K. 341-S. Prasat Neak Buos inscription engraved on the Southern doorjamb of the L sanctuary, 596 Śaka

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Edition

1. Anuṣṭubh

〈1〉 ᳕ yatra sthānumatasthānaṁ
dṛśyamānaṁ padadvayaṁ
sthitvā [1×]durggayā ta(sya)
(manthāna)nāma prakāśyate

2. Anuṣṭubh

〈2〉 tenā(t)ra śivapādākhyo
bhaviṣyas te [.]u bhūdharaḥ
Upāsya (si)[d](dhi) ya [1×] nāṁ
smaratām api pāvanaM

3. Anuṣṭubh

〈3〉 yatraiva pivatā(m) saṁme
divyasvarga(pade) [dhr]u[vam]
grava [.]i[.]pati [––˽]
[˽] na val(īti) viśrutaḥ

〈4〉 〈5〉 〈6〉 〈7〉 〈8〉 〈9〉 〈10〉 〈11〉 〈12〉

4. Anuṣṭubh

〈13〉 ṣaṣṭivarṣasahassrāni
svar[gg]e modati bhūmidaḥ
[˽˽˽˽˘––˽]
[˽˽˽˽˘–˘˽]

Apparatus

〈1〉 sthānumatasthānaṁ ◇ *sthānumatā sthānan* GC • For *sthānu-*, understand *sthāṇu-*. — 〈1〉 sthitvā [1×] ◇ *sthi* ˽ ˽ GC. — 〈1〉 s(manthāna)nāma ◇ ˽ ˽*nāma* GC.

〈2〉 tenā(t)ra śivapādākhyo ◇ *tenāgraśivapādākhyo* GC. — 〈2〉 bhaviṣyas te [.]u ◇ *bhavīṣyan teṣu* GC • The *ste* ligature is quite clear on the inscription photographs, while the *ṣ* of *teṣu* does not appear clearly either on the rubbing or in the photographs. We therefore prefer to report an illegible consonant to which the vowel *u* is attached. — 〈2〉 Upāsya (si)[d](dhi) ya [1×] nāṁ ◇ ˽ ˘ – – ˽ GC. — 〈2〉 pāvanaM ◇ *pāvana* GC • The final consonant, miniaturized, is engraved a little below the line. This palaeographic phenomenon occurs in only one other pre-Angkorian inscription, found at Wat Phra Ngam (Thailand) and recently published in Thai (Weeraprajak 2020, p. 4). This particularity is however present in other South-East Asian epigraphic corpora, such as the Pyu inscriptions (2017, p. 84, § 1.5.3.15).

〈3〉 pivatā(m) saṁme ◇ *pivatāṁ same* GC. — 〈3〉 -(pade) [dhr]u[vam] ◇ ˘ – *dhruvam* GC • While we think we can read *pade*, we only see the the vowel *u* below the word that Coedès has transcribed *dhruvam*. — 〈3〉 grava [.]i[.]pati ◇ ˽ ˽ ˽ ˽ ˘ GC • We could understand *viṭpati* or *dikpati*. — 〈3〉 na val(īti) ◇ ˽ ˽ ˽ ˽ *ti* GC.

Translation into French

1.

De ce (*yatra… tasya*) lieu où les deux 〈empreintes de〉 pieds (*padadvayaṁ*) restent visibles (*dṛśyamānaṁ*) — le lieu 〈où elles se trouvent〉 étant 〈ainsi〉 approuvé par

Sthāṇu (sthānumatasthānaṁ) —, s'étant tenu debout ⟨là⟩, avec Durgā (?), le nom Manthāna est proclamé.

2.

Ainsi (*tena*), une montagne (*bhūdharaḥ*) nommée Śivapāda restera (*bhaviṣyaḥ*) ici (*atra*). Ceux qui l'honorent (*upāsya*), et la gardent aussi à l'esprit (*smaratām api*) purification (*pāvanam* ?) [...] pouvoirs (*siddhi* ?) [...]

3.

Là même, de la même manière, ceux qui boivent [...] ⟨obtiendront⟩ le ciel des dieux [...] tel est le [...] notoire.

Translation into French by Cœdès 1937–1966

1.

La place où l'Immuable (Śiva) a manifesté ses deux pieds [...] de celui qui est venu de loin [...] le nom est proclamé.

2.

Par lui, la montagne nommée Śivapāda antérieur sera pour ceux qui la vénèrent [...] purification, même pour ceux qui se souviennent [...]

3.

Là même, de la même manière, ceux qui boivent [...] ⟨obtiendront⟩ le ciel des dieux [...] tel est le [...] notoire.

Commentary

Regarding the ancient name of the temple: Cœdès considered the hapax *agraśivapāda* ("the Earlier Śivapāda") as the equivalent expression of the Old Khmer *śivapādapūrva* "the Eastern Śivapāda", encountered in other inscriptions from Prasat Neak Buos and antonym of the expression *śivapādapaścima* "the Western Śivapāda", which refers to Prasat Ta Muean Thom. The Sanskrit term *agra* does not normally have the meaning of 'eastern, east' which might make it equivalent to the word *pūrva*. The form of the consonant *t* being particularly ambiguous, we do not exclude the reading proposed by Cœdès.

Bibliography

First edited by Gœrge Cœdès (1937–1966, vol. 6, pp. 23–26) with a French translation of the whole inscription; the Sanskrit part is re-edited here by Chloé Chollet and Dominic Goodall from photographs (2020, pp. 390–391).

Primary

[GC] Cœdès, George. 1937–1966. *Inscriptions du Cambodge I-VIII*. Collection de textes et documents sur l'Indochine 3. Hanoi; Paris: Imprimerie d'Extrême-Orient. Volume 6, pages 23–26.

[CC&DG] Chollet, Chloé & Dominic Goodall. 2020. "La prouesse martiale et les pieds de Śiva : Note au sujet de l'inscription préangkorienne K. 1373 du Phnom Sambok." BEFEO 106, pp. 379–400. Pages 390–391.