Maṇṭakapaṭṭu, time of Vicitracitta

Emmanuel Francis

Author of digital edition: Emmanuel Francis

Identifier: DHARMA_INSPallava00027

Repository: Pallava (tfa-pallava-epigraphy)

File path: DHARMA_INSPallava00027.xml

Language: Sanskrit [Grantha]

Commit: 2026-10-08 12:16 (1b1b17c), last modified 2026-09-29 11:09 (6edbbfa)

Summary

A Sanskrit verse recording the foundation of a cave-temple by Vicitracitta (Mahendravarman I Pallava) around 600/625 CE.

Edition

1. Gīti

〈1〉 Etad aniṣṭakam adruma(m) alo〈2〉ham asudhaṁ (v)i(citra)cittena
〈3〉 nirmmāpitan nr̥pe(ṇa) brahme〈4〉śvara-viṣṇu-lakṣitāyatanaM

Apparatus

〈1〉 alo〈2〉ham ◇ *(alo)〈2〉ham* EI.

〈2〉 (v)i(citra)cittena ◇ *(vicitraci)ttena* EI.

〈4〉 °lakṣitāyatanaM ◇ *°la(kṣi)tāyatanaM* EI.

Translation into French by Brocquet 1997

1.

Sans briques, sans bois,
Sans métal, sans mortier, le roi Vicitracitta,
Fit construire ce temple,
Qui porte les marques de Brahmā, Īśvara et Viṣṇu.

Bibliography

Reported in ARIE 1904–05 (ARIE/1904-1905/B/1905/56).

Edited and translated in Gopinatha Rao 1923–1924, with poor visual documentation (EI 17.5). Text and summary in Mahalingam 1988 (IP 27). Text and translation in Filliozat 1984 and in Brocquet 1997 (B 22). See Francis 2013 (IR 22).

This revised edition by Emmanuel Francis, based on autopsy and photos (2008, 2009).

Primary

[EI] Gopinatha Rao, T. A. 1923–1924. "Mandagapattu inscription of Vichitra-chitta." EI 17, pp. 14–18.

[F] Filliozat, Pierre-Sylvain. 1984. "Les inscriptions sanskrites du roi Pallava Mahendravarman Ier." BEI 2, pp. 99–116. Pages 102–104.

[IP] Mahalingam, T. V. 1988. *Inscriptions of the Pallavas*. New Delhi; Delhi: Indian Council of Historical Research; Agam Prakashan. Page 117, item 27.

[B] Brocquet, Sylvain. 1997. "Les inscriptions sanskrites des Pallava : poésie, rituel, idéologie." Thèse de doctorat, Université de la Sorbonne Nouvelle. Paris. Pages 476–477, item 22.

Secondary

[ARIE] ARIE 1904–05. *G.O. No. 518, 18th July 1905. Epigraphy. Recording the annual report of the Government Epigraphist for the year 1904-1905, and directing that the report be forwarded to the government of India*. Edited by V. Venkayya. No place, 1905. Pages 33, 39, appendix B/1905, item 56.

Srinivasan, K. R. 1964. *Cave-temples of the Pallavas*. Architectural survey of temples 1. New Delhi: Archaeological Survey of India. Page 47.

Francis, Emmanuel. 2013. *Le discours royal dans l'Inde du Sud ancienne : inscriptions et monuments Pallava, IV^{ème}-IX^{ème} siècles. Tome I : Introduction et sources*. Publications de l'Institut orientaliste de Louvain 64. Louvain-la-Neuve; Paris: Université catholique de Louvain, Institut orientaliste; Peeters. Page 272.

Francis, Emmanuel. 2017. *Le discours royal dans l'Inde du Sud ancienne : inscriptions et monuments Pallava, IV^{ème}-IX^{ème} siècles. Tome II : Mythes dynastiques et panégyriques*. Publications de l'Institut orientaliste de Louvain 64. Louvain-la-Neuve; Paris: Université catholique de Louvain, Institut orientaliste; Peeters. Pages 511–512.