Mēlappaḻuvūr, Agastyeśvara temple, time of Rājakesarivarman, year 15

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Summary

AIM, southern shrine; engraved across the two wall sections on the northern side of the niche of Skanda on the eastern façade of the sanctuary; 15th regnal year of Kōvirājarājakēsarivarman = Rājarāja I Cōḻa (*circa* 1000 A.D.); *meykkīrtti* of Rājarāja I Cōḻa from lines 1 to 5.

Edition

〈1〉 **svasti śrī**

1. Āciriyappā

tiru-makaḷ pōla-p peru-nila‡-[c]-celv[i]yun
ta〈2〉n̲a〈k〉kē y-urimai pūṇṭamai maṉa[k] ‡ koḷa
kāntaḷūr cā〈3〉lai kalam arutta(ruḷi)
vēṅkai-nāṭum ‡ kaṅka-pāṭiyum

nuḷampa-pā〈4〉(ṭi)yum taṭikai-pāṭiyum
taṇṭāṟ koṇṭa taṉ
eḷil ‡ vaḷar Ūḷi-y-ūḷil E〈5〉llā yā(ṇṭu)m
to(ḷutakai vi)ḷaṅkum (yāṇṭē)
ceḷi‡yarai-t tēcukoḷ

śrī〈6〉 kōvirā**ja**rā**ja**rāja(kēca)ripa**nma**ṟku yāṇṭu 10 5 Āvatu

‡ kuṉṟakkūṟṟattu tēvatā〈7〉[ṉa]m avaṉiyanta [2+] **(śva)**(ra)ttu Iraṇṭu **śrī**kōyi‡l **mahāde**vaṟkum Itta〈8〉ḷi tēvar makaḷ na [2+] periya Araṅkapirāṉ makaḷ ‡ nakkaṉ kumarakkaṉ Ittē〈9〉var tēvatānam (po) [1+] kaiynāṭṭu Ūkaṉkuṭi Apō‡**ha**nam kiṭanta **bhumi**yai〈10〉 Iraṇṭu puvum (va) [2+] t tirutti Aṭikaḷ paḷuvēṭṭa⌜‡raiyar kaṇṭaṉ maṟavaṉār A〈11〉 [...] ‡ [3+] (ṉā)ya(ttu) tiṅkaḷ **sa**〈12〉 [...] **sam(kr)ā**nti pōtu tiṅkaḷ tōṟu‡m Amutu ceyya Orō〈13〉 [...] tu Arici [2+] kuttal **de‡**varnāḷiyāl nā ṉāḷiyā〈14〉 [...] māka Arici kuṟuṇiyāka Eṭṭu‡t tiṅkaḷ nāḷaikku Arici〈15〉 [...] (Ap)pikai vi**ṣu**vukku Iruva**de**va(rkku)‡m{c} citti(r)ai vi**ṣu**vukku〈16〉 m (Uttara) [2+] ḷ [1+] (kkum) [1+] (Uṇṇa)maya [2+]‡ttukkumāka (A/8) [2+] tūṇi〈17〉(yu)m Orō **de**va(r)ku kaṟi Amutukku nāḷi nā‡ḷiyu ney amutukku nāḷi〈18〉 nāḷiyum tayir [2+] kku nāḷi nāḷiyum A‡ṭaikkāy amutukku nāḷi〈19〉 nāḷiyum Āka nel(lu) kuṟuṇiyāka Āṇṭu va‡rai kalamumāka tiru-vamu〈tu〉〈20〉 Arici nāṟṟūṇi Uḷppaṭa nellu nākka‡laṉe tūṇiyum Ik⌜〈21〉 koyil kaṇavatiya(r)kku Arici Irunāḷi tiruvamu‡tukku tiṅkaḷ Aññāḷiyāka〈22〉 nellu Ē(ḷu) [1+] [.]i nā ṉāḷiyum Iva(cata)kku ‡ cattakūli kalattuvāy ku〈23〉 [...] ‡ [...] t(ū)ṇi ṉā〈24〉 ṉāḷikkum na(kkaṅ) kumarakkaṉ kalli macakki ‡ kuṭutta nilam [1+] Oru mā〈25〉 (mun)nilam kaikkoṇṭōm **de**varkaṉmi‡kaḷōm Innivantam cev〈26〉 vit(a/ō)m nām

Itu **panmāheśvara rakṣai**

Apparatus

〈10〉 paḷuvēṭṭa⌜‡raiyar • In the syllable *rai*, the medial *ai* is on the wall section, whereas *r* is engraved after the pilaster.

〈16〉 tūṇi〈17〉(yu)m • The letter *tū* looks like *tura*. Same for *ṟū* and *tū* line 20.

Translation by Gillet 2024

This is the 15th year of Kōvirājarājarājakesarivarman who ... (*meykkīrtti*). To Mahādeva of the two (*iraṇṭu*) holy temples (*śrīkōyil*) of the lord (*[ī]śvarattu*) of Avaṉikantarppa (*avaṉiyanta[rppa]*, that is, *avaṉikanta[rppa]*), a *devadāna* (*tēvatā[ṉa]m*) of Kuṉṟakkūṟṟam, the daughter of god (*tēvar makaḷ*) of this temple (*ittaḷi*), daughter (*makaḷ*) of Na [...]

periya Araṅkapirāṉ, Nakkaṉ Kumarakkaṉ, having renovated (*tirutti*) [...] two complete crops (*iraṇṭu pūvum*) ⟨for⟩ the land (*bhūmiyai*) which lies (*kiṭanta*) without enjoyment (*apōhanam*) in Ūkaṉkuṭi of Poykaināṭu, a *devadāna* of this god (*ittēvar*), [...] Aṭikaḷ Paḻuvēṭṭaraiyar Kaṇṭaṉ Maṟavaṉār [...],[1] for making (*ceyya*) holy food (*amutu*) every (*tōṟum*) month (*tiṅkaḷ*) on each time (*pōtu*) on Saṁkrānti [...] as (*āka*) [...] four *nāḻi*s (*nā ṉāḻiyāl*), by the *tēvarnāḻi* ⟨measure⟩, of pounded rice (*arici ... kuttal*?); [...] eight *kuruṇi*s (*kuruṇiyāka*) of rice (*arici*) for the day (*nāḷaikku*) of the month (*tiṅkaḷ*) [...] for the Appikaiviṣu day [...] rice (*arici*) [...] for the two gods (*iruvadevarkku*) for Cittiraiviṣu day, [...] ; one *nāḻi* (*nāḻi nāḻiyum*) for vegetable food offerings (*kaṟi amutu*) for each god (*orō devarku*); one *nāḻi* (*nāḻi nāḻiyum*) for ghee food offerings (*ney-amutukku*); one *nāḻi* (*nāḻi nāḻiyum*) for curd food offerings (*tayir-a[mutu]kku*); one *nāḻi* (*nāḻi nāḻiyum*) for arecanut food offerings (*aṭaikkāy-amutukku*); as ⟨one⟩ *kuṟuṇi* of paddy (*nellu*), as ⟨one?⟩ *kalam* (*kalamum*) for one year (*aṇṭu varai*), ⟨one⟩ *tūṇi* and four *kalam*s (*nā-k-kalaṉē*) of paddy (*nellu*) included (*uḷpaṭa*) in four *tūṇi*s (*nāṟṟūṇi*, that is, *nāl tūṇi*) of rice food offerings (*tiruvamu arici*, that is, *tiruvamutu arici*); for Gaṇapatiyar of this temple (*ikkōyil*), two *nāḻi*s (*iru nāḻi*) of rice (*arici*); four *nāḻi*s (*nā nāḻiyum*) [...] of paddy as that (*añ*) *nāḻi* (*ñāḻiyāka*) of the month (*tiṅkaḷ*) for holy food offerings; four *nāḻi*s and *tūṇi* [...] as per *kalam* (*kalattuvāy*) for the wages for labour (*cattakūli*) ⟨*ivacatakku*?[2]⟩; Nakkan Kumarakkaṉ, having dug (*kalli*) and having prepared (*macakki*) ⟨the land⟩, gave (*kuṭutta*) one *mā*; we, the Devarkaṉmis, have taken in hand (*kaikkoṇṭōm*) this old land (*munnilam*? Or *mūnnilam*, i.e. three lands?). We (*nām*) will cause to make (*cevvittōm*) this endowment (*innivantam*). This is under the protection of the Panmāheśvaras.

Commentary

⟨11⟩ The beginnining of the line is covered by cement.

⟨12–15⟩ The beginnining of the lines is damaged.

⟨23⟩ The beginnining of the line is covered by cement.

Bibliography

Reported in ARIE 1923–24 (ARIE/1923-1924/C/1924/363).

Edited and translated in Gillet 2024, based on autopsy.

[1] The role of this little king is difficult to determine because the next line is no longer legible. The *a* after his name, at the end of line 10, may be the beginning of *aruḷiceyya*, or another similar expression beginning with *aruḷi*, indicating that he may accept, validate or grant the request made by the *tēvaṉār makaḷ*.

[2] There is no meaning for this word. My reading is perhaps wrong.

This digital edition by Valérie Gillet and Emmanuel Francis.

Primary

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 146–147, item 12.

Secondary

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