

On Catalogues and Other Lists of Manuscripts Concordance of the Nyāyamañjarī Sources

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Present day editors of South Asian texts can take advantage of a large number of tools to trace the available and significant sources for their editorial work. If done thoroughly, the preliminary search of relevant entries in previous editions, *catalogi catalogorum*, individual catalogues, hand-lists etc. can yield an impressive and sometimes unexpected amount of details. For this purpose, however, the identification of redundant entries and a documented concordance are necessary passages. This paper will describe a practical application of a detailed survey of manuscript and printed sources, developed in the preliminary phases of the project of a critical edition of the sixth *āhnika* of Jayanta Bhaṭṭa's *Nyāyamañjarī* (henceforth NM 6). This work is a rich compendium of the philosophical debates on ontology, epistemology and linguistics in classical Sanskrit literature. It is an invaluable tool for investigation on these topics and a very interesting object of philological study.

The survey of the sources produced crucial information about the contents of the codices, the published editions which have used manuscript sources and the availability of originals or copies at institutions or in colleagues' private collections. Nine manuscripts of NM 6 have been confirmed as available and three of them were never used in published editions. Moreover, from individual catalogues and colleagues there is information of other NM manuscripts preserved in Hyderabad, Jaipur and Srinagar, although one should keep in mind that manuscripts catalogued as "Nyāyamañjarī" have been in some cases found to contain the *Nyāyasiddhāntamañjarī*, a later work not related to Jayanta's. Unlike the Hyderabad and Jaipur manuscripts, the Srinagar manuscript has been confirmed as Jayanta's work by colleagues who have examined it.

The manuscripts concordance and the analysis of the two printed sources relevant for critical purposes, those edited by Gaṅgādhara Śāstrī and K.S. Varadācārya, justify the need of an improved edition of the NM. These two editors were outstanding scholars and their insightful solutions to the many problematic passages in the NM should be taken very seriously. Yet, they worked with a limited number of manuscripts and without the presently available technology. Moreover, none of the two editors provided a detailed description of the manuscript sources. In this respect Kei Kataoka has recently improved the situation by adding valuable information on most available manuscripts and on the genealogy of the printed sources.

In sum, a new edition of NM 6 will lead to at least the following improvements:

- identification, location and detailed description of all the extant and available manuscripts;
- collation of all the available manuscripts, including those previously never collated;
- stemmatic analysis and establishment of a hypothetical stemma;
- edition of the text with the help of the genealogical information;
- positive critical apparatus;
- critical notes;
- information about the history of the transmission and fortune of the text;
- better grounds for interpretation of ambiguous passages.