Tiruveḷḷaṟai's well, time of Dantivarman, year 4

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Summary

Foundation of a well.

Palaeographic description

The *puḷḷi* is consistently used, although not for most of duplicated consonants and sometimes unduly. The *daṇḍa* consists in a vertical stroke with a shorter horizontal stroke attached in its middle on the right side.

Edition

〈1〉 **svasti śrī**

bhāradvāja-gotrattiṉ· vaḷi-t tōṉ·ṟiya **palla**va-til**a**ta-ku**lorbha**vaṉ· tan=ti-va**rmma**ṟku yāṇ·ṭu nāṉ·k-āvat' eṭuttu-k· koṇṭu Ai(·)nt-āvatu muṟṟuvittāṉ· Ālam·p(ā)kka-vicaiyanal·lūḷāṉ·〈2〉 tam·pi kam·paṉ· Araiyaṉ· tiruveḷ(·)ḷaṟai-t(·) teṉṉūr·-p· peruṅ·-kiṇaṟu

Itaṉ p¿i?〈e〉yar· mār·-p·-piṭuku p{·}eruṅ·-kiṇar' eṉ·patu †

Itu ra¡tṣi!〈kṣi〉p·pār· Ivv-ūr mū-v-¿āī?〈āyi〉ratt' eḻu-nūṟṟuvarum· †

Apparatus

〈1〉 ti**l**ata • *tilata* is a *tadbhava* of Sanskrit *tilaka*.

Translation by Subrahmanya Aiyar 1911–1912

〈1〉 Hail ! Prosperity !

〈1–2〉 In the fourth year 〈of the reign〉 of Dantivarman who was born in the Pallavatilaka family which had sprung from the Bhāradvāja-gōtra, Kampaṉ Araiyaṉ, the younger brother of Vicaiyanallūḻāṉ of Ālampākkam, commenced 〈to build〉 the big well at Teṉṉūr[1] in Tiruveḷḷaṟai and completed 〈it〉 in the fifth 〈year of the same reign〉.

〈2〉 Mārppiṭuku-peruṅkiṇaṟu is the name of this 〈well〉.

〈2〉 The three-thousand and seven hundred[2] of this village shall protect this 〈charity〉.

Translation into French

〈1〉 Prospérité ! Fortune !

〈1–2〉 Kampaṉ Araiyaṉ, le frère cadet de Vicaiyanallūḻāṉ d'Ālampākkam, a commencé le grand puits de Teṉṉūr à Tiruveḷḷaṟai 〈en〉 la quatrième année de Tantivarman[3], qui est issu de la famille dont l'éponyme Pallava est l'ornement (*pallava-tilata-kula*), apparue dans la lignée du *gotra* de Bharadvāja, et l'a achevé en 〈sa〉 cinquième année.

〈2〉 Son nom est grand puits de Mārppiṭuku.

〈2〉 Les trois mille sept cents de ce village protègent ceci[4].

[1]The southern part of Tiruveḷḷaṟai was probably called Teṉṉūr in ancient times.

[2]The signatory of one of the inscriptions of Rājarāja (A.D. 985-1013) found at Māmallapuram in the Chingleput District is a certain Tiruvaṭikaḷ Maṇikaṇṭhaṉ, a native of Tiruveḷ〈ḷ〉arai. He calls himself as one of the 3700 of that village (*South-Ind. Inscrs.* Vol. I, p. 65). This seems to indicate that at an early period there was a body of 3700 at Tiruveḷḷaṟai to whom later members traced their descent. Reference to another such body of men is found in the expression *Tiḷḷai-mūvāyiravar*.

[3]Sanskrit Dantivarman.

[4]C'est-à-dire le puits en tant que donation.

Commentary

See also inscription Pallava 525.

〈1〉 ***palla****va-ti****la****ta-ku****lorbha****vaṉ*. ***palla****va-ku****la****-ti****la****to****rbha****vaṉ*, "who appeared as the ornament of the Pallava lineage" would be more straightforward. Alternatively, as suggested by Christophe Vielle, ***palla****va-ti****la****ta-ku****lorbha****vaṉ* can be translated as "who appeared in the lineage whose ornament is the sprout", with a play, attested elsewehere in the Pallava corpus, on the dynastic name Pallava ("sprout" in Sanskrit). As the the phrase *pallava-tilaka*, "ornament of the Pallava (lineage)", is also attested in the Pallava corpus as an epithet of Pallava kings, it seems that the present writer either deliberately used it in a new way or misused it. On this epithet, see Subrahmanya Aiyar 1911–1912, p. 157.

〈2〉 *mārppiṭuku*. See Subrahmanya Aiyar 1911–1912, p. 156.

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[5]Summary only.