Gunaighar Charter of Vainyagupta

Dániel Balogh

Author of digital edition: Dániel Balogh

Contributors: Dániel Balogh, Amandine Wattelier-Bricout

Identifier: DHARMA_INSBengalCharters00001

Repository: Bengal Charters (tfb-bengalcharters-epigraphy)

File path: texts/DHARMA_INSBengalCharters00001.xml

Language: Sanskrit [Northern Brāhmī (unspecified)]

Commit: 2026-10-31 08:09 (4311b30), last modified 2026-09-09 14:21 (3462256)

Edition

Seal

〈1〉 mahārāja-śrī-vai(nyaguptaḥ)

Plates

〈Page 1r〉 〈1〉 svasti〈.〉 mahā-nau-hasty-aśva-jayaskandhāvārāt krīpurād bhagavan-mahādeva-pādānuddhyāto mahārāja-śrī-vainyaguptaḥ〈2〉 kuśalī [ca. 8×] sva-pādopajīvinaś ca kuśalam āśaṁsya samājñāpayati

viditaṁ bhavatām astu yathā〈3〉 mayā mātā-pittror ātmanaśca pu(ṇyā)bhivṛ(ddha)ye 'smat-pāda-dāsa-mahārāja-rudradatta-vijñāpyād anenaiva māhāyānika-śākya-bhikṣv-ā〈4〉cāryya-śāntidevam uddiśya (gopa?) [ca. 8×] (digbhāge?) kāryyamāṇa-kāryyāvalokiteśvarāśrama-vihāre Anenai〈5〉vācāryyeṇa pratipādita(ka?)-māhāyānika-vaivarttika-bhikṣu-saṁgh¿a?〈ā〉nām parigrahe bhagavato buddhasya sataṭaṁ tri¿ṣ?-kālaṁ〈6〉 gandha-puṣpa-dīpa-dhūpādi-pra(varttanāya ta?)sya bhikṣu-saṁghasya ca

cīvara-piṇḍa-pāta-śayanāsana-glāna-pratyaya-bhaiṣajyādi-〈7〉 paribhogāya vihāre (ca) khaṇḍa-phuṭṭa-pratisaṁskāra-karaṇāya Uttara-māṇḍalika-kānteḍadaka-grāme sarvato bho〈8〉genāgrahāratvenaikādaśa-khila-pāṭakāḥ pañcabhiḥ khaṇḍais tāmra-paṭṭenātisṛṣṭāḥ

Api ca khalu śruti-smṛtī〈9〉(ti?)hā(sa?)-vihitāṁ puṇya-bhūmidāna-śrutim aihikāmuttrika-phala-viṣeṣe smṛto bhāvataḥ samupagamya svatas tu pī〈10〉ḍām apy ūrīkṛtya pāttrebhyo bhūmiṁ [ca. 4+] (dviṣa?)dbhir asmad-vacana-gauravāt svayaśo-dharmmāvāptaye caite〈11〉 pāṭakā Asmi(n vi?)hāre śaśvat-kālam abhya(nupālayitavyāḥ?)〈.〉 Anupālanam prati ca bhagavatā parāśarātmajena veda-vyā〈12〉sena vyāsena gītāḥ ślokā bhavanti

1. Anuṣṭubh

ṣaṣṭiṁ varṣa-sa(hasrā)ṇi
svargge modati bhūmidaḥ
Ākṣeptā cānumantā ca
tā〈13〉ny eva na(ra?)ke vaseT

2. Anuṣṭubh

sva-dattāṁ para-dattām vā
yo hareta (vasu)ndharāṁ
(sa) viṣṭhāyāṁ kṛmir bhūtvā
pitṛbhiḥ saha pacyate

3. Anuṣṭubh

〈14〉 pūrva-dattāṁ dvijātibhyo
yatnād rakṣa yudhiṣṭhira
mahīṁ mahimatāṁ śreṣtha
dānā¿t ś?〈c ch〉reyo 'nupālanaṁ

varttamānāṣṭāśīty-u〈15〉ttara-śata-saṁvatsare pauṣa-māsasya caturvvi¿n?śatitama-divase dūtakena mahā-pratīhāra-mahā-pīlupati-pañcādhi〈16〉karaṇoparika-pāṭy-uparika-(pura?)-purapāloparika-mahārāja-śrī-mahā-sāmanta-vijayasenenaitad ekādaśa-pāṭaka-dā〈17〉nāyājñām anubhāvitāḥ kumārāmātya-revajjasvāmī bhāmaha-vatsa-bhogikāḥ〈.〉 likhitaṁ sandhi-vigrahā¿r?〈dh〉ikaraṇa-kāya〈18〉stha-naradattena

yattraika-kṣettrakhaṇḍe nava-droṇa-vāpādhika-sapta-pāṭaka-parimāṇe sīmā-liṅgāni〈.〉 pūrvveṇa guṇekā〈19〉grahāra-grāma-sīmā viṣṇuvardhaki-kṣetra¿ś? ca〈.〉 dakṣiṇena (miduvilāla?)-kṣettraṁ rāja-vihāra-kṣetra¿ś? ca〈.〉 paścimena

sūrīnāśīrampūrṇṇeka-〈20〉 kṣettraṁ〈.〉 Uttareṇa doṣī-bhoga-puṣkariṇ(ī?) [ca. 15×] vampiyākāditya-vandhu-kṣetrāṇāñ ca sīmā

〈21〉 dvitīya-khaṇḍasyāṣṭāvi¿n?śati-droṇa-vāpa-parimāṇasya sīmā〈.〉 pūrvveṇa guṇikāgrahāra-grāma-sīmā〈.〉 dakṣiṇena pakka〈22〉(vilāla?)-kṣettraṁ〈.〉 paścimena rāja-vihāra-kṣettraṁ〈.〉 Uttareṇa (vaidya?)-kṣettraṁ

tṛtīya-khaṇḍasya trayovi¿n?śati-droṇa-vāpa-〈23〉 parimāṇasya sīmā〈.〉 pūrvveṇa [ca. 15×] kṣettraṁ〈.〉 dakṣiṇena (nakhaddārccarika?)-kṣettra-sīmā〈.〉 paścimena〈Page 1v〉 〈24〉 j(a/o/c)lārī-kṣettraṁ〈.〉 Uttareṇa nāgī-joḍāka-kṣettraṁ

caturthasya triṁśad-droṇa-vāpa-parimāṇa-kṣettra-khaṇḍasya sīmā〈.〉 pūrvveṇa〈25〉 buddhāka-kṣettra-sīmā〈.〉 dakṣiṇena kālāka-kṣettraM〈.〉 paścimena (sū)ryya-kṣettra-sīmā〈.〉 Uttareṇa mahīpāla-kṣettraṁ

(pa)ṇcamasya〈26〉 pādona-pāṭaka-dvaya-parimāṇa-kṣettra-khaṇḍasya sīmā〈.〉 pūrvveṇa khaṇḍa-vi(ḍu)ggurika-kṣettraṁ〈.〉 dakṣiṇena maṇibhaddra-〈27〉 kṣettraṁ〈.〉 paścimena yajñarāta-kṣettra-sīmā〈.〉 Uttareṇa nādaḍadaka-grāma-sīmeti

vihāra-tala-bhūmer api sīmā-liṅgāni〈.〉〈28〉 pūrvveṇa cūḍāmaṇi-nagara-śrī-nau-yogayor mmaddhye jolā〈.〉 dakṣiṇena gaṇeśvara-vilāla-puṣkariṇyā nau-khāṭaḥ(|)〈29〉 paścimena pradyumneśvara-deva-kula-kṣettra-prāntaḥ〈.〉 Uttareṇa praḍāmāra-nauyoga-khātaḥ

Etad-vihāra-prāvesya-śūnya-pratikara〈30〉-hajjika-khila-bhūmer api sīmā-liṅgāni〈.〉 pūrvveṇa pradyumneśvara-deva-kula-kṣettra-sīmā〈.〉 dakṣiṇena śākya-bhikṣv-ācāryya-jita〈31〉sena-vaihārika-kṣettrāva(sā?)naḥ〈.〉 paścimena (ha?)cāta-gaṁga〈.〉 Uttareṇa daṇḍa-puṣkariṇī ceti|

saṁ 100 80 8 poṣṣa di 20 4

Apparatus

〈5〉 -saṁgh¿a?〈ā〉nām B S ◇ *-saṁghanām* G; *-saṁgh(ā)nām* A DB. — 〈5〉 tri¿ṣ?-kālaṁ DB ◇ *¿triṣ?〈tri〉kālaṁ* S; *triṣkālaṁ* B A G • Sircar 1965 suggests reading *tri-kālaṁ* and understands this word as a synonym for *trisanddhyaṁ*.

〈6〉 -pra(varttanāya ta?)sya B S A G DB • Ghose 1930 suggests another restoration of the text : *-pra(dānāya ta?)sya*.

〈9〉 °(ti)hā(sa)-vihitāṁ MG S A G DB ◇ *hāpavihitā 〈.〉* B. — 〈9〉 -viṣeṣe smṛto B S A G DB • Bhattacharyya 1930 suggests reading *smṛtau* or *smṛtāṁ*. Agrawala 1983 notes

that *smṛto* should be corrected to *smṛtāṁ*, or to *viśeṣeṇa smṛtau*. Balogh 2019 suggests *viśeṣa-smṛta*u as a less invasive option.

〈10〉 [ca. 4+] B DB ◇ *[ca. 7+]〈.〉[ca. 3+]* S G; *[ca. 4+]〈.〉[...]* A • Ghose 1930 and Goyal 1993 suggest *na haret* for the lacuna. Sircar 1965 considers the gap more long and offers *nāpahareT 〈.〉 vādhañca kuryāt*.

〈11〉 abhya(nupālayitavyāḥ?) MG S A G DB ◇ *abhya[ca. 5×]* B.

〈13〉 na(ra)ke DB ◇ *na〈ra〉ke* B S A G.

〈14〉 dānā¿t ś?〈c ch〉reyo S A ◇ *dānā¿t ś?reyo* DB; *dānāt śreyo* B G. — 〈14〉 varttamānāṣṭāśīty-u° B A DB ◇ *varttamānāṣṭāśītty-u°* S G.

〈16〉 (pura?)-purapāloparika- G DB ◇ *{(pura?)}-purapāloparika-* B S A.

〈19〉 -kṣetra¿ś? ca DB ◇ *-kṣetra¿ś ca?〈ñ ca〉* S A; *-kṣetraś ca* B G.

〈29〉 kula-kṣettra- A DB ◇ *-kula-kṣetra-* B S G. — 〈29〉 -khātaḥ S A G DB ◇ *-khāṭaḥ* B. — 〈29〉 -prāvesya- S DB ◇ *-prāveśya-* B A G.

〈31〉 poṣṣa di G DB ◇ *p¿oṣya di?〈auṣa-di〉* B; *p¿oṣṣa di?〈auṣa-di〉* S A.

Translation

1.

The giver of land enjoys sixty thousand years in heaven; the one who challenges 〈a donation〉 as well as the one who approves 〈of the challenge〉 will reside as many 〈years〉 in hell.[1]

2.

The one who would steal land given by himself or another becomes a worm in excrement and is cooked with his ancestors.[2]

3.

You, Yudhiṣṭhira, most excellent of kings, must strenuously protect land previously given to brahmins. Safeguarding is even better than giving.[3]

[1]This verse corresponds to the verse numbered 123 among the Stanzas on Bhūmidāna listed by Sircar (see Sircar 1965, appendix II, pp. 170–200).

[2]This verse corresponds to the verse numbered 132 among the Stanzas on Bhūmidāna listed by Sircar (see Sircar 1965, appendix II, pp. 170–200).

[3]This verse corresponds to the verse numbered 131 among the Stanzas on Bhūmidāna listed by Sircar (see Sircar 1965, appendix II, pp. 170–200).

Bibliography

First reported and edited (with plate) in Bhattacharyya 1930. Corrections in Ghose 1930. Recorded in ARIE 1952–53, p. 26, s.v. 36, appendix A. Discussed in Tewari 1980. The text has been encoded by Amandine Wattelier-Bricout using a digital edition created by Dániel Balogh for the Siddham project as starting point.

Primary

[B] Bhattacharyya, Dinesh Chandra. 1930. "A newly discovered copperplate from Tippera: The Gunaighar grant of Vainyagupta: the year 188 current (Gupta era)." IHQ 6, pp. 45–60.

[MG] Ghose, Monomohan. 1930. "The newly discovered Gunaighar Grant." IHQ 6, p. 561.

[S] Sircar, Dines Chandra. 1965. *Select inscriptions bearing on Indian history and civilization. Volume I: from the sixth century B.C. to the sixth century A.D.* 2nd edition revised and enlarged. Calcutta: University of Calcutta. Pages 340–345, entry 37.

[A] Agrawala, Prithvi Kumar. 1983. *Imperial Gupta Epigraphs (□□□□□□□□□□□□□□□□□□□□)*. Ancient Indian Epigraphical Sources (□□□□□□□□□□□□□□□□□□□□) 10, pt. 1 / 2. Varanasi: Books Asia, Distributed by Prithvi Prakashan. Entry 57, pages 113–117.

[G] Goyal, Śrīrām. 1993. *□□□□□□□□□□ □□□□□□/Guptakālīna Abhilekha (Inscriptions of the Gupta Age)*. Jodhpur: Kusumanjali Prakashan. Pages 307–313.

[DB] Balogh, Dániel. 2019. "Siddham Epigraphic Archive - Texts in EpiDoc [Data set]." Zenodo. DOI: 10.5281/zenodo.2574901. [URL]. Item IN00070.

Secondary

Bhandarkar, Devadatta Ramakrishna. 1927–1936. *A list of the inscriptions of northern India in Brahmi and its derivative scripts, from about 200 A. C.: Appendix to Epigraphia Indica and record of the Archaeological Survey of India, volumes XIX to XXIII*. Calcutta: Archaeological Survey of India. [URL]. Pages 283–284, entry 2038.

ARIE 1952–53. *Annual report on Indian epigraphy for 1952-53*. Edited by Dines Chandra Sircar. Delhi: Manager of Publications (Department of Archaeology), 1958. Page 26, entry 36, appendix A.

Tewari, S. P. 1980. "A Note on Patyuparika." JESI 7, pp. 54–57.

Tsukamoto Keishō □□□□. 1996. □□□□□□□□□□ *I, Text, Note,* □□ *Indo Bukkyō himei no kenkyū I: Text, Note, Wayaku [A comprehensive study of the Indian Buddhist inscriptions, Part I: Text, Notes and Japanese Translation]*. Kyōto-shi □□□: Heirakuji Shoten □□□□□.