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This volume, the sixth in the series Bibliotheca Nordica (established 2009), deals with one of the main manuscripts of Snorri’s *Edda*: Delagardieska samlingen, Uppsala Universitetsbibliotek (DG) 11.¹ Often referred to as the *Uppsala Edda*, the manuscript has been dated to the first quarter of the fourteenth century. *Skrivaren och förlagan: Norm och normbrott i Codex Upsaliensis av Snorra Edda* is one of the results of a comprehensive research project entitled “The Original Version of Snorri Sturluson’s *Edda*? Studies in Codex Upsaliensis” (2008–2012) under the direction of Henrik Williams. DG 11 differs from the other primary manuscripts of Snorri’s *Edda*, that is, *Codex Regius* (GKS 2367 4to), *Codex Trajectinus* (Traj 1374), and *Codex Wormianus* (AM 242 fol.), in that it has a shortened text, omits some sections (notably the þulur, a number of passages in *Gylfaginning* and *Skáldskaparmál*, and the latter portion of *Háttatal*), presents the material in a different order, and includes some unrelated items (*Skáldatal*, a genealogy of the Sturlung clan, a list of Icelandic lawspeakers, and a version of the *Second Grammatical Treatise*).

Hitherto, most of the research on DG 11 has been concerned with style, contents, and composition and has focused on its relation to the other manuscripts of Snorri’s *Edda* (though scholars are still divided as to whether DG 11 represents a younger and revised edition of the work or if it preserves the oldest redaction). As Mårtensson points out, “[e]n lucka i den tidigare forskningen om DG 11:s version av *Snorra Edda* är att man inte systematiskt har granskat de paleografisk-språkliga särdragen” (p. 12). With *Skrivaren och förlagan: Norm och normbrott i Codex Upsaliensis av Snorra Edda* he seeks to fill this gap. More specifically, the book is an examination from the perspective of the scribe’s copying of the exemplar in order to find out what features the scribe adapted from the exemplar and what information these features provide about the previous history of texts in DG 11.

Following an introduction (chapter 1, pp. 11–23), in which Mårtensson introduces DG 11, surveys previous research on the codex, and states the

¹ Editor’s note: Veturliði Óskarsson took care of all communication with the author of this review.
aims of the book, he discusses in chapter 2 (pp. 25–43) his methodology. He draws attention to the fact that most medieval Old Norse-Icelandic texts are preserved in copies sometimes at several removes from the original, and that consequently the extant manuscripts usually contain chronological layers, partly the scribe’s own written norm (defined as “den föreställning en skrivare hade ‘om hur en viss skrifttyp skulle utföras’, dennes idealbild av skriftens utformning,” p. 36) and partly the norm that has its origin in the exemplar. Mårtensson adheres to the view that copying is a four-step process consisting of decoding, interpretation, conversion, and writing. He then treats the four different orthographic principles that can be identified in Old Norse-Icelandic writing, that is, phonological spelling, which represents the scribe’s normal practice; morphological spelling, which involves a phonological analysis on the part of the scribe; lexical spelling, which is defined as a fixed writing connected to a certain word and independent of both phonological and morphological structure; and what he calls “sign by sign” copying, which means that a feature is left unconverted by the scribe, who thereby skips the third step in the copying process. Mårtensson stresses the fact that only the morphological and lexical principles are an expression of the scribe’s norm, and that the phonological and the sign by sign principles both yield few examples. Chapter 3 (pp. 45–51), which gives an overview of the arrangement of the texts in DG 11, may be said to be introductory as well. Here Mårtensson lists the works included based in the main on contents, but also with a view to codicological criteria, such as the gatherings of the manuscript.

Chapters 4 through 7 present data and constitute the core of the study. Chapter 4 (pp. 53–122) is concerned with macropaleography. The first section is an examination of graph-types which appear infrequently (twenty-five times or less) in DG. These comprise Carolingian straight d, Carolingian f, accented g, broken l, t with a hook, the ligature of a and y, initial c, the ligature of n and g, e caudata, ː, Greek uncial k, o caudata, ō caudata, ː, the ligature of a and v, and the abbreviation sign for um. He also examines the distribution of þ and ð in final, medial, and initial position and the use of r rotunda. Mårtensson believes that Greek uncial k, the ligature of n and g, ð (for ɔ), the ligature of a and v (for ɔ), and possibly o caudata (for o) are likely copied from the exemplar. With regard to the distribution of ð and þ and the use of r rotunda, he finds it difficult to assess the influence of the exemplar on DG 11, but observes among other things that the use of initial ð goes against the scribe’s norm,
and that in representations of $r$ after round $d$, $ð$, and $þ$, the scribe shows a preference for $r$ rotunda. Chapter 5 (pp. 123–37, by far the longest chapter in the book) deals with orthography and, to a lesser extent, phonology. The purpose of this chapter is to identify the instances in which the scribe deviates from his ordinary norm and assumes that of the exemplar. Mårtensson notes that the intention is not to give an exhaustive description of the manuscript’s linguistic features, but rather to present guidelines for future research, and he acknowledges that the sections in this chapter do not add much to the question of the DG 11 scribe’s working habits. Among the conventions examined are the representation of long consonants, the representation of the endings -$i$r and -$u$r, the svarabhakti vowel, the use of accents (over $a$, $e$, $i$, $o$, and $æ$), the representation of -$i$t and -$ið$, a number of positional sound changes (diphthongization in front of $ng$, vo instead of original vá, the transition of $rl$ to $ll$, transition of $fl$ to $bl$, loss of $g$ between a long vowel and consonantal $i$), and the vocalism in the words $dyrr$ and $lykill$. Chapter 6 (pp. 239–42) on morphology is a brief examination of the mediopassive endings -$sk$ and -$umk$ in DG 11. It is shown that -$z$ is the most common ending, that -$zt$ often replaces -$z$ in monosyllabic verb forms, that -$st$ in eight instances replaces -$z$ or -$zt$ when preceded by $l$ or $r$, and that there are only two examples of the ending -$sk$ (both in $Háttatal$). Accordingly, Mårtensson concludes that “[d]essa skrivningar avviker från DG 11­skrivarens norm … och de bör antagligen tolkas som kopierade från förlagan” (p. 241). He admits, however, that it is “svårt att avgöra från vilken tid formerna i förlagan härrör, eftersom ersättningen -$sk$ > -$st$ sker gradvis under 1200-talet” (p. 241). There are only ten examples of the mediopassive in the 1st pers. sing. (including pseudo-mediopassive forms like $gáfumk = gaf mér$). All appear in verses. In nine instances, the ending is written -$umz$, -$vmz$, and -$vmzt$, and in one instance (in $Háttatal$), it is written -$omk$. Mårtensson argues that “[d]enna måste tolkas som ett exempel på ändelsen -$umk$, -$ðomk$ (av vera …). Man kan med tanke på övervikten för -$vmz$-, -$vmzt$- och -$vmzt$-skrivningar räkna med att -$umst$ har varit den för skrivaren naturliga formen på denna ändelse, medan följden -$ðomk$ troligtvis är kopierad från förlagan” (p. 242). Chapter 7 (pp. 243–48) looks at writing errors that can provide information about the exemplar. More specifically, Mårtensson scrutinizes “[d]e fel som … har uppkommitt genom att skrivaren har misstolkat en viss graf i förlagan och tolkat den som hörande till en annan graftyp i sin egen teckenuppsättning” (p. 244). Most of the chapter is devoted to the fact that often the scribe
writes \( y \) for \( v \) or \( v \) for \( y \), and Mårtensson believes that at least sections of DG 11 have their origin in an exemplar which confused \( v \) and \( y \).

In the final chapter (pp. 251–66), Mårtensson assesses the empirical observations in chapters 4–7 in light of the theoretical framework presented in chapter 2. He argues that the DG 11 scribe followed a strict orthographical norm and only now and then based it on direct sound analysis. He divides these instances into two categories. One is writings that are in opposition to the scribe’s norm, such as the use of the svrabhakti vowel, which seems not to have been the scribe’s norm: “DG 11-skrivaren kunde därmed inte skilja ändelserna -r och -ur åt genom fonologisk analys, och det betyder att det relativt stora antal -ur-ändelser som är utskrivna beror på att han hade en skriftspråklig norm enligt vilken -r och -ur kunde (men inte behövde) skiljas åt” (p. 252). The other is writings that are ultimately determined by phonological changes, but which later have become the norm of the scribe. One such example is the writing of -\( gæ \) and -\( kæ \), “där DG 11-skrivarens normalrepresentation för /æː/ har ersatts av \( \lambda \), som var normrepresentationen för /e/ och /eː/, det senare sannolikt realiserat av DG 11-skrivaren som [ie]” (p. 253). When it comes to the scribe’s morphologically based orthography, it is noted that “DG 11 har på många sätt den skriftliga utformning man kan vänta sig hos en handskrift från tidigt 1300-tal” (p. 255). Mårtensson mentions as examples the preference for -\( ir \) / -\( ur \) over the -\( er \) / -\( or \) endings, that all three conventions for rendering long consonants are used, and that accents are used sparsely. The only discernable changes to the scribe’s norm are the use of final \( þ \), which is gradually replaced by \( ð \), the addition of a redundant diacritic sign over the ligature of \( n \) and \( g \) (for \( n: \)), and possibly the use of accents to mark sound quality. A good deal of attention is devoted to sign by sign copying, and here Mårtensson asks two important questions: “Vilka förutsättningar gör då att DG 11-skrivaren överger sin egen skriftspråkliga norm och kopierar ortografiska konventioner som han med stor sannolikhet vet är semantiskt redundanta? När, med andra ord, avstår han från att konvertera sin förlaga?” (p. 257). In Mårtensson’s view, not only lexical and morphological factors governed the practice, but also textual contest. He notes that the clearest factor is whether a writing constitutes a name or not, and points out that frequently occurring nouns tend to be written in accordance with the scribe’s norm, but that names often show divergence in orthographical conventions as well as in morphological form: “DG 11-skrivaren [tycks] ha uppfattat att namn
just i egenskap av namn skall behandlas på ett annat sätt än övriga ord. Möjligen har skrivaren haft den uppfattningen att namn skall återges med en högre grad av redundans, antingen avseende skriftlig närhet till förlagan, eller avseende fonologisk struktur” (pp. 258–59). Mårtensson emphasizes that it is not the purpose of the book to give a detailed description of the language in DG 11, but draws attention to the fact that here and there the DG 11 scribe has given representations to linguistic changes (including the assimilation of rl to ll, the change gev and kev to gie and kia, respectively, and the svarabhakti vowel u) and that in some instances he retains archaic features (comprising the opposition between long and short r in endings, eng instead of eing, and the vá sequence). Mårtensson concludes that two older layers can be distinguished in DG 11, one from the early thirteenth century and another from the time after 1250. He also points out that the verse and the prose seem to have different origins and draws attention to the fact that the most archaic features are some of the graph-types in the *Second Grammatical Treatise*. He believes that Háttatal did not follow the other texts from the beginning (due to the use of Greek uncial k in this text), and that the Háttatal text in DG 11 is likely derived from an exemplar from the early thirteenth century. Finally, the use of accents to mark stress and the use of suspensions in DG 11 indicate, according to Mårtensson, that the quotations from eddic poetry and in some instances also quotations from skaldic poetry are derived from a separate manuscript, which are quite similar to GKS 2364 4to and AM 748 I a 4to. An English translation of chapter 8, a list of tables and figures, a bibliography, three appendices, and three indices (personal names, mythological names, and manuscripts) conclude the volume.

There is no question that *Skrivaren och förlagan: Norm och normbrott i Codex Upsaliensis av Snorra Edda* is a work of high scholarly quality. Mårtensson’s meticulous and no doubt time consuming analysis of scribal conventions in DG 11 is admirable. It is rather unfortunate that the conclusions are somewhat modest, though certainly they are authoritative and interesting. This reviewer is a little reluctant to hail the book as a model for future research. Only time will tell, if the methods employed by Mårtensson in order to gain information about different chronological layers in a manuscript will generate interest among philologists, but the book has the potential to stimulate discussions about the nature of scribal working habits. It is likely a book to which editors of Old Norse-Icelandic texts will turn, when faced with anachronisms in a manuscript, when pondering stemmatic issues, and when deliberating the date of a manuscript.
or its exemplar. The book must have been something of a challenge for the press, Novus forlag, with all of its tables and special characters, but the result is beautiful, and the author, the editors of Bibliotheca Nordica, and the staff at Novus forlag are all to be congratulated on a fine publication.

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