Sirpur Plates of Śivagupta, Year 6

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Edition

Seal

1. Anuṣṭubh

rājña〈ḥ〉 śrīharṣaguptasya sūno〈ḥ〉 sadguṇaśālina〈ḥ〉
śāsanaṁ śivaguptasya sthitam ā bhuvanasthite〈ḥ〉

Plates

〈Page 1r〉

〈Page 1v〉 〈1v1〉 □ svasty aśeṣakṣit(ī)śavidyābhyāsaviśeṣāsāditamahanī〈1v2〉yavinayasa〈m〉patsa〈ṁ〉pāditasakalavijigīṣuguṇo guṇava〈1v3〉tsamāśraya〈ḥ〉 prakṛṣṭataraśauryyaprajñāprabhāvasaṁbhāvitamahābhyu〈1v4〉daya〈ḥ〉 kārtti◯keya Iva kṛttivāsaso rājña〈ḥ〉 śrīharṣadevasya s¿u?〈ū〉〈1v5〉nuḥ somava¡ṅ!〈ṁ〉śasaṁbhavaḥ paramamāheśvaro mātāpitṛpādānudhyāta〈ḥ〉〈1v6〉(śrī)mahāśivaguptarā-

jaḥ kuśalī□ devabhogīyapillāsunyagrā〈1v7〉m¿a?〈e〉 tāmraśāsanena brāhmaṇāṁ saṁp¿u?〈ū〉jya prativāsinaḥ samājñāpa〈Page 2r〉〈2r1〉yati

viditam astu bhavatāṁ yathāsmābhir ayaṁ grāma〈ḥ〉 sanidh¿ī?〈i〉ḥ sopanidh¿ī?〈i〉ḥ〈2r2〉¿Ā?〈A〉cāṭabhaṭapraveśa〈ḥ〉 sarvvakarādānasameto mātāpittror ātmanaś ca〈2r3〉puṇyābhi¡b!〈v〉ṛddhaye lāṭaviṣayavāstavyavājasaneyabhāradvājasa〈2r4〉gottrāya ◯bāḍābhaṭṭāyaudakapūrvv¿ā?〈a〉〈ṁ〉 ¿A?〈Ā〉ṣāḍhāmāvāsyāṁ sūryyoparā〈2r5〉ge pratipādita Ity

avagamya bhavadbhiḥ samucitaṁ bhogabhāgam upana〈2r6〉yadbhiḥ sukhaṁ prativasta¡b!〈v〉yam iti□ bhāvinaś ca bhūmipālān ud〈d〉i¡ṣ!〈ś〉yeda〈2r7〉m abhidh¿i?〈ī〉yate

1. Vasantatilakā

bhūmipradā divi lalanti patanti hanta
hṛtvā mahī〈ṁ〉 nṛ〈Page 2v〉〈2v1〉patayo narake nṛśa¡ṅ!〈ṁ〉sāT
Etad 〈d〉vayaṁ parikalayya calāñ ca lakṣmīm
ā〈2v2〉yus tathā kuruta yad bhavatām abhīṣṭa〈ṁ〉

Api ca

2. Anuṣṭubh

rakṣāpālanayos tāvat pha〈2v3〉la〈ṁ〉 sugatidurggatī
ko nāma svargam u¡cchri!〈tsṛ〉jya narakaṁ pratipadyate

vyā〈2v4〉sagītā〈ṁ〉¡ṣ!〈ś〉 cā◯t{t}ra ślokān udāharanti

3. Indravajrā

Agner apatyaṁ prathamaṁ su〈2v5〉varṇa〈ṁ〉
bhūr vvaiṣṇavī sūryyasutāś ca gāvaḥ
dattās trayas tena bhavanti lokā
〈2v6〉 yaḥ kāñcanaṁ gāñ ca mahīñ ca dadyāT

4. Anuṣṭubh

ṣaṣṭivarṣasahasrāṇi svargge〈2v7〉 modati bhū〈mi〉daḥ
Ākṣeptā cānumantā ca t{t}āny eva narake vaseT

5. Anuṣṭubh

〈Page 3r〉 〈3r1〉 bahubhi{ḥ}r vasudhā dattā rājabhiḥ sagarādibhiḥ
yasya yasya〈3r2〉 yadā bhūmi〈s〉 tasya tasya tadā phalaṁ

6. Anuṣṭubh

svadattāṁ paradattām ¡b!⟨v⟩ā yatnā⟨3r3⟩d rakṣa yudhiṣṭhira{ḥ}
mahīṁ mahīmatāṁ śreṣṭha dānā⟨t⟩ śreyo 'nupā⟨3r4⟩lana¡m!⟨M⟩

¡i!⟨I⟩◯ti□

pravarddhamānavijayarājye sam¡b!⟨v⟩atsare ṣa⟨3r5⟩ṣṭhe 6| Āṣāḍhadivasu 10 5| Āviḥ prakurvvatā śilpaṁ puṇyaṁ⟨3r6⟩ cākṣayam itsatā stambhāyyasūnunotkīrṇa⟨ṁ⟩ kṛṣṇāyyanaiva śāsanaṁ□

Apparatus

Plates

⟨1v1⟩ °kṣit(ī)śa° ◇ *°kṣit¡i!⟨ī⟩śa°* PKS. — ⟨1v1⟩ °vidyābhyāsa° ◇ *°vidyāpabhyāsa°* PKS. — ⟨1v1⟩ °āsādita° ◇ *°āsadita°* PKS.

⟨1v6⟩ °rājaḥ ◇ *°rāja* PKS.

⟨2v1⟩ nṛśa¡ṅ!⟨ṁ⟩sāT ◇ *nṛśa¡ṅT!⟨ṁsāḥ⟩* PKS.

⟨3r5⟩ 10 5| ◇ *10 4 2* PKS. — ⟨3r5⟩ °śilpaṁ ◇ *°śil¡y!⟨p⟩aṁ* PKS. — ⟨3r5⟩ Āviḥ prakurvvatā śilpaṁ puṇyaṁ⟨3r6⟩ cākṣayam itsatā • The meaning of this phrase is not quite clear and it does not appear in any of the other copperplate charters issued by the same king. Perhaps *itsatā* should be emended to *icchatā*.

Translation

Seal

The charter of Śivagupta, son of the illustrious king Harṣagupta, who is possessed of good qualities, endures as long as the existence of the earth.

Plates

⟨1v1–2r1⟩ Success! Hail! The illustrious and great king Śivagupta who has been born in the Lunar Dynasty as the son of a king, the illustrious Harṣadeva, like Kārttikeya is of Kṛttivāsas (i.e., Śiva); who is entirely devoted to Maheśvara; who is favoured by his father and mother; and who is in good health: He has acquired all the qualities of a conqueror through the perfection of praiseworthy discipline, effected in particular by implementing all the "political sciences"; he is a refuge for the virtuous; and his great prosperity has been brought about by his superior valour, intelligence, and strength!

After having saluted the Brahmins in the village of Pillāsunya situated in the Deva bhoga, ⟨the king⟩ issues ⟨the following command⟩ to the residents of the village by means of ⟨this⟩ copperplate charter:

⟨2r1–2r5⟩ Let it be known to you that, after an offering of water, this village has been granted ⟨by us⟩ for the increase of religious merit of father, mother, and ourselves, to Bāḍābhaṭṭa who belonged to the Vājasaneya-Bhāradvāja *gotra* and was a resident of the Lāṭa *viṣaya*. ⟨The grant of the village took place⟩ on the occasion of a solar eclipse in the night of the new moon in the month of Āṣāḍha ⟨and⟩ comes along with ⟨the right to⟩ hidden treasures and deposits; the exemption from being entered by irregular or regular troops; and ⟨the right to collect⟩ all taxes ⟨payable to the king⟩.

⟨2r5–2r7⟩ Having taken note of that, you should render the proper ⟨shares of⟩ periodical offerings and produce, while living happily ⟨in this village⟩. And this is said for the instruction of the future kings:

2r7–2v2.

⟨Kings⟩ who donate land sport in heaven, ⟨but⟩ look, kings who have taken land fall into hell for their wickedness. After having taken to heart these two rules and taken hold of Lakṣmī, you should live you life as you wish!

⟨2v2⟩ And also:

2v2–2v3.

Fortune and misfortune are truly the fruit of protecting and not protecting ⟨the land⟩; who then discards heaven and resorts to hell?

⟨2v3–2v4⟩ And in this respect they quote the ⟨following⟩ stanzas sung by Vyāsa:

2v4–2v6.

Gold is the first child of Agni, land is born of Viṣṇu, and cows are the offspring of Sūrya: ⟨Therefore⟩, whoever would give gold, a cow, and land would give the three worlds

2v6–2v7.

A giver of land rejoices in heaven for sixty thousand years; he who confiscates it or allows ⟨another to confiscate it⟩ will dwell for the same period in hell!

3r1–3r2.

The earth has been granted by many kings, beginning with Sagara; whoever possesses the land at any time, to him belong the fruits at that time!

3r2–3r4.

O Yudhiṣṭhira, zealously protect the land which was given by yourself or by others! O best of kings, protection is superior to giving!

〈3r4–3r6〉 In the sixth year of the increasingly victorious reign 〈of Śivagupta〉, 〈in numbers〉 6, on the day 15 of the month of Āṣāḍha, the 〈copperplate〉 charter has been engraved by Kṛṣṇāyya, son of Stambhāyya, ¿〈thus〉 making 〈the grant〉 public and wishing it to be skillful, auspicious, and everlasting.?

Bibliography

First edited by Singh 2009 from the original plates; re-edited here by Natasja Bosma based on the published photographs.

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