

In a third part dealing with legal policy, Staubach advocates the application of foreign penal laws by national judges as a general principle. The need to ensure the greatest possible degree of justice in the infliction of punishment in individual cases and to prevent any opportunity for evasion of punishment in the international sphere should take priority over historical and practical considerations and dictate the application of foreign penal law. As a general principle, the law of the country in which an offence has been committed (das Tatortrecht) should be applied, apart from a few necessary exceptions in favour of the *lex fori*, as for example in the case of an offence against the national *ordre public*. Individual questions relating to such application are dealt with more cursorily at the end of the study. It is to be regretted that there are also a good many omissions, as is likewise the case in the treatment of the relevant literature (for example, no reference is made to the papers by Schultz on the law relating to the punishment of traffic offences).

Whether the solution proposed by Staubach is the only satisfactory one remains to be seen. It is certainly true that a narrow-minded, nationally restricted conception of the law cannot be appropriate to a situation that has changed and continues to change further. This is also a matter of achieving international solidarity. That it is high time for a new arrangement to this effect was also clearly demonstrated at the eighth international congress on penal law held in Lisbon in 1961 and at the subsequent ninth congress in the Hague in 1964. The 1962 draft for a (West German) Criminal Code still takes very little account of these developments. The alternative draft that is now being elaborated by a number of penal law professors is already more progressive in this respect. There are many instances in it where the application of the less severe foreign penal law is prescribed. The service rendered by Staubach's work is that it has presented the points at issue and has thereby paved the way for further works on this subject. To this extent the present treatise provides a valuable source of information and a good point of departure for further scientific work on the problem.

Professor Dr. Jürgen Baumann

STENZLER, ADOLF FRIEDRICH

**Elementary Manual of the Sanskrit Language. Grammar-Texts-Dictionary**

["Elementarbuch der Sanskrit-Sprache. Grammatik-Texte-Wörterbuch"]

Berlin: Verlag A. Töpelmann, 1965; 140 p., DM 16.—

This elementary manual, which was first published by A. F. Stenzler and subsequently revised by R. Pischel and K. F. Geldner and S. Bis-



was, has for decades admirably proved its worth in the teaching of elementary Indology at German universities. It contains within 66 pages the entire grammar of the so-called "classical" Sanskrit, that is to say the linguistic form established by native grammarians in which the epics, the literary poetry and the later religious and philosophical literature are written, if the older Vedic language be disregarded. The conciseness and brevity of presentation make the book recommendable for academic instruction, yet experience has shown that it is also suitable for self-instruction.

The grammatical section includes sentences exemplifying the relevant paragraphs of grammar, as well as some set pieces for reading. In contrast to those in most of the other grammars of this kind, the sentences given as examples here have the advantage that they have not been invented by the author but have been taken from the original literature. Foremost among the pieces set for reading are the first five chapters of the famous story of Nala and Damayantī (from the national epic, the Mahābhārata), which by tradition has served as the first lesson for the teaching of beginners ever since the beginnings of German Indology in the last century; these are followed by some amusing prose stories taken from the voluminous literature of the fairy-tales and fables of the Indians. All the words that appear are listed together in a special glossary that is attached to the book.

The critics have expressed great doubt regarding the value of and need for the three "appendices" which the latest reviser, S. Biswas, has inserted on 20 pages between the texts and the glossary. The references they contain to the more rare forms, which in many cases are used only by the native grammarians, are in fact as dispensable for beginners as are the references to the style; on the other hand, Appendix I, dealing with the principles of Sanskrit metrics, certainly meets a real need, as does also Section 13, on the accent in Sanskrit, in which a 100-year-old error (to the effect that Sanskrit, like Latin, possesses a stress accent) has been rectified.

Professor Dr. Hermann Berger

TERMER, FRANZ (Ed.)

**Alvar Nuñez Cabeza de Vaca: Shipwrecks. Report on the Disaster to the Narváez Expedition on the South Coast of North America. 1527-1536**

["Alvar Nuñez Cabeza de Vaca: Schiffbrüche. Bericht über die Unglücksfahrt der Narváez-Expedition nach der Südküste Nordamerikas 1527-1536"]

München: Verlag Klaus Renner, 1964; 184 p., DM 12.—

Alvar Nuñez Cabeza de Vaca is one of the most likeable and fascinating personalities of the Spanish Conquista. He is distinguished from many