

PREFACE

In the mid 1990s the Seminar on Science of the Dharam Hinduja Indic Research Center at Columbia University undertook as its research project an investigation of the astronomical activities initiated and carried out by Sawāi Jayasimha, the Mahārāja of Amber and later of Jayapura in Rajasthan between 1700 and 1743. We chose this project both because there is a vast amount of unpublished manuscript material, in Sanskrit, Arabic, Persian, and Latin, relevant to the Mahārāja's activities, some of which we already had access to through photocopies, but most of which we knew still to be preserved in Jayapura itself, and because the efforts of Jayasimha to assimilate to Indian usage first Muslim and then European astronomy and the resistance he encountered promised to serve as a model case for approaching the far more complex process by which European science gained its dominant position in India in the nineteenth century.

With the financial support of the Dharam Hinduja Indic Research Center, we were able to spend the month of January in 1998 in Jayapura cataloguing the Sanskrit astronomical manuscripts in the Maharaja Man Singh II Museum. Our team consisted of six scholars: S. Ikeyama of Brown University, C. Minkowski of Cornell University, D. Pingree of Brown University, K. Plofker of Brown University, S. R. Sharma of Aligarh Muslim University, and G. Tubb of Columbia University. Each of us spent between one and four weeks working in the library of the Museum, describing the manuscripts and recording the information needed to identify the texts accurately and to determine the origins and histories of the manuscripts. The descriptions were placed in the hands of the present writer, who has compiled from them the present catalogue. We also were able to photocopy those manuscripts which seemed most important for the completion of the "Jaipur Project" as well as others whose texts were particularly rare or unusual. The original photocopies are with Prof. Pingree at Brown University.

In the course of this work we were assisted by many people, whom we are pleased to thank here. First we must express our profound gratitude to the present Mahārāja of Jayapura, Sawāi Bhawani Singh, for graciously allowing us to examine the manuscripts. We are also very grateful to Dr. Yaduvendra Sahai, the director of the Museum, whose kindness and hospitality increased immensely the pleasantness and profitability of our stay in Jayapura. We are also most appreciative of the patience and helpfulness of the library staff.

The staff of the Dharam Hinduja Indic Research Center at Columbia University also deserves our abundant thanks, especially the former director, Mary McGee, and the secretary, Nancy Braxton. They spared no efforts to ensure that we arrived safely in Jayapura, enjoyed pleasant accommodations, and had free and easy access to the manuscripts. All of us deeply regret the decision of the Hinduja Foundation to withdraw its support from the Center, which was thriving under the guidance of these two remarkable individuals.

Finally, we must also thank Virendra Nath Sharma of the Fox Valley Campus of the University of Wisconsin, who paved the way for our reception in

Jayapura and photographed the instruments at the Observatory there in the months preceding our visit. We hope that some way will be found to make these photographs available to interested scholars. And we owe a debt of gratitude to Setsuro Ikeyama, who patiently and accurately entered this complete catalogue into the computer.

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Abbreviations

<i>ASS:</i>	<i>Ānandāśrama Sanskrit Series</i>
<i>CESS:</i>	D. Pingree, <i>Census of the Exact Sciences in Sanskrit</i> , Series A, vols. 1–6, Philadelphia 1970–
<i>CSS:</i>	<i>Chowkhamba Sanskrit Series</i>
<i>IJHS:</i>	<i>Indian Journal of the History of Science</i>
<i>IPTS:</i>	<i>Islamic Philosophy Theology and Science</i>
<i>KSS:</i>	<i>Kāśī Sanskrit Series</i>
<i>PAPS:</i>	<i>Proceedings of the American Philosophical Society</i>
<i>RORI:</i>	Rājasthān Oriental Research Institute (Jodhpur)
<i>RPG:</i>	<i>Rājasthāna Purātana Granthamālā</i>
<i>SATE:</i>	D. Pingree, <i>Sanskrit Astronomical Tables in England</i> , Madras 1973
<i>SATIUS:</i>	D. Pingree, <i>Sanskrit Astronomical Tables in the United States</i> , Philadelphia 1968
<i>SBG:</i>	<i>Sarasvatī Bhavana Granthamālā</i>