The Maribong Charter of Wisnuwardhana (1170 Śaka)

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Palaeographic description

Script and spelling typical of the charters of the late Majapahit period. Difference is made between *ḍ* (1v2 *Uttarāṣāḍa*) and *dh* (1v4 *madhu*).

Edition

〈Page 1r〉

〈Page 1v〉 〈1v1〉 // Avighnam astu,// svasti śrī śaka-varṣātīta, 1170, Aśuji-māsa, tithi, pañcamī śukla-pakṣa, vā,〈1v2〉 ka, vr̥, vāra, laṅkir·, Uttarāṣāḍa-nakṣatra, viśva-devatā, māhendra-maṇḍala, gaṇḍa-yoga, vairā〈1v3〉jya-muhūrtta, baruṇa-parvveśa, valava-karaṇa, mr̥ccika-rāśī,

Irika divasany ājñā *śrī sakala-¿kha?〈la〉laṇ¡a!〈ā〉〈1v4〉-kula-madhu-¿mārdda?〈marda〉na-kamalekṣaṇa*, nāmābhiṣeka śrī jaya viṣṇuvarddhana, saṁ mapañji sminiṅ rāt·, *sva-*

pi〈1v5〉*tāmahā-stavanābhinnāśr̥ja!*〈ā〉*nta-loka-pālaka*, kumonakən Irikaṁ vanva I mariboṁ, vatək atagan· jipaṁ,〈1v6〉 pagavayakna saṁ hyaṁ ājñā haji praśāsti, mataṇḍa śrī-jaya-viṣṇuvarddhana-lāñcana, Umuṁgve salaḥ sikiniṁ tāmra ri

Apparatus

〈1v6〉 ri • The word broken off here was *ripta*. For the full formula, see Air Asih a3, Parablyan a2, Sukhamerta 10b4, Canggu 3v5–6.

Translation

Let there be no obstacle! Hail! Fortune! In the elapsed Śaka year 1170, month of Asuji, fifth *tithi* of the waxing fortnight, Vās, Kalivon, Thursday, (*wuku*) Laṅkir; lunar mansion Uttarāṣāḍha; deity Viśva; *maṇḍala* in the East; conjunction Gaṇḍa; *muhūrta* Vairājya; regent of the astronomical node Varuṇa; *karaṇa* Valava; zodiac sign Scorpio.

That was when the command of the "illustrious (*śrī*) lotus-eyed destroyer (*mardana*) of Madhu (Śrī Kr̥ṣṇa) for all womenfolk (*lalanā-kula*)", whose consecration name is Śrī Jaya Viṣṇuvardhana, the one with the byname Sminiṁ Rāt ("Seed of the World"), "untiring world protector not different from the eulogy of his own grandfather",[1] ordered with regard to the village Mariboṁ, belonging to the conscription (*vatək atagan*) of Jipaṁ,[2] that a holy royal decree charter be made for them (*pa-gavay-akna*) with the emblem of Śrī Jaya Viṣṇuvardhana, to remain on one or the other of (the possible materials, viz.) copper, [palm-leaf]

Commentary

This is the first and only preserved plate of a reissue produced during the late Majapahit period, showing several signs of adaptation to the habits of that time, and ostensibly reproducing a charter from the reign of Wisnuwardhana. One indication that the text of the original issue has been manipulated at least to some extent is the form *pagavayakna*, which does not occur elsewhere epigraphically except in the Canggu charter (3v5–6): *muṁgv i caṁgu, pagavayakna saṁ hyaṁ ājñā haji praśāsti, rājasanagaralāñcaṇa, muṁgve salah sikiniṁ tāmra, riptopala*. Moreover, the date seems to have been manipulated too, as it

[1] The meaning of this epithet is not quite clear. If the reading *stavanā-* is correct, then there is perhaps a parallel to be found in Warunggahan 6v1 *tan kadi kastavān· śrī mahārāja*. On the other hand, an emendation *sthāpanā-* is easily conceivable, and in that case we may have an echo of Wurare, st. IX *pitrādi-sthāpanāya*.

[2] The expression *vatak atagan* occurs also in the charters Kancana, Maribong, Tuhanyaru, and Katatwan.

is not convertible with certainty. Damais 1955 discussed the problems, the possible solutions, none of which very convincing, and opted hesitantly for 1264-08-28, which implies emending the inscribed year 1170 to 1186. Eade & Gislén 2000 showed first that their software situates 1264-08-28 in the month Bhādrapada, not in Aśvajit, and that the other *pañcāṅga* elements would also be off if Damais' proposal were correct. The alternative they propose does not seem much more convincing, because even though they suggest it would be "an emendation that involves only one element", in fact it involves two emendations (1171 for the year, *aṣṭamī* for the *tithi*) and requires accepting different values for *nakṣatra*, *karaṇa* and *yoga* than those stated in the text.

The toponyms Mariboṅ and Jipaṅ also co-occur in the Canggu charter (5v1): *I maṟbo, I turan, I jipaṁ*.

Bibliography

First edited, apparently by Bosch, in OV 1918; re-edited by Damais (1955); edited again by Boechari (1985–1986); re-edited here by Arlo Griffiths from a photo of the rubbing kept in Leiden.

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