

FRAGMENTARY TABLET

Representing the so-called Thousand Buddhas, each seated in a niche and holding a lotus in his right hand. This motive is the outcome of a dogma developed in Mahāyāna Buddhism that there was an infinite number of Buddhas preceding the one historical Buddha both in this world and in other imaginary worlds. From the temple Hing-lung-se in the southern suburb of Si-an fu, capital of Shensi Province.

PERIOD OF WEI DYNASTY (A.D. 386-534) ✓

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