Intaḷūr, memorial stone for a cock

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Summary

Memorial stone set up in honour of a victorious cock.

Palaeographic description

The *puḷḷi* is used. Mahadevan 2003 notes that two different forms of medial *o* are used (line 1, 7th letter and line 2, 2nd letter).

Edition

〈1〉 kꞎi!〈ī〉l̲c·cērik kōl̲i p(o)〈2〉r̲ kor̲̲ri

Apparatus

〈1〉 kꞎi!〈ī〉l̲c·cērik ◇ *kīl̲uccērik* K T; *kil̲ccerik* M1997; *kꞎi!〈ī〉l̲c·cērik* M2003.

〈2〉 p(o)〈2〉r̲ ◇ *po〈2〉ṭu* K T; *po〈2〉r̲* M1997; *p(o)〈2〉r̲* M2003.

〈3〉 koṟṟi ◇ *kotta* K T; *koṟṟi* M1997 M2003.

Translation by Mahadevan 2003

〈1–2〉 Poṟkoṟṟi, the 〈fighting〉 cock of Kīḻccēri.

Translation

〈1–2〉 The beautiful (*poṉ.*[1]) winner (*koṟṟi*) cock 〈of〉 Kīḻccēri[2]

Commentary

This inscription is counted in the Pallava corpus, insofar as its date (6th century CE according to Mahadevan 2003) and provenance correspond the period and the area of the Pallava rule in northern Tamil Nadu.

A similar inscription (Pallava 397), commemorating a victorious cock with a strikingly similar image of a cock, has been found at Aracalāpuram. The two inscriptions appears to be closely related: the present Intaḷūr inscription commemorates the fighting cock of the eastern quarters, whereas the Aracalāpuram inscription commemorates the fighting cock of the western quarters.

See the comments by Mahadevan 2003, pp. 626–627.

Bibliography

Edited in Kasinathan 1978. Edited in Makātēvaṉ 1997. Edited and translated Mahadevan 2003.

This revised edition by Emmanuel Francis based on visual documentation in Mahadevan 2003.

[1] The original text might be emended from *poṟ*, that is, *poṉ* in sandhi, to *pōr*, "fight". The translation would thus be: "the victorious in fight cock".

[2] That is, the eastern quarters.

Primary

[K] Kasinathan, Natana. 1978. “Toṇṭaimaṇṭalattiṉ aṇmaikkāla kaṇṭupiṭippukaḷ.” In: *Ceṅkai māvaṭṭa varalāṟṟu karuttaraṅku*. Edited by R. Nagaswamy. Chennai: Varalāṟṟu pēravai, pp. 85–97. Pages 86–87.

[T] Thamaraikannan. 1979. “Naṭukal kaṇṭa Kīḻccēri kōḻi.” In: *Tamiḻnāṭu varalāṟṟu karuttaraṅku*. Edited by R. Nagaswamy. Chennai: Varalāṟṟu pēravai, pp. 120–129.

[M1997] Makātēvaṉ, Airāvatam. 1997. “toṇṭaimaṇṭalattuk kōḻik kaṟkaḷ.” *Āvaṇam* 8, pp. 9–19. Pages 10–14.

[M2003] Mahadevan, Iravatham. 2003. *Early Tamil epigraphy, from the earliest times to the sixth century A.D.* Harvard oriental series 62. Chennai; Cambridge, Mass.: Cre-A; Harvard University Press. Item 113, pages 466, 468, 530, 626–627, plate 47B.

Secondary

Rajan, K. 2000. *South Indian memorial stones*. Thanjavur: Manoo Pathippakam. Page 65.