Sirpur Plates of Śivagupta, undated (presumably year 48 or later)

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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〉śavidyābhyāsaviśeṣāsāditamahanīyav-ina〈1v2〉yasampatsampāditasakalavijigīṣuguṇo guṇava{T|}t samāśraya〈ḥ〉 pra〈1v3〉kṛṣṭataraśauryyaprajñāprabhāvasambhāvitamahābhyudayaḥ kārt-tike〈1v4〉ya Iva kṛ◯t〈t〉ivāsa¡ś!〈s〉o rājñaḥ śr¿i?〈ī〉harṣadevasya ¡ś!〈s〉¿u?〈ū〉nu〈ḥ〉

somava¡ṅ!<ṁ>śa{ḥ}<1v5>sambhava¡t!<ḥ> paramamāheśvaro mātāpit¡ri!<ṛ>pādānudhyātaḥ śr¿a?<ī>mahāśivagu<1v6>ptarāja<ḥ> kuśal¿i?<ī>□ cul<l>āṭa¡ś!<s>¿i?<ī>māb-
hog¿i?<ī>yakatambapad<r>ūllake| br¿a?<ā>hma<1v7>ṇāṁ sampūjya tatpratinivāsino
'nyān api yathākālabhāvinaḥ samāha<Page 2r><2r1>rtṛsan<n>idhātṛprabhṛtīn
asmatpādopaj¿i?<ī>vinaḥ sar¡bv!<vv>arājapuruṣā¡ṁ!<n> samā<2r2>jñāpayati|

viditam astu bhavatā<ṁ>| yathāsmābhiḥ saṁpraty aya<ṁ> grāmaḥ sa<2r3>nidhiḥ sopanidhiḥ sar¡bv!<vv>akarādānasametaḥ sar¡bv!<vv>ap¿i?<ī>ḍāvivarjjitaḥ<2r4> sadaśāpa◯rādhaḥ pratiṣiddhacāṭabhaṭapraveśaḥ śr¿i?<ī>puratale†<2r5> 'smatprakāritaśr¿i?<ī>madbāleśvaramaṭhikātapovanā¡t!<n>taḥpātine| asmadrājñ¿i?<ī><2r6>śrī-<A>maradev¿i?<ī>kāritāya| nandapurīyabhagavad¿ā?<a>ghoraśivācāryyapraśiṣya<2r7>d¿i?<ī>rghācāryyaśiṣyaśr¿i?<ī>mad¡b!<v>yāpaśiv¿ā?<a>bhagavatpādapratisthāpitadevabha<Page 2v><2v1>ṭṭārakāya| amareśvarāyatanāya| asyā evāmarade¡b!<v>yā vijñaptyā mātā<2v2>pitror ātmanaś ca
puṇyābhi¡b!<v>ṛddhaye samakālopabhogārtha{ṁ}m udakapūr¡bv!<vv>aka<2v3>m
¿a?<ā>candratārakārkkam udakapūr¡bv!<vv>akaṁ t¿a?<ā>m{b}raśāsanena|
sattrārthagrāmotpa<2v4>n<n>agavāṅga◯rasapattraśākavārikataṇḍulāṣṭabhāgam ¡b!<v>arjjayitvā| bha<2v5>gnasphuṭitasaṁskārārtha<ṁ> sa¡n!<m>mārjjanopalepanapūjāsa¡ṅ!<ṁ>g¿i?<ī>takapravartta<2v6>nārtha¡ñ!<ṁ> ca prati<pā>dita
Ity

avagamya samucita<ṁ> bhogabhāgādikam upanayanto<2v7> bhavantaḥ sukhaṁ prativasa<n>tu□ bhāvi<na>ś ca bhūmipālān ud<d>iśyedam abhidh¿i?<ī><Page 3r><3r1>yate

1. Vasantatilakā

bh¿u?<ū>m¿a?<i>pradā divi lalanti patanti ha<n>ta
hṛtvā mah¿a?<ī><ṁ> nṛpata<3r2>yo narake nṛśa¡ṅ!<ṁ>sāT|
Etad <d>vayaṁ parikalayya calāñ ca lakṣm¿i?<ī>m
āyu<3r3>s tathā kuruta yad bhavatām abh¿i?<ī>ṣṭaṁ

Api ca

2. Anuṣṭubh

rakṣāpālanayos tāvat pha<3r4>laṁ suga◯tidurggat¿i?<ī>
ko nāma svarggam u¡cchra!<tsṛ>jya naraka<ṁ> pratipadyate<3r5>□

¡b!<v>yāsag¿i?<ī>tā<ṁ>ś cātra ślokān udāharanti

3. Indravajrā

Agner apatya<ṁ> prathamaṁ suvarṇṇa<ṁ>

bhū〈3r6〉r ¡bv!〈vv〉aiṣṇav¿i?〈ī〉 s¿u?〈ū〉ryyasutāś ca gāvaḥ
dattās trayas tena bhavanti lokā
yaḥ kāñcanaṁ〈3r7〉 gāñ ca mah¿i?〈ī〉ñ ca dadyāT|

4. Anuṣṭubh

¡s!〈ṣ〉aṣṭivarṣasaha¡ś!〈s〉rāṇi svargge modati bhūmidaḥ

Apparatus

Plates

〈1v4〉 śr¿i?〈ī〉° ◇ *śrī°* BJ.

〈1v5〉 śr¿a?〈ī〉° ◇ *śrī°* BJ.

〈1v6〉 cul〈l〉āṭa° ◇ *calāṭa°* BJ. — 〈1v6〉 °| • This *daṇḍa* was not noticed by Jain *et al.* 2005, pp. 196–217.

〈2r1〉 °opaj¿i?〈ī〉vinaḥ ◇ *°opajīvinaḥ* BJ. — 〈2r1〉 °puruṣā¡ṁ!〈n〉 ◇ *°puruṣā* BJ.

〈2r3〉 °p¿i?〈ī〉ḍā° ◇ *°pīḍā°* BJ.

〈2r4〉 śr¿i?〈ī〉° ◇ *śrī°* BJ.

〈2r5〉 °śr¿i?〈ī〉mad° ◇ *°śrīmad°* BJ.

〈2r7〉 °śr¿i?〈ī〉mad° ◇ *°śrīmad°* BJ.

〈2v4〉 ¡b!〈v〉arjjayitvā| ◇ *barjjayitvāna|* BJ.

〈2v5〉 °sa¡ṅ!〈ṁ〉g¿i?〈ī〉taka° ◇ *°saṁṅgitaka°* BJ.

〈3r1〉 bh¿u?〈ū〉m¿a?〈i〉° ◇ *bhūm¿a?〈i〉°* BJ.

〈3r2〉 °| ◇ *°||* BJ. — 〈3r2〉 lakṣm¿i?〈ī〉m ◇ *lakṣmīm* BJ.

〈3r5〉 °g¿i?〈ī〉tā〈ṁ〉ś ◇ *°gītāś* BJ.

〈3r6〉 ¡bv!〈vv〉aiṣṇav¿i?〈ī〉 ◇ *bvaiṣṇavī* BJ. — 〈3r6〉 kāñcanaṁ ◇ *kāñcan¿a?〈ā〉* BJ.

〈3r7〉 mah¿i?〈ī〉ñ ◇ *mahīñ* BJ. — 〈3r7〉 °| ◇ *°||* BJ.

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 Katambapadrūllaka situated in the Cullāṭasīmā *bhoga*, 〈the king〉 issues 〈the following command〉 to all royal officers who are dedicated to our service, beginning with the collector and the receiver; to those who are temporarily posted 〈in the village〉; and to the other inhabitants of that 〈village〉:

〈2r2–2v6〉 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 today for the increase of religious merit of father, mother, and ourselves, to the Amareśvara temple in the penance grove of the *maṭhikā* of the illustrious Bāleśvara temple, the latter being erected by ourselves (i.e., Śivagupta) in the plains of Śrīpura. 〈The Amareśvara temple〉 was erected by our queen the illustrious Amaradevī 〈and〉 the *devabhaṭṭāraka* 〈of the temple〉 was installed by the venerable Vyāpaśiva, who is the pupil of the *ācārya* Dīrgha and grand-pupil of the venerable *ācārya* Aghoraśiva of Nandapura. 〈The grant of the village〉 was requested by Amaradevī in order to finance the repair of the temple's dilapidations, as well as to sponsor music, worship, and the bathing and anoining 〈of images〉. 〈The grant〉), which is meant to be enjoyed as long as the moon, the stars, and the sun will endure, was issued after having set aside eight parts of grain, water, vegetables, and milk from the produce of the village for the *sattra* 〈and〉 comes along with 〈the right to〉 hidden treasures and deposits; 〈the right to collect〉 all taxes 〈payable to the king〉; the exemption from all kinds of unpaid labour; 〈the right to〉 punish and realise fines for the ten offences; and the exemption from being entered by irregular or regular troops.

〈2v6–3r1〉 Having taken note of that, you should render the proper 〈shares of〉 periodical offerings, produce, and the like, while living happily 〈in this village〉. And this is said for the instruction of the future kings:

3r1–3r3.

〈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!

〈3r3〉 And also:

3r3–3r5.

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

〈3r5〉 And in this respect they quote the 〈following〉 stanzas sung by Vyāsa:

3r5–3r7.

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

3r7.

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!]

Commentary

Despite being a complete set of three copperplates, the content of this charter is unfinished. The copperplates are all enscribed with seven lines of text: the verso side of the first plate, both sides of the second plate, and the recto side of the third plate. The text ends abruptly after the first half of an exhortatory verse, which means that the charter is not provided with a date in regnal years. There is no apparent reason why the text was not finished at the verso side of the third copperplate.

Bibliography

First edited by Jain *et al.* 2005, pp. 196–217 from the original plates; published again by Bosma 2013; re-edited here by Natasja Bosma from the original plates (edition of the seal based on Jain).

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