# Sirpur Plates of Śivagupta, Year 19

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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¿i?〈ī〉¡ṣ!〈ś〉avidyābhyāsaviśeṣāsāditamahan¿i?〈ī〉yavina〈1v2〉yasa{ṁ}mpatsa〈ṁ〉pāditasakalavijig¿i?〈ī〉ṣuguṇo guṇavatsamāśraya〈ḥ〉 prakṛ〈1v3〉ṣṭataraśauryyaprajñāprabhāvasambhāvitamahābhyudaya〈ḥ〉 kārttikeya〈1v4〉 Iva kṛ◯t〈t〉ivāsaso rājñaḥ śr¿i?〈ī〉harṣadevasya

s¿u?<ū>nu<ḷ> somava¡ṅ!<ṁ>śasa<1v5>mbhava<ḷ> paramamāheśvaro mātāpitṛpādānudhyāta<ḷ> śr¿i?<ī>mahāśivagupta<1v6>rāja<ḷ> kuśalīt bṛhaccharkkarāmārgg¿i?<ī>yavaidyapalāśapadrake† brāhmaṇā<ṁ> saṁ<1v7>p¿u?<ū>jya sapradhānā¡t!<n> prativāsino yathākālādhyāsinas samāharttṛsannidhā<Page 2r><2r1>tṛpramukhān anyā¡ṅ!<ṁ>ś cāsmatpādopaj¿i?<ī>vinas sarvvarājapuruṣā<n> samājñāpa<2r2>yati† viditam astu bhavatāṁ yathāsm¿a?<ā>bhir ayaṁ grāma<ḷ> sanidhiḥ sopanidhis sada<2r3>śāparādhas sarvvakarādānasametaḥ sarvvap¿i?<ī>ḍāvarjjitaḥ pratiṣiddhac{c}āṭabhaṭa<2r4>praveśaḥ ◯śrībhavaguptarājadevavijñaptyā śrīpuratalavāsta¡b!<v>yatait-tiri<2r5>yabhāradvājasagottrā¡s!<bh>yāṁ bhaṭṭabhavadevajanārdanā¡s!<bh>yāṁ sahodarabhrātṛ¡s!<bh>yāṁ<2r6> cait{t}rapaurṇṇamāsyāṁ somagrahoparāge| Udakapūrvvaṁ mātāpittror ātmanaś ca pu<2r7>ṇyābhi¡b!<v>ṛddhaye tām{b}raśāsanenācāndrārkkasamakālopabhogārtha<ṁ> pratipādita<Page 2v> <2v1> Ity

avagatyānayo vidheyatay¿a?<ā> samucitaṁ bhogabhāgādikam ¿ū?<u>panayadbhiḥ<2v2> bhavadbhiḥ sukha<ṁ> prativasta¡b!<v>yam iti□ bhāvinaś ca bhūmipālān ud<d>iśyedam abhi<2v3>dh(ī)yate

1. Vasantatilakā

bhūmipradā divi l{l}ala{ṁ}nti pata{ṁ}nti ha{ṁ}nta
hṛtvā mah¿ā?<ī>ṁ nṛpatayo narake nṛ<2v4>śa¡ṇg!<ṁs>āT
◯Etad <d>vayaṁ parikalayya calāñ ca lakṣmīm
āyus tathā k¿ū?<u>ruta<2v5> yad bhavatām abh¿i?<ī>ṣṭaṁ

Api ca

2. Anuṣṭubh

rakṣāpālanayos tāvat phalaṁ sugatidurggatī
ko nā<2v6>ma svarggam u¡cchra!<tsṛ>jya narakaṁ pratipadyate□

¡b!<v>yāsagītāṁś cāt{t}ra ślokān udāhara{ṁ}nti

3. Indravajrā

<2v7> A¡j!<g>ner apatyaṁ prathamaṁ suvarṇṇaṁ
bhūr vvaiṣṇav¿i?<ī> sūryyasutāś ca gāvaḥ
dattā<s> tra<Page 3r><3r1>yas tena bhava{ṁ}nti lokā
yaḥ kāñcanaṁ gāñ ca mahīñ ca dadyāT

4. Anuṣṭubh

ṣa<3r2>ṣṭivarṣasahasrāṇi svargge modati bhūmidaḥ
Ācchettā cānumantā ca tā<3r3>(ny e)va narake vaseT

5. Anuṣṭubh

bahubhir vasudhā dattā rājabhiḥ sagarādibhiḥ
〈3r4〉 yasya ◯yasya yadā bhūmi〈s〉 tasya tasya tadā phalaṁ

6. Anuṣṭubh

svadattāṁ para〈3r5〉dattām ¡b!〈v〉ā yatnād rakṣa yudhiṣṭhira
mahī〈ṁ〉 mah¿i?〈ī〉matāṁ śreṣṭha dānā〈t〉 śreyo 'nupā〈3r6〉lana¡m!〈M〉

¡i!〈I〉ti†

śrīmahāśivaguptarājadevasya pravarddhamānavijayarājye sa〈3r7〉m¡b!〈v〉atsare Ekonavi¡ṅ!〈ṁ〉śatime caitradin¿a?〈e〉 tri¡ṅ!〈ṁ〉śatime Aṅkenāpi sam¡b!〈v〉a〈t〉 (19) caitra dina rla

# Apparatus

## Plates

〈1v4〉 śr¿i?〈ī〉° ◇ *śrī°* PKS. — 〈1v4〉 s¿u?〈ū〉nu〈ḷ〉 ◇ *sūn¿ū?〈u〉〈ḷ〉* PKS.

〈1v5〉 śr¿i?〈ī〉° ◇ *śrī°* PKS.

〈1v6〉 bṛhaccharkkarāmārgg¿i?〈ī〉ya° ◇ *buhaccharkkarāmārggāya°* PKS.

〈2r1〉 °pramukhān ◇ *°prakukhān* PKS. — 〈2r1〉 °opaj¿i?〈ī〉vinas ◇ *°opajīvinas* PKS.

〈2r2〉 sanidhiḥ ◇ *s¿ā?〈a〉nidhiḥ* PKS.

〈2r3〉 sarvva° ◇ *sarva°* PKS.

〈2r5〉 °sagottrāsyāṁ ◇ *°sagotrāsyāṁ* PKS.

〈2r6〉 cait{t}ra° ◇ *caitra°* PKS. — 〈2r6〉 Udakapūrvvaṁ ◇ *Udakapūrvva* PKS. — 〈2r6〉 °pittror ◇ *°pitror* PKS. — 〈2r6〉 pu〈2r7〉ṇyā° ◇ *p¿ū?〈u〉〈2r7〉ṇyā°* PKS.

〈2v2〉 bhavadbhiḥ ◇ *¡t!〈bh〉avadbhiḥ* PKS. — 〈2v2〉 sukha〈ṁ〉 ◇ *¡sūcā!〈sukhaṁ〉* PKS.

〈2v4〉 parikalayya ◇ *parikalasya* PKS.

〈2v6〉 cāt{t}ra ◇ *cātra* PKS.

〈2v7〉 suvarṇṇaṁ ◇ *suvarṇṇa* PKS. — 〈2v7〉 sūryyasutāś ◇ *sūrūryasutāś* PKS.

〈3r2〉 tā〈3r3〉(ny e)va ◇ *tā〈3r3〉nśrayeva* PKS.

〈3r7〉 triṅśatime Aṅkenāpi ◇ *triṅśati Āḍakenāpi* PKS.

# 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 world

## Plates

〈1v1–2r2〉 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 Vaidyapalāśapadraka situated in the Bṛhat-Śarkkarā *mārga*, 〈the king〉 issues 〈the following command〉 to all royal officers who are dedicated to our service and other 〈local council〉, headed by the collector and the receiver; to those who are temporarily posted 〈in the village〉, and to the residents 〈of the village〉 with their headman:

〈2r2–2v1〉 Let it be known to you that by means of 〈this〉 copperplate charter and preceded by a libation of water, this village has been granted by us for the increase of religious merit of father, mother, and ourselves, to the brothers *bhaṭṭa* Bhavadeva and *bhaṭṭa* Janārdana, inhabitants of the plains of Śrīpura and belonging to the Bhāradvāja *gotra* and to the Taittirīya 〈school〉 (Yajurveda). 〈The grant of the village〉, which is meant to be enjoyed as long as the moon and the sun will endure, 〈took place〉 on the occasion of a lunar eclipse on the day of the full moon in the month of Caitra 〈and〉 was requested by the illustrious *rājadeva* Bhavagupta. 〈The grant〉 comes along with 〈the right to〉 hidden treasures and deposits; 〈the right to〉 punish and realise fines for the ten offences; 〈the right to collect〉 all taxes 〈payable to the king〉; the exemption from all kinds of unpaid labour; and the exemption from being entered by irregular or regular troops.

〈2v1–2v3〉 Having taken note of that, you should render the proper prescribed 〈shares of〉 periodical offerings, produce, and the like to these two 〈donees〉, while living happily 〈in this village〉. And this is said for the instruction of the future kings:

2v3–2v5.

〈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!

〈2v5〉 And also:

2v5–2v6.

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

〈2v6〉 And in this respect they quote the 〈following〉 stanzas sung by Vyāsa:

2v7–3r1.

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

3r1–3r3.

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!

3r3–3r4.

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!

3r4–3r6.

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

〈3r6–3r7〉 〈The copperplate charter has been engraved〉 on day thirty of the month of Caitra, in the nineteenth year of the increasingly victorious reign of the illustrious and great *rājadeva* Śivagupta. In numbers: Year 19, 〈Month〉 Caitra, Day Thirty.

# Bibliography

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

## Primary

**[PKS]** Singh, Prabhat Kumar. 2009. “Sirpur copper-plates of Pāṇḍuvaṁśi rulers.” PM 5, pp. 11–27. Pages 21–24.

## Secondary

Bosma, Natasja. 2018. *Dakṣiṇa Kosala: A rich centre of early Śaivism*. Groningen: Barkhuis. [URL]. Pages 250–251.