1_001_06_i_rNgogLo_dag yig bsdus

Last update: 12.2.2019

1. Titles

Editorial title: dag yig nyer mkho bsdus pa

Short title: dag yig bsdus

Title in bKa' gdams gsung 'bum dkar chag: dag yig nyer mkho bsdus pa (Introduction, p. 13, p. 46)

Text name as attested in the exemplar:
- dag yig nye mkho bsdus pe (f. 1a, cover page)
- dag yig nyer mkho bsdus pa (f. 1b1, incipit)
- dag yig nye mkho bsdus pa (f. 9a4, colophon)

English title: Summary of the essentials of orthography

2. Author

Identification: rNgog Blo ldan shes rab (1059–1109)

BDRC ID author: P2551

As attested in the exemplar: shAkya'i dge slong blo ldan shes rab (f. 1a, cover page; f. 9a4, colophon)

Remarks: The text is ascribed to Blo ldan shes rab by dNgos grub rgya mtsho (ca. 1580) and A kya Yongs 'dzin Blo bzang don grub (ca. 1760–1830) alias dByangs can dga' ba'i blo gros. But van der Kuijp contests this authorship based on the spelling of some words in the manuscript and the occurrence of the expression *hor 'dra*, the first use of which he situates around 1240–1350 (cf. van der Kuijp 2003: 392, referred to in 2009: 18, n. 55).

3. Work description

Affiliation: bKa' gdams pa

Addressee of the invocation: guru, 'jam pa'i dbyangs

Genre: Grammar

Topic: Orthography (ortho-tactics)

General text description: Five sections announced in programmatory verse. Explanation in 7-syllable verses (that give, notably, mnemotechnical examples illustrating the orthographic rules) and a few passages in prose at the beginning of each of the sections.

Table of Contents / Outline

Cover page (1a)
Incipit (1b1–1b2)
Body of the text (1b2–9a2)
    Programmatory verse (1b2–1b3)
    1. spyir bstan (/bstan bcos 'di'i brjod bya gtso che ba spyir bstan pa) (1b3–1b5)
    2. grangs nges (/grangs nges rgyas par bstan pa) (1b5–3a4)
    3. tshig phrad (/tshig phrad rgyas par bzhad pa) (3a4–5a4)

4. 'phul dang brten pa'i spang blang (/'phul yig dang mtha' brten rnam par phye nas bstan pa) (5a4–5b3)

5. dmigs gsal so sor dbye ba (/dmigs gsal gyi sgo nas 'dra'o snyam pa rnams mi 'dra bar so sor dbye ba) (5b3–9a2)

Conclusion (9a2–9a4)

Colophon (9a4–9a5)

van der Kuijp 1996: 436 : "In general [the subject-matter of the text] is summarized under five rubrics: the numerical determination [of graphs and ligatures], the particle[s], what is to be accepted or rejected about prefix[es] and postscript[s], and various classifications of additional matter."

4. Exemplar

4.1 Source

In bKa' gdams gsung 'bum: Set 1, vol. 1, pp. 93–109

BDRC ID: W1PD89051

Origin: Lhasa Bod ljongs dpe mdzod khang (bKa' gdams gsung 'bum dkar chag 1, Introduction, p. 46; Kano 2007: 20)

Indigenous catalogue marking(s): 368? (cover page)

Remarks: The text is mentioned in van der Kuijp (2003, 2009), who notes that it bears the Beijing Cultural Palace of Nationalities catalogue no. 004323(9). This number is not visible on the KDSB copy. According to Kramer (2007: 16, n. 4), the copy in the KDSB appears to be a second exemplar with identical length and title as the Beijing copy. But van der Kuijp treats both as one and the same exemplar.

4.2 Extent

Number of folio (in KDSB/in the original): 9/9

Extent (first and last folio): 1a–9a

Lines per folio: 6; 7 on f. 8b; 5 on f. 9a

Remarks:

No copy of f. 9b in the KDSB

Text on 1b1–9a5

Numbering in letters on the verso of f. 1, on the recto of the other folios

Folio number on last folio: *dgu byon /*

4.3 Manuscript particularities

Type: Handwritten

Script: dbu can

Orthography:

- Occasional abbreviations (e.g., for *so sor*, *'phul lo*, *gnyis su*, *las kyi*)
- Bindu used a few times for final *–m*

Left and right margins: Margin vertical lines on 1bff., not always clearly visible on the copy, not visible at all on f. 8 and f. 9

Annotations: A few short insertions (corrections). Long insertion of a missing passage in the bottom margin on f. 5a

Symbols:

- 3 *siddham* signs at the beginning of the text; 3 *siddham* signs at the beginning of the first line on the recto of each folio from f. 2a
- Ornamental *shad* instead of straight *shad* in some places

5. Literature

5.1 Text and edition(s)

(a) Exemplar
- bKa' gdams gsung 'bum 1vol. 1, pp. 93–109 (facsimile)
- *dPyad gzhi'i yig cha*, no. 3, vol. 6 (facsimile of the same manuscript; cf. Kano 2016: 206, n. 72)
- BDRC **O1PD89051C2O0012** (PDF copy of the KDSB images)

(b) Other exemplar(s)
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(c) Edition(s)
- *rNgog chos skor* 662–670 (*dbu can* edition)

5.2 Translations and studies
- Kramer 2007: 16, n. 4 (reference to the fragment quoted in Miller 1965, Róna-Tas 1985, Seyfort Ruegg 1974, van der Kuijp 1989, 1996 and 2003)
- Miller 1965: 328 (quotes and translates a very brief grammatical fragment)
- Róna-Tas 1985: 254–255 (reference to the same fragment as Miller 1965)
- Seyfort Ruegg 1974: 251 (mention of the work)
- van der Kuijp 1989: 23 (unspecific reference to "a linguistic fragment attributed to Rngog Lo tsā ba")
- van der Kuijp 1996: 436 and 440 (translation of the programmatory verse, mention of the Beijing manuscript)
- van der Kuijp 2003: 392 (on the authorship of the text)
- van der Kuijp 2009: 18 n. 55 (on the authorship of the text)

5.3 Work-in-progress
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5.4 Related Tibetan texts
- The *Dag yig nye mkho bsdus pa gnad gsal ngag gi dga' ston padma'i tshal*, https://www.tbrc.org/#library_work_ViewByOutline-O8LS243208LS24602%7CW3PD888 (restricted access) might be a commentary on this text.

6. Excerpts

6.1 Cover page
1a: (368)?¶@// dag yig nye mkho bsdus pe[12] shAkya'i dge slong blo ldan shes rab kyis mdzad pa bzhugs so //

6.2 Incipit

Text
1b1–2: na mo gu ru /
dag yig nyer mkho bsdus pa bzhug$_s$ zhes bya ba /
'jam pa'i dbyangs la phyag 'tshal lo //
'dir nye bar mkho ba'i yi g[e] 'di'i ming 'di zhes bya zhing / don 'di brjod pa la tshig 'di [1b2] dang 'di 'jug go zhes bde blag tu rtog par bya ba'i phyir bstan bcos 'di rtsom mo ¦

Translation
Homage to the Teacher.
This is the "Summary of the essentials of orthography."
I bow down to Mañjughoṣa.

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[12] A vowel *e* was mistakenly added to *pa*, no deletion is visible

Here, I am composing this treatise so that one can easily understand the essentials, namely, "this is the name of that letter" and "when expressing this meaning, this or that word applies."

6.3 Conclusion

Text

9a2–4:

[1]

 'di ni sngon gyi sgra bsgyur rnams /
 sbyor tshul 'thun pa'i brda la ni /
 cung zad phal cher ma [9a3] mthun na'ang /
 phal cher gsar gcad dbang du byas /

[2]

 'di ni mkhas rmongs 'byed pa ste /
 don 'di khong du chud pa'i mis /
 mang po 'dus pa'i dkyil dag tu /
 mkhas pa'i gdan la 'dug par [9a4] dbang /

[3]

 de slad blo gros gsal rnams kyi /
 dri med gzhung lugs 'di nyid la /
 rnam dpyod blo gros goms[13] pa yis /
 tshig gi[14] sdeb sbyor legs par byas /

 Translation

[1]

 This (text) has adopted in general the new orthography (i.e. *skad gsar gcad*), even though the previous translators disagree in general to a small extent regarding the convention of a common rule of 'connection' (between syllables, i.e., assimilations).

[2]

 This (text) differentiates the expert and the ignorant: the man who masters completely this content will rule on the expert's throne located in the proper center around which many (people) gather.

[3]

 For this sake, I have correctly composed this verse work about words, through cultivating a mind of analysis toward this faultless tradition of the ones of clear intellect.

6.4 Colophon

Text

9a4–5: dag yig nye mkho bsdus pa [9a5] zhes bya ba / shAkya'i dge slong blo ldan shes rab kyis phyogs gcig tu sdebs pa'o //   // sarba mang+ga laM // 1 zhus so[15] //

Translation

The "Summary of the essentials of orthography" was put together by the Śākya monk Blo ldan shes rab.
Sarvamaṅgalam.
Proofread once.

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[13] Em. goms : Ms. gom
[14] Em. gi : Ms. gis
[15] *1 zhus so* in cursive script