

NEW SANSKRIT-FRAGMENTS OF PRAMĀNAVINIŚCAYAH, FIRST CHAPTER

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TILMANN VETTER has published in 1966 an edition of the Tibetan translation together with the known Sanskrit-fragments and a German translation of Dharmakīrti's *Pramāṇaviniścayah*, its first chapter on *pratyakṣam*¹. Only two years later the long and somewhat mysteriously delayed edition of Bhāsarvajñā's *Nyāyabhūṣaṇam* has been welcomed².

We have known for a long time of the great importance of Bhāsarvajñā's own commentary for the history of the older *Nyāya* from his short *Nyāyasārah*, from several later commentaries already published³, from numerous references to and quotations from the *Nyāyabhūṣaṇam* in later Jinistic, *Nyāya*-*Vaiśeṣika* and *Vedāntic* philosophical texts and above all from a considerable number of quotations in polemical passages of Jñānaśrīmitra's and Ratnakīrti's works⁴. But the *Nyāyabhūṣaṇam* deserves interest not only for the philosophical qualities of its author and the very personal and to some extent "heterodox" character of his *Nyāya*-*Vaiśeṣika*⁵, it is also an inestimable mine of

¹ TILMANN VETTER, Dharmakīrti's *Pramāṇaviniścayah*, 1. Kapitel: *Pratyakṣam*; Einleitung, Text der tibetischen Übersetzung, Sanskrit-fragmente, deutsche Übersetzung. Öst. Ak. Phil.-hist. Kl. 250/3, Wien 1966 (abbreviated PVin I).

I have used the abbreviations of VETTER's edition. Tib. refers to the Tibetan translation.

² Śrimadācārya-Bhāsarvajñā-praṇītasya *Nyāyasārasya* svopajñānam vyākhyānam *Nyāyabhūṣaṇam*. SvĀMĪ YOGINDRĀNANDAḥ ... samp., Śaddarśanaprakāśanagranthamālā 1, Vārāṇasī 1968 (abbreviated NBhūś).

³ Vāsudeva's *Nyāyasārapadapañcikā* (ed. by V. ABHYANKAR and C. R. DEVADHAR, Poona 1922), Aparārkadeva's *Nyāyamuktāvalī*, Ānandā-nubhavācārya's *Nyāyakalānidhiḥ* (ed. S. SUBRAHMANYA SASTRI and V. SUBRAHMANYA SASTRI, Madras 1961 — Madras Gov. Or. Ser. 167).

⁴ Ed. by A. THAKUR, Patna 1959, 1957 = Tib. Skt. Works Ser. 5, 3.

⁵ Due to the fragmentary tradition we still do not know very much about the real width and possibilities of early *Nyāya*-thought. For practical

information for the earlier *Nyāya* and *Vaiśeṣika* as well as for rival philosophical schools⁶. Future research will certainly profit a great deal by taking notice of the numerous and sometimes extensive quotations from a respectable host of sources, only a part of which has been preserved. The following materials are only a limited example of the historical value of this text.

Within the Buddhist tradition of epistemology and logic Bhāsarvajña's main polemical targets are the theories of Dharmakīrti and Prajñākaragupta. He knows both philosophers especially well—he seems to have used even some other commentaries on Dharmakīrti's works too—and throughout his work he refers to their teachings whenever possible. Amongst the works of Dharmakīrti Bhāsarvajña quotes copiously from the *Pramāṇavārttikam* and the *Vādanyāyah*, a fact which has already been noted by the editor. A few sentences from the *Hetubinduḥ* may not necessarily have been taken directly as they do not go beyond some widely known statements. What has not been seen by the editor is that quite a few of the verses he traces back to the *Pramāṇavārttikam* have not been quoted from that work but from the *Pramāṇaviniścayah*. This can easily be shown in most cases as Bhāsarvajña makes extensive use of the PVin quoting its verses as well as prose-passages. It will be seen from the following collection of fragments that the extent of the quotations surpasses any reasonable expectation and thereby contributes enormously to improving the textual tradition of the PVin. I shall, however, restrict myself to the quotations from the first chapter, as they form a valuable supplement to VETTER's edition⁷.

I refrain from taking up into this collection a quantitatively ever increasing group of quotations in various philosophical texts that have not been mentioned in VETTER's edition because—as far as I can see—they do not bring any new Sanskrit text or variants. The fragments are given in their sequence within the PVin. Any wording that not only deviates from the Tibetan translation but must be considered as a product of Bhāsarvajña's intervention is not printed in italics. Bhāsarvajña usually quotes literally but sometimes he is inclined to make small changes or even free transformations without, however, shifting the sense. Omissions are marked by dots.

purposes we may, however, call those teachings „orthodox“ which are in line with the extant commentaries.

⁶ SVĀMĪ YOGINDRĀNANDA has given a first compilation of the sources referred to by Bhāsarvajña in his introduction pp. 7—20.

⁷ There are also quotations from the second chapter, which will be incorporated into an edition under preparation. There may be some from the third chapter too, but I have not yet traced any.

