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- 1 During the early 1980s a number of important manuscripts were discovered at Bezeklik near Turfan, the most remarkable being three long Manichaean Sogdian letters (A, B and C : 135, 79 and 29 lines respectively). The fine miniature with which the first letter is adorned has already become well known as a result of its publication in *Wenwu* 1985, N° 8, colour plate facing p. 16, but the texts themselves, which are written in extremely difficult late Sogdian script and language, have not previously been published. The principal item in the present volume (pp. 3-199, 250-79 and Pl. 1-3) is a characteristically thorough edition of these letters by Yutaka Yoshida, including text, Chinese translation, commentary, glossary, photographs (partly in colour) and an essay on the form of the letters. Yoshida also edits some fragments of Sogdian Buddhist texts (pp. 283-95, unfortunately without plates), while Takao Moriyasu is responsible for the edition of a group of fragmentary Uighur letters (D-H, pp. 200-212 and Pl. 4-8). The volume also contains background essays by Rong Xinjiang and the editor, Liu Hongliang. [Cf. n° 30].

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Thèmes : 2.1. Langues anciennes

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