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THE TENTH WONDER:  
DOMESTICATION AND REFORM IN MEDIEVAL  
SVETĀMBARA JAINISM

In the eleventh century A.D., Jinavallabha, one of the most eminent *sūris* of the Kharatara Gaccha<sup>1</sup>, a Śvetāmbara Jain reforming sect, wrote a jeremiad lamenting the state of the Jain religion<sup>2</sup>. The Jains share with the Hindus the notion of the Kaliyuga, the Bad World Age<sup>3</sup>, albeit visualising it as being more pervasive than do the Hindus, since for the Jains the Kaliyuga penetrates Benares which, according to Śaiva tradition, is immune from external influence<sup>4</sup>. However, Jinavallabha viewed the contemporary situation as so desperate that he could only explain it as resulting from either a particularly freakish period (*huṇḍa*) of the Kaliyuga or some strange and malign planetary conjunction. Hordes of barbarians, in this case, the Moslems, had appeared, the Jain community (*saṅgha*) had become corrupt and people were beginning to league with the « king of delusion » so that, in short,

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1. *Sūri* is basically a term for « teacher ». See S. B. DEO, *History of Jaina Monachism*, Poona, 1956, p. 232. In the present paper, the term refers to the head of a sectarian division (*gaccha*).

2. JINAVALLABHASŪRI, *Saṅghapaṭṭaka*, in L. B. GANDHI (ed.), *Three Apabhraṃśa Works of Jinadattasūri*, Gaekwad's Oriental Series 37, Baroda, 1967, pp. 81-6.

3. Also called « the uneven time » (*duḥṣamā*) or « the fifth spoke of the wheel » (*pañcamāra*).

4. See JINAPRABHASŪRI, *Vividhatīrthakalpa*, Singhi Jain Series 10, Santiniketan, 1934, p. 74, lines 14-16.

Jinavallabha had to conclude that the scriptural prophecy of the tenth wonder had come to pass<sup>5</sup>.

The ten wonders (*āścarya*) are a series of astonishing events which take place in this current era (*avasarpinī*), the tenth of them being that honour will be paid to undisciplined monks who are prone to the destruction of life-forms, owning possessions and practising unchastity<sup>6</sup>. The Kharatara Gaccha, whose origins can be located in the eleventh century A.D. and whose area of activity was Rajasthan and Gujarat, gained its sectarian identity from its attempts to reform what it regarded as corrupt practices and to revive the ancient way of life prescribed in the Jain scriptures. The fact that Vardhamāna, the first sūri of the sect, is described in the Kharatara chronicles as being appointed to his rank under a banyan tree suggests that the Kharataras saw themselves as replicating the *jinakalpa*, the mode of life followed long ago by the *tīrthaṅkaras* and their disciples<sup>7</sup>, while the designation « forest-dwelling », occasionally used to describe themselves<sup>8</sup>, served to differentiate them from the *caityavāsin* monks who lived a permanent and sedentary life in temples (*caitya*<sup>9</sup>) or monasteries (*maṭha*), which were part of temple complexes<sup>10</sup> and had been built specially for them, ignoring the scriptural injunctions about

5. *Saṅghapaṭṭaka* 30, 39-40.

6. For the ten wonders, see *Sihānāṅgasūtra* 777 = *Sihānāṅgasūtra and Samavāyāṅgasūtra with Abhayadevasūri's commentary*, originally edited by Sāgarānandasūri and re-edited by Muni Jambūvijaya, Delhi, 1985, pp. 349-50. See also PADMANABH S. JAINI, *The Jaina Path of Purification*, Delhi, 1979, p. 23.

7. See JINAVIJAYA (ed.), *Kharataragacchapaṭṭāvalisamgraha*, Calcutta, 1932, p. 43. For taking the *jinakalpa* under a banyan tree, see DEO, *History of Jaina Monachism*, p. 374.

8. See, for example, Sumatigaṇin's biography of Jineśvarasūri contained in his commentary on Jinadattasūri's *Gaṇadharaśāstraśataka* published in the appendix to Jinavijaya's introduction to his edition of Jineśvarasūri's *Kathākoṣaprakaraṇa*, Singhi Jain Series 11, Bombay, 1949, p. 10, line 23, and in the *Vṛddhācāryaprabandhāvalī*, in JINAVIJAYA (ed.), *Kharataragacchabhāṣya-gurvāvalī*, Singhi Jain Series 42, Bombay, 1956, p. 89, line 2.

9. *caitya* can mean, most broadly, holy place or object.

10. See Jinadattasūri's *Sandehadolāvalīprakaraṇa*, Marway, 1918, p. 13a, line 3: *maṭhāder api caityāntargatatvāt*. *Sandehadolāvalīprakaraṇa* pp. 6-20 contains a discussion of the differences between the various types of *caitya* and ordinary building (*āyatana*).

the wandering life and the temporary lodging (*vasati*) appropriate to it, failing to observe correct rules for alms-begging and avoidance of injury to life-forms, and appropriating temple funds and property for their own uses, including the staging of rituals in a conspicuously Hindu idiom<sup>11</sup>.

Jineśvarasūri (eleventh cent. A.D.), Vardhamāna's most eminent disciple, attempted to explain in his *Kathākoṣaparakaraṇa* how the noble and exalted way of living portrayed in the scriptures had come to be perverted in this way<sup>12</sup>.

« In the period of the tenth wonder, after Mahāvīra's death, many monks broke away from the wandering life. Initially, when they had completed a stay of a month (*māsakappa*) in a particular place, they did not move on (immediately after), until it reached the stage that they did not move on even when the rain-retreat was over. Then their lay supporters (*sejjāyara*) became estranged from them so that, if any monks did happen to go forth upon the wandering life (*kahaṃ vi nīhariya*), they did not give them lodging (*vasahi*) again. So when the monks were thwarted in this way, they began to consider how they might get permanent lodging and devised a plan so that householders might be encouraged to build temples which would bring about such lodging, even though a breach of rules about begging for alms (*āhākammiya*) would occur. They instructed their followers thus: 'if someone makes an image (of a Jina) no more than the size of a thumb, then he will attain deliverance through the gradual achieving of enlightenment after a series of happy rebirths. But whoever constructs a temple will have still greater rewards. Therefore, sirs, build temples, and we shall strive in those areas in which you are not competent'<sup>13</sup>. So these disaffected

11. Representative of the Kharatara view of *caityavāsin* behaviour is Jinadatta's *Carcari*. See also the same author's *Upadeśarasāyana* 28 (against the profit-making role of temples) and 38-9 (forbidding various types of temple ritual on the grounds that they are not described in scripture). Both of these texts are edited in GANDHI, *Three Apabhraṃśa Works*.

12. *Kathākoṣaparakaraṇa*, p. 131, lines 1-11 and p. 133, lines 16-19.

13. *jaṃ bhe na pahuppai, tattha amhe jaissāmo*. I take *jaissāmo* to be the equivalent of Sanskrit *yatiṣyāmahe*,

ascetics, who got their livelihood from their external appearance only and who were attached to this world and uninterested in the next, had many temples built in that particular region. And after having temples built which were repositories for images alone, they had well appointed (*susilittha*) monasteries constructed nearby and lived there at their ease ».

The institution of living near or, as it subsequently became, within temples is thus ascribed to the chicanery of lax monks and the unwitting collusion of their lay followers. While the Kharatara Gaccha did not actually proscribe the erection of temples<sup>14</sup>, as a sect such as the Sthānakvāsīs were to do, its leaders clearly felt considerable unease about their role in the corruption of the sangha. Jinadattasūri (twelfth-thirteenth cent.) gives a list of negative motives for building temples, referring to Queen Kuntalā<sup>15</sup>, who, as Jineśvara recounts, attempted, because of her pride in her own temple, to restrict the practice of devotions in the temples built by her co-queens and, as a result of her own lack of true devotion, was reborn as a black bitch who lived in that same temple<sup>16</sup>.

Kharatara tradition has it that in 1024 A.D. Jineśvarasūri defeated in debate a *caityavāsin* monk named Sūra at Aṇahilla-paṭṭana in Gujarat in front of King Durlabha, an event which in some accounts is said to have led to the epithet Kharatara, « Particularly Quick-witted », being bestowed upon Jineśvara and, subsequently, the sect<sup>17</sup>. While we may treat with some suspicion the arguments of Dharmasāgara (sixteenth cent.) who, as a stern advocate of the supremacy of his sect, the Tapā Gaccha, suggested that the debate, so important to the Kharatara chroniclers, had never taken place at all<sup>18</sup>, the fullest account we possess, that of

14. See JINADATTASŪRI, *Carcari* 15.

15. *Sandehadolāvalīprakaraṇa*, p. 7a.

16. *Kathākoṣaprakaraṇa*, p. 129, lines 30-2 to p. 130, line 14.

17. See W. SCHUBRING, *Die Lehre der Jainas*, Berlin and Leipzig, 1935, p. 47.

18. *Pravacanaparikṣā*, Surat, 1937, pp. 270-1.

Sumatigaṇin, dates from about one hundred and fifty years after the event and is obviously polemical in intention<sup>19</sup>. Nonetheless, it does give some idea of how Kharataras viewed the *caityavāsin* justification of their position.

Sūra, the *caityavāsin* spokesman, is portrayed as arguing about the nature of monastic dwelling rather than the length of stay within it. Lodging in property provided by laymen, he contends, is fraught with peril since it will of necessity bring about contact with women and breach of chastity, while staying in gardens and similar places described in the scriptures has become impractical because of physical and moral dangers brought about by the Kaliyuga. By living in temples, monks can avoid contact with women, and, since temples are innately pure, having been built for the *tīrthaṅkaras*, no impurity need ensue by monks eating food there. Furthermore, if monks did not live in temples, there would effectively be no Jainism, because, owing to the Kaliyuga, the laity had ceased to be interested in the upkeep and maintenance of sacred places.

Sumati portrays Sūra as stating in the course of the debate that the *tīrthaṅkaras* promulgated no fixed rules about anything except sexual intercourse, and even that is deemed permissible if engaged in without passion, and, also, as concluding his argument by referring to the existence in scripture of exceptions to general rules. Leaving aside until later the validity of these « assertions » we can, to some extent, glimpse here the contrived and artificial nature of Sumati's account, for Jineśvara had already employed a statement virtually identical to Sūra's conclusion in the climax to his reworking of the story of Kuvalayaprabha in his *Kathākoṣa-prakaraṇa*. This cautionary tale, which first occurs in the late canonical text, the *Mahāniśīthasūtra*, describes how the great scholar and ascetic, Kuvalayaprabha, on not being able to answer convincingly when asked a doctrinal question by some *caityavāsin* monks, eventually had to invoke the principle that scripture was

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19. See the appendix to Jinavijaya's introduction to the *Kathākoṣa-prakaraṇa*, pp. 8-22.

not fixed in meaning but composed of rules and exceptions and, as a consequence, was condemned to endless rebirth<sup>20</sup>.

However, this oblique attempt to link Sūra to Kuvalayaprabha as a paradigm of corruption should not obscure the fact that the institution of temple-dwelling was not followed solely by marginal and degraded monks who were only nominally ascetics, for as eminent a figure as Haribhadra (sixth cent. A.D.?), their link with whom the Kharataras continually stress<sup>21</sup> and whose apparent opposition to temple-dwelling is often referred to by modern writers<sup>22</sup>, states firmly in his *Ṣoḍaśaka* that monks are permitted to live in temples, implicitly supporting the practice elsewhere in his writings<sup>23</sup>. Moreover, the great canonical commentator, Abhayadevasūri (eleventh cent.), whom the Kharatara chroniclers tried desperately to fit into their teacher lineage, holds that the building of temples, far from being a cause for unease, as it was for Jineśvara and Jinadatta, is, in fact, a form of spiritual sacrifice (*bhāvayajña*)<sup>24</sup>.

Attempts to explain the origin of temple-dwelling have tended either to delineate a progression rather than isolate a cause, as in the assertion that monks who originally lived in the forests changed to living in caves which eventually led to fixed residence<sup>25</sup>, or, alternatively, to be too vague, as in Schubring's suggestion that canonical descriptions of religious discourses taking

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20. For Kuvalayaprabha, see J. DELEU and W. SCHUBRING, *Studien zum Mahānisiha: Kapitel 1-5*, Hamburg, 1963, pp. 200-1. The *Mahānisihasūtra* does not occur in all lists of canonical texts, but was authoritative for the Kharatara Gaccha. For Jineśvara's reworking of the story of Kuvalayaprabha, see *Kathākoṣaparakaraṇa*, pp. 131-5.

21. See, for example, JINADATTA, *Carcari* 12, 14. I pass over the question of the existence of two Haribhadras.

22. See, for example, JAINI, *The Jaina Path of Purification*, p. 308.

23. See R. WILLIAMS, *Haribhadra*, in BSOAS, 28 (1965), pp. 101-11. Williams demonstrates that the *Samboḍhaparakaraṇa*, a text frequently cited to establish Haribhadra's anti-*caityavāsin* credentials, most likely dates from the middle of the twelfth century.

24. See Abhayadeva on *Sihānāṅgasūtra* 125 = Jambūvijaya's re-edition (see footnote 6), p. 73, section 3. Abhayadeva also quotes Haribhadra to the effect that destruction of life-forms brought about by lay people in worshipping the Jinas (e.g. through building temples) is purified.

25. See A. GHOSH (ed.), *Jaina Art and Architecture*, New Delhi, 1976, p. 38.

place near temples proved the main inspiration for permanent dwelling near these places<sup>26</sup>. Unfortunately, up to now, there has been no evidence other than sectarian propaganda which could throw light upon the convictions of *caityavāsin* monks, and I would therefore like to draw attention to a short text, recently published on the basis of a single manuscript, entitled *Dānādīprakaraṇa* (= DP), « A Treatise on Religious Giving etc. », written by an *ācārya* named Sūra<sup>27</sup>. As noted above, Sūra was the name of the *caityavāsin* whom Kharatara sources claim to have been the opponent of Jineśvara at Aṇahillapaṭṭana. The editors of the DP, without mentioning the debate, state in their introduction that there are grounds for assigning the text to around 1030 or 1040, which would roughly fit the traditional Kharatara dating of the event. It is not clear whether Sūra is the same as the Sūra who is regarded as one of the « exalters of the doctrine » (*prabhāvaka*) and whose life is recounted by Prabhācandra (13th cent.) in his *Prabhāvakacarita*<sup>28</sup>, but while there are grounds for suspecting that Sūra, the author of the DP, has, as an influential monk, been retrospectively assigned a role in the debate to provide Jineśvara with a suitably eminent opponent to controvert, I do not regard it as necessary to establish his identity, since there is sufficient evidence in the text itself to suggest that reforming groups such as the Kharatara Gaccha could not have found him orthodox.

The DP is, to a large extent, a conventional text, with much standard praise of the Jain path. Its main theme, however, is, as its title proclaims, *dāna*, religious giving, and Sūra attempts to establish this as the main structuring element within Jainism and as the form of religious activity most appropriate to the Kaliyuga (DP 7.82)<sup>29</sup>. Denial of *dāna* betokens complete ignorance of scriptural tradition (DP 7.1) and, indeed, the entire path to liberation

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26. *Die Lehre der Jainas*, p. 47.

27. Ed. A. M. Bhojak and N. J. Shah, L.D. Series 90, Ahmedabad, 1983.

28. Ed. Jinavijaya, Singhi Jain Series 13, Bombay, 1940, pp. 152-60. Prabhācandra does not mention the debate. Note that, while verses 20-5 depict Sūra as sitting in a temple watching a dancing-girl, a typical *caityavāsin* practice according to the Kharataras, verse 142 describes him as lodging in an *upāśraya*, not a *caitya*, when visiting King Bhoja.

29. Not an exclusively Jain notion. Compare *Manusmṛti* 1.86.

would cease without *dāna*, for liberation can only come about by giving alms to monks and money to the community as a whole (DP 4.17; 6.9). Wealth bestowed upon the community becomes endless (DP 6.7), the building of temples brings great material benefits and, at the same time enables their builders to move along the spiritual path (DP 4.18-22; 4.26). In general, Sūra argues that *dāna* should be the principle activity of the laity because other forms of religious practice such as the performance of austerities, morality and meditation are too difficult (DP 6.91; 7.116). Laymen should, instead, realise the great rewards to be gained from supporting the *saṅgha* (DP 6.96-99), which is the single most important thing taught by the *tīrthaṅkaras* (DP 7.24) and which by involving compassion and, therefore, *ahiṃsā*, encompasses and lies at the heart of the Jain religion.

Sūra accepts, along with the *sūris* of the Kharatara gaccha, the existence of a monastic community which is weak in religious attainment owing to the Kaliyuga (DP 7.105), a development predicted by the *tīrthaṅkaras* themselves (DP 6.43). However, Sūra's attitude to such monks is rather different, for he attempts to show that the monk, as tangible symbol of everything the Jain religion represents, should not be subjected to petty considerations of merit and worth (DP 7.106). This is made clear at DP 6.50:

« those fools, who reject a monk appropriate to the current age (i.e. the Kaliyuga) and seek an alternative good monk (*susādhu*) as a recipient of their *dāna* etc., cannot in fact find the second type and so attain a bad rebirth ».

Those who see lax behaviour and censure it are themselves behaving abominably (DP 6.44-5), for good-will towards one's co-religionist is vital (DP 6.55)<sup>30</sup>. A wise man who sees a monk who has only one small but positive quality should honour him as if he were replete with qualities (DP 6.67). The whole path of *dharma* disappears without monks, so even a monk who has fallen away from the correct way should be revered (DP 6.46), in the same way as a king's messenger is honoured even though he in no way resembles the king (DP 6.19). As it is impossible to recognise

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30. Specifically contradicted by *Sandehadolāvalīprakaraṇa*, p. 52b.



adequately those who have real qualities and those who do not, every monk should be treated with equal respect (DP 7.112), and religious gifts should be made out of compassion to those monks who manifestly lack qualities (DP 7.107). Indicative of Sūra's standpoint is his description of Mahāvīra's first significant act as a mendicant, which was, one and a half years after renunciation, to bestow his robe upon a brahman, interpreted by the DP not as signifying indifference to worldly possessions, but as an act of *dāna*, all the more meritorious because of the unworthiness of the recipient (DP 7.16)<sup>31</sup>. Sūra sums up his position at DP 7.109:

« one's religious activity should centre around the affairs of the temple. This is the highest form of disgust with evil. In my opinion, the qualities of those ascetics who are of pure faith (*Śubhadṛś*), even though deficient (in other respects), are the unequalled receptacles (of the *dāna*) of the world. What else is to be sought after? ».

We are not, of course, in a position to assess the faith or sincerity of monks who lived in the eleventh century, but a reading of the DP, relatively short though it is, suggests that Sūra was arguing for the unity of the Śvetāmbara Jain *saṅgha* despite the manifest existence within it of differing types of religious behaviour and attainment, and, in particular, attempting to exalt *dāna* above all other forms of religious practice. I would suggest that the widespread building of temples and the concomitant custom of permanent dwelling by monks in or near them, which was one of the main characteristics of medieval Śvetāmbara Jainism, can best be seen as the inevitable result of the performance of *dāna* and as an extension of the giving and receiving of food, clothes and lodging, which is the fundamental mode of interaction between monk and layman, built into Jainism from the very beginning<sup>32</sup>. This would then appear to be very close to a phenomenon in Theravāda Buddhism, which Carrithers has called « domestication », whereby a lack of central authority in the Buddhist community

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31. The story is post-canonical. See JAINI, *The Jaina Path of Purification*, p. 13.

32. Note, however, that *dāna* is not a significant theme in the Ardhamāgadhi canon.

and the close relationship between monk and layman led to the monk espousing lay values and attitudes, so that the ideal of social and ritual service, which could only be fulfilled by living in monasteries near towns and villages, achieved ascendancy over, without ever totally supplanting, the ancient paradigm of the forest-dwelling ascetic<sup>33</sup>.

It will be recalled that Sūra is alleged by Sumati to have claimed that scripture is composed of rules and exceptions and, indeed, according to Carrithers<sup>34</sup>, a central feature of Buddhist domestication is the loosening of laws of monastic behaviour. A particularly pertinent Jain example can be found in the verse-commentary (*bhāṣya*) (third-fourth cent. A.D.) on the highly authoritative *Niśīthasūtra*; « the emissary from the city of *nirvāṇa* »<sup>35</sup>, where several reasons are given why a monk might be permitted to cease from the normative, wandering life and live permanently (*ṇicca*) in one place:

« when there is inauspiciousness, when there is famine (*omoyariya*), when there is great danger due to oppression by a king, in illness and when there is lack of correct behaviour and study »<sup>36</sup>.

According to Jinadāsa's (seventh cent.?) prose commentary (*cūrṇi*) on *Niśīthabhāṣya* 1024, there is no sin in living somewhere on a permanent basis in order to increase qualities such as knowledge. If leading the wandering life in the wide world (*bahiḥ*) causes decrease of knowledge, then one should avoid it. While elsewhere (verse 1016) the *Niśīthabhāṣya* is more guarded, pointing out that *ṇicca* need not always mean « permanent », this relaxation of the rules about monastic lodging in such an authoritative text, though doubtless made with the best intentions, must have pro-

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33. See M. CARRITHERS, *The Forest Monks of Sri Lanka: a historical and anthropological study*, Delhi, 1983, pp. 139-41. See also I. STRENSKI, *On generalised exchange and the domestication of the sangha*, in « Man » (n.s.), 18 (1983), pp. 463-73, and Carrithers' reply in « Man » (n.s.), 19 (1984), pp. 321-2.

34. See CARRITHERS, *The Forest Monks of Sri Lanka*, p. 141.

35. *Saṅghapaṭṭaka* 9.

36. *Niśīthabhāṣya* 1021. I have used the edition of the *Niśīthasūtra*, with *bhāṣya* and *cūrṇi*, by Amaramuni and Muni Kanhaiyalal, four volumes, Agra, 1957-1960.

vided ample justification for the defence of the institution of temple-dwelling which reforming monks in the eleventh and twelfth centuries were to find so objectionable<sup>37</sup>.

If Jineśvara presents the building of temples and the lavish pursuit of *dāna* by the laity in his times as deeply entrenched examples of popular behaviour followed down through the ages<sup>38</sup>, and Jinavallabha and Jinadatta bemoan the coming to pass of the tenth wonder, nonetheless the *caityavāsin* monks seem to have been all but eliminated by the *sūris* of the Kharatarā Gaccha, lingering on in subsequent centuries only in severely attenuated and mutated form<sup>39</sup>. An examination of the hagiographies of the Kharataras suggests that the *sūris* were able to halt the process of domestication taking place in Rajasthan and Gujarat partly by the imposition of their own charismatic authority established in debate, and by what the hagiographers describe as the performance of miracles and feats of prescience, rather than through any marked adherence to the « great truths » of Jainism. Of perhaps even more importance, however, is the role of scripture in this process of reform, for a crucial theme in these hagiographies is the linking of the temple-dwelling heresy with ignorance, misuse or travesty of sacred texts. A few of the more noteworthy examples will demonstrate this.

In Jinapāla's account of the debate at Aṇahillapaṭṭana, Jineśvara claims emphatically at the outset that his authority to speak rests upon the ancient scriptures rather than upon the results of

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37. JINAVALLABHA, *Saṅghapaṭṭaka* 9, points out that, while the *Niśitha-sūtra* certainly does contain various rules and exceptions, it nowhere says anything about living in temples. This strongly suggests that it actually was invoked to justify temple-dwelling. Deo, *History of Jaina Monachism*, pp. 158-9, points out that monks were allowed to live in temples during the rainy period.

38. See *Kathākoṣaprakaraṇa*, p. 128, lines 18-20 and 31-2, and compare also *Carcari* 31. The Kharataras did not, of course, suggest that *dāna* was in itself improper. See *Upadeśarasāyana* 30, 61-2.

39. See M. B. JHAVERI, *A Comparative and Critical Study of Mantra-śāstra*, Ahmedabad, 1944, p. 208. But note also U. P. SHAH, *A forgotten chapter in the history of Svetāmbara Jain church, or, a documentary epigraph from Mount Satruñjaya*, « Journal of the Asiatic Society of Bombay » (n.s.), 30 (1955), pp. 100-113.

contemporary disputes<sup>40</sup>, while the decisive factor in Jineśvara's final victory is said to be his recourse to the *Daśavaikālikasūtra*, whose contents his opponents try to conceal<sup>41</sup>, an act tantamount to the perversion of the whole of scripture since, according to tradition, this work was composed by Śayyambhava as a summary of the canon<sup>42</sup>. On a similar occasion in Kharatara history, Jinapatisūri (twelfth-thirteenth cent. A.D.) catches his opponent, the *caityavāsin* Pradyumna, deliberately omitting a passage from an authoritative text which contradicts his position<sup>43</sup>. Here, as in comparable situations in Hindu hagiography, the source and outcome of debate rest upon scripture<sup>44</sup>. The *Daśavaikālikasūtra* plays an important role in the early life of Jinavallabha. He was originally the pupil of a *caityavāsin* who, despite possessing a copy of the scriptural canon, refused to allow his pupils to see it. It was only after clandestinely inspecting the scriptures, and in particular the *Daśavaikālikasūtra*, that Jinavallabha realised that his master had been deceiving him and that he was on the incorrect path<sup>45</sup>. Here, the impetus to correct spiritual practice is portrayed as stemming from knowledge of sacred writings, and scripture is used to demonstrate that the *caityavāsins* were, in Carrithers' phrase<sup>46</sup>, « betray[ing] the principles enshrined in the charter » of the Jain *saṅgha*. Yet, at the same time, it must be admitted that Sūra in the DP seems to display an equal concern about the importance of scripture (*āgama*) and its injunctions (*vidhi*) (e.g. DP 5.75-81), and it might be worth considering whether there was any incompatibility between the two sides' view of what scripture represented.

40. *Kharataragacchabṛhadgurvāli*, p. 3.

41. *Ibid.*, and Sumati's account, p. 19 (see footnote 19). *Daśavaikālikasūtra* 8.51 is cited in both accounts.

42. See W. SCHUBRING, in « Kleine Schriften », Wiesbaden, 1977, pp. 111-2.

43. *Kharataragacchabṛhadgurvāli*, pp. 41-2. The text in question was the *Oghaniryukti*.

44. See P. GRANOFF, *Scholars and wonderworkers: some remarks on the role of the supernatural in philosophical contests in Vedānta hagiography*, in JAOS, 105 (1985), pp. 459-67.

45. *Kharataragacchabṛhadgurvāli*, p. 8 and *Kharataragacchapaṭṭāvali-saṅgraha*, p. 25.

46. In « Man » (n.s.), 19 (1984), p. 320.

An important, if often insufficiently acknowledged, problem in Jainism is that the list of forty-five texts which has come to be accepted by Śvetāmbaras (with the exception of the Sthānakvāsis) and by Western scholars as representing the definitive scriptural canon is, in fact, merely one of a number of possible lists and groupings. We do not possess the names of the texts redacted at the final council of Valabhī (fifth cent. A.D.) and, in the medieval period, there seems to have been a variety of rival textual groupings, as well as a tradition of lost scriptures<sup>47</sup>. That this was a contentious and longstanding issue can be seen by the vigour with which the Kharatara scholar, Samayasundara, writing at the beginning of the seventeenth century, attempted to defend the forty-five text grouping and to explain why there were so many discrepancies and disagreements in the scriptures<sup>48</sup>. Such a situation has interesting implications, one of which may have been that there was, in certain monastic circles in the centuries after the council of Valabhī, a vagueness or uncertainty as to what constituted scriptural injunction, and that terms like *āgama* and *vidhi* may have come to signify for many monks not so much a body of texts and specific ordinances based on them as, more nebulously, the totality of current and traditional religious behaviour which was perceived as deriving from an amorphous source loosely defined as scripture. It is this vague view of scripture and its contents which has been repeatedly challenged throughout medieval and more recent Jain history by recourse to actual texts by figures such as the sūris of the Kharatara Gaccha, Lonkā, Banārsīdās, Bhikhanjī and Śrīmad Rājacandra, thus providing one of the most important dynamic elements in the history of the religion.

In concluding this brief account about where and how a Śvetāmbara monk ought to live, it may perhaps be appropriate to recall the statement of the Digambara, Pūjyapāda (sixth cent. A.D.), to the effect that discussion of monastic dwelling in terms

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47. For this whole question, see H. R. KAPADIA, *The Canonical Literature of the Jainas*, Surat, 1941.

48. *Samācārīśataka*, Bombay, 1939, pp. 76-81.

of living either in village or forest is for those people who do not perceive the self. For those who have actually experienced the self, the only true dwelling place is that very self, solitary and still<sup>49</sup>.

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49. *Samādhiśataka* 73. The sentiment is echoed at *Isibhāsiyāṃ* 38.13 and by Śīlāṅka commenting on *Ācārāṅgasūtra* 1.8.1.4. This paper is a brief account of a subject which, it is hoped, will be dealt with more fully in a study of the sectarian development of the Kharatara Gaccha. I would like to thank the British Academy for awarding me a Small Grant in the Humanities which made much of the research for this paper possible.