ANALYSIS

OF THE

SHER-CHIN_P'HAL-CH'HEN_DKON-SÉKS_DO-DÉ_ NYÁNG-DÁS_AND GYUT;

Being the 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th, and 7th Divisions of the TIBETAN WORK, ENTITLED THE KAH-GYUR.

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SICULO-HUNGARIAN OF TRANSYLVANIA.

II. (SHER-CHIN.)

According to the Index, the second great Division of the Bkah-hgyur, is that of the (1) "Shés-rab-kyi-p'ha-rol-tu-p'hyin-pa," (by contraction, Shér-p'hyin, pronounced Sher-ch'hin,) Sans. Prajná páramitá. Eng. "Transcendental Wisdom." Under this title there are in the Bkah-hgyur, 21 volumes, classed under the following subdivisions or distinctions:

1. (2) Shés-rab-kyi-p'ha-rol-tu-p'hyin-pa-stong-p'hrag-brgya-pa (or hbum). Sans. Shata sahasriká prajná páramitá. Eng. "Transcendental Wisdom, in one hundred thousand slókas." In 12 volumes, in which are counted 75 chapters (léhu, in Tib.) 303 artificial divisions (bam-po, in Tibetan, each containing 300 slókas in verse, or an equivalent in prose, and occupying in

¹ คิพามนาซิาซามัญาฐาชูลาน, อา คิมาชูล

² คิงามนาอิเซามัญาฐาซูลานา ซู้มาผลานอาน, or ณฐม

general 21 leaves in the Bkah-hgyur), and one hundred thousand slókas—the whole is in prose. In these 12 volumes the Prajná páramitá is treated at large, and the other sub-divisions are only abridgments of these 12 volumes. These were first translated from Sanscrit into Tibetan in the ninth century, by the Indian Pandits, Jina Mitra and Surendra Bodhi, and the Tibetan Lotsáwa (Sans. Lochch'hava,) Ye´-she´s-sde´. They were afterwards again review and arranged by others.

- 2. (3) Shés-rab-kyi-p'ha-rol-tu-p'hyin-pa-stong-p'hrag-nyi-shu-lāa-pa, (or in round numbers, "Nyi-khri," 20,000.) Sans. Pancha vinshati sahasriká prajná páramitá, "Transcendental Wisdom, in 25,000 slókas." In three volumes. There are counted 76 chapters, 78 bam-pos, and 25,000 slókas. This is an abridgment of the before-described 12 volumes. No translators are mentioned.
- 3. (4) Shés-rab-kyi-p'ha-rol-tu-p'hyin-pa-k'hri-brgyad-stong-pa. Sans. Ashtu dasa sahasriká prajná páramitá. Eng. "Transcendental Wisdom, in 18,000 slókas." In three volumes, containing 87 chapters (léhu), 50 small divisions (bam-po), and 18,000 slókas. These three volumes are a more close abridgment of the above specified 12 volumes. No translators are mentioned.
- 4. (5) Shés-rab-kyi-p'ha-rol-tu-p'hyin-pa-k'hri-pa, (or by contraction "Shés-k'hri,") Sans. Dasa sahasriká prajná páramitá. One volume of 613 leaves, containing 33 chapters, and 34 bam-pos, or small divisions. This volume is an abridgment of the Yum-hbring, or of the above specified three volumes of 25,000 slókas, translated by Jina Mitra, Prajnya Varma, and the Tibetan Lotsáwa, Bande Ye-shes.
- 5. (6) Shés-rab-kyi-p'ha-rol-tu-p'hyin-pa-brgyad-stong-pa (or simply brgyad-stong-pa). Sans. Ashta sahasriká prajná páramitá. One volume of 462

³ मेश्यरमञ्जीयारेवाङ्गर्धेकाया क्षेत्राखना नीतुःकुप्या, or नीहि

⁴ คพามนาฮิาซามัณ ชาชิดานา ติานฮิรา ซู้ราน

⁵ คัพามนาฮิาชามัญาฐาชิดานา เลิาน, or คัพาเลิ

⁶ मेश्यास्याष्ट्रीयास्यक्षितायाः मक्षेत्रा श्रेताय, or मक्षेत्राश्रेताय

leaves, 24 bam-pos, and 32 léhus. This volume likewise contains an abridgment of the several dharmas contained in the above enumerated volumes. This was delivered by BCHOM-LDANHDAS (SHAKYA) likewise, as the above enumerated divisions, when he was on the mountain, called in Tibetan, the "Byargod-p'hung-pohi-ri," (7) in Sans. Gridhra kut'a parvata, near Rájagriha in Magadha. This is a favourite volume of the Tibetans, who shew particular reverence to it; hence both the manuscript and printed examplars of it are in very great number to be found.

- 6. One volume is entitled, (8) "Sna-ts'hags," Miscellaneous (Works) or all sorts of aphorisms of the Prajná páramitá. There are in this volume 18 different treatises or aphorisms, of which the titles are as follow:
- i. (9) Rab-rtsal-gyis-rnam-par-gnon-pas-zhus-pa. Sans. Suvikránta vikramí pariprichch'ha (prajná páramitá). Instruction in the Prajná páramitá (by BCHOM-LDANHDAS) on the request of SUVIKRÁNTA VIKRAMI' (a Bodhisatwa) from leaf 1 to 130. This and the following aphorisms also all belong to the Prajná páramitá, and contain either abridged repetitions, explanations of some terms, or recommendations for keeping and reading the Prajná páramitá.
- ii. (10) Bdun-brgya-pa. Sans. Saptashatiká. The Prajná páramitá in 700 slókas (Note, for brevity's sake, Shés-rab-kyi-p'ha-rol-tu-p'hyin-pa (or Sher-p'hyin) and Prajná páramitá, are frequently omitted in the titles.
 - iii. (11) Lāa-brgya-pa. Sans. Panchashatiká, that of 500 slókas.
- iv. (12) Shér-p'hyin-sdud-pa-ts'higs-su-bchad-pa. Sans. Prajná páramitá sanchaya gáthá. Verses collecting the contents of the Prajná páramitá.
- v. (13) Rdo-rjé-gchod-pa. Sans. Vajrachch'hédiká, the diamond cutter (or a sútra of wonderful effects). This aphorism is contained in 18 leaves, from leaf 222 to 240. In this, BCHOM-LDANHDAS-(SHÁKYA) in a colloquial

⁷ อาศัรา ชุธานีจำน้

৪ শ্ব ষ্ট্রশ্বর

a รณ.ลิส.อิส. ชุพ.ศร. ฆชุช.ศส. ฮิส.ศ

¹⁰ བઽན་བ훃་པ

¹¹ 및 직활'니

¹⁵ YT. BU. \$2.1

¹³ 美産の変なな

manner instructs "RAB-HBYOR" (Sans. Subhúti) one of his principal disciples in the true meaning of the *Prajná páramitá*. The Tibetans pay especially great respect to this *sútra*, hence the copies of it are to be found in great abundance.

- vi. (14) Ts'hul-brgya-lna-bchu-pa, 150 rules or ways.
- vii. (15) Shés-rab-kyi-p'ha-rol-tu-p'hyin-pahi-mtshan-brgya-rtsa-brgyad-pa. Sans. Prajná páramitá náma ashtá shataká, the 108 names or terms of the Prajná páramitá.
- viii. (16) Bchom-ldan-hdas-ma-thés-rab-kyi-p'ha-rol-tu-p'hyin-pa-lāa-bchu-pa. Sans. Bhagavatí prajná páramitá ardha shataká, the Prajná páramitá in 50 slókas.
- ix. (17) Hp'hags-ma-shés-rab-kyi-p'ha-rol-tu-p'hyin-pa-dé-bzhin-gshégs-pa-t'hams-chad-kyi-yum-yigé-gchig-ma. Sans. Bhagavatí prajná páramitá sarva tathágate eka aksharí. "Transcendental Wisdom, comprehended in the letter A, the mother of all Tathágatas or Buddhas." The letter "A" is considered in Buddhistic works as the mother of all Wisdom; and therefore, all men of genius, all Bodhisatwas and Buddhas, are said to have been produced by "A," since this is the first element for forming syllables, words, sentences, and a whole discourse; and the means for acquiring knowledge and wisdom. Here the whole Prajná páramitá is comprehended in the letter "A." This is the most abridged sútra of the Transcendental Wisdom, since this consists only of a single letter. This is to be seen on the 256th leaf of this volume.
- x. (18) Kohushika. Sans. Kaushika, a name of Indra. In this sútra Shakya instructs him in the *Prajná páramitá*, hence the title of this sútra.
- xi. (19) Shér-p'hyin-yigé-nyung-du. Sans. Alpa akshara, the "Transcendental Wisdom, in a few letters."

¹⁴ 秦 영· 屯흥·활·ਧ동·다 15 취재·노屯· 원·전·호·왕하·다친·최초하· 屯흥·봉·屯德·다

¹⁶ चर्डेअप्युक् प्रत्याक्षा मेथा प्रचाक्वीपार्टेवा छाष्ट्रीकाया थूम्बङ्गाय

¹⁷ Qঅল্পান্স প্রকাম মান্ত্রীকার্ম ইত্যান্তর করিল ক্রিল্পান্য প্রন্ধক্ষ ক্রিল্পান্য প্রন্ধক্ষ প্রত্যান্তর করিল ন

¹⁸ শৃত্ত্ৰীশ ¹⁹ मेर ध्रीक पी को भूद उ

- xii. (20) Shér-p'hyin-sgo-nyi-shu-rtsa-lāa-pa. Sans. Pancha-vinshati prajná páramitá muk'ha, the 25 doors or beginnings of the "Transcendental Wisdom," (there are so many vija mantras.)
- xiii. (21) Bchom-ldan-hdas-ma-shér-p'hyin-snying-po. Sans. Bhagavatí prajná páramitá hridáya, the essence of the "Transcendental Wisdom."
- xiv. (22) Shér-p'hyin-nyi-mahi-snying-po. Sans. Prajná páramitá surya garbha.
- xv. (23) Zla-vahi-snying-po (shér-p'hyin). Sans. Chandra garbha (prajná páramitá.)
- xvi. (24) Shér-p'hyin-kun-tu-bzang-po. Sans. Prajná páramitá sámanta bhadra.
 - xvii. (25) Shér-p'hyin-lag-na-rdo-rjé Sans. Prajná páramitá vajrápáni.
- xviii. (26) Shér-p'hyin-rdo-rje rgyal-mt'shan. Sans. Prajná páramitá vajra kétu. These five last aphorisms, or sútras, are so called from the names of those Bodhisatwas who are introduced speaking with Shakkya on the Prajná páramitá.

CONTENTS OF THE WHOLE Prajná parámitá.

All the 21 volumes of the Shér-p'hyin treat of speculative or theoretical philosophy, i. e. they contain the psychological, logical, and metaphysical terminology of the Buddhists, without entering into the discussion of any particular subject. There are counted one hundred and eight such subjects, (dharmas) terms, or phrases, with several subdivisions or distinctions; of which, if any predicate be added to them, affirmative or negative judgments may be formed. These terms have mostly been introduced into the Sanscrit and Tibetan Dictionary also, that was prepared by ancient Indian Pandits and Tibetan interpreters, and which may be found in the Bstan-hgyur (Mdo class, Go volume).

²¹ ฉรัมาชุง จรุงามา คิมาชิงาชิกานั

²² AI'84'8'42' \$4'L

²³ ब्रु.परी:श्वेद:धें 24 श्रेर:धेन:ग्रन:धःपत्रदःधें

²⁵ AI. Barasartik

Here follow some instances of the terms or subjects of the *Prajná pára-mitá*; as,

- 1. (27) Phung-po (Sans. Skandha) an aggregate or body. There are five such aggregates; as those of, 1. body, 2. perception, 3. representation or consciousness, 4. composition or notion, and 5 of cognition. In Tibetan, (28) gzugs-kyi-p'hung-po, 2. (29) ts'hor-vahi, 3. (30) hdu-shés-kyi, 4. (31) hdu-byéd-kyi, and 5. (32) rnam-par-shés-pahi-p'hung-po. In Sanscrit, 1. rúpaskandha, 2. védaná, 3. san-jná, 4. sánskara, and 5. vijnánaskandha.
- 2. (33) Skyé-mch'hed-drug, the six senses; as, those of sight, hearing, small, taste, touch, and the moral sense.
- 3. (31) Skyé-mchhéd-bchu-gnyis. Counting the six organs and objects of senses.
- 4. (35) K'hams-bcho-brgyad, the 18 regions or kingdoms of senses, as with respect to the operations of the mind by the six organs directed to the six objects of senses.
- 5. (36) K'hams-drug-ni; the six elements are earth, water, fire, air, ether (or void space), spirit (or intellect). In Tibetan, sa, ch'hu, mè, rlung, nammk'hah, rnam-par-shes-pa.
- 6. (37) Rtèn-hbrèl-bchu-gnyis. Dependent connexion, or causal concatenation (of 12 things): 1. ignorance, 2. composition or notion, 3. cognition, 4. name and body, 5. six senses, 6. touch, 7. perception, 8. affection, 9. ablation, 10. existence, 11. birth, 12. old age and death. In Tibetan, 1.(38) ma-rig-pa, 2.(39) hdu-byéd, 3.(40) rnam-par-shés-pa, 4(41) Ming-dang-gzugs, 5.(42) skyé-mch'hèd-drug, 6.(43) rég-pa, 7.(44) ts'hor-va, 8.(45) sréd-pa, 9.(46) lèn-pa, 10.(47) srid-pa, 11.(48) skyé-va, 12.(49) rga-shi. In Sanscrit,

 $^{^{32}}$ ቴዶ፡፡ሂ፲፡ ନିላ፡፡ሂጲ፡፡ሂፍ፡፡ኒ 33 ឆ្ងាំគេត់៶་རུគ 34 ឆ្ងាំគេត់៶་བརྡུ་គេកិហ 35 ៤ዶላ፡፡ བརྡོུ་བསྡུང

^{36 [}조러시· 돌파·육 37 축하·연호역· 교통·희육씨 38 러·고파·리 39 연조·율도 40 취하다고 회사·다

¹¹ मैद-१८ विज्ञवास 42 हो सकेद-१६व 43 देवाय 44 हैं 1 म 45 खेद-य 46 देवाय 47 खेद-य

¹⁸ भ्रेष्य 49 ক'লী

- 1. Avidyá, 2. sanskára, 3. vijnána, 4. námarúpa, 5. s'hadáyatana, 6. sparsha, 7. védaná, 8. ris'hná, 9. apádana, 10. bhava, 11. játi, 12. jarámarani. Every thing, but especially the human soul, depends for its existence on this causal concatenation. There are several commentaries on this subject in the Bstan-hgyur.
- 7. (50) P'ha-rol-tu-p'hyin-pa-drug-ni. The six Transcendental Things (or cardinal Virtues) are, 1. charity, 2. morality, 3. patience, 4. industry, or earnest application, 5. meditation, 6. ingenuity or wisdom. In Tibetan, 1. (51) sbyin-pa, 2. (52) ts'hul-kh'rims, 3. (53) bzod-pa, 4. (54) brtson-hgrus, 5. (55) bsamgtan, 6. (56) shés-rab. In Sanscrit, 1. dána, 2. shíla, 3. kshánti, 4. víryya, 5. dhyána, 6. prajná. To the above enumerated, sometimes four others are added; as, 1. method or manner, 2. wish or prayer, 3. fortitude, and 4. fore-knowledge or knowledge. In Tibetan, 1. (57) t'habs, 2. (58) smon-lam, 3. (59) stobs, 4. (60) yé-shes. Sanscrit, upáya, pranídhána, bala, and dhyána.
- 8. (61) Stong-pa-nyid. Sans. Shúnyatá. Eng. Voidness, emptiness; an abstract notion. There are 18 distinctions of the Shúnyatá.

Such are the contents of the *Prajná páramitá*.—There is no historical matter. All is speculation, with a profusion of abstract terms and definitions. The knowledge of these is necessary for the understanding of the *Buddhistic* system, especially of the *Madhyámiká* philosophy. But I am unable to give here any further outline of the *Prajná páramitá*, except the enumeration of such abstract terms, as above. As this would be tedious to the reader, and of little interest in the way of information, I beg leave to waive further illustration.

All the doctrine contained in these 21 volumes is attributed to BCHOM-LDANHDAS (SHAKYA). He delivered his instruction on the Prajná páramitá (as is stated by Tibetan writers, 16 years after having become Buddha, or in his fifty-first year) when he was on the mountain (near Rájagriha, in Magadha)

called in Tibetan, the "bya-rgod-p'hung-pohi-ri" (Sans. Gridhra kuta parvuta the "hill of a heap of vultures"). His hearers were beside, many Bodhisatwas (among whom Byams-pa, Sans. Maitreya) and gods (among whom Kaushika or Indka) his own disciples about 5,000 priests (among whom the principal were Sharihi-bu, or Sharadvatihibu, Rab-hbyor, Hod-srung, and Kun-dgah-vo). The speaker in general is Bchom-ldanhdas (Shakya) who addresses first Sharadvatihibu and afterwards Rab-hbyor, his disciples. They put a question several times to Shakya; he gives them no direct answer, but forms such propositions that they are themselves led to the decision. It is in general, Rab-hbyor (Sans. Subhuti) with whom Shakya speaks in all these volumes.

The first compiler of the *Prájná páramitá* was Kashyapa (Tib. Hod-srung) whom Shákya appointed to succeed him after his demise.

In the Bstan-hgyur, the 16 first volumes of the Mdo class are all commentaries on the Prajná páramitá. Afterwards follow several volumes explanatory of the Madhyámiká philosophy, which is founded on the Prajná páramitá. The Prajná páramitá is said to have been taught by Shakya. and the Madhyámiká system by NAGARJUNA (KLU-SGRUB, in Tib.) who is said to have lived four hundred years after the death of Shakya, who had foretold of him that he would be born after so many years, to explain his higher principles laid down in the Prajná páramitá. With NAGARJUNA originated the Madhyámiká system in philosophy. The philosophers in India, before his time, were in two extremes; teaching either a perpetual duration, or a total annihilation, with respect to the soul. He chose a middle way, hence the name of this philosophical sect. There are in the Bstan-hgyur. several works of him, as also of his successors, explanatory of the Madhyámiká school. Beside other matters of speculation, the following 27 subjects are to be discussed and analyzed in the Madhyámiká system: 1. efficient (accessory or secondary) cause, (Tib. rkyen), 2. the coming (into the world) and going away (hong-va-dang-hgro-va), 3. organs (of sense) (dvang-po), 4. aggregate

or body (p'hung-po), 5. province or region (viz. of senses) (k'hams), 6. passion and affection (hdod-ch'hags), 7. the state of coming forth, duration, and cessation (skyé-va, gnas-pa, dang hgag-pa), 8. the maker or doer, and the work or deed (byéd-pa-po-dang-las), 9. former existence (sña-rol-na-gnas-pa), 10. fire and the burning wood (mé-dang-bud-shing), 11. anterior and posterior limits (of worldly existence), Tib. snon-dang-p'hyi-mahi-mt'hah, 12. done by one's self and done by another, (bdag-gis-byas-pa-dang-gzhan-gyis-byas-pa), 13. composition, or the forming of notions (hdu-byéd), 14. the act of meeting (hp'hrad-pa), 15. self-existence or nature, (rang-bzhin), 16. tied and liberated (bchings-pa-dang-thar-pa), 17. work and fruit (las-dang-hbras-bu), 18. I or Ego, (bdag), 19. time (dus), 20. union, (of cause and efficient causes), Tib. ts'hogs-pa (rgyu-dang-rkyén), 21. origin or beginning, and destruction, (hbyung-va-dang-hjig-pa), 22. Tathágata or Buddha (Dé-bzhin-gshégs-pa), 23. wrong, error, or falsehood, (p'hyin-chi-log), 24. excellent truth (hp'hagspahi-bdén-pa), 25. deliverance, or delivered from pain (myá-nan-las-hdas-pa), 26. dependent connexion, or causal concatenation, (rtén-bbrél), 27. critique of theories (lta-va-brtag-pa). These are the principal topics of the Madhyámiká philosophy. I have thought proper to enumerate them here, because they are similar to the subjects of the Prajná páramitá.

III. (P'HAL-CH'HEN.)

The third division of the Káh-gyur is styled, in Tibetan, (62) "Sangsrgyas-p'hal-po-ch'hè," or by contraction, "P'hal-ch'hen." Sanserit, "Buddhavatán Sangha," (or as here is, Buddha avatáng saka), association of Buddhas (or of those grown wise). This is called a sútra of great extent. In Sanscrit, " Mahávaipulya Sútra:" in Tibetan, (63) " Shin-tu-rgyas-pa-ch'hen-pohi-mdo." This is contained in six volumes, marked with the six first letters of the Tibetan alphabet. The number of the leaves in each is as follows: 1.64) 384;

⁶² พูตพา อูพาพญานักลั or พญาลัง 63 ผิงกราอพามา ลังกนั้นิกผรั