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Birger A. Pearson, in:
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BREPOLS



A MANICHAEAN PRAYER AND CONFESSION BOOK

Nicolas Sims-Williams, John S. Sheldon,
Zsuzsanna Gulácsi (eds)

XXVI+195 p., 100 colour ill., 210 x 297 mm, 2022, c. €100
 ISBN: 978-2-503-59790-4 (HB)
 Series: Corpus Fontium Manichaeorum. Series Iranica, vol. 1
 IN PREPARATION

The Manichaean Prayer and Confession Book is the best-preserved Manichaean book found in the Turfan area and the only one which survives in the form of a bound codex. It constitutes a precious treasure-trove of information on its three Iranian languages, on the Manichaean religion itself, and on Manichaean codicology and book-art. The surviving parts of this beautifully decorated miniature paper codex include Middle Persian and Parthian hymns and readings for the Bema festival, the high-point of the Manichaean liturgical calendar, followed by an elaborate confessional formula for the Elect in the Sogdian language. Until now this manuscript has been accessible for scholarship only from its 1937 edition in German by W. B. Henning, titled 'Ein manichäisches Bet- und Beichtbuch' (BBB). This new edition provides the first English translation by Nicholas Sims-Williams, the first codicological study by Zsuzsanna Gulácsi and an introduction by John S. Sheldon. It also includes the supplementary Sogdian texts which Henning added to his 'BBB'. It incorporates magnificent colour photos, codicological diagrams, and digital reconstructions never seen before. This beautifully-produced volume appropriately inaugurates the *Series Iranica* of the *Corpus Fontium Manichaeorum*.

Nicolas Sims-Williams is Emeritus Professor of Iranian and Central Asian Studies at SOAS University of London.

John S. Sheldon is an independent scholar who has been affiliated with Macquarie University, Sydney, and St. John's College, Cambridge.

Zsuzsanna Gulácsi is Professor of Art History and Asian Studies at Northern Arizona University in Flagstaff.

THE MANCHAEAN COPTIC PAPYRI IN THE CHESTER BEATTY LIBRARY: PSALM BOOK PART I, 1

Siegfried G. Richter (ed.)

292 p., 6 b/w ill., 210 x 297 mm, 2022, € 95
ISBN: 978-2-503-59788-1 (HB), Series: Corpus Fontium Manichaeorum. Series Coptica, vol. 3
AVAILABLE

Im 3. Jh. n. Chr. wurde vom Perser Mani eine neue Religion gegründet, die alle bisherigen Religionen und Erkenntnisse umfassen sollte. In der Spätantike avancierte sie zu einem ernsthaften Konkurrenten des Christentums und wurde mit Edikten, intellektuellen Auseinandersetzungen, aber auch Bücherverbrennungen bekämpft. Da der Manichäismus die Zeiten nicht überdauerte und die direkte Überlieferung abbrach, war es eine Sensation als 1929 in Medinet Madi (Ägypten) ein Fund der bis dato ältesten Originalschriften in koptischer Übersetzung gemacht wurde.

Das manichäische Psalmenbuch der Chester Beatty Library gehört zu den sieben Codices des Fundes, der sich zum größten Teil in einem sehr schlechten Zustand befand. Mit der Restaurierung in Berlin begann eine rege Editionstätigkeit, die durch den 2. Weltkrieg unterbrochen wurde. Vom Psalmenbuch wurde die besser erhaltene zweite Hälfte (PsB II) 1938 von C.R.C. Allberry publiziert. Der bis auf einige Einzelsalmen noch

unpublizierte vordere Teil des Buches (PsB I) befand sich in einem sehr viel schlechteren Erhaltungszustand und umfasste ursprünglich 396 Seiten. In dieser ersten Ausgabe werden 122 Seiten mit koptischem Text und deutscher Übersetzung dem Leser zugänglich gemacht. Die poetisch anspruchsvollen Lieder bieten einen originalen Einblick in die manichäische Religion. Neben einer Psalmgruppe, die die ältesten Sonnenhymnen des Manichäismus bewahrt, geben einige Psalmen in 22 Strophen den Inhalt vom Lebendigem Evangelium des Religionsgründers Mani wieder.

Siegfried G. Richter ist apl. Prof. am Institut für Ägyptologie und Koptologie an der Universität Münster und leitet dort die Arbeitsstelle für Manichäismusforschung. Als wissenschaftlicher Mitarbeiter ist er am Institut für neutestamentliche Textforschung tätig und dort für die koptische Überlieferung des NT zuständig.

BIBLIA MANICHAICA

THE NEW TESTAMENT ACTS, LETTERS, AND REVELATION IN MANICHAEAN TRADITION

The Sources in Syriac, Greek, Coptic, Middle Persian, Parthian, Sogdian, Bactrian, New Persian, and Arabic

Nils Arne Pedersen, René Falkenberg, Claudia Leurini, John Møller Larsen (eds)

approx. 400 p., 210 x 297 mm, 2022, c. € 125
ISBN: 978-2-503-60105-2 (HB), Series: Corpus Fontium Manichaeorum. Biblia Manichaica, vol. 3
IN PREPARATION

Biblia Manichaica is a reference work citing all biblical quotations and allusions in the Manichaean sources as far as they are available in editions. The third volume of the *Biblia Manichaica* series continues the two previous volumes, covering Manichaean quotations and allusions of the remaining New Testament; that is, Acts, The Pauline letters, the Letter to the Hebrews, the catholic letters, and Revelation, in Semitic languages, Greek, Coptic, and Iranian languages.

Nils Arne Pedersen, Dr. theol., associate professor in Church History (Aarhus University) and specialist in Manichaeism, Coptic, and Syriac texts. René Falkenberg, Dr., associate professor in New Testament studies (Aarhus University) and specialist in Coptic texts (Manichaeism and Nag Hammadi). Claudia Leurini, Dr., specialist in Iranian studies, esp. Manichaean texts. John Møller Larsen, Dr., specialist in Semitic languages (esp. Arabic, Islam, Syriac), Islam, and Manichaeism.

SUBSIDIA

DICTIONARY OF MANICHAEAN TEXTS. VOLUME III, 2: TEXTS FROM CENTRAL ASIA AND CHINA (TEXTS IN SOGDIAN AND BACTRIAN)

Second, Revised and Enlarged Edition

Nicholas Sims-Williams, Desmond Durkin-Meisterernst (eds)

XLVI+323 p., 210 x 297 mm, 2022, € 90
ISBN: 978-2-503-59452-1 (HB), Series: Corpus Fontium Manichaeorum. Subsidia, vol. 7
AVAILABLE

This revised and substantially enlarged edition of the *Dictionary of Manichaean Texts* covers the vocabulary of all Manichaean (and anti-Manichaean) texts in Sogdian and Bactrian (material published up to 2020, including short passages and even individual words which have been cited in print). Unlike the first edition, it also contains a substantial amount of material from texts which are still unpublished, especially unusual or otherwise unattested words and expressions. As before, the volume

contains a full bibliography, references to discussions in the scholarly literature, and numerous corrections to previously published readings and interpretations. It is completed by an English index. Providing an up-to-date analysis of all published Manichaean material in the Eastern Middle Iranian languages, the new edition of the Dictionary will continue to be an essential tool for everyone interested in Manichaeism, Iranian languages, or Central Asian history.

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