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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 impassioned engagement with manuscripts.
