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Literature? / Goodall, Dominic -- Codicology (from Orality to Print) --
Tamil Satellite Stanzas: Genres and Distribution / Wilden, Eva --
Teaching and Learning Sanskrit through Tamil / Ciotti, Giovanni -- Pre-
modern Sanskrit Authors, Editors and Readers / Hanneder, Jürgen --
The Poetic and Prosodic Aspect of the Page. Forms and Graphic
Artifices of Early Indic Buddhist Manuscripts in a Historical Perspective /
Scherrer-Schaub, Cristina -- Typology of Drawn Frames in 16th
Century Mang yul Gung thang Xylographs / Clemente, Michela /
Lunardo, Filippo -- The Other Way Round: From Print to Manuscript /
Francis, Emmanuel -- Palaeography -- The Dating of the Cambridge
Bodhisattvabhūmi Manuscript Add.1702 / Harimoto, Kengo -- On
Some Markers Used in a Grantha Manuscript of the gveda Padapha
Belonging to the Cambridge University Library (Or.2366) / Franceschini,
Marco -- Textual Criticism -- A Fragment of the Vajrmtamaḥtantra:
A Critical Edition of the Leaves Contained in Cambridge University
Library Or.158.1 / Sferra, Francesco -- Mah-Daadhra-tavat: A
Buddhist Apotropaic Scripture / Hidas, Gergely -- Minor Vajrayana
Texts IV. A Sanskrit fragment of the Rīgyarallitantra / Szántó, Péter-
Dániel -- When Lachmann's Method Meets the Dharma of iva.
Common Errors, Scribal Interventions, and the Transmission of the
ivadharmā Corpus / De Simini, Florinda -- Cultural Studies -- Vivid
Images, Not Opaque Words / Cuneo, Daniele -- Um and iva's Playful
Talks in Detail (Lalitavistara): On the Production of aiva Works and
their Manuscripts in Medieval Nepal / De Simini, Florinda / Mirnig, Nina
-- Subantarāṅkara: An Unknown Text of Subhūticandra / Deokar,
Lata Mahesh -- The Cndravikāraapāñjik: An Important Tool for
the Study of the Moggallānavuttivikāraapāñcik / Deokar, Mahesh A.
-- Towards a Critical Edition of akara's 'Longer'
Aitareyopaniṣadbhāṣya: a Preliminary Report based on two Cambridge
Manuscripts / David, Hugo -- List of Contributors -- Index of Persons

Sommario/riassunto

This collection of essays explores the history of the book in pre-modern South Asia looking at the production, circulation, fruition and preservation of manuscripts in different areas and across time. Edited by the team of the Cambridge-based Sanskrit Manuscripts Project and including contributions of the researchers who collaborated with it, it covers a wide range of topics related to South Asian manuscript culture: from the material dimension (palaeography, layout, decoration) and the complicated interactions of manuscripts with printing in late medieval Tibet and in modern Tamil Nadu, to reading, writing, editing and educational practices, from manuscripts as sources for the study of religious, literary and intellectual traditions, to the creation of collections in medieval India and Cambodia (one major centre of the so-called Sanskrit cosmopolis), and the formation of the Cambridge collections in the colonial period. The contributions reflect the variety of idioms, literary genres, religious movements, and social actors (intellectuals, scribes, patrons) of ancient South Asia, as well as the variety of approaches, interests and specialisms of the authors, and their impassionate engagement with manuscripts.
