K. 363. Stela from Phu Lokhon (inscription of Citrasena-Mahendravarman), 6th century Śaka

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Palaeographic description

The *akṣara*s are characteristic of the seventh century with long ornamental descenders.

Edition

1. Anuṣṭubh

〈1〉 〈Column a〉 [naptā śrī-sārvvabhauma](sya)
〈Column b〉 (sūnuś) śrī-vīravarmmaṇaḥ
〈2〉 〈Column a〉 (śaktyānūnaḻ ka)ṇiṣṭho 'pi
〈Column b〉 bhrātā śrī-bhavavarmmaṇaḥ

2. Anuṣṭubh

〈3〉 〈Column a〉 śrī-citrasenanāmā ya〈Column b〉ḻ
pūrvvam āhata-lakṣaṇaḥ

〈4〉 〈Column a〉 sa śrī-mahendravarmmeti
〈Column b〉 nāma bheje 'bhiṣekajam·

3. Anuṣṭubh

〈5〉 〈Column a〉 jitveman ¡ṭ!〈d〉eśam akhila〈Column b〉ṅ
giriśasyeha bhū-bhṛti
〈6〉 〈Column a〉 liṅgan niveśayām āsa
〈Column b〉 jaya-cihnam ivātmanaḥ

Apparatus

〈1〉 [naptā śrīsārvvabhauma](sya) ◇ *[˘˘˘][.]ā [-]ryyā [-] ya_(s)* AB.

〈3〉 ḷ ◇ *s* AB. — 〈3〉 pūrvva° ◇ *sarvva°* AB.

Translation into French by Barth 1903

1.

Lui, qui[...] fils de Śrī Vīravarman 〈et〉 nullement inférieur en puissance, bien que le plus jeune frère de Śrī Bhavavarman ;

2.

Lui, Śrī Citrasena, qui possède toutes les marques de la majesté, a pris le nom de Śrī Mahendravarman lors de son sacre.

3.

Après avoir conquis toute la contrée, il a, sur ce mont, établi ce liṅga de Giriśa comme le signe de sa victoire.

Translation by Goodall 2023

3.

Having conquered this entire area, he planted a *liṅga* of Śiva here on this mountain, a Mark of Victory for himself, as it were.

Translation

1.

Grandson of Śrī Sārvabhauma ⟨and⟩ son of Śrī Vīravarman, in spite of being the youngest brother of Śrī Bhavavarman ⟨he was⟩ not inferior in power.

2.

He whose mark was well known (*āhatalakṣaṇaḥ*) previously by name Śrī Citrasena received Śrī Mahendravarman as a name created ⟨at the time of his⟩ enthronement.

3.

Having conquered this entire country, ⟨he⟩ installed on the mountain here a *liṅga* of Giriśa as his insignia of victory.

Commentary

The three stanzas of this inscription are identical to those of five inscriptions, viz. K. 496, K. 497, K. 508, K. 1106 and K. 1190.

The first two stanzas of this inscription are identical to those of five inscriptions, viz. K. 509, K. 1102, K. 1174, K. 1339 and K. 1340.

The first stanza of this inscription is identical to that of inscriptions K. 1173 and K. 1341.

The restitution of the *pāda* a of the first stanza is based on K. 496, K. 508, K. 509, K. 1102, K. 1106, K. 1173, K. 1174, K. 1339 and K. 1340 ; the stanza in K. 497, K. 1190 and K. 1341 is fragmentary.

Bibliography

Edited by Auguste Barth (1903, pp. 442–446) with a French translation; re-edited partly by Dominic Goodall (2023, p. 28) with English translation; re-edited here by Dominique Soutif and Kunthea Chhom based on the estampage EFEO 66 and the photos of estampage by Michel Lorrillard, DSCN0005, DSCN0006 and DSCN0007.

Primary

[AB] Barth, Auguste. 1903. “Inscription sanscrite du Phou Lokhon (Laos).” BEFEO 3, pp. 442–446. DOI: 10.3406/befeo.1903.1236. [URL]. Pages 442–446.

[DG] Goodall, Dominic. 2023. *Kālidāsa's Kingship among the Khmers*. Gonda Lecture 29. Amsterdam: Koninklijke Nederlandse Akademie van Wetenschappen. [URL]. Page 28.