



Abba Hillel Silver Collection Digitization Project

Featuring collections from the Western Reserve Historical Society and
The Jacob Rader Marcus Center of the American Jewish Archives

MS-4787: Abba Hillel Silver Papers, 1902-1989.

Series V: Writings, 1909-1963, undated.

Reel
176

Box
64

Folder
339

The Bibles of mankind, 1934.

1. What is the Moral Life? 95-98

2. What is Good Govt. 98.

107

3. The Golden Mean -

88

116-117

chinese

248

3b) No heroics

3c) What is proper

4. Good Form

50

259

98.

- chinese

75-78

5. The Ideal, the Gentleman 60-61

6. What he taught

54-55

4th

Confucius

3. disputes as to authenticity - burnt -
2 c. B.C. - commission to restore -
- date from then.

4. 4 Uncanonical - "Four Books"

- written by C's disciples -

(1) Lun-yu, "Analests", or Table-Talk.
20 books - essential teachings of C.

(2) Ta-Hio - The Great Learning
treatise on self culture - social
ethics (grand son)

(3) Chung-Yung - The Doctrine of the Mean
middle path - equilibrium -
most important of 4 books

(4) Mong-Tzi, Mencius the Philosopher
4c. foremost champion of C. in his
day.

1. Conf = non-Aryan - Turanian (Mongolian) China
350 m.

2. Nine Books

5 Canonical Books = 5 King (warp-thread
in weaving, etc.)
~~5 King, ed. by Conf.~~

(1) The Yi King - Canon of Changes -
"occult interp. of nature, human life
by means of trigrams."

(2) Shu King - Canon of History -
hist. - ethical work extolling
virtues of 2 ancient Kings
Yao - Shun. Sources of
all truth & wisdom.

(3) Shi King - Canon of Odes
305 compiled by Conf. Anthology

(4) Li Ki King - Canon of Rites - code
outward conduct developed from
inner law of central balance

(5) Ch'un Tz'ien - Spring & Autumn
mainly work of C. himself
8 fund. princ. of universal
peace.

Sacred Canon

Pitakas - sacred canon - Pali - 2 size of Bible

= Baskets - not receptacle - excavations -

1 - Vinaya P. - the Canon Law - ^{"Guidance"} ~~rules~~ of Order of Mendicant Recluses -

~~(a) Sutta Vibhanga = 227 rules~~

✓ 2. Sutta P. - Basket of discourses, consists of 4 great collections - containing the religious and phil. principles of Budd.
- comparable to dialogues of Plato.
in form of dialogues bet. the Buddha and his disciples.

3. Abhidhamma P. - Buddhist doctrine. 7 books - exposition of "Dhamma" = Religion - the Truth - the "Norm".

Other books of Canon ^{by way of appendices} among more important are - 423 verses

1. Dhammapadam - book of verse, on Buddhist ethics - self-culture & self-control.

2. Iti Vuttakam - "Thus was it said by the Blessed One" - contains 120 passages, closing with a saying of Budd.

3. Jatakas - Stories of 550 previous births of the B. - Folk-tale, fable etc associated with B. -

15. WITH AN OBLATION: FOR CONFLUENCE OF WEALTH

1. Together, together let the rivers flow, together the winds, together the birds; this my sacrifice let them enjoy of old; i offer with a confluent oblation.
2. Come straight hither to my call, hither ye confluents also; increase this man, ye songs; let every beast there is come hither; let what wealth there is stay with him.
3. What fountains of the streams flow together, ever unexhausted, with all those confluences we make riches flow together for me.
4. What (fountains) of butter flow together, and of milk, and of water, with all those confluences we make riches flow together for me.



19. AGAINST ENEMIES

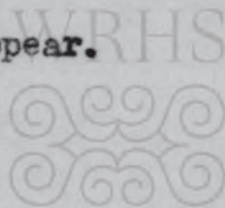
1. Let not the piercers find us, nor let the penetraters find (us);
far from us make the volleys fly, dispersing, O Indra.
2. Dispersing from us let the shafts fly, those that are hurled and
that are to be hurled; ye divine arrows of men, pierce my enemies.
3. Whether one of our own or whether a stranger, fellow or outsider,
whoso assails us -- let Rudra with a volley pierce those my enemies.
4. Whatever rival whatever non-rival, and whatever hater shall curse us,
him let all the gods damage; incantation is my inner defense.



VOLUME I

23. AGAINST LEPROSY: WITH A HEALING HERB

1. Night-born art thou, O herb, O dark, black, (and) dusky one;
O colorer, do thou color this leprous spot and what is pale.
2. The leprous spot, what is pale, do thou cause to disappear from
hence, the speckled; let thine own color enter thee; make white
things fly away.
3. Dusky is thy hiding-place, dusky thy station; dusky art thou, O
herb; make the speckled disappear from hence.
4. Of the bone-born leprous spot, and of the body-born that is in the
skin, of that made by the spoiler — by incantation have I made
the white mark disappear.



VOLUME I

34. A LOVE-SPELL: WITH A SWEET HERB

1. This plant is honey-born; with honey we dig thee; forth from honey art thou engendered; (so) do thou make us possessed of honey.
2. At the tip of my tongue honey, at the root of my tongue honeyedness; mayest thou be altogether in my power, mayest thou come unto my intent.
3. Honeyed (is) my in-stepping, honeyed my forth-going; with my voice I speak what is honeyed; may I be of honey-aspect.
4. Than honey am I sweeter, than the honey-plant more honeyed; of me verily shalt thou be fond, as of a honeyed branch.
5. About thee with an encompassing sugar-cane have I gone, in order to absence of mutual hatred; that thou mayest be one loving me, that thou mayest be one not going away from me.

VOLUME II

15. AGAINST FEAR

1. As both the heaven and the earth do not fear, are not harmed, so,
my breath, fear not.
2. As both the day and the night do not fear etc. etc.
3. As both the sun and the moon do not fear etc. etc.
4. As both sacrament and dominion do not fear, etc. etc.
5. As both truth and untruth do not fear etc. etc.
6. As both what is and what is to be do not fear etc. etc.



BOOK III

30. FOR CONCORD

1. Like-heartedness, like-mindedness, non-hostility do I make for you; do ye show affection the one toward the other, as the inviolable (cow) toward her calf when born.
2. Be the son submissive to the father, like-minded with the mother; let the wife to the husband speak words full of honey, wealful.
3. Let not brother hate brother, nor sister sister; becoming accordant, of like courses, speak ye words auspiciously.
4. That incantation in vurtue of which the gods do not go apart, nor hate one another mutually, we perform in your house, concord for (your) men.
5. Having superiors, intentful, be ye not divided, accomplishing together, moving on with joint labor; come hither speaking what is agreeable one to another; I make you united, like-minded.
6. Your drinking (be) the same, in common your share of food; in the same harness do I join you together; worship ye Agni united, like spokes about a nave.
7. United, like-minded I make you, of one bunch, all of you, by (my) conciliation; (be) like the gods defending immortality; late and early be well-willing yours.

VOLUME IV

12. TO HEAL SERIOUS WOUNDS: WITH AN HERB

1. Grower art thou, grower, grower of severed bone; make this grow, O arundhati.
2. What of thee is torn, what of thee is inflamed, is crushed in thyself -- may Dhatar excellently put that together again, joint with joint.
3. Let thy marrow come together with marrow, and thy joint together with joint; together let that of thy flesh has fallen apart; together let thy bone grow over.
4. Let marrow be put together with marrow; let skin grow with skin; let thy blood, bone grow; let flesh grow with flesh.
5. Fit thou together hair with hair; fit together skin with skin; let thy blood, bone grow; put together what is severed, O herb.
6. Do thou here stand up, go forth, run forth, a chariot well-wheeled, well-tired, well-naved; stand firm upright.
7. If, falling into a pit, he hath been crushed, or if a stone hurled hath smitten (him) -- as a Rbhu the parts of a chariot, may it put together joint with joint.

VOLUME VI

105. TO GET RID OF COUGH

1. As the mind with mind-aims flies away swiftly, so do thou, O cough, fly forth, after the forth-driving (?) of the mind.
2. As the well-sharpened arrow flies away swiftly, so do thou, O cough, fly forth, after the stretch (?) of the earth.
3. As the sun's rays fly away swiftly, so do thou, O cough, fly forth, after the outflow of the ocean.



1. 230 m. more than Prot-Chr. (206m.) and more than Mohammedans (209 m.)

2nd greatest rel. group of Asia (1st - Confucianists 350 m.)

2. The Hindus or Indians came into India as conquerors from the N.W.
probably in 2000 B.C.

First settled in the valley of the Indus - and the Punjab and then
in the valley of the Ganges 1500 B.C.

Conquerors separated from conquered. (Sudras - servile order)

Caste or orders. 3 chief: (1) Brahmans - priests.
(2) Kshattriyas - warriors
(3) Vaisyas - agric. settlers.

3. Race - indeterminable . Called Aryans

4. Religion - The worship of nature - Polytheistic -- every element
was a god.

Gods ^Could be won over by propitiation or compelled by magic.

Propitiation through sacrifices.

Sacrifices the most important factor in Hinduism.

Religion largely a matter of ritualism connected with sacrifice --
right living was 'Rita'.

The Vedic religion produced no well defined moral system but a highly
defined ritual.

Its theology was always fluid but its ritual rigid -- really orthodox
Judaism.

5. The Vedas are the earliest record or the scriptures of the Hindus parts of which they probably possessed before they entered India.

Next to Egyptian monuments and Assyrian clay tablets it is the oldest literature in history, parts of it dating to about 2000 B.C.

The Rig-Veda is one of 4 Vedas which together with the Brahmanas (Talmud), Aran Yakas (forest books) and Upanishads -- the philosophic texts, constituted the Vedic literature.

6. The Rig-Veda is a collection of over 1000 hymns of praise of forces of nature personified.

5 times as long as Psalms.

Rig-Veda means Religious knowledge or revelation (Veda) ^{= wit} in form of verses intended for loud recitation (Rig -- praise-hymn), to accompany sacrifice. The praise-hymns are of divine origin (like Torah) imparted to sacred poets. (Rishis) -- inspired seers. At first transmitted orally. Later written down. Accompanied the sacrifice.

6. Rig-Veda written in sanskrit - the language of conquerors. Sanskrit is *the* classic Indo-European language - contains more of the characteristics of parent Indo-European language. Some regard it as root-language of Greek - Latin - Teutonic, Celtic and Slavonian languages. Sanskrit -- same - create (*together = perfected*)
7. Hymns divided into 10 Books - grouped according to authorship (Rishi)
Hymns addressed to Gods in order of importance. The most important Gods of the Rig-Veda are:

- (1) Agni - God of Fire - By way of the fire of the sacrifices he becomes intermediary between earth and heaven. *Fire of sacrifice.*
- (2) Indra - God of Thunder - Favorite national deity of Indian conquerors. *His war-fet* Most hymns *Gods, warriors* dedicated to him. *7/4* Fighter! (Against draught and darkness. Type of noble heroism. - *deification* *7* *As an chief* *then - enemies (yates, lates, drinks etc.*)
- (3) Vayu - God of Wind
- (4) Mitra - God of Day
- (5) Varuna - God of Night (Ouranos -- Heaven)
- (6) Pushan - God who protects and multiplies cattle and human possessions - Solar deity - A Guide on roads and journeys.
- (7) Vishnu - God of Sun - Pervadea - Active Worker.
- (8) The Maruts - The Tempest Gods. Friends and Helpers of Indra.
- (9) Bhaga - The gracious Lord and protector. Bestower of wealth.
- (10) Adityas - The Eternal Beings - who are Eternity. The eternal essence of all reality.
- (11) Rudra - Roaring Tempest God - father of the Maruts.
- (12) Ushas - Eos - Aurora - *Goddess of Dawn*

- (13) Soma - *a beverage and a* (God who represents juice of the Soma plant, which (like nectar) was sacrificial drink offered to Gods. Plant gathered by moon-light on certain mountains - juice extracted - mixed with other ingredients - made to ferment and offered to Gods. Exhilarating - momentary frenzy. *Entire 9th book devoted to it.*

8. Hymns composed in simple or complex metre, not rhyme. Each verse or stanza consists of three or more lines, each of which contains from 8 to 12 syllables.

9. Is not great poetry - nothing like Psalms. Monotonous. Repetitious. Few flashes of imagination or stirring figures of speech. Rather prosaic. (Quote from p. VIII) *R. T. H. Griffith.*
"Its value is historical rather than poetical."

10. Source - religion of all religions of Europe before Christianity.

11. Examples

92 - Dawn - Ushar.

Poem 19.1-7

Aurora - drawn in a rose-coloured chariot & by white horses - opening with her rosy fingers the gates, the East. She always sets out before the Sun, and is the pre-runner of his rising.

61- Iudra - Thunder - fights against drought - pierces the clouds - to get rain -

25- Varuna - Heaven *King of air and sea* Guardian of moral order.

Book 1

Book X. 129- Creation. Amazing
• sceptic-agnostic - ignores
entire mythology-
First Cause!



7.

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O arundhati. (*plant, having healing properties*)
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thyself -- may Dhatar excellently put that together again, joint
with joint.
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6.

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2. Be the son submissive to the father, like-minded with the mother; let the wife to the husband speak words full of honey, wealful.
3. Let not brother hate brother, nor sister sister; becoming accordant, of like courses, speak ye words auspiciously.
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3. As both the sun and the moon do not fear etc. etc. " "

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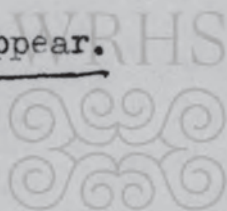
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whoso assails us -- let Rudra with a volley pierce those my enemies.
= roaring Tempest god.
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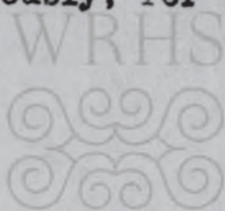


11. Rig-Veda was one of 4 Vedas and the oldest. The other 3 are

- (1) Sama - Veda. Veda of Chants. Hymns of Rig-Veda set to music.
- (2) Yajur - Veda. Veda of Formulas. Prose. Detail formulae for all sacrifices. Smallest act has its formula. 40 books.
- (3) Atharva - Veda. Veda of Charms or Incantation, 730 in all

12. Examples from the Tharva Veda

- (1) Hymns and charms to ward off disease, for offspring to defeat enemies or rivals in love.
- (2) Against sorcerers and demons.
- (3) For success in gambling
- (4) Against jealousy, for victory and debate, etc.



~~Ritakas - Buddhism~~