

DS3.
**PREPARATION OF AN ENGLISH TRANSLATION OF THE TREATISE
ENTITLED "PALLADIUS ON THE NATIONS OF INDIA AND THE BRAHAMINS",
FROM THE GREEK ORIGINAL, WITH INTRODUCTION AND NOTES**

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The treatise consists of two parts. The first, often referred to as the *Commonitorium Paladii*, is an account of the Brahmins based largely on what the author has learned from books and hearsay, but also incorporating information from the Theban Lawyer, who had traveled to the East. The second part is an account of the alleged philosophical interchanges between Alexander the Great and the Brahmins, which is generally believed to be based on a Juvenile work of Arrian, a disciple of Epictetus.

Up to now the only accessible English translation is the of J.W. McCrindle which was made during the early years of the 19th century, and was based on an unreliable text incorporated in the romantic history of Alexander the Great known as the *Pseudo-Callisthenes*. Subsequent discovery of earlier and far more authentic manuscripts, and the findings of modern research, has resulted in the establishment of a textual tradition much more reliable than what was available to McCrindle. I have therefore prepared a new translation based on the most recent editions (both paper and electronic) of the Greek text as well as the earliest Latin version preserved in two manuscripts from the Vatican.

The introduction focuses on the nature of the work and its transmission, questions of date and authorship, geographical and historical problems raised by the narrative, and the reliability of the text as a historical source on ancient India and Sri Lanka. The opinions of modern scholars on these issues have been critically evaluated. The notes clarify textual problems as well as problems of language and subject matter.