

A series of inscribed metal objects from Gandhara

Harry Falk

abstract

In the mid-nineties a hoard of metal ware belonging to a Buddhist monastery was accidentally found in an underground cell in the Swat valley. The items were dispersed rather soon. The most important pieces are now in Museums in the USA and in Japan. A series of libation vessels and other items have been given Kharosthi inscriptions mentioning their home as a monastery of the Sarvastivadins. One single bronze kettle is inscribed in Brahmi. The comparatively lengthy text in Sanskrit displays a rather different attitude towards donations. The paper will present all items and their epigraphs. An attempt at localizing the monastery can make use of the itinerary of XuanZang.