

Summary

A Study of the Khotanese Summary of the *Saddharmapuṇḍarīkasūtra*

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Manuscripts of the main Mahāyāna sūtras, such as the *Śūraṅgamasamādhisūtra*, *Suvarṇabhāsottamasūtra*, and *Bhaiṣajyaguruvaiḍūryaprabharājatathāgatasūtra*, are found in Khotanese translations as well as Sanskrit. But the *Saddharmapuṇḍarīkasūtra*, one of the most popular Mahāyāna sūtras in Khotan, has not been found in a complete Khotanese translation. All that we have is a brief summary of the sūtra in sixty-one lines of verse. These are in the Pelliot manuscript 2782 in Paris, lines 1-61, and there are also two fragmentary variants, P. 2029, lines 17-21, and, in the British Museum, Oriental 8212, 162, lines 82-92. This summary of the sūtra was translated by Sir Harold Walter Bailey from Khotanese into English in 1971, but little attention has been paid to parallels with a commentary on this sūtra.

The aim of this paper is to show that this Khotanese summary of the *Saddharmapuṇḍarīkasūtra* was influenced by the commentary on the *Saddharmapuṇḍarīkasūtra* (*Miaofa lianhua jing youbotishe* 妙法蓮華經憂波提舍, **Saddharmapuṇḍarīkopadeśa*) by Vasubandhu, either directly or indirectly, through a comparison of the Kashgar manuscript of the *Saddharmapuṇḍarīkasūtra* from Khotan with the Khotanese summary of the *Saddharmapuṇḍarīkasūtra*.