EIAD 131. Slab with Buddha image in high relief said to be from Ghantasala

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Language: Middle Indo-Aryan [Southern Brāhmī (unspecified)]

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Palaeographic description

Lettering typical of the 2nd century CE.

Edition

〈1〉 dha(ṁ)makatikaya parabudhay(ā)ya〈2〉 Atevās(i)kāya _ cul(ā)ya paṭimā

Translation

Image 〈gifted〉 by Cullā, female pupil of the *dharma* reciter Parabudhāyā.

Commentary

This is a rare inscription where the senior figure, to whom is attached a female donor as pupil (*antevāsinī*), is herself female. Indeed, the use of the feminine *dhammakathikā* is unique in our corpus. See also EIAD 255 and EIAD 334; in the second case, the senior figure is marked as the donor's preceptor (*uvajjhāyinī*), but she is herself a disciple of a senior monk.

Bibliography

First described and edited in a Japanese newspaper called *Bukkyo times* by Akira Sadakata, whose reading is cited (but without any diacritics or editorial apparatus) in Miyaji Akira □□ □ & Nakano Genzō □□ □□ 1998. This digital edition by Arlo Griffiths & Vincent Tournier from our photographs and after autopsy of the stone.

Secondary

Miyaji Akira □□ □ & Nakano Genzō □□ □□. 1998. *Budda ten: ōinaru tabiji / □□□□: □□□□□□ / Buddha: the spread of Buddhist art in Asia*. Tokyo: NHK □□□-□□□ (NHK Promotions). Item 20, page 46.

Okada, Amina. 2000. *Sculptures indiennes du Musée Guimet*. Paris: Réunion des musées nationaux. Item 19, pages 56–58.