

Pali Text Society

JOURNAL

OF THE

PALI TEXT SOCIETY

1917—1919

EDITED BY

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RULES OF THE PALI TEXT SOCIETY

1. THE Society is founded to edit in Pali, and if possible to translate into English, such Pali books as still exist in MSS. preserved either in Europe or the East.

2. Members of the Society are those who subscribe in advance one guinea a year towards the expenses of the Society, or give a donation of not less than £5.

3. The management of the Society shall be conducted by a President and Hon. Treasurer, a Council or Committee of Management, and an Hon. Secretary.

4. It shall be the duty of the President to choose the books to be edited, and to arrange with editors or translators to do their work, with printers to do the printing, and with publishers or other persons to distribute the volumes when printed.

5. It shall be the duty of the Hon. Secretary to keep accounts of all moneys received or spent, to answer enquiries, to conduct the correspondence of the Society (except as stated in Rule 4), and to issue yearly a Report.

6. From time to time, as finances allow, the Society shall publish a Journal containing short texts, articles on some point of Pali literature, a Report on what the Society has done and hopes to do, and a Statement of Accounts. In any case the Report and Statement of Accounts shall be published as early as possible in the year after the year to which they refer.

7. The Society shall publish two volumes yearly. These volumes shall be sent post free to every member who has paid his subscription for the year.

8. Should the financial position of the Society allow of an extra volume or volumes being published in any year, then a special subscription price shall be fixed for each of such

volumes, and they shall be sent post free to any member who shall have paid the extra subscription.

9. Claims from members for issues subscribed for but not received must be sent in within the year following the publication of the issue, or such claim cannot be considered.

10. No member shall be entitled to any profit from any working of the Society. The whole of the profits, if any, shall be devoted to the purposes set out in Rule 1.

11. As the members of the Society reside in all parts of the world no ordinary meetings of the Society can be held, but at each meeting of the International Congress of Orientalists, or at any other convenient opportunity, a meeting of such members of the Society as may be present shall be held to discuss the working and prospects of the Society.

12. The Council may at any time summon a meeting of the Society, and the Hon. Secretary shall do so if requested in writing by not less than ten members. In the latter case, the meeting shall be held in London, the objects of the meeting shall be placed on the agenda in the form of one or more resolutions with the names of proposer and seconder, and the agenda shall be posted to every member of the Society residing in England ten days before the date fixed for the meeting. No other business shall be transacted at such meeting.

13. The President shall preside at any meeting of the Society, or in his absence a member of the Council. The Chairman shall have a casting vote in addition to his ordinary vote.

14. The President shall be elected by the Council. His term of office shall be five years, and he shall be re-eligible. He shall be *ex-officio* Chairman of the Council, and a member of all committees appointed by the Council.

15. The Hon. Secretary shall be chosen by the President. His term of office shall be two years, and he shall be re-eligible. He shall be *ex-officio* member of Council, and member and secretary of all committees. A reasonable sum shall be allowed to the Hon. Secretary for clerical labour and office expenses.

16. There shall be at least six members of the Council or

Committee of Management besides the *ex-officio* members. The term of office of a member of Council shall be three years, and he shall be re-eligible. On the occurrence of a vacancy the Council shall co-opt another member or re-elect the retiring member. Failing such co-option or re-election the President may fill the vacancy.

17. The Council will usually conduct its business by correspondence; but meetings of the Council may be summoned by the Secretary. At such meetings members of Council residing on the Continent or in the East, or otherwise unable to attend, may express their opinion by letter.

18. The power of adding to or altering the Rules of the Society shall be vested in the Council. Should a member of Council wish to proceed under this rule he should send his proposal to the Hon. Secretary, who will communicate it to the other members of the Council. The President shall then either convene a meeting of the Council, or decide the matter in accordance with the views of the majority of the Council.

19. Persons of either sex are equally eligible for membership or office in the Society.

PALI TEXT SOCIETY

COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT.

Founder and President—T. W. RHYS DAVIDS.

Vice-President—SIR CHARLES ELIOT, K.C.M.G.

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(With power to add workers to their number.)

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REPORT OF THE PALI TEXT SOCIETY FOR 1918

WITH the final stress of the war, the industrial turmoil of its aftermath, and the inevitable delay in peace negotiations, have come increased difficulties in carrying on the Society's work. There has been little done, as we write, to ease the inflated prices of paper stocks bought under war restrictions, and the charges for printing have been aggravated by the demands of printing staffs still undermanned. No satisfactory estimates can be as yet obtained. The publishing editors of the Society, unwilling either to ask for an increase in the subscriptions, or to imperil the solvency of the Society's finances, have had perforce to stand aside for a while and let the flood of unfavourable conditions sweep by.

The work of preparing the Pali Dictionary, it is true, goes on uninterrupted, and the second volume (K—N) as well as the first (A—O) are ready for publication. The capital of the Dictionary Fund remains untouched, for it was thought to be undesirable to sell out at present low prices. But the interest is not nearly sufficient to pay for the expenses of preparing the Dictionary. Thus the Society's general funds in the making good this shortage are temporarily handicapped, and unable so to override the increase in press expenditure, referred to above, as to maintain an uninterrupted, let alone undiminished, output of issues.

On the other hand, the generosity of the Anāgārika Dharma-pala is giving us aid in the publication of an edition of the *Visuddhi Magga*. Half of it is now ready for press, and printing will begin as soon as an approximately satisfactory estimate can be obtained.

The translation of the Atthasālinī, under the title of *The Expositor*—Buddhaghosa's Commentary on the Dhammasaṅgaṇī—is being issued as No. 8 of the Translation Series. But it is a fairly lengthy work, and it is impossible to promise that it will be in subscribers' hands at an early date.

Several transcripts of an interesting nature have been sent to us by collaborating members of the Sangha. The editor of the text by Dhammapāla which is presented in this volume has also written out for us a transcript of the Samanta-Kūṭavaṇṇanā, a Pāli poem on Adam's Peak, by the Thera Vedeha of the twelfth century. The Thera A. P. Buddhadatta has likewise sent us a transcript of the other two surviving manuals by his great namesake.—the Vinaya- and Uttara-Vinicchaya. (We published the other two manuals four years ago.) And U. Ñāna, Patamagyaw at the Moulmein Monastery, Mandalay West, has transcribed for us both the famous *Ṭīka-gyaw*, to wit, the Abhidhammattha-Vibhāvanī by Sumangala of Ceylon, on the "Compendium of Philosophy,"¹ and another somewhat later *Ṭīkā*—the Sankhepa-vaṇṇanā by the Burman Saddhamma-Jotipāla. Besides these, U. Ñāna has been so kind as to send us both the text and an English translation of the Mahātthera Ledi Sayadaw's devotional manual, the Vipassanā-dīpanī, and of his Commentary Paṭṭhānuddesa-dīpanī, and last, not least, the Mahātthera's Paramattha-dīpanī.

Of all these works, now made more accessible to us by so much effort for merit and of goodwill, the Sacca-sankhepa the two *Ṭīkā*s, and the two Vinicchayas are so many stepping-stones helping towards the filling up the great uncrossed lacunæ in our knowledge of medieval developments in Pali literature.

With regard to the more modern texts—and this holds good also for works on other than philosophical and religious subjects; for instance, grammars—the prospectus of the Pali Text Society claims that its mission was to publish "the earliest Buddhist literature." There is a little still left of the Canon to publish, and it has taken years to collect materials, and find—only to lose—editors for the works of Buddhaghosa.

¹ Translation of the Abhidhammatthasangaha. See *ibidem*, p. ix.

Modern works of philosophy by authors of repute, or famous grammars, such as the *Saddanīti* by Aggavaṇṣa of Burma, could be published as extra volumes, if subventions for publication expenses were forthcoming. Such a subvention has already been offered for such a purpose from Burma. But at the present inflated prices it would not nearly suffice, unless the output to which it is to be applied be very much limited in compass.

The year 1918 was not specially favoured by “windfalls” of good fortune—indeed, it was not to be expected. Our thanks are the more warmly to be accorded to the donors who sent help duly recorded on another page.

THE EDITORS.

April, 1919.

P.S.—As we go to press (September) we are glad to be able to announce that Professor James H. Woods of Harvard is commencing this autumn an edition for this Society of the *Papañca-Sūdanī*, Buddhaghosa’s Commentary on the *Majjhima-Nikāya*. We may add that Buddhadatta Thera has nearly completed for us an edition of the *Sammoha-Vinodanī*, Buddhaghosa’s Commentary on the *Vibhanga*.

REPORT ON THE PALI DICTIONARY WORK IN 1918

1. At first sight it might seem as if this year's output in Dictionary work falls short of that of 1917. But this is only apparently the case, as the figures given below (4) will prove.

2. We finished Vol. II. (K—N) at the end of November, 1917, and after a few weeks' revising of the K's and collating the A's started on the new volume (Vol. I., A—O) in February, 1918. We have now (December) finished the letter A (including O under *ava*) and, judging from the material left for the letters A, I, and U, we shall need another three or four months for the completion of the whole of Vol. I.

3. The delay in the completion of Vol. I. is due to several direct and indirect causes. First of all it is due to the overwhelming number of words beginning with A (see below, 4), further to the intricacy and difficulty of a great number of formerly unexplained words and of new formations without any parallel. Every single one of the (roughly) 16,000 references has been looked up and judged from the lexicographical point of view. Morris' material in the Journal of the Pali Text Society 1886 and 1887 had to be verified and rectified, Kern's comprehensive collection in his "Toevoegselen" (of about 900 words) to be consulted, and especially the preposition-material had to be sorted and sifted and gone into with extra care. For the prepositions (prefixes) had hitherto never been treated thoroughly, and required a longer investigation. This amply repaid time and trouble, inasmuch as it yielded valuable results bearing on semantical and dialectical variation. Especially difficult was the case of *ava*, which in spite of all material, is not yet altogether elucidated concerning its duplicity between the two forms *ava* and *o* and its substitution for *apa*.

4. The work on the A's comprises eleven months, and compares favourably with the rate of progress on the preceding Vol. II. For whereas the latter shows 3,150 head-words (*i.e.*, words which each require the elaboration of a special article), the amount of such under A alone reaches 2,694; and considering that sixteen months were needed for 3,150 words, eleven months for 2,694 show a proportionate increase of 530 words in equal periods.

5. A comparison of the words with A in our Dictionary with those in Childers offers an encouraging and gratifying synopsis. The increase of material is especially pronounced in the case of the prefixes, a fact of the greatest importance for a comparative philology of the Indian dialects as well as for general linguistic studies.

The figures are as follows:

<i>Under</i>	<i>Childers has</i>	<i>We have</i>
ati°	60	160
adhi°	54	85
anu°	190	427
apa°	42	148
abhi°	158	403
(o°) ava°	172	310
the rest of words with a°	1,100	1,161
In all A's	1,776	2,694

In this connection it has to be pointed out that Childers includes under A the a° negative and compound words, which two categories are omitted from our figures, and would probably reduce Childers' final figure to 1,450, instead of 1,776.

6. In conclusion, we can say that we end a year which, though falling a little short of our anticipation, has nevertheless produced many important results, a year which has removed the difficulties of many passages of the Pali Canon, and which warrants a confident outlook as to future successes.

T. W. RHYS DAVIDS.
W. STEDE.

December 16, 1918.