EIAD 30. Pillar from site 9 at Nagarjunakonda — reign of Siri-Vīrapurisadatta

Arlo Griffiths and Vincent Tournier

Authors of digital edition: Arlo Griffiths, Vincent Tournier

Identifier: DHARMA_INSEIAD00030

Repository: Early Āndhradeśa (tfb-eiad-epigraphy)

File path: texts/xml/DHARMA_INSEIAD00030.xml

Language: Middle Indo-Aryan [Script (unspecified)]

Commit: 2026-09-22 13:22 (151ff65), last modified 2026-09-21 18:13 (3db1cff)

Edition

〈1〉 sidhaṁ ~mahār(ā)jasa Asam(e)dhayājisa Anekahiranak(o)ṭi(padā)yisa〈2〉 siricaṁtamūlasa putasa raṁño mā[ḍha]riputasa Ikhākuṇa sirivirapurisadata[sa]〈3〉 vasasat(ā)ya savacharaṁ vijaya[ṁ] vāsapakhaṁ prathamaṁ 1divasa[ṁ] bitiyaṁ sagagatasa〈4〉 raṁño Agihotāgiṭh[o]mavājapeyasame(dha)yājisa hiraṇakoṭigosatasahasa〈5〉halasatasahasapadāyisa savathesu A[pa]tihatasaṁkapasa v[ās]i[ṭh]iputasa〈6〉 Ikhākusa (sā)misirica[ṁ]tamulasa sah[o]darāhi matāhi mah[ā]d[e]vihi Anatasiriya〈7〉 khaṁdasiriya _vijhab(o)dhisiriya _mi(tasi)riya •samusiriya •nāgavasusiriya •〈8〉 maṁgusiriya •khaṁdakoṭisiriya _mahisarasiriya _k(o)ndamatisiriya [•]mula(s)iriya〈9〉 Ayakoṭusiriya •maduvisiriya •nāgasiriya •rāmasiriya golasiriya •〈10〉 velisiriya [•](bo)dhisiriya _khadasiri(ya) _setilasiriya perajatisiriya〈11〉 paṁḍitasiriya _sivanāgasiriya _samudasiriya •bapisiriya •nadisiriya〈12〉 Ayasiriya _kaṁnhasiriya _si(va)nāgasiriya _Abhatarikāhi ca〈13〉 sarasikāya _kusumalatāye ca chāyāthabho ~

Apparatus

〈1〉 sidhaṁ – ◇ *sidhaṁ* Vogelb eiad-bibl:Sircara. — 〈1〉 -hirana- ◇ *-hiraṇa-* Vogel 1931–1932; *-hiraṇa-* Sircar [1966] 1963–1964.

〈2〉 raṁño Sircar [1966] 1963–1964 ◇ *raño* Vogel 1931–1932. — 〈2〉 sirivirapurisadata[sa] Sircar [1966] 1963–1964 ◇ *sirivirapurisadatasa* Vogel 1931–1932. — 〈2〉 Ikhākuṇa ◇ *Ikhākuna(ṁ)* Vogel 1931–1932; *Ikhākuna* Sircar [1966] 1963–1964.

〈3〉 vasasatāya savachara[ṁ]vijaya[ṁ] Sircar [1966] 1963–1964 ◇ *vasasanaya saṁvachara viṁsaya[ṁ]* Vogel 1931–1932. — 〈3〉 prathamaṁ 1 Sircar [1966] 1963–1964 ◇ *prathamaṁ* Vogel 1931–1932. — 〈3〉 divasa[ṁ] Vogel 1931–1932 ◇ *divasa* Sircar [1966] 1963–1964. — 〈3〉 bitiya[ṁ] Sircar [1966] 1963–1964 ◇ *bītiya[ṁ]* Vogel 1931–1932.

〈4〉 raṁño Sircar [1966] 1963–1964 ◇ *raño* Vogel 1931–1932. — 〈4〉 -vājapeyasame(dha)- ◇ *-vājapeyasamedha-* Sircar [1966] 1963–1964; *-vājapey〈ā〉samedha-* Vogel 1931–1932.

〈5〉 A[pa]tihata- Sircar [1966] 1963–1964 ◇ *Apatihata-* Vogel 1931–1932.

〈6〉 -mulasa Sircar [1966] 1963–1964 ◇ *-mūlasa* Vogel 1931–1932. — 〈6〉 sah[o]darāhi matāhi ◇ *sahadarāhi matāhi* Sircar [1966] 1963–1964; *sahodar[ā]hi m[ā]tāhi* Vogel 1931–1932 • emending *sahodarāhi* — 〈6〉 mah[ā]d[e]vihi Sircar [1966] 1963–1964 ◇ *mah[ā]devihi* Vogel 1931–1932. — 〈6〉 Anatasiriya Sircar [1966] 1963–1964 ◇ *sunītisiriya* Vogel 1931–1932.

〈7〉 khaṁdasiriya Sircar [1966] 1963–1964 ◇ *khaṁdasīriya* Vogel 1931–1932. — 〈7〉 vijhab(o)dhisiriya Sircar [1966] 1963–1964 ◇ *vijhaṭhavisiriya* Vogel 1931–1932. — 〈7〉 mi(tasi)riya Sircar [1966] 1963–1964 ◇ *mi[sa]siriya* Vogel 1931–1932. — 〈7〉 samus(i)riya Sircar [1966] 1963–1964 ◇ *samus(i)riya* Vogel 1931–1932 • Sircar [1966] 1963–1964 notes that the intended reading may be *samudasirīya* as in l. 11.

〈8〉 maṁgusiriya Sircar [1966] 1963–1964 ◇ *[nā]gasiriya* Vogel 1931–1932. — 〈8〉 k(o)ndamati- Sircar [1966] 1963–1964 ◇ *ratumati-* Vogel 1931–1932. — 〈8〉 mula(s)iriya Sircar [1966] 1963–1964 ◇ *mūlasiriya* Vogel 1931–1932.

〈9〉 rāmasiriya Vogel 1931–1932 ◇ *(kā)masiriya* Sircar [1966] 1963–1964 • Sircar [1966] 1963–1964 notes the possibility of reading *rāmasiriya*.

〈10〉 velisiriya Vogel 1931–1932 ◇ *khalisiriya* Sircar [1966] 1963–1964. — 〈10〉 (bo)dhisiriya Sircar [1966] 1963–1964 ◇ *[E]dhisiriya* Vogel 1931–1932. — 〈10〉 khadasiri(ya) ◇ *khadasiriya* Sircar [1966] 1963–1964; *kha[ṁ]dasiriya* Vogel 1931–1932. — 〈10〉 setilasiriya Sircar [1966] 1963–1964 ◇ *satilisiriya* Vogel 1931–1932. — 〈10〉 perajatisiriya Sircar [1966] 1963–1964 ◇ *parajatatisiriya* Vogel 1931–1932.

〈11〉 bapisiriya Vogel 1931–1932 ◇ *bāpisiriya* Sircar [1966] 1963–1964 • Although we see no trace of a *ā*, it is tempting to understand here *bapi-* as *bāpi* = *vāpi*, in light of the fact that this name is surrounded by two names based on water bodies.

〈12〉 kaṁnhasiriya Sircar [1966] 1963–1964 ◇ *ratusiriya* Vogel 1931–1932 • The correct reading kaṁnha- was already suggested in an editorial note to Vogel 1931–1932, pp. 64, n. 1. — 〈12〉 Abhatarikāhi Sircar [1966] 1963–1964 ◇ *subhatarikāhi* Vogel 1931–1932.

〈13〉 kusumalatāye Vogel 1931–1932 ◇ *bhūsumalatāya* Sircar [1966] 1963–1964 • Emending *kusumalatāya*. It seems impossible to read *bhū* and unnecessary to assume that anything else was intended than *ku*, although the shape of the akṣara is admittedly peculiar. — 〈13〉 ca chāyāthabho Sircar [1966] 1963–1964 ◇ *[I]ya[ṁ] tha[ṁ]bho* Vogel 1931–1932.

Translation

〈1–3〉 Success! In the victorious year of king Māṭharīputta Siri-Vīrapurisadatta of the Ikṣvākus — may he live one hundred years! —, son of Great King Siri-Cantamūla, sacrificer of the Aśvamedha, giver of numerous tens of millions of (pieces of) gold, in the first — 1st — fortnight of the rainy season, on the second day.

〈3–13〉 (This is) the memorial pillar for the King Vāsiṭṭhīputta Lord Siri-Cāntamūla the Ikṣvāku, who has gone to the heavens, sacrificer of the Agnihotra, the Agniṣṭoma, the Vājapeya and the Aśvamedha, giver of tens of millions of (pieces of) gold, hundreds of thousands of cows, hundreds of thousands of plows (of land), whose will was unimpeded in all matters, (established) by (his) uterine sisters, mothers, (and) queens Anatasirī, Khandasirī, Vijhab(o)dhisirī, Mitasirī, Samusirī, Nāgavasusirī, Maṅgusirī, Khandakoṭisirī, Mahisarasirī, Kondamatisirī, Mūlasirī, Ayakoṭusirī, Manduvisirī, Nāgasirī, Rāmasirī, Golasirī, Velisirī, Bodhisirī, Khadasirī, Setilasirī, Perajatisirī, Paṇḍitasirī, Sivanāgasirī, Samudasirī, Bāpisirī, Nadīsirī, Ayasiri, Kaṇhasirī, Sivanāgasirī, and the intimate friends (*ābhyantarikā*) Sarasikā and Kusumalatā.

Commentary

[1]

[1] A number of punctuation signs appear, here represented as •. None of these was read by Vogel 1931–1932, only a few of them observed by Sircar [1966] 1963–1964, pp. 3, 4 n. 1 and 7.

〈3〉 savacharaṁ vijaya[ṁ][2]

〈8〉 mula(s)iriya[3]

Bibliography

First described and edited by Vogel 1931–1932, pp. 63–4 (L); re-edited by Sircar [1966] 1963–1964, pp. 1–4 (1.A); our edition based on RTI and autopsy of the stone.

Secondary

ARIE

Mirashi, Vasudev Vishnu. 1967–1968. "Epigraphic note." EI 37, pp. 70–73. Pages 70–72.

Mirashi, Vasudev Vishnu. 1969. "Is Vijaya mentioned in Nāgārjunikoṇḍa inscriptions the name of cyclic year?" *Journal of the Oriental Institute (M.S. University of Baroda)* 18 (4), pp. 318–322. Pages 318–22.

Vidyadhara Rao, B. 1969. "Occurrence of sexagenary cycles in two inscriptions from Nāgārjunakoṇḍa." *Journal of the Oriental Institute (M.S. University of Baroda)* 18 (4), pp. 323–325. Pages 323–5.

Srinivasan, P. R. & S. Sankaranarayanan. 1979. *Inscriptions of the Ikshvāku period*. Epigraphical Series 14. Hyderabad: Govt. of Andhra Pradesh. Page no. 3.

Sarkar, H. 1982. "The Cāyā-Stambhas from Nāgārjunakoṇḍa." In: *Memorial stones: A study of their origin, significance and variety*. Edited by Shadaksharappa Settar & Günther Dietz Sontheimer. I.I.A.H. Series & South Asian Studies 2 & XI/11. Dharwad; Heidelberg: Institute of Indian Art History, Karnatak University; South Asia Institute, University of Heidelberg, pp. 199–207. Pages 200–2.

Tsukamoto Keishō □□□□. 1996. □□□□□□□□□□ *I, Text, Note,* □□ *Indo Bukkyō himei no kenkyū I: Text, Note, Wayaku [A comprehensive study of the Indian Buddhist inscriptions, Part I: Text, Notes and Japanese Translation]*. Kyōto-shi □□□: Heirakuji Shoten □□□□. Page no. Naga 49.

Raghunath, K. 2001. *The Ikṣvākus of Vijayapuri: A study of the Nagarjunakonda inscriptions*. Delhi: Eastern Book Linkers. Pages 115–7 (no. 16).

[2] See EIAD 56, l. 2, and the term *vijayasaṁvachara/vijayasaṁvatsara* in EIAD 2, ll. 2-3; 187, l. 29; 188, l. 31. For the possibility for the term *vijaya* pointing to Jupiter's sixty-year cycle, see Sircar [1966] 1963–1964, p. 2, Mirashi 1969, pp. 318–22, and Vidyadhara Rao 1969, pp. 323–5.

[3] A male Mūlasiri is known from the Jaggayyapeta inscriptions (EIAD 31-33), his name being spelt with *mula-* in one of the cases (EIAD 32, l. 4).