Mēlappaḻuvūr, Agastyeśvara temple, time of Rājakesarivarman, year 12

Valérie Gillet and Emmanuel Francis

Authors of digital edition: Valérie Gillet, Emmanuel Francis

Identifier: DHARMA_INSMelKil00013

Repository: Mēlappaḻuvūr & Kīḻappaḻuvūr (tfa-melappaluvur-kilappaluvur-epigraphy)

File path: DHARMA_INSMelKil00013.xml

Language: Tamil [Grantha, Tamil]

Commit: 2026-09-29 11:09 (3c1804e), last modified 2026-09-29 11:09 (3c1804e)

Summary

AIM, southern shrine; on the central wall section of the southern façade of the *ardha-maṇḍapa*; 12th regnal year of Kōvirājakesarivarman = probably Āditya I (*circa* 883 A.D.).

Edition

〈1〉 **svasti śrī**

kovirājakeśaripamma**r̲**ku yāṇṭu 10 2 Āvatu

〈2〉 ku**n̲r̲**akū**r̲r̲**attu Avani-kan=ta〈r〉**(vv/pp)a-Īśvarag̱ha**ttu **mah¿a?〈ā〉de**varku I**n̲n̲**āṭṭu paḻuvūr〈3〉 pakaiviṭai **Īśvara**ttu tevanār maka nakka**n̲** pūti paḻuvēṭṭarayan̲ kumaran̲ kaṇ〈4〉ṭan̲ **prasāda**t=tin̲āl Aruḷicceyya Ittaḷi tēvatānam Ūka**n̲**kuṭi A**bho(ha)**〈5〉**n̲**aṅ kiṭan̲ta **bhūmi**yai kalli Iraṇṭu pū(v)¿ū?〈u〉m viḷaiya macakki kuṭu〈6〉tta nilam Eṭṭu mā

Ippūmiyil pōṉta pōkaṅ koṇṭu Iraṇṭu taḷi〈yi〉〈7〉lu〈m〉 Orō noṉtāviḷakku Iravum pakalum Erikka kaṭavōm Ittaḷi paṭ〈8〉ṭu Uṭaiyōm Ēḻuvōm

Apparatus

〈1〉 10 2 Āvatu VG ◇ *10 3 Āvatu* SII.

〈5〉 pū(v)¿ū?〈u〉m ◇ *pū(vilu)m* SII; *pū(vū)m* VG.

Translation by Gillet 2024

Fortune! Prosperity! 〈This is〉 12th year of Kōvirājakesarivarman. To Mahādeva (*mahadevarku*, that is, *mahādevarkku*) of the temple (*gṛhattu*) of the Lord (*īśvara*) 〈of〉 Avanikantappa/vva, of Kuṉṟakkūṟṟam, Nakkaṉ Pūti,[1] son of god (*tēvanār maka*, that is, *tēvanār makaṉ*[2]) of the Lord (*īśvarattu*) 〈of〉 Pakaiviṭai of Paḷuvūr in this country, by the grace of (*prasādattiṉāl*) Paḷuvēṭṭaraiyaṉ Kumaraṉ Kaṇṭaṉ who graciously ordered (*aruḷicceyya*) 〈the following〉: having worked on the soil (*kalli*) of this land (*bhūmiyai*) which was lying (*kiṭaṇta*)without enjoyment (*abhohaṇam*) in Ūkaṅkuṭi, a *devadāna* of this temple, having prepared the land (*macakki*) so that two crops (*iraṇṭu pūvūm*, that is, *pūvum*) grow (*viḷaiya*), 〈he, i.e. Nakkaṉ Pūti〉 gave eight *mā*s of this land; having taken (*koṇṭu*, i.e. with) the produce (*pōkan*) which came (*poṉta*) out of this land (*ippūmiyil*), we, the Paṭṭuṭaiyārs of this temple (*ittaḷi*), we the Seven (*ēḻuvōm*), have to burn (*erikkakaṭavōm*) night and day a perpetual lamp respectively (*orō nontāviḷakku*) in the two temples (*iraṇṭu taḷilu*, that is, *taḷiyilum*).

Bibliography

Reported in ARIE 1923–24 (ARIE/1923-1924/C/1924/357).

Edited in Srinivasa Rao 1952 (SII 13.235). Edited and translated in Gillet 2024, based on autopsy and photographs (Valérie Gillet, 2016-2018).

This digital edition by Valérie Gillet and Emmanuel Francis.

[1]The editor of SII as well as G. Vijayavenugopal think that Nakkaṉ Pūti is the Paḷuvēṭṭaraiyar. I propose that the *tēvaṇār makaṉ* Nakkan Pūti is the donor, and that the Paḷuvēṭṭaraiyar appears to validate the donation.

[2]The *ṉ* of *makaṉ* was probably dropped because it was followed by a word beginning with *n*, *nakkaṉ*. However, it is also possible to consider that they forgot the final *ḷ* and we would thus have *makaḷ*. The fact that Nakkaṉ Pūti sounds more like a male name would not be a problem, women often bearing male names.

Primary

[SII] Srinivasa Rao, G.V. 1952. *South-Indian inscriptions (texts) (with introductory notes in English). Volume XIII: The Cholas*. South Indian Inscriptions 13. Madras: Archaeological Survey of India. Page TBC, item 235.

[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 147–148, item 13.

Secondary

ARIE 1923–24. *Annual report on South-Indian epigraphy for the year ending 31st March 1924*. Edited by G. Venkoba Rao. Madras: Government Press, 1925. Page 73, appendix C/1924, item 357.