

INDOLOGICA TAURINENSIA

THE JOURNAL OF THE INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF SANSKRIT STUDIES

Founded by Oscar Botto

Edited by Comitato AIT

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Indologica Taurinensia was founded in 1973 by the eminent scholar Oscar Botto; it publishes articles, reviews and research communications concerning India, Central Asia and South-East Asia.

In 1976 the International Association of Sanskrit Studies selected it as its Official Organ (then Journal) on the occasion of the 30th International Congress of Human Sciences of Asia and Northern Africa (Mexico City, August 3rd-8th, 1976). It publishes also the report of the World Sanskrit Conference and the minutes of the meetings of the I.A.S.S. (International Association of Sanskrit Studies). In 1996 it was acknowledged as a “Journal of High Cultural Value” by the Italian Ministry of Cultural Heritage and Activities.

It is edited by the non-profit Editorial Board “Comitato AIT” that in the year 2016 was awarded the prize “Ikuo Hirayama” by the Académie des Inscriptions et Belles-Lettres of the Institut de France, Paris, for its publishing activity.

INDOLOGICA TAURINENSIA

THE JOURNAL OF THE
INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF SANSKRIT STUDIES

VOLUME XLI-XLII

2015-2016

EDIZIONI AIT

Publisher:
Comitato AIT
Registered Office: corso Trento 13 – 10129 Torino (Italy)
Head Office: c/o Città Metropolitana di Torino, via Maria Vittoria 12 – 10123 Torino (Italy)
Email: irmapiovano@cesmeo.it; indologica@asiainstitutetorino.it
www.indologica.com – www.asiainstitutetorino.it
Printer: Edizioni ETS, Pisa (Italy)
Annual Subscription (1 issue): € 40,00
Desktop publishing: Tiziana Franchi
Electronic version: www.asiainstitutetorino.com/indologica
Sole Agents: Comitato AIT

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Irma Piovano (President) - Saverio Sani (Vice President) - Victor Agostini (Secretary)
corso Trento 13 – 10129 Torino (Italy)
C.F. 97651370013 – R.E.A. Torino, n. 1048465 – R.O.C., n. 14802

Autorizzazione del Tribunale di Torino N. 4703 del 21/7/1994
I.S.N.N. 1023-3881

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JOHN AND MARY BROCKINGTON ARCHIVE

John and Mary Brockington are pleased to announce that they have just deposited on the Oxford Research Archive their material relating to the development and spread of the Rāma narrative, so that it can be available for others to consult even in its present, unfinished state. It can be accessed at <http://ora.ox.ac.uk/objects/uuid:8df9647a-8002-45ff-b37e-7effb669768b> or you can find it via the Bodleian Libraries website, under ORA, by looking for its title, Development and spread of the Rāma narrative (pre-modern).

This is a description of it adapted from the abstract mounted on the website:

This material is part of our continuing attempt to survey presentations of the Rāma story as it has been developed from its origin in the so-called *VālmikiRāmāyaṇa*, through transformations in all genres, media, languages, religions and geographical areas, until roughly the end of the eighteenth century. However, later material has also been used if it preserves motifs or records trends relevant to the earlier period, though not where it introduces new developments. In order to explore the crucial role played by sculpture and paintings in the transmission and development of the narrative, we have placed visual material side-by-side with verbal (narratives presented in words, whether written or spoken).

The basis for the survey is: a Bibliographic Inventory providing references to everything of value consulted (and a list of our own publications); a detailed tabulation of the Narrative Elements employed and modified by successive tellers to build up the story; Background Notes and photographs; and unpublished Drafts surveying the material or arising from it. Guidance Notes give detailed instructions for use.

The material is a joint project: John has compiled the Bibliographies, composed the Draft on Development and many of the notes, and taken the photographs; Mary has identified and

tabulated the Narrative Elements, and supplied some of the Drafts and other notes.

The material is far from complete, and we hope to be able to update it from time to time, and to produce further analyses and syntheses of the material. From the nature of its wide scope, much of the compilation has had to be made from translations into the major European languages, or from summaries found in secondary literature, resulting in the omission of material inaccessible by these means; regrettably, we also have no way of knowing whether the translation or summary used has been totally reliable. Where possible, always check carefully before placing too much reliance on it. We will warmly welcome any corrections or supplementary information from other scholars specialising in individual fields. With all its deficiencies, we offer this inventory as a tool to facilitate further research, not as a substitute for such research, and we will be pleased to learn of any use to which our work is put.

“PUBBLICAZIONI DI INDOLOGICA TAURINENSIA”

Collana di Letture fondata nel 1965 da Oscar Botto

Editor: Irma Piovano

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3. F. DOVETTO, *Giacomo Lignana*, Torino, 2001.

“PUBBLICAZIONI DI INDOLOGICA TAURINENSIA”

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The volume was published with a grant from the MIUR Project “Studi e ricerche sulle culture dell’Asia e dell’Africa: tradizione e continuità, rivitalizzazione e divulgazione”

and with the Patronage of



Permanent Delegation of India, UNESCO



UNIVERSITÀ DEGLI STUDI DI TORINO



Città metropolitana di Torino

Editorial board

supervision: Irma Piovano; layout: Victor Agostini; editing: Gabriella Olivero.

Printer

Edizioni ETS, Pisa (Italy)