REVIEWS


The monograph was published in the Crimea in the Russian language; it is devoted to the invasion of the Ottoman Turks of the Crimea in 1475. The author consciously uses the term “invasion” and not “conquest” because the Ottomans conquered only those lands which later became the so-called Eyâlet-i Kefe and not the whole of the Crimean peninsula. As a result of this invasion, the Genoese colonies and the principality of Theodoro were conquered, while the Crimean Khanate became the vassal of the Ottoman Empire for the next 299 years. The monograph analyses in detail the sources consisting of written testimonies and material sources, some of which are used for the first time. The author of the monograph managed to identify a number of different reasons, factors and preconditions of the Turkish invasion of the Crimea. In fact, the pressure of the Ottoman Empire on the Genoese colonies began in 1454. By paying the tribute the Genoese managed to delay the attack of the Ottoman fleet on Caffa until 1475 in connection with an active expansionist policy of Sultan Mehmed II, the Conqueror in the Balkans, the Aegean Sea, and Asia Minor. The author identified two stages of the policy of the Ottoman Empire in the Black Sea region in 1475 after the defeat of the Turks at the Battle of Vaslui. Furthermore, the military campaign in the Crimea in 1475 was also analysed. In the course of this campaign the Genoese colonies and the principality of Theodoro were conquered by the Turks.

The actions of the Crimean expeditionary force of the Turks, under the command of Grand Vizier Gedik Ahmed Pasha in 1475, are scrutinised in detail; furthermore, the author succeeded in establishing the chronology of the campaign. Particular attention was paid to the conquest of the small mountain principality of Theodoro. Its capital – the fortress of Mangup – for six months resisted the power of the Ottoman military machine. The data, received by the author in the course of many years of archaeological study of the fortifications of Mangup and its battlefields, were used as the basis for these conclusions. The author also claims that the acquisition of the dominant role of the Turks in the Black Sea region and the creation of a base for attack on Moldavia were the causes of the Turks’ Crimean campaign in the third quarter of
the 15th century. The coast and the mountainous part of the Crimea came under the power of the Ottomans. Due to this fact the Ottoman Empire, relying on the help of its vassal, the Crimean Khanate, was able to actively influence the policies of the East European region in the centuries to follow. The book is an important contribution to our knowledge of the Ottoman military campaigns in the second half of the 15th century. Archaeological finds published by the author and numerous drawings and illustrations help one visualise the process of the invasion of the Crimea and the conquest of the Crimean fortresses of Caffa, Cembalo (Balaklava), Sudak and Theodoro (Mangup).

Mikhail Kizilov


For many years Ardhamāgadhī, the language in which the Jaina Canon has come down to us, was missing from the curriculum of the universities in Austria, Germany or the German speaking part of Switzerland. In the past few years there was a turn for the better owing to the good offices of Klaus Mylius and Chlodwig H. Werba who led courses in Ardhamāgadhī at the Goethe-Universität in Frankfurt am Main and the University of Vienna, respectively. The book under review has basically taken shape during Mylius’s teaching activity at German universities.

The volume falls into three parts preceded by a preface and introduction by the author. In the introduction he aptly draws the attention of the would-be students to the Jaina contribution to Indian culture and science, then proceeds to say a few words on the position of Ardhamāga- dhī among the languages and dialects in ancient India, finally gives an annotated review of previous books on the subject.

Part One comprises a grammatical sketch of Ardhamāgadhī. It is further divided into chapters giving room to the following issues: the system of sounds with brief remarks on pronunciation; phonetic changes with charts of the correspondents of Sanskrit › Ardhamāgadhī and Ardhamāgadhī › Sanskrit clusters of consonants and with additional lists of changes resulting in a great number of homonyms in Ardhamāgadhī posing a peculiar difficulty for any student; declension of nouns, adjectives, pronouns and numerals accompanied with short notices on the function of the cases; system of conjugation; syntax including a concise treatment of the formation of compounds stems.

Part Two gives room for specimens from Ardhamāgadhī texts. The selection shows careful work: the pieces are taken from primary Jaina sources and from critical editions of well-known specialists of Ardhamāgadhī such as Ludwig Alsdorf, N. A. Gore and Walter Schubring. There are two specimens from the Dasaveyāliya, the third Mālasutta, which is said to be written by a certain Sejjambhava; one sample from the Itthiparīṇā; and one from the Uvāṣagadasāo. For preparing textual remarks and explanations of various kind, Mylius seems to have used reliable translations and interpretations of the texts in question. At a first glance it appears that he did not spare space for textual and grammatical notes which he thought to have been instructive for students. Obviously it will take time and teaching practice to see how far he was successful in doing it. From the pedagogical point of view I find it challenging that he encourages the students to make an attempt at inferring a Sanskrit chāyā from the given Ardhamāgadhī form (p. 41). Of course he is fully aware of the fact that this task cannot be carried out with certainty in numerous cases.

Part Three consists of a glossary Ardhamāgadhī–German containing the words of the previous chapters where the single items stand with Sanskrit chāyā in parentheses, and a German–Ardhamāgadhī glossary the purpose of which is not specified by Mylius in the short introduction to it.

The volume is supplemented with a short bibliography and an index of grammatical terms.

It is hoped that this book, together with the Wörterbuch des kanonischen Jinismus and Zur
Didaktik mittelindischer Sprachen by the same author*, will serve the task set by the author, especially in the German speaking countries.

The book is neatly printed, so special thanks, as usual, are due to the Harrassowitz Verlag for the careful effectuation.

Gyula Wojtilla