Mēlappaḻuvūr, Kīḻaiyūr, Ireṭṭaikkōyil, Agastyeśvara, time of Parāntaka I, year lost

Valérie Gillet and Emmanuel Francis

Authors of digital edition: Valérie Gillet, Emmanuel Francis

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Summary

Mēlappaḻuvūr, Kīḻaiyūr, Ireṭṭaikkōyil, Agastyeśvara, Ardhamaṇḍapa, northern face, western section of the wall.

AIM, southern shrine; on the westernmost wall section of the *ardha-maṇḍapa* of the northern façade (above INSMelKil00013); lost regnal year of *matirai koṇṭa* Kōpparake-sarivarman = Parāntaka I; the end of the inscription is built over by a wall, rendering impossible a full translation.

Edition

〈1〉 **svasti śrī**

matirai koṇṭa kōpparakēcaripanma(rku/kku) yāṇṭu [...]

〈2〉 kuṉṟakkūṟṟattu tēvatāṉam Avaṉikantaṟpapu[rattu] [...]〈3〉ḷi **śāsa**na**baddha**vaṇṇakkuṭaiya

kallaṟai kollatti(l) [...] [i]〈4〉ttaḷip paṭṭu-Uṭaiyāṉ **Īśvara**nakkaṉ vi(lai)koṇṭu [...]〈5〉**ra**ṉē¡ṉn!〈ṉ〉 ittaḷi vaṇṇakku ce〈y〉tu kaṭamaip paṭṭ(a) poṉṉukku [...]

Translation by Gillet 2024

〈1〉 Fortune! Prosperity! This is the [...] year of Kōpparakesarivarman who has taken Madurai.

〈2〉 [...] Avaṉikantaṟpapu[ram], a *devadāna* of Kuṉṟakkūṟṟam

〈3〉 *kallaṟai*,[1] who/which possesses (*uṭaiya*) the verification of the gold or the coins (*vaṇṇakku*[2]) bound by the charts (*śāsanabaddha*[3]) ... (*kollattil*[4])

〈4〉 the Paṭṭuṭaiyāṉ of this temple, Īśvara Nakkaṉ, bought (*vilaikoṇṭu*) [...]

〈5〉 I, [...]raṉ, having checked the gold (*vaṇṇakku cetu*, that is, *ceytu*) of this temple (*ittaḷi*) [...], for the gold (*poṉṉukku*) which falls (*paṭṭa*) as *kaṭamai*-tax [...]

Commentary

The end of lines is built in.

Bibliography

Reported, edited and translated in Gillet 2024, based on autopsy and photographs (by Valérie Gillet, 2016-2018).

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[1]This literally means “stone chamber”, usually associated with funerary disposal. Because Kallaṟai is also a part of the name of a donor of the Ālantuṟai Mahādeva temple (#96), I think it might refer here to the name of the donor.

[2]For the meaning of *vaṇṇakku*, “he who controls the quality of jewels and gold”, see the dictionary of Subbarayalu (2003: 534). The date of the first occurrence he gives is 1042. If it indeed refers to the same word, our *vaṇṇakku* would precede the one given by Y. Subbarayalu.

[3]This term is found in the lexicon established by G. Vijayavenugopal (2010: 348) and translated as “Share holders bound by the royal gift deed”.

[4]This may be interpreted in different ways: 1) ”in Kollam” (not connected with *kallaṟai*), being the name of an ancient town in Kerala. Kollam is also used to refer to an era, beginning in 824 A.D. and often used in Kerala (see Salomon 1998: 189-90). 2) Kallaṟai Kollam may be two parts of a toponym or of an anthroponym.

Primary

[VG] Gillet, Valérie. 2024. *Minor Majesties: The Paḷuvēṭṭaraiyars and their South Indian Kingdom of Paḷuvūr, 9th-11th centuries A.D.* New York: Oxford University Press. DOI: 10.1093/oso/9780197757710.001.0001. [URL]. Pages 137–138, item 3.