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Einladung zum Vortrag

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Sanskrit *avadyá*- 'vice' and its Incarnations in Middle Indic

Freitag, 24. März 2017, 15h c.t.

Seminarraum 1, Bereich Tibet- und Buddhismuskunde
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avadyá- 'vice' appears already in the Ṛgveda and is attested in the simplex and in compounds throughout the history of Sanskrit and Middle Indic. As I have argued in my 2012 paper published in Japanese in the *Journal of Indian and Buddhist Studies* (vol. 60,2), by regular sound change, Sanskrit *avadyá*- corresponds to Pali *avajja*-, while Sanskrit *varjya*- '(that which is) to be avoided = vice, sin' corresponds to Pali *vajja*- 'vice'. In this talk I will present a detailed examination and comprehensive account of *avadyá*- and the contexts in which this word is used in Vedic, later Sanskrit, and Middle Indic.

Already in Vedic, *avadyá*- has undergone some degree of lexicalization, a claim which is supported by Pāṇini's analysis of the word. Due to regular processes of sound change in Middle Indic, the word became prone to confusion, and this led to an interesting reanalysis in Pali and a surprising Chinese translation that is found in the Ratnarāśisūtra.