Ablūr, Brahmēśvara temple, Śaka 1142 (1219 CE)

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Summary

This record is on a stone tablet outside the back of the temple of Brahmēśvara. The tablet is a *vīragal* or monumental slab, in memory of the death of two local heroes, Māca and Gōma, in battle, on the occasion of a cattle-raid at Ablūr. The inscription refers to the reign of the Dēvagiri-Yādava king Siṅghaṇa and to a time when a feudatory Siṅgaṇadēvarasa was governing the Banavāsi twelve-thousand province.

Edition

〈Zone A〉 〈1〉 □[1]svasti samasta-pra¡s!〈ś〉asti-sahitaṁ śrī-siṁhaṇadēva-varuṣada pramāthi-saṁvatsarada ā¡ś!〈ṣ〉āḍha-pauvurṇṇami sōmavā〈2〉radalu pratāpa-vīra-siṁgaṇadēvarasaru banavase-paṁnitsāsiravan āḷuttire〈‖〉 Alliya kaṁpanaṁ nā-garakha〈ṁ〉〈3〉 (ḍa)v-ep〈p〉attaṟa baḷiya-bāḍa-Abbalūra vistarav-enteṁdaḍe‖

1. Campakamālā

[1]Represented by a small circle inside a bigger one

giḷi-kuḷa¿dh?<d>iṁ pikāvaḷi¡ī!<yi>n oppuva naṁdanadiṁ viḷāsadiṁ
<4> (be)ḷasida gaṁdha-śāḷi ī[2] śivālayadōḷi ī[3] bhāḷanētra-pū
jita-g¡ri!<ṛ>hadiṁ baḷādhika-kaḷāvida-vīra-samūhadiṁ¡dh!<d>'i<5>(l)ā-
-ta¡l!<l>ad' oḷag' abbalūr ativicitrataraṁ nijam āgal oppuguṁ ||

Antu ś(ubha)v-ett'abbalūra bīra-gauvuḍana guṇa-<6> (ka)thanav-enteṁdaḍe ||

2. Campakamālā

parahitan eṁdu dāna-vi¡d!<dh>an eṁdu guṇ(āṁ)bhudhiy e<ṁ>du līleī[4]
¡ka!<kha> rakara-tējanaṁ guru-padāṁbu<7> j(a)-bhaktanan entu nō¡p!<r>paḍa
purutara-dhairyyanaṁ sakaḷa-vaṁdi-janāśraya-kaḷpa-v¡ri!<ṛ>kṣanaṁ va
ra-vibudhōktaraṁ mudado baṁ<8> (ṇ)ṇisuguṁ[5] sale bīra-gauvuḍanaṁ

Ant'ā bīragauvuḍa sukhadiṁdav ire ¡bhe!<be>ḷagavatti-īśvaradēva(ṁ) hala<9>baru-
muṁneya kūḍi sātaḷige-nā¡dha!<ḍa> nāyakara kūḍi koṁḍu hattu-śasira āḷu sāīra[6]
kudure vera<10>si naḍadu baṁd Abbalalūran iḷidu hiṇ(ḍ)u-(s)eṛe-tuṛuvaṁ koṁballiyā
seṛe-tuṛavam hiṁdikki bīra-gauvuḍana besa-varaṁ

<Zone B> <11> baḍagi-kētōjana makkaḷu macaṁ gōmaṁgaḷu māḍida vīrav
eṁnt[7]e(ṁ)daḍe ||

2. Kanda

ghaṭṭisi nūṁkida vājiya
thaṭṭaṁ kaṭṭ<ā>ḷu baḍagi<12> mācaṁ tāgalu
niṭṭisi gōmanu yise paḍal
iṭṭudu tatu-kṣaṇadi vaīri[8] balav-enit-anituṁ ||

māttēno pēḷal iṁ<13>t' apam-ātitaṁ noḍal ati-bhayaṁkaraṁ enal iṁt'āṁt'ari-
balamuman ovade kētōjana maga māca pokku tividaṁ pala<14> raṁ ||

sodarar ibbava<ra> vīraṁ mēdini gaccariyidenisi dhuradoḷu palaraṁ kādi tave koṁdu
svargga<15> kk ōdar jjasav eseye macanuṁm ā gōmanuṁ ||

3. Anuṣṭubh

jitēna labhyatē lakṣmī
m¡r!<ṛ>itēn ā<16>

[2]Fleet 1898–1899: read sāliyi for śāḷiyiṁ
[3]read ōḷiyi for ōḷiyiṁ
[4]Fleet 1898–1899: read līleyiṁ
[5]Fleet 1898–1899: read baṇṇisuguṁ
[6]Fleet 1898–1899: read sāyira
[7]Fleet 1898–1899: read °ent
[8]Fleet 1898–1899: read vairi

Apparatus

〈1〉 pauvurṇṇami ◇ *p¿auvu?〈au〉rṇṇami* Fl.

〈4〉 (be)ḷasida ◇ *belasida* Fl. — 〈4〉 °ōḷiī Fl • read ōḷiyi for ōḷiyiṁ

〈5〉 -gauvuḍana ◇ *-g¿auvu?〈au〉ḍana* Fl. — 〈5〉 ś(ubha) Fl — 〈5〉 gauvuḍana Fl • read gauḍana

〈6〉 (ke)thana° Fl — 〈6〉 dāna-vi¡d!〈dh〉an Fl — 〈6〉 guṇ(āṁ) Fl — 〈6〉 līleī Fl • read līleyiṁ — 〈6〉 ¡ka!〈kha〉rakara Fl

〈7〉 no¡p!〈r〉paḍa pu Fl — 〈7〉 kaḷpav¡r!〈r̥〉ikṣanaṁ Fl

〈8〉 (ṇ)ṇisuguṁ Fl • read baṇṇisuguṁ — 〈8〉 ¡bho!〈bo〉ḷagavatti Fl

〈9〉 nā¡dha!〈ḍa〉 Fl — 〈9〉 sāīra Fl • read sāyira

〈10〉 hiṇ(ḍ)u Fl

〈11〉 eṁnte(ṁ)daḍe • read °ent — 〈11〉 kaṭṭ〈ā〉ḷu Fl

〈13〉 ibbava〈ra〉 Fl

Translation

〈1–3〉 Om! Be well! On Monday the full-moon day of the month *Āṣāḍha* of the year *Pramāthin*[9] during the time of the glorious Siṁhaṇadēva, accompanied by all eulogistic titles; while the powerful and brave Siṅgaṇadēvarasa was governing the Banavase twelve-thousand, in order to tell the detailed description of the excellent Abbalūru that belongs to Nāgarakhaṇḍa seventy which was district of those parts:-

〈3–5〉 At that time Abbalūru was uncommonly beautiful on the surface of the earth thanks to the charm of the garden, which is beautiful due to the families of parrots, and the swarm of cuckoos; thanks to the sweet-smelling of the sprouded rice, thanks to the building in which Bhālanētra is worshipped in the sanctuary of Śiva, and thanks to the multitude of heroes abundant in strenght and skilled in arts.

〈5–8〉 In order to give a description of the qualities of Bīragauḍa of the Abblūru exalted as beautiful in this way. Known as devoted to the welfare of others, who practices generosity, a very ocean of virtue, who is as luminous as the sun thanks to his grace, famous as devoted to the water-lilies that are the feet of teachers, who is possessed of

[9] 13th position of the Jupiter's cycle of 60 year (Southern cycle) [see Pillai 1922, vol 1.1 p.195]

the the very greatest resoluteness, who is a wish-fulfilling tree in giving refuge to all devotees, praised by excellent learned men. He always will be praised joyfully.

〈8–11〉 Like that, that Bīragauḍa existed happily. Īśvaradēva Belage, having come in front of old people, came in company with chieftains of Satalige nāḍa, descended to Abbalūru and proceeded with ten thousand soldiers and thousand horses and seized a herd of cows. From there, having given shelter to the captive cows, Maca and Goma, sons of Baḍagi of Kētōjana, in accordance with the command requested by Bīragavuṇḍa, carried out their act of heroism, as follow:-

〈11–15〉 Having gained strength, Baḍagi Maca while he was restraining the multitude of impetuous horses that he pushed away; Gome having seen them, having shot arrows, immediately the hostile force fell down. How to say this? If you consider, it surpassed all comparison: meeting them in the most terrifying manner, Māca, the son of Kētōja, plunged recklessly into the hostile force and pierced many of them. In such a way The heroism of the two brothers, having departed from the earth, having struck down in the battle, were killed in that place. The fame of Maca and Goma shines to heaven.

〈15〉 He who conquers obtains fortune; and even one dies

Bibliography

First edited in Elliot1825-1832_01; edited again in Fleet 1898–1899. Re-edited here for DHARMA (ERC n° 809994) by Antonella Santoro (2024), based on autopsy of the stone in situ.

[Fl] Fleet, John Faithful. 1898–1899. "Inscriptions at Ablur." *Epigraphia India* 5, pp. 213–265. Section G, pages 263–264.

Elliot1825-1832_01