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Sven Hedin: Explorer and Collector

Håkan Wahlquist



Sven Hedin in his car during his last expedition, Inner Mongolia 1934 © The Sven Hedin Foundation

Sven Hedin (1865–1952) spent almost twenty years of his life on Asian soil. Originally, he aspired to follow the path of other late nineteenth century Swedish explorers and engage in polar research. But an offer to serve as private teacher to the son of a man who worked in the naphtha fields of the Nobel family in Baku directed his attention to Asia. After completing his work he embarked on a ride through Persia, which taught him how to endure both physical and economic hardship en route.

斯文赫定(1865-1952)一生在亞 洲度過 20 春秋。幼年他立志追尋十 九世紀後半期瑞典探險家的足跡,投 身于極地研究。因為給一個小孩做家 庭教師,孩子父親供職于諾貝爾家族 在巴庫的油田,因而來到巴庫,與亞 洲結下不解之緣。結束了家教生涯之 後,他游歷了波斯,此番經歷使他明 白探險需要強健的體魄和雄厚的資金 作為後盾。

The IDP Web Database Goes International

We are delighted to announce that the four Dunhuang manuscripts in the collection of the Chester Beatty Library (CBL), Dublin, Ireland, are now online on the IDP Interactive Web Database (search under specific search for 'CBL*') following a collaboration between the CBL and IDP.

IDP would like to thank the CBL for their cooperation and preparing and loaning photographs of the manuscripts to make this possible.

Sponsors are sought to help fund other such collaborations (see p.7) . Please contact IDP if you can help.

Hedin's Persian exploits drew him further into Asia, acquainting him with its people and history. The book he wrote upon his return (Hedin 1887) set the tone for a string of travelogues, which were to make him into one of the best read explorers of his day. His prolific writing and extended lecture tours provided him with the financial means to maintain his family and also to finance future expeditions. He held no public or academic position.

Back in Sweden in the mid-1880s and lacking any formal training for future expeditions, Hedin studied geography, geology and palaeontology. His father was the Stockholm city architect and life in and around the family was rich and intensive. The family soon became centred on him. Only one sister married, the other siblings remained together for the rest of their lives and developed into a kind of secretariat for Hedin, serving him both in the field or at home. The private archives left behind by Sven Hedin testify to the exceptional position he was to occupy in Swedish public and learned life. He became a member of several academies, and few if any comparable persons have received so many international decorations and honours. Admittedly some of these were revoked when Sven Hedin entered the political arena advocating a pro-German stand, a political position that proved mistaken in both World Wars. Right up to his death Hedin remained loyal to these political and social ideas: vestiges of his nineteenth-century upbringing.

In the early 1890s Hedin was studying with Ferdinand von Richthofen in Berlin, the foremost China expert of his day. His teacher implored him to further his research before leaving for Asia, but Hedin settled for a minor study for his dissertation, so as to free him as soon as possible for a first expedition. Already in 1890–91 he made a reconnaissance expedition to Kashgar (Hedin 1892–3) and he felt ready to tackle the last blank areas on the Central Asian map. He knew that time was running out for classical explorers.

Hedin's Central Asian Expeditions

Hedin's first expedition lasted four years — 1893–97. He mapped the Pamirs before turning to the desert of the Tarim Basin. He had read about recent archaeological discoveries in the area and was soon fed the same local stories as had been heard by travellers before him: of 'cities buried in the sands'. Hedin sought them out, less for archaeological reasons than because their discovery would help his studies of the changing landscape of the basin. In early 1895, this took him to Tumschuk/ Maralbashi, but it was for Paul Pelliot in 1906 to reveal the importance of this discovery. In late 1895 and early 1896, Hedin travelled from Kashgar to Khotan. While in Kashgar he had been shown the Russian Consular General Petrovskij's archaeological collection, and probably discussed antiquities with the British representative there, Mr. Macartney. On the way to Khotan he noted several sites, ruminating on the earthenware shards and glass fragments. Once in Khotan, he visited Yotkan and acquired an archaeological collection of well over 500 objects — including some manuscripts (Hedin 1898: 78-100; Montell 1936 & 1938) —from various sources. After hardly a week, he left again for the desert. Between Khotan darya and Keriya darya he discovered the ruined settlement that Aurel Stein was to identify in 1900 as Dandan Uiliq. Hedin acquired several objects from this site. Following the Keriya darya northwards he learned about more ruins and soon after pinpointed Kara Dung on his maps, but made no collections from this site. The rest of Hedin's first

expedition was devoted to his primary objectives — to map and explore unknown areas of Northern Tibet.

Hedin's second expedition (1899-1902) was again devoted to the Tarim basin. He mapped the Tarim River in minute detail and expended great efforts into unravelling its lower courses and the position of the enigmatic Lop Nor. These stages of the expedition took him in January 1900 to Endere (Hedin 1903 Vol. I: 338 ff. 1904: 376 ff.). Following Cherchen darya he encountered amazingly well preserved mummies of apparently Indo-European origin. Of greater importance, however, was the discovery his servant Ördek made on 28 March 1900, when he stumbled upon ruins of an old settlement in the then dried up terminal areas of Kontje darya (Hedin 1903 Vol. I: 427 ff.; 1905: 620 ff.). One year later Hedin returned spending a week exploring what was to be identified as Loulan (Hedin 1903 Vol. II:102 ff., 1905: 620 ff). He acquired a sample of objects (Bergman 1935), and an important collection of wooden and paper documents in Chinese (Conrady 1920). The rest of the second expedition was devoted to an aborted attempt to reach Lhasa and a final crossing and mapping of the Tibetan high plateau.

Hedin's third expedition (1905–1908) was devoted to work in Persia and Tibet, devoid of any archaeological content. Hedin then spent almost twenty years writing a series of books, venturing further into politics, acting as a quasi-reporter at the battle-fronts of the Great War, travelling the Middle East, recording the results of his great Persian and Tibetan expedition (Hedin 1918–27, 1916–22) and eventually preparing for his final expedition.

His fourth and final expedition lasted eight years (1927–35). It was actually a succession of expeditions, with different sponsors, participants and programmes. It covered Inner Mongolia, Xinjiang and Northern Tibet. This time Hedin headed various constellations of young scholars from a number of countries. The aims of the expedition were first and foremost within the fields of geo- and related sciences, but Hedin also took ethnographers and archaeologists with him. The archaeological projects were designed together with John Gunnar Andersson, the Swedish geologist turned archaeologist, who had had such profound impact on developing Chinese archaeology. The young Swede Folke Bergman served as Hedin's main archaeologist (Bergman 1945), together with Huang Wenbi, and this turned Bergman into an accomplished field archaeologist. He devoted much time to Neolithic traces in Inner Mongolia (Maringer 1950), but his major contributions were made in the Etsina region, which he carefully surveyed and mapped (Sommarström 1956 & 1958; Sylwan 1949), and the archaeologically intriguing area of the lower Kontje darya (Bergman 1939; Sylwan 1941, 1949). Bergman made substantial archaeological collections, which were taken to Sweden for analysis. In accordance with the agreement that Sven Hedin had negotiated with the Chinese authorities, the collections were repatriated in the early 1950s, and are now to be found in the History Museum, Beijing. Only minor parts were allowed to remain in Sweden. The fabulous find of Han-dynasty wooden slips from Etsina remained in China for analysis, but they are now in Taiwan. The Stockholm holdings of Central Asian manuscripts were augmented by acquisitions of materials in Saka, Tibetan, Old Turkic and Xixia made by other members of the expedition. Folke Bergman died prematurely in 1946 putting an end to direct Swedish contacts with Chinese archaeology. Fortunately he had finished cataloguing and analysing his material, enabling other scholars to publish most of his material. Professor Hakån Wahlquist is Senior Curator for Asia in the National Museum



Hedin with Folke Bergman on Hedin's final expedition, 1934. © The Sven Hedin Foundation

波斯之旅促使斯文赫定的興趣轉向亞洲的民族和文化。回國之後用旅行報告的文風撰寫的《波斯、美索不達尼亞、高加索游記》,使他成為當時最受歡迎的探險作家。他豐富的著作、巡回演講所獲得的收入除維持家庭生活之外,還用作將來探險的費用。他一生從未擔任任何公職,也沒有在大學任職。

斯文赫定在十九世紀八十年代中期仍然缺乏將來探險事業所需的正規訓練。回到瑞典,他開始鑽研地理學、地質學和古生物學。他的父親是斯德哥爾摩的建築師,頗享盛譽,家庭富裕和睦。不久他成為家庭的核心。他只有一個姐姐結婚,其余的兄弟姊妹一直生活在一個大家庭中。家庭好像是斯文赫定的秘書處,無論他在國內或國外,時刻為他提供服務。斯文赫定留下的私人檔案証明他在瑞典公眾和學術界所占據的特殊地位。斯文赫定成為很多學會的會員,他所獲得的勛章與榮譽無人與其比肩。當斯文赫定涉入政治舞台,在兩次世界大戰中錯誤地與前德國站在一起,許多國際勛章和榮譽因而被取消。直到去世,斯文赫定的政治思想、社會觀念仍停留在19世紀。

十九世紀九十年代初,斯文赫定在柏林師從當時著名漢學家李希霍芬(Ferdinand von Richthofen),李希霍芬希望他到亞洲探險之前能繼續深造,然而斯文赫定卻無心于此,而將大部分精力用來籌備第一次探險。1890-91年,斯文赫定曾到喀什探險考察(Hedin,1892-93),立志探查中亞地圖上的空白點。他意識到傳統的探險時代已經終結。

斯文赫定首次探險持續四年,1893-1897。他繪製帕米爾的地圖之後,踏進"死亡之海"塔克拉瑪干大沙漠。此前他讀過這一地區的最新考古發現,以及在他之前的旅行者所聽到的有關沙漠埋沒城市的傳說。斯文赫定探查的重點是為研究塔里木盆地的地形變遷補充資料,而不是考古發現。1895年2月,他到達圖木舒克、瑪喇爾



巴什,後來伯希和在 1906 年揭示其重大意義。1895 年 12 月-1896 年 1 月,斯文赫定從喀什到達和闐。在喀什期間他曾參觀俄國總領事彼得羅夫斯基收集的文物,可能與英國總領事馬繼業討論過文物。在前往和闐的途中,他記錄幾處遺址,並對陶器碎片和玻璃碎片進行了考察。在和闐,他考察了約特干,從不同渠道獲得 500 多件文物,其中包括一些寫本(Hedin,1898: 78-100; Montell,1936&1938)。在和闐停留將近一個星期之後,斯文赫定又踏進"死亡之海"。在和闐河和克里雅河之間,他發現古代廢墟,1900 年斯坦因確認為丹丹烏里克。斯文赫定從這處遺址帶走很少幾件文物。沿著克里雅河北行,他發現很多遺址,1896 年 2 月上旬,他在地圖上精確地測定哈拉墩。他沒有從這處遺址獲得收集品。首次探險的其他時間則致力于其最初目標——探查西藏北部"未知"區域並繪製地圖。

斯文赫定的第二次探險(1899——1902)主要是考察 塔里木盆地,測繪一幅精密的塔里木河全圖,並努力解 决它的下游及神秘的羅布泊的位置。1900年1月到達安 迪爾(Hedin, V.1: 338ff.1904: 376ff.),沿著車爾臣 河偶然發現保存完好的印歐人種的木乃伊。最具有重大 意義的發現,是他的仆人艾爾德克在1900年3月28日 偶然發現的位于孔雀河 (Kontje) 河下游的古代廢墟 (Hedin 1903V.1: 427ff.; 1905:620ff.)。一年後, 斯文赫定重返這個被確認為樓蘭的古城遺址,再次考察 一周(Hedin 1903V.2: 102ff., 1905: 620ff.)。他帶 回一些文物 (Bergman 1935), 及一些漢文木簡、漢文 文書(Conrady1920)。第二次探險的其他時間則致力于 半途受阻的拉薩之旅,此後穿過西藏高原並繪製地圖。 斯文赫定的第三次探險(1905-1908)目標鎖定在波斯和 中國西藏,沒有任何考古發掘的內容。斯文赫定在以後 近 20 年間撰寫了一系列著作,冒險涉入政治舞台,一戰 時作為戰地記者報導前方戰事,1916年曾到中東旅行7 個月,完成在波斯和西藏探險的科學報告(Hedin 1918-27, 1916-22), 同時準備他的最後一次探險。

斯文赫定的第四次探險,也是最後一次探險,持續八年(1927-1935)。這是一次非常成功的探險。考察區域覆蓋內蒙古、新疆及西藏北部。這次斯文赫定率領的是一支由不同國家、不同領域的青年學術精英組成的學術考察團。這次考察的目標是地質學及其相關的其他學科,但是斯文赫定還是吸收了人種學家和考古學家隨

Landscape and figures along the Tarim River on Hedin's Second Expedition, 1900. © The Sven Hedin Foundation 行。考古計劃是與安德森(John Gunnar Andersson)一起製定的,他是瑞典地質學家,後來成為考古學家,他對中國考古學發展有深遠的影響。瑞典青年學者貝格曼(Folke Bergman)(Bergman 1945)與中國考古學家黃文弼是斯文赫定考察團中主要的考古學專家。貝格曼後來成為學識淵博的田野考古學家。他大部分時間是考察內蒙古新石器時代的遺址(Maringer 1950),但他的貢獻則是在額濟納的考古工作,他做了詳細的測繪,繪製了地圖(Sommarstrom 1956 &1958; Sylwan 1949),揭示了孔雀河下游地區考古學上的魅力(Bergman 1939;

Sylwan 1941,1949)。貝格曼收集一批考古文物,帶回瑞典進行研究。根據斯文赫定與中國政府達成的協議,這些文物將在 50 年代歸還中國,現在收藏在北京的中國歷史博物館。只有很少一部分送給瑞典。貝格曼在額濟納發掘的大批漢簡留在中國進行研究,現在收藏在中國台灣。斯德哥爾摩收藏着考察團其他成員收集的塞語、古藏文、古突厥文和西夏文等中亞古文書。貝格曼于 1946年過早辭世,瑞典與中國的考古學上的交流劃上句號。幸運的是他完成編目及研究工作,使其他學者能順利地出版他的資料。

林世田譯



The Hedin expedition in 1901 near Lop Nor. © The Syen Hedin Foundation

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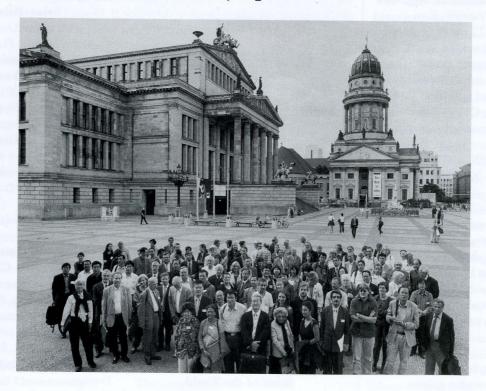
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A full bibliography of Sven Hedin's work is being added to the Sven Hedin Foundation web site (see right). The web site http://www.silk-road.com/bibliography/hedinb3.html offers a partial and annotated bibliography.

The Centenary of the First German Expedition to Turfan Exhibition and Symposium in Berlin



To commemorate the first German expedition to Turfan in 1902 (see *IDP News 3* — http://idp.bl.uk/IDP/idpnews3.html), the Museum for Indian Art (Museum für Indische Künst) in Berlin-Dahlem opened an exhibition entitled 'Centenary of the Turfan Expeditions: Art and Cultures of the Silk Road — a Documentation'.

The Museum re-opened last year after extensive renovations and many of the items from the exhibitions are on permanent display in the handsome new galleries, including murals, sculptures in clay, wood and metal, and painted, woven and embroidered textiles, alongside a small selection of the 40,000 manuscript fragments in over 20 languages and scripts. The special exhibition, which opened on September 9, gives access to items which are not normally on display.

A symposium, entitled 'Turfan Revisited: The First Century of Research into the Arts and Cultures of the Silk Road', was organised to coincide with the exhibition opening. Over 100 leading international scholars (see above) convened at the Museum from 8–13 September to share the results of their researches on the manuscripts and paintings from Turfan. The symposium was convened by the Berlin Brandenburg Academy of Sciences and Humanities (BBAW), the Museum of Indian Art and the Oriental Department of the State Library. A special booklet entitled *Turfanforschung*, published to commemorate this event, is available free of charge from BBAW on request and is also mounted on their website (http://www.bbaw.de/vh/turfan/index.html).

The Sven Hedin Foundation

Sven Hedin, upon his death in 1952, left his entire scientific and personal estate to the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences in the form of a foundation, namely 'The Sven Hedin Foundation'. This owns the copyright to all his books and texts, photographs, films, drawings, maps etc. The Foundation's aim is to take care of and augment the collections, and to organise and keep them available for research. It is also to continue publishing the results of Hedin's expeditions, primarily the final one.

Hedin's collections are housed in various museums most of which are in Stockholm. The National Museum of Ethnography houses the ethnographic and archaeological material (including the manuscripts) and they all belong to the museum. Hedin's library, maps, photographs, films, drawings, and personal belongings are all deposited there. The Museum of Natural History owns the botanical, zoological, geological and other related

collections. The enormous personal archives are deposited with the National Archives, though some parts of them are still kept with the National Museum of Ethnography.

A web site (http://www.etnografiska.se/hedinweb/index.htm) for the Hedin Foundation is slowly being developed. One of the intentions is that it will provide a comprehensive but always augmentable and correctable research guide to the worldwide collections related to Sven Hedin and his long career as explorer, scientist and public figure.

Contact details:

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SE-102 52 Stockholm, Sweden
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Publications

Histoire des Marchands Sogdiens

E. de la Vaissière, E.

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Etudes Chinoises, 32),
Collège de France, Paris 2002

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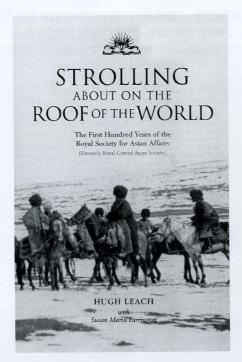
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Strolling About on the Roof of the World The First Hundred Years of the Royal Society for Asian Affairs

(Formerley Royal Central Asian Society) Hugh Leach with Susan M. Farrington RoutledgeCurzon, 2002, HB, 212 pp., 190 ills. index, ISBN 0-415-29857-1, £25.00 plus p&p.

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Dr P. Banerjee Abha Prahashan, UP, 218 pp, inc. 122 B&W ill. USD250

To order:

Abha Prakashan, D-266, Sector-55 Noida 201301 (UP), India

tel: +91 11 1204 582 112

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Mongolie du Nord-Ouest, Tsagaan Salaa/Bala Oigor

(Memoires De La Mission Archeologique Française En Asie Centrale, 6).

E. Jacobson, V. Kubarev, D. Tseevendorj 2 vol. (21.5 x 30), 482 pp.,1323 pictogrammes, 256 pp. Pl., 12 cartes, 3 ills., 427 photographs, 95 Euros.

Tsagaan Salaa/Bago Oigor, in the Altai Mountains of Bayan, is the largest petroglyph site in Mongolia. the test of this publication is also in English and Russian.

To order:

http://www.deboccard.com

Buddhist Manuscripts in the Schøyen Collection

Volume 2

Jens Braarvig, Paul Harrison Jens-Uwe Hartmann, Kazunobu Matsuda and Lore Sander (edd.) 400 pp., 56 plates NOK 980, (approx. US\$125)

To order:

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Turfanforschung

Berlin-Brandenburgischen Akademie der Wissenschaften (BBAW)

Berlin 2002, 40 pp. ills., free on request *To order:*

BBAW, Jägerstrasse 22/23, D-10117

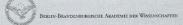
Berlin, Germany

email: zieme@bbaw.de

http://www.bbaw.de/vh/turfan/index.html

Turfanforschung





Conferences

Details of conferences organised in China and Chinese publications are given in the IDP Chinese newsletter (in Chinese). If you wish to be added to the mailing list to receive this additional publication please tell IDP (contact details p. 8).

The Central Asian Studies Society 3rd Annual Conference

University of Wisconsin-Madison, USA 17-20 October, 2002

For details contact:

Center for Russia, East Europe, and Central

University of Wisconsin, 210 Ingraham Hall Madison, WI 53706 USA

tel: + 1 608 262 3379

fax: +1 608 265 3062

email: creeca@intl-institute.wisc.edu

http://www.wisc.edu/creeca/

Additional information about past and forthcoming CESS Annual Conferences is

available at the CESS website:

http://www.fas.harvard.edu/cess/

Mongolia and the International Community

(Annual Meeting of the Mongolian Society) New York, USA 27–30 March, 2003

(in conjunction with AAS)

Members of the Mongolian Society should submit proposals for 20-minute papers, sending an abstract by December 10, 2002

to:

Dr. Alicia Campi, Panel Chair 6002 Ticonderoga Ct.

Burke, VA 22015, USA

email: usmagcampi@aol.com

tel/fax: +1 703-451-6456.

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For membership details contact:

Susie Drost (details above) or see

http:www.indiana.edu/~mongsoc

The Interaction between Land and People in Central and Inner Asia The Ninth Annual Conference of the Central and Inner Asia Seminar

University of Toronto, Canada 23–24 May, 2003

Please submit proposals for papers, which may be 20 or 40 minutes long. Please include the title, a one-page summary and a short copy of your curriculum vitae and send by December 20, 2002 to:

email: gillian.long@utoronto.ca
gervers@chass.utoronto.ca
For details see:

Conservation of Ancient Sites on the Silk Road:

http://www.utoronto.ca/deeds/cias/cias.html

2nd International Conference on the Conservation of Grotto Sites

Dunhuang, Gansu Province, China August 25–29, 2003

For details contact:

Kathleen Louw

The Getty Conservation Institute

1200 Getty Center Drive, Suite 700

Los Angeles, CA 90049, USA

tel: 1-310-440 6216

email: klouw@getty.edu

http://www.getty.edu/conservation/

Cultures of the Silk Road and Modern Science

Conference in commemoration of the Otani Mission to Central Asia

Ryukoku University, Kyoto, Japan September 8-13, 2003

This conference will comprise symposia concentrating on different aspects of the theme, as below. The opening day, 8 September, is when the first Otani expedition organised the caravan at Osh in 1902. 9th: 'Buddhist Society on the Northern Silk Route'

10th: 'Buddhist Arts in Kucha'

11th: 'The Southern Route and the Niya

12th: 'Analysis and Preservation of Central Asian Finds (IDP Conference)'

For details contact:

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Project News

The IDP Database Goes International

We are delighted to announce that the four Dunhuang manuscripts in the collection of the **Chester Beatty Library, Dublin, Ireland**, are now online on the IDP Interactive Web Database (search under specific search for 'CBL*') following a collaboration between the CBL and IDP. IDP would like to thank the CBL for their help.

Over the next year more manuscripts, paintings and artefacts from both large and small collections will be going online, starting with the manuscripts and paintings in the Richard C. Rudolph East Asian Library at the University of California, Los Angeles and the Freer Gallery, Washington, and continuing with the material from the National Library of China. Sponsors are sought to enable us to accelerate this work (see below).

The website will be relaunched in October with more functionality including a full site search. On November 11 the Chinese IDP web site will go online based at the National Library of China (http://idp.nlc.gov.cn). There will inevitably be some disruption to the web site while these changes are taking place and apologies in advance for this.

Sponsors Sought — UCLA Alumni?

The digitisation of manuscripts from smaller collections, as exemplified by the Chester Beatty Library, is comparatively costly as it necessitates the preparation of 5 x 4" colour transparencies of the whole of the manuscript, recto and verso. Smaller institutions do not usually have resident photographers nor suitable photographic equipment to do this work in-house and must therefore employ an external photographer. Once the transparencies are received by IDP they have to be scanned and manipulated by our expert staff and all the relevant data input onto the database.

IDP has no specific funds for this and relies on schemes like 'Sponsor a Sutra' and 'Supporting Membership' to make this work possible. If you would like to sponsor a specific manuscript or painting from one of the smaller collections then please contact IDP. At present we are specifically looking for funds for the manuscript at the University of California at Los Angeles. The funds would directly cover the costs of preparing the EKTAs and the digitisation work. You would receive acknowledgment on the web database. Forthcoming collaborations include the Freer Gallery and University of California at Berkeley, among others. Details are available on request.

Project News

New Member of Staff

IDP is very pleased to welcome Dr Imre Galambos as new Project Manager in charge of networking and international collaborations, including the China project (replacing Colin Chinnery). His post is generously funded by the Higher Education Funding Council for England.

Dr Galambos has recently completed his PhD at the University of California at Berkeley with a dissertation entitled 'The Evolution of Chinese Writing: Evidence from Newly Excavated Texts (490–221 BC)'. He studied Chinese for several years in Tianjin and also has considerable computing and programming experience (he is pictured fourth from left in photograph below).

Collaborations

Imre Galambos and Susan Whitfield visited the National Library of China (NLC) in June to discuss the Project and to start to make arrangements for the launch of the Chinese NLC IDP web site on November 11. A full report of the work of the China Office is given in the Chinese newsletter, published alongside IDP News and available on request. The URL of the Chinese website will be: http://idp.nlc.gov.cn.

Susan Whitfield and Imre Galambos visited the Institute of Oriental Studies, St. Petersburg Branch of the Russian Academy of Sciences and the State Hermitage Museum, St. Petersburg, in August to discuss possible collaboration under the auspices of the Chiang Ching-Kuo Foundation for Scholarly Exchange (CCK), Taiwan. Professors Chu Yunhan and Wang Ch'iu-kuei, President and Vice-President of CCK respectively, were welcomed by the Institute and the Hermitage.



Visit of IDP and the Chiang Ching-Kuo Foundation to the State Hermitage Museum, St. Petersburg.

Susan Whitfield also visited Paul Keeler and staff at the Golden Web Project in Cambridge to discuss potential collaboration.

Staff Presentations

Project staff gave presentations and papers at various institutes and conferences including: Association for Asian Studies Annual Conference (Washington DC, April); Dallas Art Museum (April); Silk Road Foundation Symposium (Berkeley, April); 'Marco Polo and the Encounter of East and West' (Toronto, May); the meeting of the Ancient India and Iranian Trust (Cambridge, UK, June); 'International Symposium on the History of Dunhuang Studies' (Beijing University of Technology, August); 'Turfan Revisited: The First Century of Research into the Arts and Cultures of the Silk Road' (Berlin, September); and the Annual Meeting of the Pacific Neighbourhood Consortium, the Electronic Cultural Atlas Initiative and the Electronic Buddhist Text Initiative (Osaka, September).

Greg Bearman of NASA met with Susan Whitfield and Jonathan Jackson to discuss IR photography.

Zsuzsanna Gukasci and **Jason BeDuhn**, both Manichean specialists, visited to look at some Stein fragments.

Professor Fang Guangchang from the Institute of Religions, Chinese Academy of Social Sciences, completed his two month stay at the British Library which was part of his work on the catalogue of Buddhist fragments from the Stein Second Expedition material, (Or.8210/S.6981 onwards), volume 1 of which has already been published. His visit was funded by the Sino-British Fellowship Trust.

Sun Liping from the **National Library of China** visited the International Dunhuang Project at the British Library in August.

Other visitors to IDP over the past four months have included Tim Yeo MP (UK opposition culture spokesman), a group of academics from Seattle, the Swiss National Librarian Jean Frederic Jauslin, Keith Knox, a specialist on IR imaging, and Michael Gray, curator of the Fox Talbot Museum.

Gandhari woodslips

Digitisation of the Gandhari woodslips in the Stein collection was completed and the remainder of the thousand images will be online very shortly. The images were prepared at the request of Professor Lin Meicun and will all be published in the forthcoming catalogue of woodslips from Loulan and Niya in Kharosthi script. Digitisation was funded by the Institute for Niya Studies, Bukkyo University.

IDP News is edited and designed by Susan Whitfield; Picture Editor, Vic Swift.

For further details about IDP or to be added to the free mailing list contact:

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http://idp.bl.uk (English)
http://idp.nlc.gov.cn (Chinese)

Please send contributions or comments to the above address.



In the reading room of the Institute of Oriental Studies, St. Petersburg Branch of the Russian Academy of Sciences.

Imre Galambos visited Academia Sinica in Taiwan in June to discuss collaboration on digitisation of their collection of Dunhuang manuscripts and to see their photographer at work.

Visitors

Francoise Praderie and Professor Bonnet-Bidaud, astronomers from Paris, visited the British Library in April to discuss working on the Star Chart from Dunhuang.