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Goswami Gokulnath (Mandarkumar)

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Respected Swamiji,

This is to acknowledge with much gratitude and appreciation the receipt of the first CD of the Mahamandir Sanskrit Series, together with the accompanying booklet. Together with my colleagues, I cordially congratulate you and the Shri Govardhanesh Prakashan Mandal for this initiative and its first tangible result.

For me, as a scholar working in my research projects with copies of numerous manuscripts mainly preserved in India, the initiative is exemplary in spirit and execution. To ensure the preservation of the innumerable works of Indian literature in manuscript form for posterity, independent of the individual manuscript which may deteriorate, and to ensure that the works can be studied, made known and thus preserved as part of India's great cultural heritage, such projects are invaluable and should serve as a model for other projects meant to preserve Indian manuscripts and their contents especially, but not exclusively in smaller institutions. I also applaud your wise decision to make the CDs easily available to interested scholars and dedicated students for study and use in their research; as long as the manuscripts lie in their repositories, unread and unstudied, their full worth as part of the intellectual history of India is not achieved; only after their contents become manifest in research and study do they attain their true significance.

The design of the presentation of the first manuscript that you have chosen for the series is very appealing and practical for the user. My colleagues and I would just like to suggest that the photographer uses a higher resolution, if possible, i.e., five million pixels. In the case of the first manuscript, the text is very legible and the writing clear. However, often manuscripts are worn, the ink has faded or the letters from the back side are shining through. In these cases, it is very useful to enlarge the picture digitally and change contrast, brightness, etc., to achieve a better and unambiguous image. For this purpose, one needs a higher resolution than the one chosen by your photographer because the letters will otherwise become blurred.

Respected Sir, let me express once more my gratitude to you and your institution for sharing with us the recent results of your publication activities.

Yours sincerely

(Prof. Dr. (Mrs.) Karin C. Preisendanz, Professor of Indology and Head of Institute)