

# KHAROSTHĪ INSCRIPTIONS

DISCOVERED BY SIR AUREL STEIN

IN CHINESE TURKESTAN

PART I

*Text of Inscriptions discovered at the Niya Site*

1901

TRANSCRIBED AND EDITED BY

A. M. BOYER, E. J. RAPSON, and E. SENART

PUBLISHED UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF  
HIS MAJESTY'S SECRETARY OF STATE FOR INDIA IN COUNCIL

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KHAROSTHI  
DESCRPTIONS

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IN CHINESE TURKESSTAN

PART I

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## NOTE

THE documents here transcribed were discovered by Sir Aurel Stein at the ancient site beyond the Niya River in his first expedition to Chinese Turkestan in the years 1900-01. They are described and the circumstances of their discovery are recorded in Sir Aurel Stein's *Ancient Khotan* (Oxford, 1907), to which constant references (denoted by S. *AKh.*) are given throughout this volume.

Nearly all the inscriptions have been transcribed by all the three editors. The only exceptions are a few tablets bearing fragile clay seals which were not sent to MM. Senart and Boyer, and have not been seen by them. For the transcription of these Prof. Rapson is solely responsible.

In the transcriptions the following conventional signs are used :—

A dot (.) indicates that one element of an *akṣara* is missing.

In pages 1-83 a missing *akṣara* is denoted by a short stroke (-) separated from the adjacent letters, and in the remainder of the volume by two dots (..).

The former sign should not be confused with the hyphen (not separated from the adjacent letters) which is occasionally used to make the division of a word.

Longer strokes (—) show that several *akṣaras* are missing.

Square brackets ([ ]) indicate that a passage is indistinct or uncertain.

In the notes, the initial of an editor's name (B, R, or S) indicates a reading which is preferred by him to the reading given in the text.

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The following Inscriptions are illustrated in Sir Aurel Stein's *Ancient Khotan* (Oxford, 1907), vol. II:

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