

Preface of the general editor

The VIIth World Sanskrit Conference was held in August 1987, at the Kern Institute in Leiden. Workshops, or panels, constituted one of its special features. Twenty of these were held, each dealing with a different linguistic or cultural issue.

The well-defined themes of these panels, and the focused contributions of their participants made it desirable to provide the possibility for their publication in separate volumes. In certain cases it has been decided to join two panels into one volume, and some panel-conveners preferred not to take advantage of the opportunity offered. Nevertheless some ten volumes are expected to appear in the near future.

The budget available for the publication of these volumes has been small. This has caused numerous unforeseen obstacles, unavoidable delays, and even more work for everyone involved. Thanks are due to all those who endured these hardships and contributed to the success of this endeavour, most of all to Ms. Judith A. Louwes-van der Laan, who prepared the camera-ready text without ever losing her good cheer. Dr. F.Th. Dijkema, of Brill Publishers, who never tired of assisting with his advice, should also be mentioned here.

J.B.

Just before the corrected proofs were sent to the press, news came of the sudden death of one of our contributors, Jan Schoterman. Jan was an enthusiastic investigator and a cheerful, stimulating personality. We shall not forget him.

T.G.