

The Collection of Wat Tong Si, Kengtung

August 2023

Introduction

The Collection of Wat Tong Si was divided into three categories according the type and size of the manuscript books: 1. The Small Sa Paper Dhamma Books (ထမ်းစေးသုပ္ပါန္တခံ); 2. The Large Sa Paper Dhamma Books (ထမ်းစေးသုပ္ပါလုပ်); 3. The Palm Leaf Dhamma Books (ထမ်းပုံလုပ်ခံ). See the full list of the titles further below, a transliterated version from the original Shan version by Ven. Kulitha. Many of the titles are in Pali; some titles contain Pali and Shan; a few titles are in Shan. This piece of work, especially the [Summary Notes](#), is a reflection on the fieldwork that took place in November and December 2023.

A Full List of Titles of Wat Tong Si's Manuscript Collection

Small Sa Paper Dhamma Books (49/102)

The Collection of the Small Sa Paper Dhamma Books is organised as the following.

1. Dham Sujavanna (10 bundles);
Dham Kannavatti (1 bundle)
2. Dham Sappe / Sabbe (3 bundles);
Dham Kadaddhino (2 bundles);
Dham Hinam (2 bundles)
3. Dham Dandadhatu (5 bundles)
4. Dham Nok Yung Kham (Golden Peacock; 7 bundles, bundle no. 2 missing)
5. Dham Sala Ha Haung (The Hall of Five Sections; 5 bundles)
6. Dham Ratanamani (7 bundles)
7. Dham Kayasankhya (5 bundles)
8. Dham Alaung Hoi Khao (The White Snail; 8 bundles)
9. Dham Keng Serng Merng Khon (5 bundles)
10. Dham Alaung Taung Yok (4 bundles)
11. Dham Sujavanna (7 bundles)
12. Dham Orapim (4 bundles)
13. Dham Kampha Vo Taung (8 bundles, 1 pundle missing)
14. Dham Dhana Tang Jet (5 bundles)
15. Dham Anisong Khao Luan Waat,
Dham Anisong Khao Vo Sot,
Dham Kalivon Saun Luk,
Dham Ovada,
Dham Vohara Pannya
16. Dham Nang Pin Kham (7 bundles)

17. Dham Phla / Bala Sankhya (10 bundles)
18. Dham Mu Hin (10 bundles)
19. Dham Nok Yung Kham (Golden Peacock; 7 bundles)
20. Dham Ka Yaum (4 bundles)
21. Dham Phra Rakheng (4 bundles)
22. Dham Anisong Kathin,
 Dham Mulatika,
 Dham Kannakavatti,
 Dham Tamnan Khun Inn,
 Dham Zao Moggalan Long Lok
23. Dham Sujavanna (10 bundles)
24. Dham Sutasoma (2 bundles),
 Dham Arindama (2 bundles),
 Dham Houng Saung Ho (2 bundles)
25. Dham Anison Khao Salak,
 Dham Kiccakhandho,
 Dham Tamnan Sanguttara Buddhasoi Vimala
26. Dham Narajiva (4 bundles),
 Dham Mahapathan (4 bundles)
27. Dham Anisong Koung Kio,
 Dham Anisong Kathin,
 Dham Anisong Khao Luan Waat,
 Dham Anisong Khao Vo Sot,
 Dham Mauk Hang Nang
28. Dham Anisong Khao Luan Waat,
 Dham Lao Gai Noi,
 Dham Tamnan Pha Dhat Tang Lai (History of Pagodas),
 Dham Buddhanunyana
29. Dham Tham Ayaung Merng Lai,
 Dham Sukkho,
 Dham Anisong Khao Luan Waat,
 Dham Anisong Kathin,
 Dham Tamnan Pha Dhat Weing Jai,
 Dham Anisong Pha Tit (Tein)
30. Dham Sur Tai Sur Naun,
 Dham Mauk Hang Nang,
 Dham Buddhanussati,
 Dham Vibhanga Sutta,
 Dham Jeyya Sangaha
31. Dham Sujavanna (10 bundles)
32. Dham Ai Tao Taw Taeng
33. Dham Anisong Sangkhan,
 Dham Anisong Sabbadan,
 Dham Kiccakhandho,
 Dham Mulatika,

- Dham Anisong Sangkhan,
Dham Arahan Pet Ton (The Eight Arahants)
34. Dham Temiya (5 bundles),
Dham Dandrasra (5 bundles)
35. Dham Mahapathan (5 bundles)
Dham Sutasom (Sutasoma) (2 bundles)
36. Dham Zao Suthun Nang Thuoi Kham (7 bundles)
37. Dham Ka Yaum (4 bundles)
38. Dham Sutasom (Sutasoma) (2 bundles),
Dham Akaravatta Sut,
Dham Yamaka,
Dham Kathavatthu,
Dham Kannakavatti
39. Dham Sujavanna (10 bundles)
40. Dham Hoi Hai,
Dham Pannya Pu Kham,
Dham Sukkho,
Dham Tamnan Metteyya Zao,
Dham Anisong Khao Luan Waat
41. Dham Zao Woon Luang (7 bundles)
42. Dham Maha Nan Mung (10 bundles)
43. Dham Kwai Sam Khao (The Buffalo with Three Horns; 4 bundles),
Dham Mulatika (1 bundle),
Dham Ka Yaum (4 bundles),
Dham Ka Pherk (1 bundle),
Dham Anisong Kathin (1 bundle)
44. Dham Kheio Saung Maun (6 bundles),
Dham Sanda Lai Maeo (6 bundles)
45. Dham Wong Sawan (14 bundles)
46. Dham Zao Woon Luang (7 bundles)
47. Dham Kalasa Kher Lauk (16 bundles)
48. Dham Sala Ha Haung (5 bundles)
49. Dham Alaung Yue Lao (7 bundles)
Dham Kan Nguen Kan Kham (3 bundles)

Large Sa Paper Dhamma Books (14/17)

The Collection of the Large Sa Paper Dhamma Books is organised as the following.

1. Dham Ka Yaum (4 bundles),
Dham Sanda Pham (4 bundles)
2. Dham Rakheng (4 bundles)
3. Dham Nang Pin Kham (7 bundles),
Dham Hong Saung Ho (2 bundles)
4. Dham Zang Sam Nga (10 bundles)

5. Dham Wong Sawan (14 bundles)
6. Dham Temiya (3 bundles),
Dham Nemirat (2 bundles)
7. Dham Jataka Nok Pao (1 bundle)
8. Dham Tula (2 bundles)
9. Dham Ka Yaum (4 bundles)
10. Dham Tham Sip Saung Nang (4 bundles)
11. Dham Sujavanna (10 bundles)
12. Dham Kandhakesa Jataka (1 bundle)
13. Dham Zao Sidhat Auk Wot (1 bundle)
14. Dham Mahasatipathan Pe (1 bundle)

Palm Leaf Dhamma Books (70/107 Titles)

The Collection of the Palm Leaf Dhamma Books is organised as the following.

1. Dham Surupada (5 bundles)
2. Dham Labha Kumara (2 bundles),
Dham Nang Pin Kham (7 bundles)
3. Dham Su Pyamma Mokha (9 bundles)
4. Dham Hae Kham (6 bundles),
Dham Suriya Kambha Noi (5 bundles)
5. Dham Zang Zet Ho Zet Hang (9 bundles)
6. Dham Temiya (3 bundles),
Dham Ai Kam Ka (4 bundles)
7. Dham Vo Lom Vo Leo (4 bundles),
Dham Som Pha Mit (2 bundles),
Dham Labha Kumara (2 bundles)
8. Dham Sodantaki (7 bundles)
9. Dham Sathe Tang Ha (5 bundles),
Dham Purat Taeng Kheio
10. Dham Cariya (11 bundles)
11. Dham Zang Zet Ho Zet Hang (9 bundles)
12. Dham Kandhi (4 bundles),
Dham Tanham (2 bundles)
13. Dham Suvannajanko (10 bundles)
14. Dham Sammanasathi (5 bundles),
Dham Arintuma (2 bundles)
15. Dham Sammanodevo (8 bundles),
Dham Dantadhat (6 bundles)
16. Dham Cakkavatti (8 bundles)
17. Dham Dantadhat (5 bundles)
18. Dham Pathamasambodhi (13 bundles)
19. Dham Matulapathan (4 bundles)
20. Dham Poraphya Mao Noi (8 bundles)

21. Dham Pala Sankhya (10 bundles)
22. Dham Pathama Mula Muli (3 bundles),
 Dham Sumangala (1 bundle)
23. Dham Arunnavari (7 bundles)
24. Dham Sommanacak (4 bundles)
25. Dham Sujavanna (10 bundles)
26. Dham Brahmmacakka Long (22 bundles)
27. Dham Nang Mak Pao (11 bundles)
28. Dham Mangala Pannya (10 bundles)
29. Dham Arintuma (2 bundles)
30. Dham Vorawong Gai Pherk (10 bundles)
31. Dham Poraphya Mao Noi (8 bundles)
32. Dham Vorawong Long (10 bundles, 1 missing)
33. Dham Sujavanna Poraphya Mao Noi (11 bundles)
34. Dham Maha Nibban Poraphya Mao Noi (7 bundles)
35. Dham Patimokkahat (1 bundle),
 Dham Paweni Hok Meio (1 bundle)
36. Dham Sankhya Lok (4 bundles),
 Dham Kandhi (4 bundles)
37. Dham Dantadhat (7 bundles)
38. Dham Sujavannadhaja (9 bundles)
39. Dham Sujavanna Syam (3 bundles),
 Dham Maha Janaka (2 bundles),
 Dham Samphamit (1 bundle)
40. Dham Kandhi (4 bundles)
41. Dham Sujavanna (7 bundles)
42. Dham Sammanasathi (5 bundles),
 Dham Sammanacakka (5 bundles)
43. Dham Gandhana (14 bundles)
44. Dham Vineya (1 bundle),
 Dham Girimaranda (1 bundle),
 Dham Sangvega (1 bundle),
 Dham Sirimula (1 bundle),
 Dham Anisong Vessantara (1 bundle)
45. Dham Kalidaka (1 bundle),
 Dham Anuloma (1 bundle),
 Dham Sadhinaraja (1 bundle),
 Dham Akaravattasutta (1 bundle),
 Dham Anisong Vessantara (1 bundle),
 Dham Kodha Yim Paun (1 bundle),
 Dham Asanai (1 bundle)
46. Dham Asakaraja (1 bundle),
 Dham Anisong Vessantara (1 bundle),
 Dham Mak Nam Tao Kham (1 bundle),
 Dham Jeyya Sangaha (1 bundle),
 Dham Maha Mangala (1 bundle)

47. Dham Anisong Taem Dham (1 bundle),
 Dham Dhammadhajaka (1 bundle),
 Dham Yawt Pitakat (1 bundle),
 Dham Anisong Vessantara (1 bundle),
 Dham Vibhanga (1 bundle),
 Dham Kaeo Nguen Lap Kaeo Zao Samphakan (1 bundle)
48. Dham Paet Laeng Auk Yawt (1 bundle)
49. Dham Kandhi (4 bundles)
50. Dham Sodantaki (6 bundles)
51. Dham Surupada (5 bundles)
52. Dham Sathe Tang Ha (5 bundles)
53. Dham Anagatawong (7 bundles)
54. Dham Sanghavadhana (5 bundles)
55. Dham Ratanasutta (8 bundles)
56. Dham Kwe Heng Kaw (4 bundles)
57. Dham Mo Hom Heng Kap (6 bundles)
58. Dham Kwai Sam Khao (3 bundles, 1 missing)
59. Dham Sujavanna (11 bundles)
60. Dham Sujavanna (11 bundles)
61. Dham Paramatthadhamma (17 bundles)
62. Dham Tula (2 bundles),
 Dham Sathe Ha Kaw (5 bundles),
 Dham Tanham (2 bundles),
 Dham Arintuma (2 bundles)
63. Dham Mula Kammathan (8 bundles)
64. Dham Sabbadan Luang (11 bundles)
65. Dham Sabba Vessantara (incomplete)
66. Dham Sujavannadhaja (8 bundles)
67. Dham Asitinipan (10 bundles, 1 missing)
68. Dham Suvanna Khang Khak (6 bundles)
69. Dham Tungarasi (3 bundles)
70. Dham Jumburat Taeng Kheio (5 bundles)

Summary Notes

Duplicates

The list contains some duplicate titles; notably all the titles of the Large Sa Paper Book Collection seem to be duplicated with the titles in the Small Sa Paper Book Collection. But we can assume that these duplicate manuscripts have their own uniqueness as it is the nature of manuscripts.

Subject contents of the Texts

The titles of the texts indicate that most of them are Jataka or Buddhist Stories, with a few of

them originated in canonical Buddhist texts including Abhidhamma and discourses and a few of them on history including histories of pagodas.

It is worth noting that all of the titles begin with the word ‘Dham’ indicating that all the texts are considered to be Buddhist texts or related to Buddhism.

Many of the stories are probably not from the canonical Jataka texts of the 550 stories. Some of the stories possibly originated in the Pannasa Jataka, a Lanna text or other local sources of mainland Southeast Asia. Some titles of the stories are listed in the biographies of the six most well known Shan scholars written by Loong Khun Maha in 1970 (ပပုံးပိန္ဒုးမူးမေ့တီးဂျာ၏ထင်း / လုင်းခုအောင်မဂျာ၊ တိမ်းဝံးမူးပါးပါ 1970) but they can be rarely found in the temple collections in other regions such as Northern and Southern Shan State regions and Northern Thailand regions.

The titles with the word ‘Alaung’ or ‘Nang’ are listed in Loong Khun Maha’s book but many of them are not found in the temple collections that we catalogued in the last decade.

Palm Leaf Manuscripts

The Collections of Palm Leaf Manuscripts is an outstanding mark of the Tong Si Temple’s collection, comparing it with other Shan temple collections which usually have less palm leaf manuscripts.

Questions for further research and investigation

1. Language and script: Tai Shan, Tai Khuen, Pali, or mix.
2. Colophons: author, copist, donors, place names, etc.
3. Date: original and copy date of the manuscripts
4. Measurement: size and pagination
5. Condition: Good / complete, damaged, incomplete, etc.
6. Appearance: Decorated covers, textile covers, illustrations, etc.