

Epigraphic Tocharian in Ladakh: the Drangtse Inscription

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The geographical context of Tocharian texts is much enlarged by the presence of a short (three words?) Tocharian B inscription in Ladakh, India. Though known to Western scholarship (Tibetanists, limnologists) since 1906, it has not been generally known to Tocharianists. A possible reading and interpretation are offered here, but its greatest significance lies in its existence and the possibility it raises that there may be other Tocharian texts to be discovered outside the Tarim Basin.