zeitschriften auf E-Periodica. Sie besitzt keine Urheberrechte an den Zeitschriften und ist nicht verantwortlich für deren Inhalte. Die Rechte liegen in der Regel bei den Herausgebern beziehungsweise den externen Rechteinhabern. Das Veröffentlichen von Bildern in Print- und Online-Publikationen sowie auf Social Media-Kanälen oder Webseiten ist nur mit vorheriger Genehmigung der Rechteinhaber erlaubt. [Mehr erfahren](#)

Conditions d'utilisation

L'ETH Library est le fournisseur des revues numérisées. Elle ne détient aucun droit d'auteur sur les revues et n'est pas responsable de leur contenu. En règle générale, les droits sont détenus par les éditeurs ou les détenteurs de droits externes. La reproduction d'images dans des publications imprimées ou en ligne ainsi que sur des canaux de médias sociaux ou des sites web n'est autorisée qu'avec l'accord préalable des détenteurs des droits. [En savoir plus](#)

Terms of use

The ETH Library is the provider of the digitised journals. It does not own any copyrights to the journals and is not responsible for their content. The rights usually lie with the publishers or the external rights holders. Publishing images in print and online publications, as well as on social media channels or websites, is only permitted with the prior consent of the rights holders. [Find out more](#)

Download PDF: 15.03.2026

ETH-Bibliothek Zürich, E-Periodica, <https://www.e-periodica.ch>

BUCHBESPRECHUNGEN / COMPTES RENDUS

Ludwig ALSDORF: *Kleine Schriften*. Nachtragsband. Herausgegeben von Albrecht Wezler. Stuttgart: Franz Steiner Verlag, 1998. (Glasenapp-Stiftung; Band 35.) – Pp. I-VIII, 763-935. – ISBN 3-515-06366-8.

The *Kleine Schriften* of the Glasenapp-Stiftung do not only collect the articles of Indologists who are no longer alive. Occasionally volumes are dedicated to scholars who are alive and active. Supplements are then required to take care of work appearing later. The present *Nachtragsband* fulfils precisely this purpose. Ludwig Alsdorf's *Kleine Schriften* appeared in 1974, four years before his death. The present volume contains the six articles that Alsdorf was still able to write in those remaining years: "The impious Brahman and the pious Caṇḍāla", "Pali miscellanies", "Zwei Proben der Volksdichtung aus dem alten Magadha", "Das Bhūridatta-Jātaka. Ein anti-brahmanischer Nāga-Roman", and "Ardha-Māgadhī" (not "Ardha-Māgadhī" as in the "Inhaltsverzeichnis"). The "Inhaltsverzeichnis" (p. VII) incorrectly calls the second article "Pali Miscellanies: uddhamsarā". The word *uddhamsarā* is a subheading which covers only part of the article; the remainder has the subheading "Pali *ū < sa. upa and ud*".

These articles cover 68 pages. Another 69 pages are filled with a reprint of Alsdorf's "Beiträge zur Geschichte von Vegetarismus und Rinderverehrung in Indien", originally published in 1962, and now out of print in its original version.

The volume contains a detailed "Register" – 1. Sach- und Namensverzeichnis (10 pages); 2. Verzeichnis der behandelten Wörter (2 pages); 3. Text- und Stellenverzeichnis (21 pages) – which covers both the original *Kleine Schriften* and the present *Nachtragsband*. It replaces therefore the "Register" of the earlier volume. It is to be noted that the "Text- und Stellenverzeichnis" follows the order of the Indian alphabet, even where it enumerates non-Indian items: Bibel p. 928 (between Prithirāj Rāsau and Buddhacarita); Chinese Tripitaka p. 919 (under aspirated *ch*); Tausendundeine Nacht p. 926 (with diphthong *au*); Nibelungenlied p. 927; Materialien zum Apabhraṃśa (Pischel) p. 929. The "Corrigenda" (p. 935), too, concern both volumes.

The preface by Albrecht Wezler draws attention to a work by Alsdorf, published in 1942 under the pseudonym Botho Ludwig, *Indiens Weg zur*

Freiheit. This work had, at Alsdorf's request, not been mentioned in the bibliography contained in the original *Kleine Schriften*, because its author did not consider it a scholarly work. Alsdorf was not, however, of the opinion that this work might make him susceptible to accusations of proximity to national socialism. Wezler explains that, far from being a national socialist and a racist, Alsdorf was a passionate protagonist of independence for India.

Johannes Bronkhorst

Catalogue of the Papers of Ernst LEUMANN in the Institute for the Culture and History of India and Tibet, University of Hamburg, compiled by Birte PLUTAT. Stuttgart: Franz Steiner Verlag, 1998. (Alt- und Neu-Indische Studien, hrsggb. vom Institut für Kultur und Geschichte Indiens und Tibets an der Universität Hamburg; 49.) – 136 pp. – ISBN 3-515-07096-6.

Ernst Leumann died in 1931. The following year his son, Manu Leumann, handed over a collection of his father's papers, altogether more than 550 notebooks, to Walther Schubring. They are being kept at the Institut für Kultur und Geschichte Indiens und Tibets in Hamburg.

The present catalogue lists 555 items. The shortest cover just one page, the longest well over a hundred pages. Most concern Jaina texts: transcriptions of manuscripts, extracts from texts, translations, glossaries, lists of manuscripts, descriptions, etc. Two indexes facilitate access to the catalogue. Index 1 concerns "Names and keywords", index 2 provides information as to which manuscripts have been dealt with in the notebooks. An appendix presents Walther Schubring's systematic synopsis, on the basis of which the notebooks have been ordered. Two articles by Ernst Leumann in which he presented and described items 1-129 are reprinted pp. 100-118 (*ZDMG* 45 [1891], 454-464, and 47 [1893], 308-315). A remark on the first page of the first of these two articles ("[Es] ist ... ein Vorzug unseres Materials, dass dasselbe in gewisser Hinsicht, wegen Collationen, Berichtigungen, Verweisen und Aehnlichem, weit mehr bietet als Originalhandschriften ...") seems to betray an attitude *vis-à-vis* "corrections" which may seem less self-evident to the modern scholar than it did a century ago.

An article by Klaus Bruhn ("Bibliography of studies connected with the *Āvaśyaka*-commentaries", pp. 119-136) concludes the volume. For rea-

ders who have struggled with Leumann's *Übersicht über die Āvaśyaka-Literatur* it is reassuring to read here (p. 123): "Methodologically, future work on the [Āvaśyaka-] literature will certainly differ from LEUMANN's approach, ... largely in the sense that LEUMANN's writings must be decoded and that ways must be found of providing LEUMANN's high-tech philology with a sound didactic fundament."

Johannes Bronkhorst

Louis RENOÜ: *Choix d'études indiennes*. Réunies par Nalini Balbir et Georges-Jean Pinault. 2 tomes. Paris: École Française d'Extrême-Orient, 1997. (Réimpression de l'École Française d'Extrême-Orient, No. 9.) – ISBN 2-85 539-562-3. – XVI, 1052 pp.

A "Bibliographie des travaux de Louis Renou (1896-1966)" has come out in 1997 as a supplement to the *Bulletin d'Études Indiennes* no. 13-14, 1995-96. Of the 203 articles there listed, 42 are reprinted in the two volumes under review. They are divided into five groups: I. Védique et sanskrit; II. Tradition grammaticale; III. Structure et genre des textes; IV. Lecture de la poésie; V. Histoire et culture.

The importance of Louis Renou in the history of Indological scholarship hardly needs to be emphasised, and many scholars will be grateful for these two volumes, which make a number of important articles easily accessible also to those who do not have the privilege of working in or near old and well-endowed libraries. The accessibility of these articles is further enhanced by three indexes: I. Auteurs et textes indiens (pp. 935-938); II. Formes et mots sanskrits (pp. 939-1037); III. Notions (pp. 1039-1052). More than thirty years after the death of their author, and more than sixty years after the publication of some of the articles here reprinted, this collection still has much to offer to scholars in the field.

Readers will regret one thing: that so many articles by Renou have not been included in these volumes. The editors were, for obvious reasons but regrettably, forced to make a choice. This choice includes a contribution, the last one, "qui atteste du souci constant de Louis Renou d'intégrer la connaissance de l'Inde, ainsi que d'autres civilisations orientales, dans un «humanisme élargi»." The editors then comment:

“Il est important de noter ce point, à l’heure où la mode du «culturalisme» et de la prétendue «authenticité» tendrait à enfermer chaque civilisation dans ses valeurs et ses structures, incommunicables et intraduisibles; quant à l’orientalisme, il serait, selon une vision «politiquement correcte», un sous-produit du colonialisme et du racisme, voué à écraser les différences, au profit du modèle occidental. Dans ce débat, le travail de Louis Renou prend une résonance éthique et politique toujours actuelle.” (p. XIV).

Let us hope that these volumes will contribute, however modestly, to the realisation of such a wider view of humanism and of humanity.

Johannes Bronkhorst

Paul THIEME: *Kleine Schriften II*. Ed. Renate Söhnen-Thieme. Stuttgart: Franz Steiner Verlag, 1995. (Glasenapp-Stiftung; Band 5,II.) – Pp. I-IX, 815-1278. – ISBN 3-515-05523-1. – DM/sFr 124,-- (öS 967,--).

Two volumes of *Kleine Schriften* and one volume of *Opera Maiora* have so far been published of Paul Thieme’s work, and more has been announced. The “Vorwort” to *Opera Maiora I* speaks of “eine voraussichtlich mehrbändige Sammlung”; and the “Vorwort” to *Kleine Schriften II* mentions a projected “Ergänzungsband”.

Kleine Schriften I came out in 1971 and was reprinted in 1984. *Kleine Schriften II* contains mainly articles published since 1970. If we leave out of consideration the “Rezensionen” and “Verschiedenes”, these two volumes allow us to compare the development of Thieme’s interests. Following the thematic division by the editors (Georg Buddruss for *KlSchr I*, Renate Söhnen-Thieme for *KlSchr II*) one arrives at the following result:

	<i>KlSchr I</i>	<i>KlSchr II</i>
<i>Veda-Exegese und Wortstudien</i>	24 articles (50%) 277 pp. (43%)	11 articles (38%) 152 pp. (38%)
<i>Allgemeine und indogermanische Sprachwissenschaft</i>	(no such category in <i>KlSchr I</i>)	9 articles (31%) 117 pp. (30%)
<i>Vermischte Abhandlungen zur Kultur- und Religionsgeschichte</i>	10 articles (21%) 236 pp. (37%)	7 articles (24%) 86 pp. (22%)
<i>Zur einheimischen indischen Grammatik</i>	14 articles (29%) 128 pp. (20%)	2 articles (7%) 41 pp. (10%)

This scheme is far from perfect, but shows nonetheless a tendency away from indigenous grammar and towards word- and etymological studies in more recent years. An article like “The first verse of the Triṣaptīyam (AV, Ś 1.1 ~ AV, P 1.6) and the beginnings of Sanskrit linguistics” (pp. 932-938; first published in 1985) shows that the two domains are not completely isolated from each other in Thieme’s mind. The “Excursus” to the article “Meaning and form of the ‘grammar’ of Pāṇini” (pp. 1170-1201; originally published in 1982), which studies “[t]he meaning of *vyākaraṇa*- n. and of the verb *vyā + kr*” in various Vedic texts confirms this. It is however primarily the historical linguist and the Vedic scholar who will turn to this volume (and occasionally disagree with it).

The volume contains an “Addenda und Corrigenda”, a “Verzeichnis der behandelten Wörter”, a “Verzeichnis der behandelten Textstellen”, and a “Namen- und Sachregister”. In the “Addenda und Corrigenda” we find the following observation (p. 1234):

“... Ersetzung von *adhi* durch *abhi* in *abhidhammakosa* ‘den Dharma betreffender Schatz’; vgl. *adhivedam* ‘den Veda betreffend’, *adhividyam* ‘das Wissen betreffend’ ...”.

This somewhat puzzling remark (where does *abhidhammakosa* occur?) seems to agree with Buddhadeva’s interpretation of the word *abhidharma*. The *Abhidharma Mahāvibhāṣā* attributes to him the following words (as translated in Buswell, 1997: 567):

“*Abhi* is a prefix ... which expresses the meaning of addition: e.g., extreme pride (*adhimāna*) is called *abhimāna*; highest enlightenment (*adhibuddha*) is called *abhibuddha*; extreme old age (*adhijarā*) is called *abhijarā*. This [word *abhidharma*] is just the same, for it adds to this [mundane] dharma [making it into the higher dharma].”

The present volume contains one article that had not yet been published before, the text of a lecture held in Erlangen in 1977: “Stand und Aufgaben der Rigveda-Philologie”. It contains some methodological reflections, and emphasises the tentative nature of R̥gveda-studies and Indological research in general. We meet here “Thiemes Radiergummi”, ready to revise and give up earlier positions. Thieme points out that he has used his India rubber with regard to some of his own earlier points of view, and gives a few examples. Indian studies will be well served if its practitioners are to

derive inspiration from this, and will take pride in using a “Radiergummi” when appropriate.

REFERENCES

- BUSWELL, Robert E. 1997: “Buddhadeva: materials towards an assessment of his philosophy.” *Journal of Indian Philosophy* 25(6), 561-587.
- THIEME, Paul: *Kleine Schriften (I)*. Ed. Georg Buddruss. Wiesbaden: Franz Steiner Verlag, 1971. 2., unveränderte Auflage mit einem Nachtrag 1984 zur Bibliographie. 1984. (Glasenapp-Stiftung; Band 5.)
- THIEME, Paul: *Opera Maiora Band I*. Ed. Werner Knobl and Nobuhiko Kobayashi. Kyoto: Hōzōkan Publishing Co., 1995.

Johannes Bronkhorst