

BUDDHIST SCRIBAL PRACTICES IN A TRANSCULTURAL PERSPECTIVE

ORNAMENTAL AND
STRUCTURAL SYMBOLS AND
HIGHLIGHTER MARKS IN
INDO-TIBETAN AND
CENTRAL-ASIAN
MANUSCRIPT CULTURES

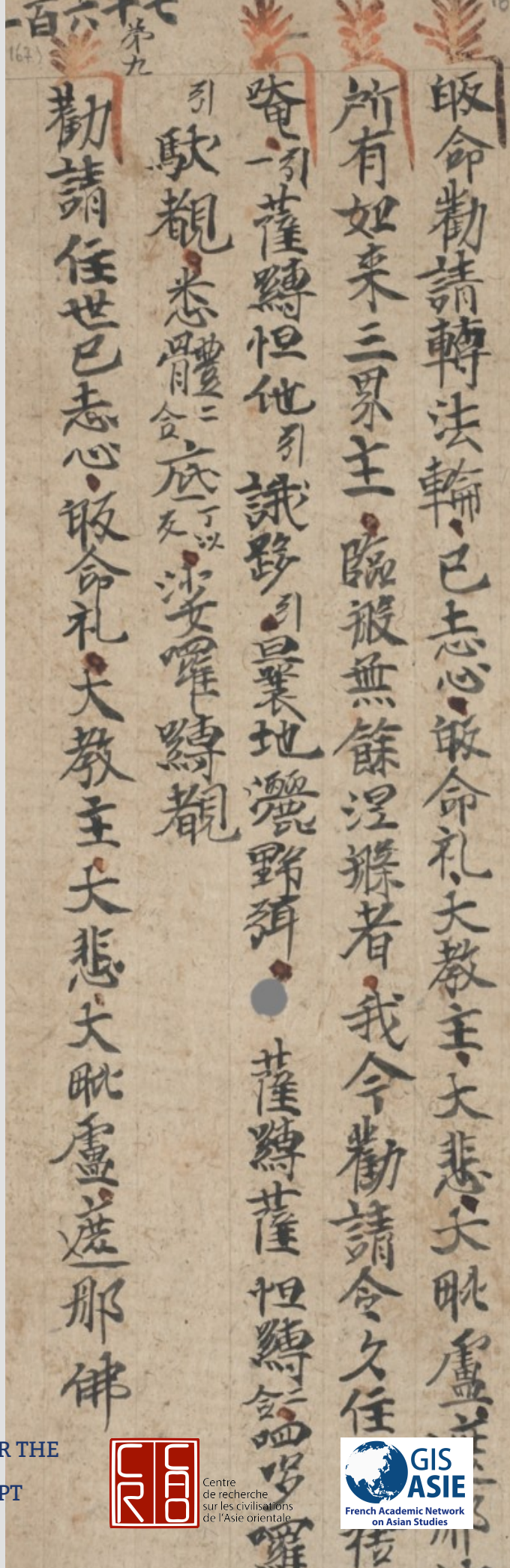
Co-organized by the École
française d'Extrême-Orient and
the Centre for the Study of
Manuscript Cultures -
Universität Hamburg, with the
support of GIS Asie

25 NOVEMBER 2019



ÉCOLE FRANÇAISE
D'EXTRÊME-ORIENT

22 Avenue du Président Wilson
75116 Paris



Universität Hamburg
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CENTRE FOR THE
STUDY OF
MANUSCRIPT
CULTURES



Centre
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French Academic Network
on Asian Studies

Introduction

This international workshop is a collaborative effort organized by the École française d'Extrême-Orient (EFEO-Paris) and the Centre for the Study of Manuscript Cultures (CSMC-Hamburg), which involves scholars in Buddhist studies, codicology, and art history to analyze the connections between scribal practices attested in various Central and East-Asian Buddhist manuscript cultures, with a focus on mutual influences between them regarding the use of specific ornamental and/or structural marks. This project will cover various areas, in particular the Indo-Tibetan, Chinese and central Asian region. The use of visual devices and highlighter marks specific to Buddhist manuscript cultures is attested in corpora produced in various cultural areas (India, Tibet, Nepal, Central Asia, China, etc.). These elements served various functions in relation to different codicological needs. Some symbols were meant to enrich the aesthetics of the page, used to fill the blank spaces that might occur on various parts of the page, for instance, after the last line of a section, or before the beginning of a text. Such devices are thus reminiscent of *incipit* marks or *culs-de-lamps* found in western books. They also provided the manuscript with symbolic protection. Signs and highlighter marks found in many Dunhuang documents are a specific feature of manuscripts produced under Tibetan Rule (781–848), and during the following century, and are among the earliest attested examples of this scribal practice. They constitute important evidence of Indo-Tibetan influence on Chinese scribal practices of that period. A number of these specific marks are also found, with certain variants, in North Indian and Nepalese manuscript collections from different periods. The use of ornamental and structural marks was maintained after the transition from manuscript to print. Various examples are found in the earliest printed documents, in Xi Xia script, discovered in Khara-khoto. Conference papers will focus on the origin, use, and iconographic characteristics of these visual devices, their dating and specific function in the layout of a text, with a focus on phenomena attesting a cultural transfer.

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PROGRAMME - 25 NOVEMBER 2019

- 10:00 **Welcome and Introduction**
- 10:30 **Keynote Lecture: Scribal practices in the Northern Thai monasteries: calligraphy, lay-out, decorations and illustrations of the palm leaf manuscripts (Buddhist chronicles)**
François LAGIRARDE
École française d'Extrême-Orient
- 11:00 Coffee break
- 11:15 **Visual Text-Organization in North Indian and Nepalese Buddhist Manuscripts**
Bidur BHATTARAI
Centre for the Study of Manuscript Cultures - Universität Hamburg
- 11:45 **The decorated papers used in the early Central Asian manuscripts and ritual objects**
Agnieszka HELMAN-WAZNY
Centre for the Study of Manuscript Cultures - Universität Hamburg
- 12:15 Discussion
- 13:00 Lunch
- 14:30 **Survey of some ornamental signs in several of the Chinese manuscripts from Dunhuang in the Stein Collection**
Mélodie DOUMY
British Library
- 15:00 **Ornamental signs and structural marks in Dunhuang Buddhist manuscripts of the "Pelliot chinois" collection**
Costantino MORETTI
École française d'Extrême-Orient
- 15:30 Coffee break
- 15:45 **Ornamental signs in manuscripts from Khara-khoto**
Imre GALAMBOS
Cambridge University
- 16:15 **Punctuation and ornamentation in some Tibetan manuscripts from the 10th to 20th centuries**
Sam VAN SCHAIK
British Library
- 16:45 Discussion
- 17:15 Closing Remarks
- 18:30 Dinner



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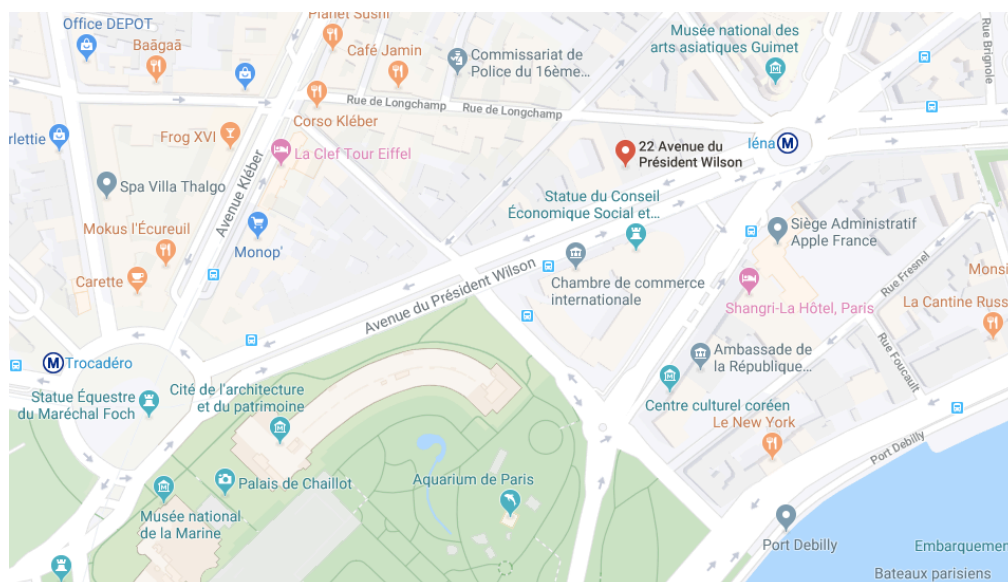
VENUE:

EFEU - MAISON DE L'ASIE

22 avenue du président Wilson

75016 - PARIS

Salon du 1er étage



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