



Uygur Buddhist Literature (Silk Road Studies)

J. Elverskog

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This first volume of the Silk Roads Studies is a reference manual of the published Uygur Buddhist literature. Uygur Buddhist Literature creates a complete inventory of the published Uygur Buddhist texts along with a bibliography of the pertinent scholarly literature. The work includes an introduction that outlines the history of the discovery of the Uygur Buddhist Literature and a short history of the Buddhist Uygurs and their translation activities. The survey of the literature itself is divided into six sections: (1) Non-Mahayana Texts, including Sutra, Vinaya, Abhidharma, Biographies of the Buddha (including Jatakas) and Avadana; (2) Mahayana Sutras; (3) Commentaries; (4) Chinese Apocrypha; (5) Tantric Texts (6) Other Buddhist Works. Included under each title of a text is a brief synopsis of the text and an explanation of the Uygur manuscript, including where known: origin of translation, the translator and the place of translation, the place it was found, and any other interesting points. After this brief survey of the manuscript, the signature of the manuscript with references to the editions of the text is provided as well as additional references to the secondary literature. The survey concludes with an index to titles, translators, scribes and sponsors. This manual is an essential tool not only for specialists in the field of Altaic, especially Turcological or Monogolian, Iranological, Sinological or Buddhological Studies, but is also written for a larger public of students interested in Asian religions and cultural history in general. This book provides in a systematic and exhaustive way the most recent information on the places where the documents are kept, a synopsis of the text, editions and secondary literature.

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