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Leiden
The Netherlands

**Review of Falk, H.; Von Hinüber, H.H.; Slaje, W.
(2019) Oskar von Hinüber. Kleine Schriften III
Silk, J.A.**

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Harry Falk, Haiyan Hu-von Hinüber and Walter Slaje, eds., *Oskar von Hinüber. Kleine Schriften III. Veröffentlichungen der Helmuth von Glasenapp-Stiftung* 49. Wiesbaden: Harrassowitz Verlag, 2019. LII, 706 pp. ISBN: 978-3-447-11156-0. €140,00.

There are few scholars—and perhaps no others in the modern period—who have so consistently, so extensively, for so long and above all so insightfully produced study after high quality study centered around themes of Indian philology and Cultural History as has Oskar von Hinüber. As the editors inform us (p. vii), on 18 February 2019 Prof. von Hinüber celebrated his 80th birthday, but there are few signs that he has even considered slowing down his scholarly engagement or output. In 2009, two large volumes (of some 1200 pages) of his *Kleine Schriften* were published.¹ It is little short of astonishing, then, that after a mere ten years has passed a third volume of wholly new material has appeared, containing an additional 704 pages of scholarship. (The pagination of the three volumes is continuous, bringing us to a total of liv + li [but with duplication of some forematter] and 1962 pages, but again, with some duplication of indices, thanks to the preparation of comprehensive indices to what is now a three volume collection; the indices of the prior volumes are now obsolete.) A complete bibliography including, of course, monographs and other materials not reproduced in the volumes, is now available, and may also be found online: https://www.harrassowitz-verlag.de/pdfs/web/viewer.html?file=/ddo/artikel/75160/978-3-447-11156-0_Complete%20%22Schriftenverzeichnis%22.pdf#pagemode=thumbs. Since this does not include the matter presented now in KS III, however, for a complete accounting this listing must be read with the table of contents of the present volume, also online as well: https://www.harrassowitz-verlag.de/pdfs/web/viewer.html?file=/ddo/artikel/75068/978-3-447-11156-0_Table%20of%20Contents.pdf#pagemode=thumbs. The Forward of the editors, moreover, informs us that a further volume collecting the here unreproduced epigraphical studies which appeared in the *Annual Report of the International Research Institute for Advanced Buddhism at Soka University* (ARIRIAB) will be published in the *Veröffentlichungen der Fächergruppenkommission für Außereuropäische Sprachen und Kulturen, Studien zur Indologie* of the Mainz Akademie der Wissenschaften und der Literatur. Therefore, even the 700 pages presented here do not exhaust Prof. von Hinüber's output of the past decade!

¹ Reviews: J.A. Silk, *Wiener Zeitschrift für die Kunde Südasiens* 54 (2011–2012): 233–235, S. Insler, *IJ* 55.1 (2012): 79–81. These do not appear to be noticed in the present volume.

The previous volumes organized materials subject-wise, but this volume presents the papers in chronological order, followed by the reviews for which the author is so well known, also in the same order. Of the articles, only one was published in the *Indo-Iranian Journal*, but of the reviews fully 27 appeared here (only 7 having being published elsewhere—Prof. von Hinüber's loyalty to this journal, which he for so long co-edited, is deeply appreciated, as I am sure he knows).

As one surely would expect, almost all of the materials presented here concern Buddhism, often in a philological and/or cultural historical perspective. The papers are in German and English, with one in French, that dedicated to reflections on the legend of the Buddha in light of the work of Alfred Foucher.

With two exceptions the papers are reproduced as they were originally published, and throughout very beautifully and legibly.

The editors end their very brief foreword with a verse, which however I could only identify as constructed from two half verses:

paṇḍito hy arthakṛcchreṣu kuryān niḥśreyasaṃ param |
vidyārthānāṃ ca jijñāsā śreya etad asaṃśayam ||

The first line is found in *Mahābhārata* 2.5.24cd (as well as *Rāmāyaṇa* 2.94.17cd), the second at *Mahābhārata* 12.276.21cd. I would venture a slightly free translation: “A wise man may offer the very highest reward with regard to difficult questions. But the curiosity of those who seek after knowledge—without doubt this is the best thing of all.”

Jonathan A. Silk

Leiden University, Leiden, The Netherlands

J.A.Silk@hum.leidenuniv.nl