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- 1 A survey of the available Chinese and Khotanese sources on the history of Buddhism in Khotan. It is well known that a number of Chinese canonical texts were translated from Sanskrit by Khotanese scholars in China. It is, accordingly, of special interest to learn from Kumamoto about Yūkei Hirai's discovery (1984), thus far available only in Japanese, that Mahāyāna Sanskrit texts were translated into Chinese in Khotan, too. As for Khotanese sources, Kumamoto appropriately classifies Old and Late Khotanese Buddhist texts according to whether they were produced in Khotan (until the mid ninth century) or Dunhuang (from the middle of the ninth to the end of the tenth century) and suggests « that the writing or even copying of O[ld] Kh[otanes]e Buddhist texts ceased during the Tibetan rule [from around 790 to the mid ninth century] » and « that some sort of transition occurred within the tradition of the Buddhist learning in Khotan during the social and political turmoil from the eighth to the ninth century » (p. 360).
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Thèmes : 2.1. Langues anciennes

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