

ACT Project  
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ACT-FIELD SCHOOL PROJECT REPORTS AND MEMOIRS  
SPECIAL VOLUME

ISMEO  
ASSOCIAZIONE INTERNAZIONALE DI STUDI SUL MEDITERRANEO E L'ORIENTE

# BUDDHIST ARCHITECTURE IN THE SWAT VALLEY, PAKISTAN

Stupas, Viharas, a Dwelling Unit

DOMENICO FACCENNA  
PIERO SPAGNESI

WITH THE COLLABORATION OF  
LUCA M. OLIVIERI

FOREWORD BY  
MARCO MANCINI AND ADRIANO ROSSI

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www.sangemeel.com  
ISBN-10: 969-35-2683-X  
ISBN-13: 978-969-35-2683-7  
9 789693 526837



Sang-e-Meel Publications  
Lahore - Pakistan



ISMEO



Pakistan-Italian Debt Swap Program  
Italian Archaeological Mission in Pakistan  
Directorate of Archaeology and Museums, KP Province

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PAKISTAN-ITALIAN DEBT SWAP PROGRAM

ITALIAN ARCHAEOLOGICAL MISSION IN PAKISTAN  
DIRECTORATE OF ARCHAEOLOGY AND MUSEUMS, KP PROVINCE

This Volume is published thanks to the generous support of ISMEO and Università di Bologna  
“Alma mater Studiorum”, Dipartimento di Beni Culturali,  
Printing costs were generously supported by a private grant.

Layout and graphic by BraDypUS



The Volume is realized in collaboration with the Università di Roma “La Sapienza”  
Dipartimento di Storia, Disegno e Restauro dell’Architettura.

Cover: the Stupa of Amluk-dara (February 2012).  
(Photo by Luca M. Olivieri)

ACT-FIELD SCHOOL PROJECT REPORTS AND MEMOIRS

A SERIES EDITED BY LUCA M. OLIVIERI

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A PROJECT BY  
PAKISTAN-ITALIAN DEBT SWAP AGREEMENT (PIDSA)

IMPLEMENTED BY  
ITALIAN ARCHAEOLOGICAL MISSION IN PAKISTAN

DIRECTORATE OF ARCHAEOLOGY AND MUSEUMS, KHYBER-PAKHTUNKHWA PROVINCE

WITH THE COLLABORATION OF  
ISTITUTO SINDACALE PER LA COOPERAZIONE ALLO SVILUPPO (ISCOS-CISL)

UNDER THE VIGILANCE OF  
DEPARTMENT OF ARCHAEOLOGY AND MUSEUMS  
MINISTRY OF INFORMATION, BROADCASTING AND NATIONAL HERITAGE, GOVERNMENT OF PAKISTAN

TECHNICAL SUPPORT BY  
PIDSA TECHNICAL SUPPORT UNIT - ISLAMABAD

FUNDED BY  
MINISTERO PER GLI AFFARI ESTERI (MAE)  
DIREZIONE GENERALE PER LA COOPERAZIONE ITALIANA ALLO SVILUPPO (DGCS, UFFICIO V)  
UNITÀ TECNICA LOCALE (UTL) PAKISTAN, COOPERAZIONE ITALIANA ALLO SVILUPPO  
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DREXEL UNIVERSITY, PHILADELPHIA, ART AND ART HISTORY DEPARTMENT

EMBASSY OF THE ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF PAKISTAN IN ITALY, ROME

GENERAL CONSULATE OF THE ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF PAKISTAN, NEW YORK

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## Foreword

*Five years ago Domenico Faccenna, honorary member of the Italian Institute for Africa and the Orient (IsIAO), who dedicated the largest part of his scientific activity to many aspects of the past culture of the valley of Swat, passed away in Rome. He could not see the publication of the present book, the last volume containing reports of the field works in the valley of Swat which he had programmed and realized, after the publication of the masterly reports of the excavations at Butkara I, Saidu Sharif I and Panr I.*

*The volume which we have the pleasure to introduce, dedicated to the study and survey of the non-excavated Buddhist monuments of Swat, with which Faccenna associated Piero Cimbolli Spagnesi, sees now the light thanks to the converging efforts of his disciples, coordinated by Pierfrancesco Callieri. In this way a life cycle, which brought a substantial contribution in the progress of knowledge of the ancient civilizations in this area of Pakistan, comes to an end.*

*The publication could be reached only much later than it was hoped. In 2008 the text file was ready, but not yet edited, while the many illustrations were to be selected and prepared for publication by the editorial staff of the IsIAO, the Italian public Institute from which the Italian Archaeological Mission in Pakistan depended.*

*After 2011, the dramatic end of the Institute – resulting in no benefit for the Italian public budget, and a debacle for the international prestige and cultural role of Italy – provoked a halt to the publishing process of the volume. It was only thanks to the support of the Dipartimento di Beni Culturali of the University of Bologna, of the Associazione ISMEO created in order to save the rich heritage of the IsIAO, and of the ACT Project, that the last steps could be carried out until its publication. The new ISMEO, that claims a right to the scientific and cultural legacy of that prestigious Institute, sets itself in full continuity with the tradition of the late IsIAO also by the publication of this volume, by which a new series continuing the series *Reports and Memoirs* is inaugurated. Moreover, by this publication is strongly reaffirmed ISMEO firm determination to continue researches and activities in that rich depository of world treasures which is Pakistan.*



*The role of ACT and of his Scientific Director, Luca Maria Olivieri, has been seminal for the continuation of the Italian activities in the valley of Swat, and we wish to take this opportunity to present a warm sentiment of gratitude to Dr Olivieri, on behalf of all the scientific community working in the Gandharan region and particularly of the Associazione ISMEO. In the frame of the ACT project, indeed, many activities which the IsIAO Italian Archaeological Mission had not the possibility to carry out were finally reached: among these we wish to remind the conservation of the Saidu Sharif I Buddhist Sanctuary and the renovation of the Swat Museum, along with the continuation of the excavations at Bir-kot-ghwandai.*

*The publication of the volume is a token of gratitude which all those who have contributed pay to Domenico Faccenna, and present to his family, which has always supported the continuation of his work.*

*Our gratitude goes also to the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, who has not ceased to grant its support to the Italian Archaeological Mission, particularly now that its activities are being carried out in the frame of the Associazione ISMEO.*

*I wish, last but not least, to thank Piero Cimbolli Spagnesi, professor at the “La Sapienza” University of Rome for having contributed to this volume.*

Rome, 15<sup>th</sup> October 2013

Prof. MARCO MANCINI, President of ISMEO

Prof. ADRIANO V. ROSSI, Scientific Director of ISMEO