

Am Institut für Südasien-, Tibet- und
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ANNE MACDONALD

The Prasannapadā Chapter One: Editions and Translation. Diss.
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The dissertation takes as its focus the first chapter of the Prasannapadā, the philosophically most important in the work. It is in this chapter that Candrakīrti, in addition to commenting on the verses of the first chapter of Nāgārjuna's Mūlamadhyamakakārikā, addresses and refutes Bhāviveka's critique of the *prasaṅga* method employed by Buddhapālita, defends the Madhyamaka interpretation of *pratītyasamutpāda* against the protests of the Conservative Buddhists, and attacks certain fundamental views of Dignāga, the founder of the Buddhist logical-epistemological tradition.

The text of the Prasannapadā was critically edited for the first time by de La Vallée Poussin and published as *Bibliotheca Buddhica* Volume IV over the years 1903-1913. De La Vallée Poussin relied on three manuscripts of the Prasannapadā for his edition, all of which, he states in the *Apropos* to the edition, are "copies médiocres d'un original qui ne paraît pas avoir été irréprochable." He succeeded in improving the Sanskrit text presented by the manuscripts by taking recourse to the Peking edition of the Tibetan translation of the work. Even with the aid of the excellent Tibetan translation, however, he could not restore many of the corrupt Sanskrit passages or furnish text for the lacunae shared by the three manuscripts.

Six more manuscripts of the Prasannapadā were discovered in the years following the publication of de La Vallée Poussin's edition. The most important of these until recently was a manuscript held by the Keshar Library in Kathmandu, in reliance on which de Jong succeeded in making numerous important emendations to all twenty-seven chapters of the Prasannapadā. The manuscript search carried out as part of the dissertation project brought to light another six manuscripts of the Prasannapadā, among them an extremely valuable Nepalese palm-leaf manuscript that the author of the present thesis estimates to have been copied in the late twelfth or thirteenth century. Many of the corrupt

passages in the Sanskrit text established by de La Vallée Poussin can be emended on the basis of the readings in this oldest known manuscript.

The dissertation has five main parts. The first contains a general introduction to the first chapter of the Prasannapadā, and introductions to the palm-leaf manuscript and the paper manuscripts, respectively. The second consists of a new critical Sanskrit edition of the first chapter that has been established in reliance on the fifteen available manuscripts of the Prasannapadā. A diplomatic edition of the text of the first chapter as it is attested by the palm-leaf manuscript forms the third part. The fourth presents a critical edition of the Tibetan translation of the first chapter, which has been made on the basis of the four xylograph editions of the Tibetan translation and its only available manuscript copy, the "Golden Manuscript." An English translation of the chapter makes up the final part. Extensive philological and historical-philosophical annotation accompanies the translation. The dissertation is being prepared for publication.

A.M.