

Cīyamaṅkalam, time of Lalitāṅkura

Emmanuel Francis

Author of digital edition: Emmanuel Francis

Identifier: DHARMA_INSPallava00029

Repository: Pallava (tfa-pallava-epigraphy)

File path: DHARMA_INSPallava00029.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 the cave-temple named Avanibhājana-Pallaveśvara by Lalitāṅkura (Mahendravarman I Pallava) around 600/625 CE.

Edition

1. Ārya

⟨1⟩ lalitāṅkurena rājñāva⟨2⟩ni-bhājana-pallaveśvaraṁ! nāma

⟨3⟩ kārītam etat svedhā-karaṇḍa⟨4⟩(m) iva puṇya-ratnānām

Apparatus

⟨1⟩ lalitā(ṁ)kurena ◇ *lalitā(ṁ)kurena* EI • The *anusvāra* seems to be above the character *tā*.

⟨2⟩ °bhājana° ◇ °*bhāja(na)*° EI.

⟨1⟩ svedhā° ◇ sve_gdh?⟨cch⟩ā° EI • This correction by Hultzsich might be unnecessary, as we can somehow make sense of the original text.

Translation into French by Brocquet 1997

1.

Le roi Lalitāṅkura a fait construire cet édifice nommé Avanibhājana-Pallaveśvara¹,
Telle une corbeille faite à sa volonté, pour recueillir les bijoux de ses bonnes actions.

Commentary

⟨1-2⟩ Lalitāṅkura and Avanibhājana are *birudas* of the Pallava Mahendravarman I.

⟨2⟩ Avanibhājanapallaveśvara means "⟨the temple of⟩ the Lord (that is, Śiva) of the Pallava Avanibhājana (that is, Mahendravarman I Pallava)", that is, alternatively "⟨the temple of⟩ Śiva ⟨founded by⟩ the Pallava Avanibhājana".

Bibliography

Reported in ARIE 1899–1900 (ARIE/1899-1900/B/1900/67). See Francis 2013 (IR 25).

Edited in Hultzsich 1900–1901 (EI 6.32A). Text and summary in Mahalingam 1988 (IP 29). Text and translation in Filliozat 1984 and in Brocquet 1997 (B 24). Edited in Civāṇantam 2018, with visual documentation (p. 299).

This revised edition by Emmanuel Francis, based on autopsy and photos (2019).

Primary

[EI] Hultzsich, Eugen Julius Theodor. 1900–1901. "Two cave inscriptions at Siyaman-galam. A: Inscription of Lalitāṅkura. B: Inscription of Vijaya-Nandivikramavarman." *Epigraphia Indica* 6, pp. 319–322. Page 320, item A.

[F] Filliozat, Pierre-Sylvain. 1984. "Les inscriptions sanskrites du roi Pallava Mahendravarman Ier." BEI 2, pp. 99–116. Page 106.

[IP] Mahalingam, T. V. 1988. *Inscriptions of the Pallavas*. New Delhi; Delhi: Indian Council of Historical Research; Agam Prakashan. Page 120, item 29.

¹Il s'agit là d'un biruda de Mahendravarman, signifiant :« possesseur de la Terre ».

[B] Brocquet, Sylvain. 1997. “Les inscriptions sanskrites des Pallava : poésie, rituel, idéologie.” Thèse de doctorat, Université de la Sorbonne Nouvelle. Paris. Pages 480–481, item 24.

[C] Civāṇantam, Irā. 2018. *Tamiḷnāṭṭuk kalveṭṭukaḷ tokuti XIII. Tiruvaṇṇāmalai māvaṭṭak kalveṭṭukaḷ tokuti II*. TNSDA Epigraphical Series 52. Chennai: Government of Tamil Nadu, State Department of Archaeology. Page 202, item 305/2018.

Secondary

[ARIE] ARIE 1899–1900. *G.O. etc., Nos. 833-34, 22nd August 1900. Epigraphy. Passing orders on the annual report on – for 1899-1900. Copy to the Government of India*. Edited by Eugen Julius Theodor Hultzsch. Madras: Government of Madras, Public Department, 1900. Pages 3, 52, appendix B/1900, item 67.

Srinivasan, K. R. 1964. *Cave-temples of the Pallavas*. Architectural survey of temples 1. New Delhi: Archaeological Survey of India. Page 91.

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 276.

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. Page 513.