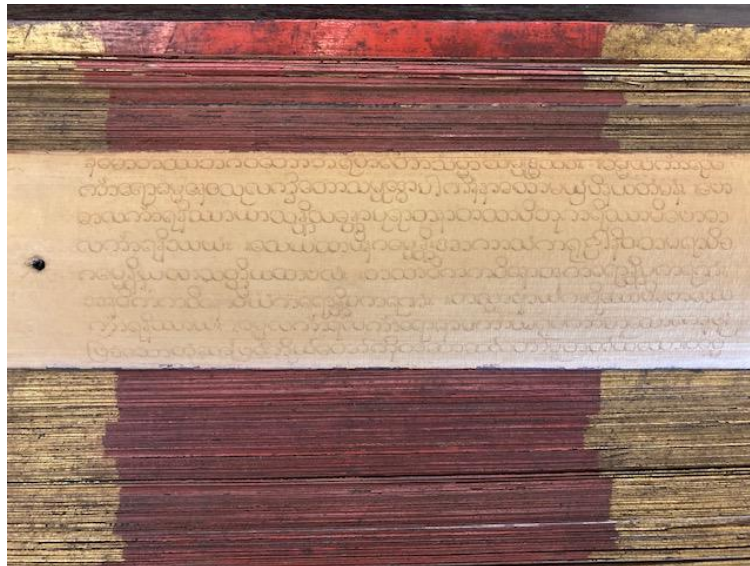


Palm-leaf and *pothi* format manuscripts preserved
in
Glasgow University Library

A Handlist



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Title-page image: PL 23

Introduction

This handlist provides brief descriptions of all items housed in the PL sequence of manuscripts preserved in the Department of Special Collections in the Library of Glasgow University.

The sixty-two items described here derive from a variety of sources and date from the 17th to the late 19th century. Most were at some point in the possession of Christian missionaries, colonial officials, or members of the armed forces, who conveyed them to Europe. They include twelve items which can, with confidence, be ascribed to the oriental collection of Professor Theophilus Siegfried Bayer,¹ acquired in the eighteenth century by Dr William Hunter (1718-83).

The geographic distribution of their sites of production ranges over a large area stretching from Cambodia and Thailand through Burma, Sri Lanka and south India to Tibet and Central Asia.

Palm-leaf manuscript books (*pothi*) are products of south and southeast Asia. They are composed of several processed palm leaves with a text, inscribed with a metal stylus, which is rendered more visible by being filled by a carbon-based ink. The leaves are normally held together by means a cord laced through holes made on each leaf, the whole manuscript often being protected by two wooden boards. Leaves measure from about 2 to 7 cm. x 16 to 70 cm., with writing running horizontally, left to right, parallel to the long edge, creating the distinctive *pothi* shape.

Paper manuscripts in imitation this format were produced in the northern regions of the Indian sub-continent, a practice which was extended, principally by means of Buddhist culture, to Tibet and beyond, into Central Asia. In such manuscripts two drawn circles, often decorated, interrupt the text where the cord holes would have been present on a *pothi* book. The employment of paper removed the dimensional restrictions imposed by actual leaves, resulting in some very large volumes (such as PL 62).

Folding-book manuscripts, which also have a *pothi* format, involve several sections of material (usually stout paper) being joined to form a long, single sheet. This is then folded so that each section, or 'leaf' is attached along its long edge(s). Until the last century these were widely used in mainland Southeast Asia, particularly in the areas of present-day Myanmar, Thailand, and Laos They are known as *parabaik* in Burmese or *samut khoi* in Thai and Lao.

¹ See: David Weston, *The Bayer Collection* Glasgow, 2018 (rev. 2022), 185-195 <https://eprints.gla.ac.uk/163266/> which provides a fuller description of these twelve items.

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PL 1

[The Lord's Prayer in Tamil, etc.]

[Chennai (formerly Madras)], 1728, Tamil, Telugu and English

Palm-leaf book comprising 5 palm leaves approx. 3.5 x 31cm., between two wooden boards 5 x 34.5 cm. Each of the first three leaves has a single cord hole in the same position; the boards and leaves 4-5 have no cord holes, boards.

ff. 1-3 Three copies of the Lord's prayer in Tamil on separate leaves.

Text starts: Paramantalankalile yirukkirā yenkal Pitāvē ...

f.4 'The Lord's Prayer in the Samskrutam [Sanskrit] language. Fort St George 1728' is incised on the verso of the leaf. The script is Telugu.

f.5 Lord's prayer in the Telugu or Gentou language. Fort St George 1728' is incised on the verso of the leaf, possibly the work of Thomas Consett (1677-1730).

A paper label (once glued to the upper board?) is inscribed 'The Lord's Prayer in the Tamul dialect' (19th c.?), and on the lower board, in pencil, 'Lords (sic) Prayer in Tamul'. The absence of any indication of Bayer's ownership of this item suggests it may have been sent directly to Heinrich Walther Gerdes in London.

PL 2

Walther, Christoph Theodosius, 1699-1741

Nomina varia chronologica ad doctrinam temporum Indicam pertinentia.

[Tharangambadi, formerly Tranquebar, 1733?], Sanskrit and Tamil

10 palm leaves 5 x 22.5 cm. (leaf dimensions vary) between two wooden boards.

Each of the leaves and the boards has a single cord hole, no cord.

Various terms for the days, months, planets, lunar phases, constellations, Zodiac signs etc. Bayer has written on the upper board in ink: 'Nomina varia chronologica ad doctrinam temporum Indicam pertinentia lingua et scriptura Grandica s. Kirendum' 'N.10.' is written on the upper right-hand corner of the upper board. Received from India by Bayer in 1734.

PL 3

Puvana-cakkaram and Tirikālacakkaram

[Tharangambadi, formerly Tranquebar, 173-?], Tamil

52 palm leaves approx. 2.4 x 46 cm., between two wooden boards 3 x 51cm., with one cord hole and cord, foliated in Tamil numerals [i],0(title-leaf), 37, 12, [i], 6-7 lines.

Written in ink, in Bayer's hand, on the lower board is the inscription:

'Pûwana-Sakkaram .s Geographia Orbis Terrarum et mundorum omnium et Trigila-sakkaram Diei cyclus s. Chronographia (v. Contin VII p.496 et 337, 358)'.

PL 4

Nītivenpā

[Tharangambadi, formerly Tranquebar, 173-?], Tamil

39 palm leaves 2.5 x 35 cm., between 2 bevelled wooden boards 2.5 x 36 cm., with 2 cord holes and one cord, foliated in Tamil numerals 0 (title-leaf), 38ff., 6 lines. Inscribed in ink on the upper board in Tamil script, and in German romanised transliteration: 'Nītivenpā Nidi Wōnpa'. Another hand (Bayer's?) has added 'Tamulorum poeticus moralis' and the number '8'.

PL 5

Bala-Rāmāyanam (incomplete)

[Tharangambadi, formerly Tranquebar, 173-?], Tamil

3 palm leaves (dimensions vary) between 2 bevelled wooden boards 3 x 49.5 cm., with one cord hole (cord missing). One leaf is decorated with a stylised depiction of a tiger(?). Inscription in ink on upper board: 'Bala-Rāmāyanam litteris Kirendum s. Girendum sanctis Tamulorum linguae ... Wischnu cognomina Rāmā'.

PL 6

Kalendarium 1730 (calendar for the period April 1730 – March 1731)

[Tharangambadi, formerly Tranquebar, 1730], Tamil

35 palm leaves 3.5 x 20.5 cm., foliated with Tamil numbers, with a single cord hole with cord. The 2 outer leaves are each formed from 2 leaves stuck together, [iii], 30, [ii] ff., 8-9 lines.

PL 7

Bible. O.T. Genesis. Telugu

[Chennai (formerly Madras), 173-?], Telugu

29 palm leaves 2.5 x 47 cm., between 2 wooden boards 4.2 x 53, with 2 cord holes and 1 cord, boards, foliated in Telugu numerals, 5 lines.

A translation by Benjamin Schultze of the Book of Genesis into simple spoken Telugu. Written in ink on the lower board (by Bayer?) 'S. liber Geneseos Wardugice versus a R. Benjamin Schultzio Missionario Madrastae in India'.

PL 8

Sahasranāmas (of Lalita, Bhuvanēsvarī, Annapurna, Vishnu, Shiva, Krishna) *and* Ashtottaras (of Shiva, Subrahmanya, Gangā, Dattātreya, Devimāhātreyā)

[Chennai (formerly Madras), 173-?], Sanskrit, in Telugu script

154 palm leaves approx. 4 x 15.5 cm., between 2 wooden boards 4 x 16 cm., with 2 cord holes and 1 cord, lower board curved on one side, leaves foliated inconsistently in Telugu numerals, 9-11 lines.

PL 9

Shin Aggasamādhī, c.1478-1557

Nemi buim' khan' (= Nemi bon gan pyo?)

[Myanmar (Burma), early 18th c.?], Burmese

32 palm leaves 6 x 22 cm., with red edges between 2 wooden boards 7 x 24 cm., with 2 cord holes and 1 cord, foliation [ka] kā- kā:, kha-khā:, ga-gai. 8 lines, incomplete.

Written on the lower board in ink in T.S. Bayer's? hand: 'Liber Peguanus, quem Legatus Regis Pegu cum A. 1726 Madrastae ageret R. Benjamini Schultzio Missionario dono dedit. Conf. Oost(sic)-Indische Berichte Tom II Cont XXII p.830' 'No 3' written at top right-hand corner of lower board.

PL 10

Sarasamgaha

[Sri Lanka, 19th c.], Pali in Sinhala script.

126 palm leaves 5.5 x 34 cm., between two panelled hardwood boards 6 x 34 cm., 2 cord holes, cord missing, foliated, 6-9 lines. First and last leaves blank.

Sarassamgaha (sic) incised on upper board. Label pasted on lower board bears inscription in 19th c? ink: 'from Dr Hun[ter?] Junr No 237 to Hunterian Musm.'

PL 11

[Thai ms.,]

[Thailand, 18th c.?], Thai

Samut khoi or folding book, written in a yellow ink on stout paper, painted black, 58 sections, each measuring 35.2 x 11.2 cm. mostly written on both sides, some water damage at one end not affecting text, 4 lines. There is a small label at the lower left corner of the upper cover leaf bearing the number '107' (possibly 18th c.). Text unidentified – a poetic work?

PL 12

[Kannada ms.?]

[Karnataka, South India, 18--?], Kannada

Folding book, 84 sections 20.5 x 18.2 cm. ca half of them written on both sides in two columns with a steatite pencil on black prepared cloth, text in 2 columns. Cloth covered wooden boards, painted yellow and black in a pattern of circles and squares, with border in red. It appears to be an account book.

PL 13

Alphabetum Kirendum

[Chennai (formerly Madras), 173-?], Sanskrit

17 palm leaves approx. 2.5 x 67 cm., boards 3.2 x 70 cm., foliated in Tamil numerals 1-17 and in European numbers from 4-17. leaves. The Grantha script incised in large

format, presumably as a learning aid. Written in ink on the upper board, in a hand similar to that on PL 9, is the inscription: ‘Alphabetum Kirendum s. Girendicum s. Grantham Tamulorum sacrae litterae lingua haec Brahmanum eadem, quae Varagis s. Telugis Samscrutam eadem quae Dewa-nagrica lingua ut litterae Samsclu. tam sunt [five? words illegible]’.

PL 14

[Burmese ms., incomplete]

[Myanmar (Burma), 19th c.], Pali

23 palm leaves 4.5 x 50 cm., 2 cord holes no cord and no boards, foliation pa - phaṃ, 7 lines, edges painted in red and gold. Section of an unidentified Theravada Buddhist text, cf. PL 34.

PL 15

A nā dha vaṇi

[Myanmar (Burma)], completed on Saturday, 3rd day of the waxing moon, month of Pyatho, 1239 B.E. (1877). Colophon date. Burmese

Palm-leaf manuscript (incomplete), 26 leaves 5.8 x 47.4 cm., 2 bevelled, plain wooden boards with no holes, 5.9 x 48.9 cm., 2 cord holes, no cord, the 2 outer leaves are made up of 4 leaves sewn together. foliated ka - gī (corrected in pencil to gi), 8 lines.

PL 16

[Pali-Burmese ms., incomplete]

[Myanmar (Burma), 19th c.], Pali

24+1 palm leaves 4.8 x 50 cm., 1 rough wooden board only 5.1 x 51 cm., 2 cord holes, 1 cord, foliated: ḍa - ḍhā:, edges painted in red and gold, 7 lines (the last leaf is from another ms., with different dimensions and 8 lines to a page).

Unidentified Theravada Buddhist text.

PL 17

Vi naññi mhat cu

[Myanmar (Burma)], 10th day of the waning moon in the month of Pyatho, 1227 B.E. (1865), colophon date, Pali and Burmese

28 palm leaves 5.5 x 47.5 cm., between 2 wooden boards, 6 x 47.6 cm., with concave outer surfaces, painted red, no cord holes on boards, 2 on leaves, first leaf formed from 2 leaves bound together, foliated jha - ño', edges painted in red and gold lacquer, many leaves missing, 9 lines.

PL 18

Dhammapada pāli to' nisya

[Myanmar (Burma), 19th c.], Pali and Burmese

62 palm leaves 5.6 x 50 cm. between 2 wooden boards 6 x 50 cm., with concave outer surfaces, painted with gold lacquer, with an inscription added in a darker gold, 2 cord holes and one surviving blue cord, inner surfaces are red and edges gilt, foliated, some leaves missing or out of order, last leaf signed 'ñū', 8 lines.

Inscription on upper board in Burmese: 'a Burmese monk gave this to a school in Edinburgh (I tañ' bhu rui myiu' n*)'. Acquired by GUL 1873, acc. No. 202, *per* label pasted onto inside upper board. A note in pencil at the foot of the label reads, 'A book of morals – Burmese written on palm leaves'.

PL 19

[Pali-Sinhala ms.]

[Sri Lanka, 19th c.?] Pali? in Sinhala script.

26 palm leaves, 6.6 x 46 cm., between 2 wooden boards, painted in red, green and yellow with a leafy pattern within a green rectangular frame, 2 holes, no cord, foliated ka (16) – kha (10), 7 lines.

PL 20

[Burmese ms.]

[Myanmar (Burma), 18th c.?), Burmese

44 palm leaves 4.7 x 48 cm., between 2 wooden boards 5 x 48.6 cm., with concave outer surfaces, painted a dark reddish-brown, 2 cord holes and fragments of 1 cord, foliation, jha - ṭe, last leaf blank, 7 lines. Unidentified text.

PL 21

[Burmese ms.]

[Myanmar (Burma), 18^h c.?), Burmese

59 palm leaves 5 x 48.1 cm. between 2 wooden boards 5 x 48.6 cm., with concave outer surfaces, painted a dark reddish-brown (as PL 20), 2 cord holes, no cord, foliated (but leaves out of order), 7 lines. Title leaf formed from 3 leaves sewn together and f.33 is formed from 4 leaves and appears to be the title leaf of a separate section or work. There is a damaged paper label (18th c.? with indecipherable European writing. The first word appears to be German, 'Selten'.

Begins: nidānai suy so su mem' ...(?)

PL 22

[Burmese ms.]

[Myanmar (Burma), late 18th or early 19th c.], Burmese

83 (2+79+2) palm leaves 5 x 25 cm., between 2 bevelled wooden boards 6.5 x 26 cm., painted brown, 1 cord hole and 1 (original) cord, foliated: ka – che, 6 lines in a large Burmese script, The second and last 2ff. blank. Unidentified text.
Begins: taṃ pyaṃ kyī pho naññ kā: ...

PL 23

Sangharakkhita Thera, fl. 12th c.

Subodhāṅkāra

[Myanmar (Burma), 19th c.?], Pali and Burmese

250 palm leaves 5.6 x 49.5 cm., between 2 bevelled wooden boards 5.7 x 49.8 cm., 2 cord holes and 2 cords (broken), foliated, but leaves badly out of order, 8 lines. The boards are painted in a dark reddish-brown lacquer. The title (written as *Subhodhāṅkāra*) is painted on both boards in gold lettering between decorative panels, and incised as *Subodhalaṅkāra* in the margin of f1r (ka). The edges of the leaves are painted in gold and red. GUL Ferguson Collection bookplate, 1921 on inside, upper board.

PL 24

Pārājikaṇ pāḷi to'

[Myanmar (Burma), 19th cent?], Pali

180 palm leaves 5.8 x 48.8 cm., between 2 very rough, un-painted (except for the edges) wooden boards 6 x 49 cm., edges painted in red (at middle) and gold lacquer (at sides), foliated (out of order), 9 lines.

GUL accession number 'AMO02022' and shelfmark 'Bi17-f.2' on label inside upper board. Presented along with two other Burmese mss., by Rev. John A. Tainsh in memory of his son, John A.G. Tainsh.

PL 25

[Pali-Burmese ms.]

[Myanmar (Burma), 18th c.?], Pali and Burmese

52 palm leaves 5.8 x 55 cm., between 2 bevelled wooden boards 6 x 55 cm., painted dark reddish brown, with 1 hole only on the upper board, and one cord, with holed piece of metal (brass) attached. Last leaf damaged with some text loss, foliation ka - ñā some leaves out of order, 7-9 lines in large round script. Colophon? f.52v.

Unidentified Theravada Buddhist text.

Begins: namo tassa bhagavato... Mahā-bodhi ...

PL 26

[Burmese ms., incomplete]

[Myanmar (Burma), 1253? B.E. (1891?)], Burmese

66 palm leaves 6 x 51 cm., between 2 wooden boards 6.2 x 51.4 cm., with concave surfaces, painted dark brown, 2 holes, 1 cord, foliated but leaves have been re-strung

wholly out of order, 7-8 lines. Initial leaf formed from 3 leaves sewn together. On f.1r ('co') line 3, there is a date which is unclear, 'sakkaraj -53 (?)'.

PL 27

Mahā nissaya

[Myanmar (Burma), 19th c.], Pali and Burmese

122 palm leaves 6 x 54 cm., (incomplete), between 2 very rough, wooden boards: 6.2 x 54.1 cm., with edges painted in gold (sides) and red (centre), foliation gha, ca-cha, ṭa-ṭha, da, pa-pha, 7 lines. Various sections tied together. In the right-hand margin of each gathering of 12ff. is 'Maho nissara' (sic).

PL 28

Dhātudhīmbaṇī kyan:

[Myanmar (Burma), 3rd day of the month of Pyatho, 1246(?) B.E. (1884). Colophon date, Burmese

39 palm leaves, 6.5 x 51 cm. 2 cord holes and 1 cord, foliated ka - gā:, 9 lines. A 19th c. slip of European paper (repaired ca 1996), possibly at one point attached, bears the inscription in iron gallic ink: 'Dato dee panee kian [a treatise?] on the Elements [of? next word unclear].

PL 29

Nissa kyuit' (?)

[Myanmar (Burma), 19th c.], Pali and Burmese

26 palm leaves with 2 cord holes, no cord, 4.3 x 49.4 cm., between 2 protective 'boards' made from conservation foam (ca 1996), edges red (centre) and gold (sides), foliation [1] ka - kha: [1], 7 lines.

PL 30

Vinaya saṃgaha nissya

[Myanmar (Burma), 19th c.], Pali and Burmese

48 palm leaves 5 x 49.5 cm., 2 holes, no cord, edges painted red (centre) and gold (sides), first 10 leaves dirty, damaged and variously foliated, the remainder, preceded by a double, stitched leaf is foliated ha - 'ā: (1+36+1 leaves), 8 lines. Incomplete.

PL 31

[Pali-Burmese ms. incomplete]

[Myanmar (Burma), 19th c.], Pali

24 palm leaves 4.8 x 50 cm., 2 holes 1 cord, edges painted red (centre) and gold (sides), foliated ma – yā:, 7 lines. Possibly part of a larger ms. embracing PL 34, 35, 36, 37, 39, and 40. Unidentified Theravada Buddhist text. See PL34.

PL 32

Jīvaka Komārabhacca, fl.5th c. BCE

Jīvaka lyhok' thuiṃ:

[Myanmar (Burma), early 19th c.], Burmese

29 palm leaves 5.4 x 50 cm., 2 holes 1 cord, foliation [ka] - gu, upper and lower covers each formed from 2 leaves stitched together, 7 lines.

There are two forms of the title, one with un-voiced initial consonant (cīvaka lyho[k'] thuiṃ) and the other voiced. A medical text.

PL 33

[Pali-Burmese ms., incomplete]

[Myanmar (Burma), 19th c.?], Pali and Burmese

21 palm leaves, 5.4 x 50 cm., 2 holes 1 cord attached at one end to a small piece of wood, foliation ka – kho, 7 lines. Outer leaves very dirty. Possibly a *nissaya* on part of the *Paṭṭhānuddesa dīpanīpāṭha 9. Upanissayapaccayo*.

Begins: namo tassa bhagavato arahato sammāsambuddhassa... sattaloka saṃkhāraloka okāsaloka taññhūso ...

PL 34

Vi naññ saṃgruih pāṭh

[Myanmar (Burma), early 19th c.?], Pali

101 palm leaves, mostly 4.9 x 50 cm., some damaged and dirty, foliated (out of order), jha - ññā: tied together, 7 lines, edges painted with red and gold lacquer, possibly part of a larger ms. embracing PL 31, 35, 36, 37, 39, and 40.

The first 6 leaves, 6.1 x 54 cm., not part of this ms., are included in same conservation box.

PL 35

[Pali-Burmese ms., incomplete]

[Myanmar (Burma), early 19th c.?], Pali

24 palm leaves, 4.8 x 49.9 cm. foliated: ṇa – tā: 2 cord holes, 1 cord edges painted gold and red. 7 lines. Originally part of a larger manuscript, followed by PL 36, possibly part of a larger ms. embracing PL 31, 34, 36, 37, 39, and 40. Unidentified Theravada Buddhist text. See PL 34.

PL 36

[Pali-Burmese ms., incomplete]

[Myanmar (Burma), 19th c.?], Pali

48 palm leaves 4.6 x 49.9 cm. between 1 wooden board 4.8 x 50.4 cm., painted dark red with red and gold edges, and a piece of museum board, foliated tha – nā:, a section of a larger ms., follows directly on from PL 35, script style agrees with PL 35, 2 cord holes, 1 cord, edges painted red (at middle) and gold (at sides), 7 lines. Possibly part of a larger ms. embracing PL 31, 34, 35, 37, 39, and 40.

Unidentified Theravada Buddhist text. See PL 34.

PL 37

[Pali-Burmese ms., incomplete]

[Myanmar (Burma), 19th c.?], Pali

24 palm leaves tied together, leaves 4.8 x 49.9 cm. between museum board, 2 cord holes, no cord, edges painted gold and red, foliated ff. ba – bhā:, 7 lines. Possibly part of a larger ms. embracing PL 31, 34, 35, 36, 39, and 40.

Unidentified Theravada Buddhist text. See PL 34.

PL 38

[Burmese ms., incomplete]

[Myanmar (Burma), 19th c.?], Burmese

A single palm leaf 5.3 x 50.3 cm., 7 lines, attached by string is a note in a 19th c. hand: 'Leaf from a Burmese book'.

PL 39

[Pali-Burmese ms., incomplete]

[Myanmar (Burma), 19th c.?], Pali

24 palm leaves 4.8 x 49.9 cm. tied together, between museum board, foliated ff. ra – lā:, 2 cord holes, no cord, edges painted gold and red, 7 lines, possibly part of a larger ms. embracing PL 31, 34, 35, 36, 37, and 40.

Unidentified Theravada Buddhist text. See PL 34.

PL 40

[Pali-Burmese ms., incomplete]

[Myanmar (Burma), 19th c.?], Pali

46 palm leaves 4.8 x 49.9 cm., between museum board, 2 cord holes, no cord, edges painted gold and red, foliation gā - ghā:, cha - chā: (wanting chi and chu), ja - jaṃ, vu – vū, 7 lines. Possibly part of a larger ms. embracing PL 31, 34, 35, 36, 37, and 39.

Unidentified Theravada Buddhist text. See PL 34.

Randomly inserted amongst the leaves, which were considerably out of order when inspected, were found 5[?]/4[?] leaves of a different type of palm. It is unclear what relationship, if any, they bear to this ms., see PL 41.

PL 41

4/5[?] palm leaves incised with texts in Tamil/Grantha script, and 1 in Telugu found in PL 40. They are now grouped together. Stored in box for PL 40.

PL 42

[Pali-Sinhala ms.]

[Sri Lanka, 19th c.], Pali in Sinhala script.

57 palm leaves 4.8 x 30.8 foliated in Sinhala, between 2 bevelled boards

5.2 x 31.5 cm. painted dark red, 2 holes 1 cord, , 6-8 lines.

GUL pressmark 'Be 9 – f.' written in pencil on upper board. Note in pencil, ca 1989 on inner face of upper board 'Sinhalese script'. Text unidentified.

Begins f.2r namo tassa bhagavato ...

PL 43

[Pali-Sinhala ms.]

[Sri Lanka, 19th c.], Pali in Sinhala script.

183 palm leaves 6.3 x 44 cm., between 2 decorated wooden boards 6.3 x 44.5 cm., 2 cord holes and 1 bi-coloured cord (red and cream) with carved glass medallion, edges gilt, foliated in Sinhalese, 7 lines. Painted floral decoration on boards in red, green and cream; 3 full and 2 half 8-petalled flower heads with cord holes bored through two of their centres. Edges of leaves gilt. GUL bookplate 'Presented 161-1908' on inside upper board. Unidentified Theravada Buddhist text.

Begins f.2r namo tassa bhagavato ...

PL 44/1-3

Three lacquered palm-leaf manuscripts housed in a single conservation container.

44.1

[Kammavācā. Nissaya]

[Myanmar (Burma), 19th c.?], Pali and Burmese

6 silver lacquered and decorated palm leaves 8 x 53 cm., 2 cord holes, no cord, foliated, [ka], kā, ki, kī, ku, [final leaf]. 7 lines in round black, painted script, ff. 1r and 6v have no text but are decorated with 6 black outline floral roundels within a frame. The silver lacquer is heavily oxidised.

44.2

[Kammavācā, incomplete]

[Myanmar (Burma), 19th c.?], Pali

2 gilded, decorated palm leaves. 8.5 x 50.5 and 51.8 cm. respectively; damaged at both ends with loss of text. 2 cord holes no cord. 4 lines in raised lacquer, square, tamarind-seed Burmese script. Interlinear leaf decoration in red outline.

44.3

[Kammavācā]

[Myanmar (Burma), 19th c.?], Pali

21 gilded, decorated palm leaves 9.5 x 54.5 cm. (ka - kho), between plain wooden boards 11 x 57 cm., 2 cord holes no cord. 8 lines in square, tamarind-seed Burmese script. Text at beginning and end of the text in red, outline version of the tamarind script, ff. 1r and 21v have no text but are decorated with 7 red outline floral roundels.

PL 45

[Pali-Sinhala ms.]

[Sri Lanka 19th c.?], Pali in Sinhala script.

46 palm leaves 6.3 x 53.8 cm., between 2 pieces of museum board. 2 cord holes, fragment of greenish-blue ribbon, 8-10 but mostly 9 lines, foliated in Sinhala letters.

Unidentified Theravada Buddhist text.

Begins f.1v namo tassa bhagavato ...

PL 46

[Odiya ms.]

[Odiya (formerly Orissa) 19th c.], Odiya (in Karani script?).

178 palm leaves 3.8 x 29 cm. (dimensions vary), between 2 plain wooden boards 3.8 x 32 cm., 1 central cord hole (2 adjacent on lower board) and 1 cord, 3-4 lines, vernacular foliation. Labels on both boards have inscription: 'University Library. 248 – 1889'. Text unidentified.

PL 47

[Burmese ms.]

[Myanmar (Burma), early 19th c.?], Burmese.

49 palm leaves, 5.6 x 59.5 cm., 2 holes 1 cord, foliation kī – gho (ff. ka, kā, ki misplaced at end), 5 lines. Unidentified text.

PL 48

[Pali-Sinhala ms.]

[Sri Lanka, 18th c.], Pali?, in Sinhala script.

71 palm leaves, 2.6 x 29.7 cm., 1 hole, 1 cord, foliated, 5 lines.
Unidentified Theravada Buddhist text.

PL 49

[Khmer ms.]
[Cambodia, 19th c.?], Khmer?
6 palm leaves, 1 hole, no cord, 4.5 x 28.5 cm.

PL 50

Thiruvalluvar, between 2nd c. BC and 5th c. AD.
Tirukkural
[Tamil Nadu, late 18th c.?], Tamil
122 palm leaves, 3.5 x 41.3 cm. ff.1-9 missing, 10-14 badly damaged with significant text loss. 2 cord holes 1 cord, 6 lines.
Note attached on piece of paper (early 20th c.?) 'Tirukkural with commentary'.
Name incised on f.122v 'William Egerton Jan:y 9 1743/4?'

PL 51

Kambar, or Kamban ca 1180-1250
Ramavataram. Yutha Kandan
[Tamil Nadu, 18th c.?], Tamil
321 palm leaves 3.3 x 42.8 cm. between 2 wooden boards 3.8 x 43 cm., 2 cord holes and 1 cord attached to a long spindle, foliated in Tamil, 7-8 lines.
A label (late 19th c.?) pasted onto the lower board has inscription in ink:
'This is an Indian book, and is over 100 [altered to 120 in pencil] years old. It contains a section of the great Indian Epic – The Râmâyana – and is called the Yuddha Kandan. It is written in Tamil, one of the South Indian Dravidian lan[guages]'. Another label on the same board relates to a [missionary] exhibition and states that it was lent by Revd Prof. Lindsay D.D.
Over this label and obscuring part of its inscription is a label inscribed 'Rev. A. Andrew for missionary exhibition.'

PL 52

[Tamil ms.]
[Tamil Nadu, India, 19th c.?], Tamil
47 palm leaves, 3.1 x 61.5 cm., badly warped.
1 central cord hole and 1 cord.
An account book. Each leaf has two tables each comprising seven rows and ca 30 columns.

PL 53

[Tamil ms.]

[Tamil Nadu, India, late 19th c.?], Tamil

82 palm leaves, first two and last blank, 3.6 x 37.5 cm. Text unidentified.

PL 54

[Grantha ms.]

2 palm leaves (joined) inscribed in the Grantha script. 3.8 x 34.2, 1 hole at the left-hand side, no cord.

PL 55

[Tamil ms.]

[Tamil Nadu, India, 19th c.?], Tamil

31 palm leaves, 3.5 x 76 cm., several leaves damaged and warped, one hole at left-hand side, one cord. An account book?

PL 56

[Lao ms.]

[Laos or north Thailand, mid-19th c.?], Pali?

28 palm leaves, 5.5 x 36 cm., 2 holes in centre and right-hand side, one cord (broken), foliated in vernacular numerals, 5 lines. Written in Lao Buhan script also known as Tai Noi. Probably a Theravada Buddhist text.

PL 57

[Thai ms.]

[Thailand, early 19th c.], Thai (not Sinhala)

Paper folding book, or *samut khoi*, 31 sections, some damaged at edges, text incomplete, blind ruled with a stylus, 7 lines of text on each page, 40.5 x 13 cm. Some insertions in a different hand. A label (attached to half of one leaf, upside down relative to text) with a blue ink wash and printed blackletter text 'Presented by' bears the inscription, 'A Cingalese Manuscript [Presented by (printed)] Capt R.G. Dunlop R.N.'

PL 58

[Bengali ms.]

[Bengal region, 19th c.], Bengali Not in *pothi* format. Several sheets of wove paper, written on both sides. Paper folded and very fragile. Text unidentified.

PL 59

Nārada nisya. *and* Aṭṭhasālinī nissya

[Myanmar, 19th c?], Pali and Burmese

26 leaves (very bowed), 47.5 x 5 cm., gilt edged, foliated: ṇo (1) tha - thā: (missing thā = 11) da - dā: (12) dhai, dho, (2) (= 26), 2 cord holes, 9 lines. Incomplete.

PL 60

[Lord's Prayer, etc]

[Myanmar, early 18th c.], Burmese and Portuguese

A *parabaik*, or folding book, written with a steatite pencil on one side only, 6 sections, 12.5 x 32.5 cm. formed of thick sheets of paper glued together, blackened and folded in concertina fashion. Text begins with the Burmese syllabary, followed by the numerals, and the Lord's Prayer in Burmese with transliteration, and Portuguese. Sent by Benjamin Schultze to H.W. Gerdes in London.

PL 61

Tangutana et Mungalica

[*Čorĵi-yin keyid* Buddhist monastery, near Semipalatinsk (Semey), 17th c.]

7 leaves in palm-leaf format (1 Tibetan and 6 Mongolian) in a paper (18th c.) wrapper.

f.1 Pañcaviṃśatisāhasrikā-prajñāpāramitā, Tibetan

= Shes rab kyi pha rol tu phyin pa stong phrag nyi shu lnga pa. Fragment.

Blue paper, 21.3 x 68 cm. foliated in Tibetan, 8 lines in gold ink on a darker blue ground, within a gold ruled border.

ff.2-4 Kanjur, Mongolian. Fragments

3 leaves from a 'golden' Mongolian ms. of the Kanjur (*bka'* - '*gyur*'), first recension.

Blue paper, 23.3 x 64.3 cm. 28-9 lines in gold ink on a darker blue ground, within a yellow double-ruled border

ff.5-7 Kanjur, Mongolian. Fragments

3 leaves from a 'black' Mongolian ms. Kanjur (*bka'* - '*gyur*'), first recension.

Paper, 23.6 x 65 cm., 29-30 lines in black ink within a double ruled red border (ff.6-7 have a double ruled black border). Given to Bayer by Baron Henrik Johan Rehbinder, (1684-1747) a Swedish officer captured at Poltava and sent to Tobolsk.

PL 62

Aryāṣṭāsāhasrikā-prajñāpāramitā, Tibetan

= 'Phags pa śes rab kyi pha rol tu phyin pa brgyad stong pa

Possibly taken from the ruins of a Buddhist monastery, *čorĵi-yin keyid* near Semipalatinsk (Semey), together with other items (cf. PL61), [17th c. or earlier], Tibetan

Ms book in palm-leaf format, foliated in Tibetan, title leaf, 1-320 leaves [f.13 is missing, f.221 is numbered 221/222], each 24 x 67 cm. mostly 8 lines after preliminaries where the number increases progressively from 2 to 7 lines, between 2 heavy wooden boards elaborately carved and gilded (now rubbed), stout paper (laurel

bark), dyed blue, a number of leaves are damaged, several being sewn together with wool, thread, or repaired with buff-coloured paper.

Despite the absence of positive signs of ownership, it may correspond to item 37 listed in Part II of Ms Hunter H203, a 'Liber Tamgutanus', and therefore owned by T.S. Bayer and/or H. W. Gerdes prior to its acquisition by Dr William Hunter.

Alternatively, it may have entered the University collections *via* the Waddell Collection bequeathed in 1939 by Colonel Laurence Austine Waddell (1854-1938).

Previous owners (PL numbers follow)

Bayer, Theophilus Siegfried (1694-1738) 1?, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 9, 13, 61, 62?

Consett, Thomas (1677-1730) Chaplain to the British trading company in Archangelsk and later in St Petersburg, 1717-1727. From 1729 he was a 'preacher' of the East India Company at Fort St George in Madras. 1

Dunlop, Robert Graham (ca 1790-1841) Captain in the Royal Navy, commissioned 1812. In 1840 he was listed in the Register of Huron, Upper Canada. 57

Egerton, William 50

Ferguson, John (1838-1916) Regius Professor of Chemistry, University of Glasgow 1874-1915. 23

Gerdes, Heinrich Walter (1690-1742) 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 9, 13, 60, 61, 62?

Hunter, Dr, Junior (19th c.) 10

Hunter, William (1718-83) 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 9, 13, 60, 61, 62?

Lindsay, Revd Thomas M. (1843-1914) who visited India, cf. <http://gdl.cdlr.strath.ac.uk/eyrwho/eyrwho1114.htm> 51

Rehbinder, Henrik Johan, Baron (1684-1747) a Swedish officer captured at Poltava and sent to Tobolsk. 61
<https://www.geni.com/people/Friherre-Henrik-Johan-Rehbinder/6000000000667352365>

Schultze, Benjamin (1689-1760) Danish-Halle missionary in Tranquebar, and later in Madras. 7, 9, 60

Tainsh, John A. (1848-1926) Minister, Free Church of Scotland, John Knox Church, Aberdeen, 1878-1883; Free Church of Scotland/United Free Church of Scotland, Tron Church, Glasgow, 1883-1916. 24

Waddell, Colonel Laurence Austine (1854-1938) Professor of Chemistry and Pathology, Medical College, Calcutta, 1881-1886, and for many years a member of the Indian Medical Service. 62?

Walther, Christoph Theodosius (1699-1741) Danish-Halle missionary to India. 2