

Preface

By all definitions, the central aim of a festschrift is to honor an esteemed scholar, colleague, mentor, and friend, typically at a momentous time in that scholar's life. This volume is no different. On the occasion of his seventieth birthday and to recognize and celebrate the rigorous scholarship, collegiality, mentorship, and friendship of Dominik Wujastyk, Professor and Saroj and Prem Singhmar Chair of Classical Indian Polity and Society in the Department of History and Classics at the University of Alberta, we are delighted to dedicate to him this compendium of Indological and South Asian studies. In their research, scholarship, and teaching, each contributor to the volume, and countless additional colleagues, have for years and continue today to rely on Dominik's pioneering research on Pāṇini and *vyākaraṇa*, his studies and edited collections on Ayurveda and the Sanskrit medical classics, his models for the critical cataloging of Indic manuscripts, his commitment to open access publishing and digital humanities scholarship, and much more. It was entirely fitting, then, for us (in conversation with Dagmar Wujastyk) to conceive this festschrift as a testimony to Dominik's significant and influential career, the principle stages of which we take the opportunity to sketch in the following lines.

In contradistinction to what might be expected from a scholar of Dominik's international reputation and standing, Indology was not his first academic subject of study. After schooling in the diverse cultural and intellectual environments of London, Lisbon, Khartoum, Entebbe, and Malta, Dominik took up the study of physics at the University of London, which he completed in 1974 with a B.Sc. degree. Having developed a deep affection for the humanities in general and, more specifically, for Indology and South Asian studies, Dominik took a dramatic intellectual turn, which led him to the University of Oxford, where he immersed himself in premodern South Asian languages and cultures and obtained his D.Phil. in Sanskrit in 1982. A particular inclination for the sciences may have contributed to his profound interest in the history of science in South Asia, which made him an internationally renowned expert in Ayurveda and – much later – the founding editor of the open-access journal, *History of Science in South Asia* (hssa-journal.org).

After his graduation from Oxford, Dominik joined the Wellcome Institute for the History of Medicine, a center for the study and teaching of medical history in London. There, he advanced quickly from the position of Research Fellow to Assistant Curator of the Oriental collection and then to Associate Curator of the South Asian collection, a position he held until 2001. During his successful career of almost two decades at this prestigious research institu-

tion, Dominik published numerous ground-breaking academic works.¹ He also cultivated an active teaching portfolio regionally at SOAS and University College London, as well as internationally at the Universities of Zurich and Helsinki. While at the Wellcome Institute, Dominik's knowledge about information technology and his forward-thinking views about the free and open exchange of scholarly ideas led him to launch the INDOLOGY LISTSERV forum in November 1990. Today, INDOLOGY connects around 850 people worldwide, mostly academics but also some non-academics with a keen interest in premodern South Asia. Thirty-four years after its inception, INDOLOGY still stands as a cornerstone of professional scholarly communication. Countless Sanskritists, Buddhologists, linguists, and historians who specialize on South Asia, including both of us, have learned invaluable information about our fields of study from this online listserv. As graduate students and later as professional scholars we also discovered and learned lessons about the nature and complexities of academic discourse from INDOLOGY.² From the time we both started reading (and occasionally adding to) the conversations on the forum, it was always clear to us that Dominik was more than just its founder. He was, and remains today, the model for best practices in the generous, equitable, and inclusive scholarly exchange of information and ideas.

In 2002, Dominik joined University College London, where he became a Senior Research Fellow at the Wellcome Trust Centre for the History of Medicine. One of this book's editors, Anthony Cerulli, met Dominik during this transition time to UCL. Anthony was a new doctoral student at the time. He was assembling his dissertation committee, and following the sage advice of his advisor at the University of Chicago, he sent Dominik an invitation to join as a reader. Dominik did, and his rigorous criticisms and generous counsel made an indelible impact on Anthony's research that is still apparent in the things he writes and teaches today, two decades later. While everyone on Anthony's committee were excellent Sanskritists, only Dominik specialized on medical literature and the history of medicine in South Asia. Dominik's expertise on these subjects, and deep knowledge of archival and manuscript research in south India, profoundly shaped Anthony's career as a professor and scholar, and he is very grateful to produce this volume as a signal of his gratitude for Dominik's role in his research and career.

In 2009, shortly after Dominik had served a term as Visiting Associate Professor in the Department of Asian Studies at the University of Texas–Austin, his appointment at UCL ended unexpectedly in the aftermath of the international financial crisis of 2008, which caused budgetary calamities that hit research and teaching units focused on Indology and premodern South Asian studies very hard. Facing this professional crisis, Dominik decided to leave the U.K. and accept a position as a Senior Research Fellow at the Department of South Asian,

1 For a list of Dominik's publications, see the chapter "The Works of Dominik Wujastyk," below, p. 325–333.

2 For details, see <https://indology.info/a-brief-history/>, accessed on August 23, 2023.

Buddhist and Tibetan Studies at the University of Vienna, where an internationally collaborative research project in the Woolner Collection with Karin Preisendanz as the principal investigator utilized Dominik's expertise in codicology and the digital humanities. After the end of this project, Dominik joined another project directed by Karin Preisendanz as principal investigator, this time on philosophy and medicine in early classical India, which aimed to create a critical edition and annotated translation of "parts of the *Carakasamhitā* that are of fundamental importance for understanding the development of early classical Indian philosophy."³ During this time, a favorable turn of karma, fate, or coincidence had brought the other editor of this volume, Philipp Maas, to Vienna, where working as an assistant professor and a long-term team member of the *Carakasamhitā* project series, he had the privilege of becoming Dominik's close colleague for almost six years.⁴ They socialized together with their families and began to collaborate closely in research, writing, and academic conversation. Dominik and Philipp developed an academic partnership that involved reading each other's research in several stages of development and providing feedback. The quality of Philipp's published research owes an unquestioned debt to Dominik's kind but astute criticisms. This kind of intellectual relationship is uncommon, based as it is on mutual respect and a specific chemistry of temperament that enables criticism to be given and received within the safety of a strong underlying friendship, and Philipp values it highly. Moreover, Dominik's attitude to scholarship in general and specifically the democratization of academia have profoundly influenced Philipp, and he feels privileged to have Dominik as a colleague and friend.

Even though the "golden time in Vienna" – as Dagmar Wujastyk once described her perception of this period in Dominik's career in personal communication – appeared endless, in retrospect, it turned out to be short-lived. In 2015, Dominik received the call for a full professorship that he had long deserved. He moved with his family to Edmonton and became Professor and Saroj and Prem Singhmar Chair of Classical Indian Polity and Society in the Department of History and Classics at the University of Alberta, making Alberta's provincial capital a new center of gravity for Indological teaching and research.

In appreciation of Dominik's personality and character, marked by generosity and consideration for fairness and equity in the scholarly life, and recognizing that Dominik has taught us all so much about the early compendia of Ayurveda, we chose *Subhṛdayasamhitā* as the title of this volume.

Considering Dominik's longstanding commitment and advocacy for open-access publishing, we are furthermore delighted to publish this compendium (*samhitā*) for our "good-hearted" (*subhṛdaya*) mentor, colleague, and friend in print and electronically under a CC license with the Universitätsverlag Halle-Wittenberg with financial support from the Univer-

3 The two contributions to the present volume by Philipp Maas and Cristina Pecchia may be regarded as offshoots of the series of research projects on the *Carakasamhitā* at the University of Vienna.

4 Further team members of the *Carakasamhitā* project series in Vienna were Vitus Angermeier, Cristina Pecchia and Ernst Prets.

sity of Leipzig. Special thanks are due to Petra Kieffer-Pülz, for her exemplary support of the publication of the present volume. Last but not least, the editors are grateful for the opportunity to publish Dominik's Festschrift in the series *Studia Indologica Universitatis Halensis*. This place of publication may be regarded as an auspicious coincidence, considering that Dominik first met his wife Dagmar at the 5th International Congress on Traditional Asian Medicine in Halle (Saale) in August 2002.

Anthony Cerulli, Madison, WI

Philipp A. Maas, Düsseldorf

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