Editors' Note

Several years ago the *Indo-Iranian Journal* celebrated 60 years of continuous publication, the last ten or so of which took place in the congenial and happy home of Brill Academic Publishers, based, as are both editors, in Leiden, the original home of the journal. Taking the opportunity of the anniversary, which coincided with the 60th anniversary of his Chair in the study of Buddhism at Leiden University, one of the editors [JAS] organized a conference in Leiden in May 2017 which jointly celebrated the *Indo-Iranian Journal*, the Chair, and the Numata Visiting Professorship in Buddhist Studies, funded by the Bukkyō Dendō Kyōkai, who also contributed generously to the conference. It was originally foreseen that we would publish a selection of the papers presented at the conference in a sort of commemorative issue of this journal, but in the event that did not quite materialize, although four individual papers presented at the conference were published in IJ 61.4 (2018). Now, however, in celebration of the journal's history, and looking forward, we announce that nine representative articles from the IJ's last decade, and one new one, published in this issue, have been made accessible through Open Access. A list of these articles is found below. We are pleased that Brill has agreed to publish these ten articles in Open Access as part of our continuing joint efforts to move the IJ towards a new model of journal publishing.

The editors share, we know, with many colleagues a profound concern that scholarship be made as freely available as possible. It is our goal that the entire contents of the IJ be made freely available through (so-called Gold) Open Access. Toward this end we have been and continue to be involved in lengthy and frank discussions with the top management of our publisher, Brill, who, we are convinced, share our concerns. Without attempting to speak for them, however, we have come to understand better the situation of a small publisher primarily engaged in the Humanities, on the one hand, and on the other hand we have gained a new appreciation of the broader climate, dominated of course by much larger consortia and by the Natural Sciences. Finally, we understand that at least in a broader European context, if not globally, the situation is changing rapidly. We therefore fully expect that the present situation and model will not remain the case for much longer.

The purpose of this short note from the editors, therefore, is to alert our readers to the concern which, we believe, we share with you, our readers, about the

future of this journal, and the necessity to make full provision for Open Access publishing of our scholarly results. We ask you, loyal readers, to be patient with us too as we negotiate for the best circumstances possible in which we may present the results of your research.

Open Access Articles in Order of Publication

- Stephanie W. Jamison, "Sociolinguistic Remarks on the Indo-Iranian *-ka-Suffix: A Marker of Colloquial Register." *IJ* 52.2–3: 311–329.
- Richard Salomon, "Like Father, Like Son: Poetic Strategies in "The Middle Brother" (Madhyama-vyāyoga) Attributed to Bhāsa." *IJ* 53.1: 1–22.
- Paul Dundas, "A Digambara Jain Samskāra in the Early Seventeenth Century: Lay Funerary Ritual according to Somasenabhaṭṭāraka's *Traivarnikācāra*." *IJ* 54.2: 99–147.
- Martin Gansten, "Some Early Authorities Cited by Tājika Authors." *IJ* 55.4: 307–319.
- Diwakar Acharya, "How to Behave like a Bull? New Insight into the Origin and Religious Practices of Pāśupatas." *IJ* 56.2: 101–131.
- Alexis Sanderson, "The Impact of Inscriptions on the Interpretation of Early Śaiva Literature." *IJ* 56.3–4: 211–244.
- Vincent Tournier, "Mahākāśyapa, His Lineage, and the Wish for Buddhahood: Reading Anew the Bodhgayā Inscriptions of Mahānāman." *IJ* 57.1–2: 1–60.
- Csaba Dezső, "Inspired Poetry: Śāntākaragupta's Play on the Legend of Prince Sudhana and the *Kinnarī*." *IJ* 57.1–2: 73–104.
- Hans T. Bakker & Peter C. Bisschop, "The Quest for the Pāśupata Weapon: The Gateway of the Mahādeva Temple at Madhyamikā (Nagarī)." *IJ* 59.3: 217–258.
- Amir Ahmadi, "Cosmogonic Sacrifice: A Ghost Zoroastrian Doctrine." *IJ* 60.1: 1–16.
- Ruixuan Chen and Diego Loukota Sanclemente, "Mahāyāna Sūtras in Khotan: Quotations in Chapter 6 of the *Book of Zambasta* (1)." *IJ* 61.2: 131–175.
- Jonathan Silk, "Trans-Sectual Identity: Materials for the Study of the *Praśnottararatna-mālikā*, a Hindu/Jaina/Buddhist Catechism (1)." *IJ* 62.2 [this issue].

Jonathan Silk and Peter Bisschop