Stray Būrhīkhār Plate of Śivagupta, Year 57

Natasja Bosma

Author of digital edition: Natasja Bosma

Contributor: Natasja Bosma

Identifier: DHARMA_INSDaksinaKosala00048

Repository: Dakṣiṇa Kosala (tfb-daksinakosala-epigraphy)

File path: texts/DHARMA_INSDaksinaKosala00048.xml

Language: Sanskrit [Script (unspecified)]

Commit: 2026-09-18 16:39 (e299a40), last modified 2026-09-18 16:30 (39951f6)

Edition

〈Page 3r〉 〈3r1〉 vaseT|

1. Anuṣṭubh

bahubhir ¡bb!〈vv〉asudhā dattā rājabhiḥ sagarādibhiḥ
yasya yasya yadā〈3r2〉 bhūmis tasya tasya tadā phalaṁ|

2. Anuṣṭubh

svadattāṁ paradattām ¡b!〈v〉ā yatnād rakṣa yudhiṣṭhira|
〈3r3〉 mahīṁ mahībhṛtāṁ śreṣṭha dānāt śreyo 'nupālanaṁ||

3. Indravajrā

mā bhū〈va〉d aphalaśa〈3r4〉ṅkā vaḥ paradat¡v!〈t〉eti pārthivāḥ
svadānāt phalam ānantyaṁ par⟦ā⟧〈〈a〉〉d¿ā?〈a〉ttānu〈3r5〉pālane||

4. Puṣpitāgrā

Iti kamaladalāmbubindulolāṁ
śriyam anuci<n>tya manu〈3r6〉ṣyajīvitaṁ ca|
sakalam idam udāhṛtaṁ ca bu<d>dhvā
na hi puruṣaiḥ parakīrtayo vilo〈3r7〉pyāḥ||

pravarddhamānavijayarājyasam¡b!〈v〉atsare saptapañcāśe 'ṅkenāpi ¡saṁo!〈samvat〉 50 7 mā〈3r8〉gha dina 30 utk¿i?〈ī〉rṇṇaṁ tām{b}rapaṭ¡ṭh!〈ṭ〉ikagolāyyas¿u?〈ū〉nunā nāgadeveneti||

Translation

〈3r1〉 [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!

3r2–3r3.

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

3r3–3r5.

Oh kings, do not fear that land given by others will be unfruitful for you! The fruit of one's own giving is endless in 〈combination with〉 upholding that which was given by others!

3r5–3r7.

After thus considering that wealth and human life are unstable as a drop of water on a lotus petal and 〈also〉 knowing all that is said, the glories of others should not be violated by human beings.

〈3r7–3r8〉 In the fifty-seventh year of the increasingly victorious reign 〈of Śivagupta〉, in numbers: Year 57, 〈Month〉 Māgha, Day 30, 〈the copperplate charter〉 has been engraved by Nāgadeva, son of the goldsmith Golāyya.

Commentary

This is the third copperplate of a charter and therefore it does not contain any information about the grant or the issuing king. However, the engraver of the plate named Nāgadeva is known from one of Śivagupta's Sirpur Plates (Dk00042). Also Śivagupta is the only king of the region known to have ruled as long as fifty-seven years. Therefore the copperplate can be ascribed to king Śivagupta.

Bibliography

Edited by Shastri 1995, pp. 162–164; encoded here by Natasja Bosma based on this edition.

Primary

[AMS] Shastri, Ajay Mitra. 1995. *Inscriptions of the Śarabhapurīyas, Pāṇḍuvaṁśins and Somavaṁśins, Part II: Inscriptions*. New Delhi: Indian Council of Historical Research; Motilal Bandarsidass. Pages 162–164.

Secondary

Bosma, Natasja. 2018. *Dakṣiṇa Kosala: A rich centre of early Śaivism*. Groningen: Barkhuis. [URL]. Pages 257–258.