

- (25) Cf. also Mainwaring, 1876, xx, and Hermanns, 1954, 42-4.  
 (26) A version closer to the Bible narrative appears in Mainwaring, 1876, xx; four different versions appear in Hermanns, 1954, 42-4.  
 (27) Manuel, D.G., 1914. *A Gladdening River* (London: A. and C. Black; Edinburgh: R. and R. Clark), 16, 32.  
 (28) Minto, 1974, 29-30.  
 (29) *The Gospel according to Luke* (Calcutta: Calcutta Auxiliary Bible Society) (Lepcha text); *Lepcha catechism* (Calcutta: Church of Scotland Eastern Himalayan Mission) Lepcha text; cf. also Klafkowski, P., 1980. "Rong (Lepcha), the vanishing language and culture of eastern Himalaya", *Lingua Posnaniensis*, XXIII, 105-18, but especially 114-16.

- (30) Klafkowski, 1980, 106, 113-14.  
 (31) *The Gospel according to Luke*, 1953. (Bangalore: The Bible Society of India, Pakistan, and Ceylon) [Lepcha text]; another religious book, *Lepcha hymn book*, was printed in 1958 (Calcutta: E.H. Church Board of the Eastern Himalayan Church Council) [Lepcha text].  
 (32) cf. Siiger, 1967, I, 143-7.  
 (33) Darjeeling, 1947 gives the number of Christian Lepchas in Darjeeling District as 2,559, a proportion of 35% of a total of 7,269 (1941 census).  
 (34) Graham, Rev. J.A., 1897. *On the Threshold of Three Closed Lands* (Edinburgh: R. and R. Clark; London: A. and C. Black) 76.  
 (35) Minto, 1974, 27.  
 (36) Minto, 1974, 193-4.

## ARCHIVES

### Himalayan Archives in Paris

#### Part two

Lucette Boulnois

#### THE COLLECTIONS ON NEPAL IN BIBLIOTHEQUE NATIONALE

The Bibliothèque Nationale (National Library) in Paris, rightful heir to the Royal Library of French kings, has as its first duty to keep copies of anything published in France (the Dépôt Légal system, founded in XVIth century by the French king François Ier); consequently all French books and periodicals are automatically available there; it is also rich with manuscripts, from the Middle Ages to nowadays, French and foreign; but the Library may also be considered as a good international library, having bought the best foreign books, covering a vast range of topics in various languages. Among others: it has a

collection, not insignificant, on Nepal and a rich collection on Tibet.

The Bibliothèque Nationale is situated 58 rue de Richelieu in a historical building. Access is limited to people fulfilling certain conditions. No loans are allowed.

Collections on Nepal are found in two of its departments: the Département des Manuscrits Orientaux and the Département des Imprimés (Department of Oriental Manuscripts and Department of Printed Material). Readers should go to both. The Département des Manuscrits Orientaux holds oriental manuscripts and most of the printed production in vernacular languages. It also holds a part of the printed production in Western languages on Asian countries.

The Département des Imprimés, although essentially keeping publications in Western languages, also holds important oriental collections including works on Nepal and the Himalayan states.

The Département des Manuscrits Orientaux holds some marvellous manuscripts: one of them, a copy in Newari script, as old as 1743, the title of which is Pujavidhi. (See Catalogue sommaire des manuscrits indiens ... by A.Cabaton, Paris, 1912). It also holds 66 original prints stamped from engraved inscriptions, including the 21 inscriptions which have been published by Sylvain Lévi in *Le Népal*. (As the Bibliothèque Nationale is preparing a printed catalogue of its oriental manuscripts, we shall not say more about the Nepalese manuscripts and let our readers wait for the future aforesaid printed catalogue.)

Oriental collections go back to 18th century, a period when there existed a strong attraction to, and curiosity for, Asian civilisations and their fundamental values.

To meet scholars' growing interest in Asia, the Library started acquiring oriental works in the fields of religion, philosophy, history, classical texts and sciences; it systematically and extensively developed such a practice during 19th century, when oriental studies ("L'orientalisme") were in full blossom in France.

Following this tradition of oriental acquisitions, the Library has continued adding new titles to its permanently growing collection; without losing sight at the necessity both to preserve its heritage and to make it available to readers in the most proper conditions.

The Dépôt Légal system is responsible for the availability of all French works, as aforesaid; so Sylvain Lévi's *Le Népal* is there, and all his other works - Sylvain Lévi (1863-1935) was the first French Indologist to go to Nepal, as early as 1898, to collect material on the spot, and his work,

of great scientific significance, is at the root of French research on Nepal.

Foreign publications on Nepal are bought from Great Britain, USA, Germany, India; they deal with history, ancient and modern, social anthropology, linguistics; sacred and profane literature, philosophy and religions, covering an extensive range of knowledge in diverse fields.

The first available works on Nepal have been kept in the Department of Printed Material, according to a subject classification traditionally labelled by "letters", which follows an encyclopaedic systematic classification. Thus under the letter "X", "linguistics and rhetoric", which includes grammar books, vocabularies and dictionaries in the various languages written all over the world, will be found A.D. Molony's "Gurkha Beginner" (1923) along with E. Chazot's and Soma Pant's "Dictionnaire français-népal" published in 1984.

In the field of Nepali literature will be found M.-C. Cabaud's "Le rossignol en cage", 1983, a collection of folk tales and fables which she translated from Nepali into French. In the field of economy, many titles also are to be found on development, agriculture planing and land tenure systems. In social anthropology, one of the most favoured fields of research in Nepal, one will find well-known monographs on the Nepalese people, such as Dor Bahadur Bista's and Marc Gaborieu's works, and monographs on Nepalese castes, tribes, or localities: Limbu, Gurung, Tamang, Sherpa, Panauti, etc.

While it has been a long-established tradition to buy books on Himalayan arts, it is only recently that works on ecology, fauna and flora, geology and alpinism have been bought (more recent of all: alpinism).

As to books on history and geography, they make the bulk of the collection. This section includes historical works, chronologies, travel reports (often old

ones); tourism guides, often reprinted. They are kept under the letter "02" which stands for "History of Asia" and its geographical subdivisions, one of which is "02 K", for India, established in the 19th century. This section of the printed material Collection has been recorded very early in

a Catalogue, handwritten, completed in Paris in 1842: "Histoire de l'Asie", 647 p. in quarto, available at the Département des Manuscrits Orientaux.

It was followed by the traditional cards system.

Under letter "02 K" are to be found books by Hamilton, Hodgson, Kirkpatrick, Landon, Oldfield, Wright, L.Dubeux, L.Feer, G.Le Bon, S.Lévi, M.C.Regmi, D.R. Uprety and many others. The whole collection on Nepal, French and foreign titles, includes about 1,000 titles, less than a score of them being books in Nepali or any other Nepalese language.

The cataloguing of French and foreign books on Nepal is now done electronically, using BN-OPALE which stores all bibliographical data of printed material since 1970. The author's name entry follows a name authority file in which authors' names - Nepalese names for instance - appear under the adopted form, transliterated and transcribed according to the Washington Library of Congress system, other forms of the same name, and bio-graphical data helping to identify the concerned author. This authority file has been issued in microcard form in 1991.

As to subject classification, it has been produced on cards from 1882 to circa 1984. It is now produced on-line on BN-OPALE, according to an encyclopaedic subject authority file.

This short paper will give, it is hoped, a first evaluation of the printed collection on Nepal in the Bibliothèque Nationale, a collection to which are regularly added new titles.

Inquiry: *Elizabeth Vernier, Librarian.*

## BIBLIOTHEQUE NATIONALE

### Resources on Tibet

Resources on Tibet may be found in the General Collections (Département des Imprimés, main reading room), in the Division Orientale du Département des Manuscrits, in the Département des Cartes et Plans (Map Department) for old and modern maps, and in the Cabinet des Médailles (Medals and Coins Department) for Tibetan coins (of which some are kept there, several brought by Père Huc about 1848).

### Division Orientale du Département des Manuscrits

This inquiry was completed by Mme Berthier, now in office, and was largely based on the notes and professional heritage left by A. Silburn. Miss Silburn was in charge of the Tibetan section for many years before retiring in 1988. Mme Cohen, Conservateur, is Chief Librarian of the Oriental Division. The material on books printed in Western languages was compiled by L. Boulnois.

### The Tibetan collections

The Department holds two collections of Tibetan books: the *Fonds Tibétain* and the *Fonds Pelliot-Tibétain*.

The following data on these collections are extracted from a manuscript by Mme Berthier, which is to be published in the near future in: *Le Guide du Lecteur* (The Reader's Guide) by Division Orientale du Département des Manuscrits de la Bibliothèque Nationale.

### The Fonds Tibétain

Holds 1506 xylograph volumes and 333 Manuscripts (note that one volume may include several texts).

The first volume in Tibétain which ever entered the Bibliothèque du Roi (now Bibliothèque Nationale) was offered to it by Clère, a physician who had served in the Russian army: this happened in 1777; it was

an isolated arrival; it is during 19th century that a collection of xylographs and manuscripts in the Tibetan language was actually started in the Bibliothèque Nationale, through gifts or purchases from Orientalists, bookshops, from the Desgodins mission in Tibet and other travellers. In 1835 the Royal Asiatic Society of Bengal presented the Paris new-born Société Asiatique with a complete set of the Narthang Kanjur, which in 1840 entered the Bibliothèque Nationale. A letter by B.H. Hodgson, then in Kathmandu, dated 1833, deals with this gift. The Société Asiatique in Paris had no room for such a collection and had to transfer it to the B.N., where it has remained since.

First Mongol and Tibetan works were kept together in a *Fonds Tibéto-Mongol*; in 1914 the Tibetan works were separated in a *Fonds Tibétain* as it is presently. Then it included 520 works; later on, in 1932, the Tibetan books belonging to Palmyr Cordier (a French military surgeon who collected between 1898 and 1902) were included in the *Fonds Tibétain*, and later on it received a collection from Musée Guimet.

The Tibetan works are of two kinds: religious and secular. Among the religious works are the 100 and more volumes of the Kanjur (the Library holds two sets: a "red" one from Peking and a "black" Narthang set), the 223 volumes of the Tanjur; the Rinchen gter mjad, the Mdo-man treatises, Bonpo texts, the Tibetan Tripitaka, Prajñāpāramitā, propitiation rituals, and also Tibetan translations from the Christian Gospels by St Matthews and St Luke.

Among the secular works will be found the Gesar saga, geography books and pilgrimage guides, music and poetry works, royal genealogies, historical annals and chronicles, administrative correspondence, practical manuals on agriculture, statue casting, chinaware, tea; commercial, accountancy, legal writings; customary law papers; and many books of lexicography, vocabulary, and dictionaries.

The "fonds tibétain" includes books in

different Tibetan scripts and also some books in languages other than Tibetan: Chinese, Turkish, Mongol, Sanskrit, Zañ Zuñ, Manchu, Tangut, as well as Latin, Italian, English.

There is no catalogue on cards of the Tibetan collection; it has been described in hand-written registers or printed books or articles, some as early as 1909: see by Palmyr Cordier, *Catalogue du Fonds Tibétain de la Bibliothèque Nationale, Deuxième Partie*, 1909, et *Troisième Partie*, 1915 (which are descriptions of the 223 tomes of the Tanjur, based on the Peking, "red" set); it deals with items "Tibétain No 108" to "332". The author explains that the "Part I", describing the Kanjur set, Items 1 to 108, will be published later on.

Cordier's catalogue was published; so were the following volumes by Marcelle Lalou: *Catalogue du Fonds Tibétain de la Bibliothèque Nationale, Quatrième Partie, I, Les Mdo-man*, Paris, 1931 and *Répertoire du Tanjur d'après le Catalogue de P. Cordier* published in 1933, which is an index of Cordier's work.

After its arrival in the B.N. Cordier's own collection was catalogued by Jean Filliozat in *Etat des manuscrits sanscrits, bengalis et tibétains de la collection Palmyr Cordier*, in *Journal Asiatique*, 1934, January-March issue.

The Division keeps an old manuscript catalogue, possibly handwritten by P.E. Foucaux, corresponding to the Narthang "black" Tanjur kept in B.N.: *Index du Gangdjour imprimé dans le couvent de Goumboum dans le Tibet, composé par le Baron Schilling de Canstadt*, without date.

The complete "brief" catalogue of the Tibetan collection was started in 1936 by Jean Filliozat and was continued by Mme Guignard and then Miss A. Silburn; it is composed of several bound registers, hand-written, kept in the reading-room of Division orientale; the first register (items 1 to 780) is by J. Filliozat; the second, started in 1941 by the same, was continued in Mme

Guignard's handwriting (items 821 to 875) and then Miss Silburn's handwriting (876 to 1136). Later on it was Miss Silburn only who was in charge of the cataloguing. The continuation of the register, a Kanjur reprint (a Delhi edition of the manuscript from Tog Palace; item 1137, 109 volumes); items 1138 to 1165 list mostly editions or reprints issued between 1960 and 1981. The 1970ies were years of a new start for Tibetan acquisitions, now in modern forms; and the next and last register, from item 1166 to item 1262, stopped at the time of Miss Silburn's retirement and lists publications issued between 1980 and 1988. In these two last registers are listed reprints of works on history, royal genealogies, history of Buddhism, archives, religious works, philosophy, divination, alchemy, rituals, grammars, lamas' biographies, etc. One item may include a great number of volumes, as for the Kanjur for instance. The modern editions come from Delhi, from Peking, from Dharmasala, and elsewhere. Specially worthy of notice is the important amount of works on Bon-po religion: religious and canonical texts, rituals, reproductions from manuscripts coming from Nepal, historical texts; many of them issued by the Tibetan Bon-po Monastic Centre in Ochghat, Solan district, Himachal Pradesh; Item 1175 describes a Bon-po treatise in Žaň-žun language.

The last register includes another Kanjur (reproduction from a Lhasa edition xylograph kept in Dharmasala), and also works issued in Bhutan.

A. Silburn has also compiled an unpublished *Tib. 886 (1-63). Rin Chen gter mjod (Collection de textes tibétains concernant le lamaisme de la secte non réformée)*, Paris, without date, in 198 sheets, describing the 63 volumes of this text.

#### The Fonds Pelliot-Tibétain

This comprises 4450 manuscripts (no xylographs), written before the 11th century A.D., brought back by Paul Pelliot (along with Chinese and other manuscripts) from

the Dunhuang grottoes in Gansu, between 1908 and 1910. Among them are some of the oldest written works in Tibetan, extremely interesting for the study of ancient Tibetan civilization, and for comparison with Chinese sources.

These manuscripts are almost all written on paper (often hemp cloth paper) with a wooden pen; they are either religious Buddhist texts or secular texts of interest for the study of life in Tibetan society during 9-10th centuries, especially life in monasteries; or chronicles, annals, administrative treatises, law and economy papers, accountancy, letters, reports, deeds; they include books on hippiatry and hunting, drawings and paintings, mandalas, invocations, astrology, calendars, divination, demonology works; and also grammars and library catalogues. The origin of these manuscripts, the famous cave where they were hidden, the history of their arrival in France, are well known. A preliminary sorting out was interrupted by war; the collection was stored in B.N. with a hand-written list by J. Bacot. Evacuated far from Paris at the beginning of World War II, it was re-installed in the precincts of the B.N. in 1946.

The cataloguing was completed in 1939: here we find again the name of Marcelle Lalou and her more than twenty years *Inventaire* work: the volumes I to III of her *Inventaire des manuscrits tibétains de Touen-Houang conservés à la Bibliothèque Nationale, Fonds Pelliot-tibétain*, were published between 1939 and 1961. She has also written articles on this collection. Later on, Ariane Macdonald and Yoshiro Imaeda edited, in 1978, *Choix de documents tibétains conservés à la Bibliothèque Nationale, complété par quelques manuscrits de l'India Office et du British Museum (réunis par la mission Paul Pelliot)*.

It should be added that in addition to the manuscripts in Tibetan, the Pelliot-tibétain collection includes 245 bilingual or trilingual manuscripts (Chinese, Uigur, Runic

turkish, Khotanese, Sanskrit).

#### Books in Chinese on Tibet

The Division Orientale holds an important and old collection of works in Chinese that has to do with geography and history of Tibet, its social life, religion, natural history etc. The catalogue (on cards) is by author and title. There is no subject classification.

#### Printed Material in Western Languages

Readers should go to two different places: the main reading room where the general collection of printed works is available, and the Division Orientale du Département des Manuscrits, where are kept not only manuscripts but also many printed books and periodicals on Asian subjects. Let us begin by this one.

The oldest catalogue to look for is *Histoire de l'Asie*, a hand-written register-catalogue including the oldest printed material; it was compiled about 1900; Tibet is on pp. 485-497; the oldest title is *Relation de la nouvelle découverte du grand Catay ou bien du royaume de Tibet* by Father Andrada, 1627 (with Italian and Spanish editions of the same); and the Parraud et Billecoq edition of An IV (1796) with extracts from Andrada; Samuel Turner in French and in German; Reuilly's *Description du Tibet ...*, Paris, Bossange, Masson et Besson, 1808, which is actually a translation from P.S. Pallas; and an *Opisanie Tibeta*, translated from Chinese into Russian, published in St Petersburg in 1828. It is obvious that in all fields the Bibliothèque Nationale not only holds everything published in France (as has been explained in the chapter "Resources on Nepal" in the Bulletin No. 3) but managed to require important works from major countries in Orientalist fields. Particularly worthy of note is the fact that Russian works, as well as English and German works, are available for this period; even English and German editions that already existed when this old Catalogue was written, Klapproth, Foucaux,

J.J. Schmidt, Schilling von Canstadt had already written most of their work; J.J. Schmidt had already compiled *Der Index des Kanjur*, published in 1845 in St Petersburg. All are kept in B.N.

Next to the old *Histoire de l'Asie* come five full drawers of cards, mostly books, including also some important articles. It makes between 4000 and 5000 different titles, up to 1985. From 1985 on, the catalogue is computerized (on line) and cards are no longer used.

It is impossible to give the names of all authors. Of course, all important works, all important authors are to be found there, French, English, German, Italian, Russian and others; also the visiting scholar will find all the printed catalogues of important collections on Tibet kept in the most important libraries in the world, including what has been published in the French library catalogues themselves. Innumerable are the titles about Kanjur; dictionaries and grammars go by dozens. Starting from the time when Latin was used throughout Europe, we find the *Alphabetum Tangutanum sive Tibetanum* of 1773 (the *Alphabetum Tibetanum* by Giorgii or Georgi, 1762, is catalogued in the main reading room); and the *Bharatae responsa tibetica cum versione latina ab Antonio Schiefner edita*, Petropoli (St Petersburg), 1875 and other works by A. Schiefner ... to the latest contemporary works by living authors from A.-M. Blondeau to H.E. Richardson and R. Stein, with Samten Karmay, P. Kvaerne, B. Le Calloc'h, A. Macdonald and L. Petech. Many titles go under the names of David-Néel, Bacot, Körösi Csoma (Csoma de Körös), L. Feer, A.H. Francke, A. Grünwedel, S. Hedin, M. Hermanns, S. Hummel, Desgodins, H. Eimer, Jäschke, De Jong, M. Lalou, D.I. Lauf, B. Laufer, La Vallée Poussin, R.O. Meisezahl, A. Róna-Tas, Nebesky-Wojkowitz, G. Tucci, Géza Uray. We have to stop listing names, there are too many of them. Let us add only that the Russian literature is represented by I. Bičurin, N.D. Bolšoeva,

Bogoslovskij, Cybikov, Dandaron, A.I. Ivanov, A.O. Ivanovskij, V.I. Kozlov, N.V. Kjuner, E.I. Kyčanov, N.A. Nevskij, S.F. Oldenburg, M.V. Pevcov, G.N. Potanin, A.M. Pozdnev, G. and N. Roerich, B.V. Semičov. Of course, the Satapitaka series, edited by Lokesh Chandra in Delhi, are to be added. Of old and new books, one may consider that anything important has a chance to be found in Bibliothèque Nationale; whatever you are looking for, do try it.

A part of the titles listed in Division Orientale may also be obtained through the main reading room; both are accessible only on certain conditions; but it must be noted that the reader will wait a considerably longer time for his book in the main reading room (at least one hour) while the Division Orientale reading room, less crowded, offers better facilities.

The subject classification catalogues in the Département des Imprimés, main reading room, offer a smaller number of books than the Division Orientale on Tibet: maybe 400 titles in Western languages, including travel reports, general descriptions and, generally speaking, books somewhat less academic than in Département des Manuscrits. But not only, as Bacot, Petech, Tucci, Hedin etc. are also listed there.

In the main reading room in the underground hall "Salle des Catalogues" stands the impressive complex of card-indexes and printed catalogues and hand-written registers covering the walls or standing in long lines in the middle. The reader will either use the author catalogue (divided in several chronological sections) or the subject classification catalogue, also divided in sections according to the time of arrival of the book in the library.

The 1894-1925 section offers Bacot, Legendre, Grenard, Hedin, French missionaries; the 1925-1935 section, Bell, David-Néel, Teichmann, Segalen, N. Roerich, Hackin, Dawasmdup Kazi; the 1936-59 section, about 100 titles with many travel

relations and political studies; the section 1960-1979, about 100 titles on the political situation, memoirs, essays, religion, books by Tibetans in exile, reprints of David-Néel; more recently religion, language manuals and the political situation are the chief subjects.

Needless to say, many important periodicals in Asian fields are also available in B.N., either in the main reading room or in Département des Périodiques, depending on the dates of publication. A part of the periodicals collection is now kept in Versailles in the Annex of Bibliothèque Nationale.

#### Maps of Tibet in Département des Cartes et Plans

Situated in the same building, the Département des Cartes et Plans (Map Department) holds a very considerable collection of maps. Tibet, of course, is not a major subject there, but it holds current maps found in all important universal map libraries. What is especially interesting is that the Bibliothèque Nationale is rich in old European maps of Asia and holds the *Collection d'Anville*: maps belonging to or compiled by Jean Baptiste Bourguignon d'Anville, "Géographe ordinaire du Roi". D'Anville is famous among Tibetologists for his *Carte générale du Tibet ou Bou-tan* of 1733; in his collection will be found also many manuscript maps and drafts which were used for his own maps. Maps by Guillaume de l'Isle, also Géographe du Roi, and generally speaking maps of 18th century, when our knowledge of Tibetan geography started developing, are also very interesting.

#### THE LIBRARY OF THE CENTRE D'ETUDES DE L'INDE ET DE L'ASIE DU SUD

Founded in 1955 as Centre d'Etudes Indiennes as a part of the Chaire de Sociologie de l'Inde, Ecole Pratique des Hautes Etudes (VIe section), this Centre d'Etudes de l'Inde et de l'Asie du Sud is since 1968 associated ("Laboratoire associé") to Centre

National de la Recherche Scientifique. It stands in the building of Maison des Sciences de l'Homme, 54 boulevard Raspail, Paris 75006, same building as Centre de Documentation sur la Chine Contemporaine.

It is a research centre including a library.

#### The Library

The Librarian in charge, Mme B. Pelissier, who also compiled this information, will be in charge until the end of 1992; then Mme Arnaud will take over.

On the Library and on other libraries and generally South Asian studies and library resources in France see: *South Asian Studies and South Asian Library Resources in France*, by Beatrice Pelissier, in: *South Asian Studies*, edited by Albertine Gaur, the British Library, 1986 (British Library Occasional Papers 7).

#### The Collections

The Library presently holds about 22,000 books, 3,000 offprints, 300 maps, and receives currently 120 periodicals. Coverage: the whole of South Asia: India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Nepal.

As to Nepal, the collection is limited as it had been settled between different librarians in Paris that it was rather left to the Centre d'Etudes Himalayennes to buy materials in the Nepalese field. But for the other part of the Subcontinent, and consequently for the Himalayan districts of India and Pakistan, the Centre d'Etudes de l'Inde is one of the best places in Paris for the modern period, and also the British Raj period. Mostly it is post-1960 materials, this including of course the numerous reprints of old books which have been published these last 40 years. Old books, such as a copy of Volume V of La Harpe's *Histoire des Voyages*, are the exception.

All fields of social sciences are covered; natural history is present in a limited scale, especially Botany and Medi-

cine. The collection is especially rich in the fields of history (all periods), social anthropology, religions; ecology is a developing sector. Books are chiefly in the English language, then in French and German; very few publications in Indian languages are available (they are chiefly classical texts in Sanskrit); but dictionaries, grammars, manuals for all languages of India and other parts of the Subcontinent area, are available. The reader will easily find out, through a good geographical classification by regions, what deals with the Himalayan districts; and also what he needs about the selected area, in general statistical books, general atlases, reference books etc.

It is one of the few places in Paris where the Population Census series may be found: the Census of India for 1961 (chiefly for monographs); some issues of the 1971 and 1981 Indian censuses; the complete, or almost complete, 1971 and 1981 Censuses of Pakistan and of Bangladesh, are kept there. Statistical abstracts, statistical periodicals for the whole of India are available.

It is impossible to sort out altogether how many books deal with Himalayan areas: it could only be done for the last four years, 1988-92, by computer search: during that period something between 180 and 220 different titles, dealing with the Himalayan region, were added to the collections, only for India proper.

The Library has a good collection of modern periodicals on Indian studies, mostly in English: *Bengal Past and Present*, *Indian Historical and Social History Review*, or *Man in India*, where very often articles on Himalayan regions appear.

The catalogue is on card-files up to 1988; in addition to the author and title classification, it has a detailed subject index. The cards also include a Paris union catalogue, a listing of books kept in other libraries in Paris. This union catalogue was continued until computerization took place. The computerized data bank started in 1988

with a Portable Computer Olivetti with software Texto. In 1988 the union catalogue was stopped as were the subject classification card files.

### THE CENTRE DE DOCUMENTATION SUR LA CHINE CONTEMPORAINE

The Documentation Centre on Modern China is situated in the building of Maison des Sciences de l'Homme, 54 Boulevard Raspail, 75006 Paris. Founded in 1958 as a department of Ecole Pratique des Hautes études, VIe section it is now Laboratoire associé URA 1018 (associated laboratory) to Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique.

#### The Library

*Inquiry: Librarians: Mme Monique Abud; Mme Aubert (books in Chinese); Mme Peh.*

This Library is one of the best places in France to study the political and economic history of modern China, with a very good collection of books, periodicals and newspapers in Chinese.

It holds about 30,000 books and 1600 titles of periodicals, in Chinese and Western languages. The Library is open to research workers, students and people with a serious motivation. No loan is allowed.

Period covered: modern China from the second half of Ch'ing dynasty period. Although Tibet is not in itself a very important item in the bulk of the collection, this Library is very important for Himalayan studies in three ways: first, the foreign relations of China with Himalayan countries, including Nepal, Pakistan, Bhutan, India etc.; second, the history of Sino-Tibetan relations; and third, contemporary Tibet as politically a part of China.

Although most of the collection deals with the post-1950 period, some old rare books are available in the Tibetan field: classical books by Bonvalot, Legendre, Grenard, S. Turner and the collection of the

*Eastern miscellany* (in Chinese) from 1905 to 1973. But what is especially valuable is the possibility to follow day to day political and economic history of all parts of China through current newspapers and news agency reports and a lot of periodicals, through which much information on Tibet and on Chinese foreign relations may be picked out.

On paper or on microfilm, the Centre holds the *Survey of China Mainland Press* and *Survey of China Mainland Magazines*, issued for more than 25 years after the communist take over, by the American Consulate in Hong Kong: these series are translations into English of important news from continental Chinese newspapers, periodicals, New China News Agency bulletins etc; when this collection stopped, the Centre started buying the BBC *Summary of World Reports* (daily, and economic weekly, reports) for Far East - a capital source of information which may be used by people not reading Chinese.

Some current periodicals specifically on Tibet are received: *Xizang Yanjiu*, *Tibetan Review*, *Tibet Studies* (from Lhasa); often articles on Tibet also appear in *Minzu yanjiu*, a well-known periodical on Chinese national minorities.

Very useful for following current events are the Chinese daily newspapers (like *Renmin Ribao*) and important periodicals, in Chinese and Western languages, in the fields of political and economic affairs of the Far East.

As to books specifically on Tibet since 1950, their number is limited (two or three scores in Western languages and ten or fifteen volumes in Chinese). The collection will be more useful in the field of Sino-Tibetan relations, or for a chapter on Tibet in books on China in general the data on Tibet in yearbooks, statistical publications etc. Maps and atlases (many in Chinese) of China in general, are available, but not specifically maps of Tibet.

### THE SOCIÉTÉ ASIATIQUE LIBRARY

*Inquiry: Mme Allier; Mme Karunatileke*

The *Société Asiatique*, a private institution, was founded in 1822; it has moved several times to different places in Paris. The Library is presently in the precincts of Collège de France, 52 rue du Cardinal Lemoine, 75005 Paris.

The Library never had any budget to buy books; the collections consist exclusively of gifts and legacies. As it is very old, it holds publications practically from the middle of the 19th century, but somewhat at random. It has however a complete collection of the *Journal Asiatique*, the journal of the *Société*.

Members of the *Société* are allowed to borrow books.

As the buildings of 22 avenue du Président Wilson, where the Centre d'Etudes sur les Religions Tibétaines and the Ecole Française d'Extrême Orient (EFEO) Library have been until now are being renovated for the next two years, the collections there have to be packed and will not be available for a time. The *Bacot Collection*, which belongs to *Société Asiatique* but was kept - as was

written in Bulletin No.3 - in Centre d'Etudes sur les Religions Tibétaines, is to be returned to the *Société Asiatique* library at the end of this summer.

#### Additions and Corrections:

1. The EFEO library and Centre d'Etudes sur les religions tibétaines, have been removed from the avenue du Président Wilson for about two years because of restauration work. With the exception of the Fonds Bacot (see *Société Asiatique* library) and the index files of the photographic collection these collections are not available. The temporary office for both institutions is: 29 rue Daviel, 75013 Paris.
2. the Bacot collection, which was previously kept in Centre d'Etudes sur les religions tibétaines, but actually belongs to the *Société Asiatique*, has now been returned to the *Société Asiatique*.
3. In Part I, p. 29, right hand column, after line 7, should read: "...and about 40 dictionaries, grammars and essays on the language; religion comes next, with 30 titles published between 1940 and 1960 and about 10 since 1960; then next in importance comes history with 20 titles; in other fields..."