



## **Mahāyāna in Gandhāra**

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This paper will introduce recently discovered evidence from inscriptions and manuscripts of a Mahāyāna presence in Gandhāra (eastern Afghanistan and northern Pakistan) at a relatively early period, that is, in and around the first three centuries of the Common Era and discuss the significance of these discoveries for the study of early Mahāyāna in general and Gandhāra in particular.