SII 3.23: original edition by Eugen Julius Theodor Hultzsch

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Alternative title: III.—INSCRIPTIONS IN THE PASUPATISVARA TEMPLE AT KARUVUR. No. 23.—ON THE OUTSIDE OF THE SECOND PRAKARA, RIGHT OF ENTRANCE

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Summary

This inscription is dated in the 23rd year of the reign of *Tribhuvanachakravartin* **Kulōttuṅga-Chōḷadēva**, who claims to have conquered **Īḻam** (Ceylon), **Madurai** (Madhurā) and **Karuvūr** and to have cut off the head of the **Pāṇḍya** king. The time of this **Kulōttuṅga-Chōḷa** is settled by an inscription in the Raṅganāyaka temple at **Nellūr** (Nellore), which couples Śaka-Saṁvat 1119 with the 19th year of his reign.[1] On the basis of this inscription and of some others which contain elements for astronomical calculation, Professor Kielhorn has shown that the king's reign commenced between the 5th June and 8th July, A.D. 1178.[2] Kulōttuṅga-Chōḷadēva I. ascended the throne in A.D. 1070,[3] and Kulōttuṅga-Chōḷadēva II. issued the Chellūr plates in A.D. 1132.[4] Consequently, the king, to whose reign the present inscription belongs, has to be designated

[1] No. 197 of 1894; *Ep. Ind.* Vol. IV. p. 219.
[2] *Ibid.* p. 266.
[3] See Professor Kielhorn's calculations, *l.c.*
[4] *Ind. Ant.* Vol. XX. p. 285.

Kulōttuṅga-Chōḷadēva III. In other inscriptions he bears the names **Parakēsarivarman, Vīrarājēndradēva** (II.) and **Tribhuvanavīradēva.** His latest date is the 39th year in an unpublished inscription at Chidambaram. Accordingly, he must have been the immediate predecessor of *Tribhuvanachakravartin* **Rājarājadēva**, who ascended the throne about A.D. 1216.[5]

The immediate purpose of the subjoined inscription is to record that the king granted to the Karuvūr temple the village of **Maṉṉaṟai** and a portion of **Kēraḷapaḷḷi**[6] in **Taṭṭaiyūrnāḍu**.

Edition

〈1〉 **svasti śrī [||]** tiripuvaṉaccakkaravarttikaḷ Īḻamum maturaiyum pāṇṭiyaṉ muṭittalaiyuṅkaruvūrum koṇṭaruḷiṉa **śrī**kulottuṅkaco(ḻa)tevarkku yāṇṭu Irupattum¿u?〈ū〉ṉṟāvatu tiripuvaṉaccakkaravartti koneri〈2〉〈ṉ〉(mai)koṇṭāṉ koṅkāṉa co(ḻa)keraḷamaṇṭalat(tu) veṅkālanāṭṭu(k)karuvūrāṉa muṭivaḻa(ṅ)kucoḻapurattu tiruvānilai māte(va)r koyilil tevar kaṉmikkum **śrīmāheśvara**kaṅkāṇi ceyva〈3〉〈ār〉kaḷukkum **śrī**kāri(ya)ñceyvāṉukkum [|] Ittevarkku v(e)ṇṭum nivantaṅkaḷukku veṇṭuvatāka Iṉṉāṭṭuttaṭṭaiyūrnāṭṭukkera(ḷa)paḷḷiyilum maṉṉaṟaiyilumāka Aimpatiṟṟu veli nila{m}〈4〉(mum centa) maṉṉaṟai tirunāma¿ṟ?〈t〉tu(kk)ā(ṇi)yā(ka ti)ruvā(nilai) ma**(hā)**te(va)ṟ(ku) kuṭuttom [|] Ivv¿uṟk?〈ūrkk〉u p(e)runā〈ṉkel〉(lai)kkuṭpaṭṭa nilamum kaṟṟup(pu)ṟperakaramuṟ(ṟū)ṭ(ṭu)m (I)¿(ṉ)?〈nn〉(āya)ṉār〈k〉(ku)〈5〉 Irupattum¿u?〈ū〉ṉṟāvatu mutal tevatāṉam Iṟai(yi)liyāka Iṭakkaṭavatākaccol(li) Ippaṭi kaṇakkilum Iṭṭukkoḷ(ḷa)kkaṭava(r)kaḷ(ā)ka varikkukūṟu ceyvārkaḷukkum coṉṉo(m) [|]〈6〉 Iṉṉilaṅkaik(k)oḷ(ḷu)m Iṭattuṅkeraḷaṉ nicca(yi)tta (pa)ṭiye Ivvūrkaḷile (I)rupattum¿u?〈ū〉ṉṟāvatu (mu)ta(l) tevatā(ṉa)Iṟaiyiliyākakkaikkoṇṭu nivantañcelut(ta)ppaṇṇuka [|]〈7〉 Eḻutiṉāṉ tirumantiraOlai mīṉavaṉm¿u?〈ū〉ventaveḷāṉ [|] Ivai toṇṭaimāṉ Eḻuttu [|] Ivai viḻiñattarayaṉ Eḻut(tu) [|] Ivai varakuṇarā**jaṉe**〈〈(ḻu)〉〉ttu [|] Ivai paṅkaḷattarayaṉ Eḻuttu [|] Ivai vāḷuva〈8〉rā**jaṉe**ḻuttu [||]

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[5] See Vol. I. p. 86. An inscription of the 2nd year of *Tribhuvanachakravartin* Rājarājadēva at Tiruviḍaimarudūr (No. 143 of 1895) mentions an image which had been set up in the 37th year of "the great king (*periya-dēvar*) Tribhuvanavīradēva."

[6] The same village is mentioned in a short inscription (No. 68 of 1890) of the 34th year of Parāntaka I. at Sōmūr near Karavūr.

Translation by Hultzsch 1899

(Line 1.) Hail ! Prosperity ! In the twenty-third year (*of the reign*) of the emperor of the three worlds, **Śrī-Kulōttuṅga-Śōḻadēva**, who was pleased to take **Īḻam, Madurai**, the crowned head of the **Pāṇḍya**, and **Karuvūr**,—the emperor of the three worlds, **Kōnēri[ṉmai] koṇḍāṉ**,[7] (*addresses the following order*) to the Pūjāri (*dēvarkaṉmi*), to the overseers of the *Śrī-Māhēśvaras*, and to the manager of the temple of **Tiruvānilai-Mahādēva** at **Karuvūr**, *alias* **Muḍivaḻaṅgu-Śōḻapuram**, (*a city*) in **Veṅgālanāḍu**, (*a district*) of **Koṅgu**, *alias* **Śōḻa-Kēraḷa-maṇḍalam**.

(L. 3.) "We have given as temple land to (*the god*) **Mahādēva** of the **Tiruvānilai** (*temple*) for the expenses required by this god (*the village of*) **Maṉṉaṟai**, containing fifty *vēli* of land in **Kēra[ḷa]paḷḷi** and in **Maṉṉaṟai** in **Taṭṭaiyūr-nāḍu**, (*a district*) of the same *nāḍu*.[8]

(L. 4.) "Having declared that the land enclosed within the four great boundaries of this village, (*including*) the grass for the calves, and (*the land*) enjoyed in full by the great village, should be given to this god as tax-free temple land from the twenty-third (*year of our reign*), we have ordered (*our*) revenue officers[9] to enter (*it*) as such in the account (*book*)."

(L. 6.) "If this land is (*actually*) taken possession of, you shall permit (*the temple authorities*) to take possession (*of it*) as tax-free temple land and to defray the expenses (*of the temple*) from (*the produce of*) these villages from the twenty-third (*year of our reign*), as determined by **Kēraḷaṉ**."[10]

(L. 7.) Written by the royal secretary, **Mīṉavaṉ-Mūvēndavēḷāṉ**. This (*is*) the writing of **Toṇḍaimāṉ**. This (*is*) the writing of **Viḻiñattarayaṉ**. This (*is*) the writing of **Varaguṇarājaṉ**. This (*is*) the writing of **Paṅgaḷattarayaṉ**. This (*is*) the writing of **Vāḷuvarājaṉ**.

Bibliography

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[7] Regarding this title see Vol. II. pp. 110 and 246.

[8] This refers apparently to Veṅgāla-nāḍu in l. 2. But No. 24, l. 3, shows that both Veṅgāla-nāḍu and Taṭṭaiyūr-nāḍu were independent districts of Śōḻa-Kēraḷa-maṇḍalam.

[9] *varikku kūṟu ceyvārkaḷ* (which occurs also in Vol. II. No. 21, second section, l. 4) corresponds to *variyilār* in No. 20, l. 21.

[10] This is perhaps the name of the person at whose instance the king made the grant.

Primary

[SII] Hultzsch, Eugen Julius Theodor. 1899. *South-Indian inscriptions. Volume III: Miscellaneous inscriptions from the Tamil country. Part I: Inscriptions at Ukkal, Melpadi, Karuvur, Manimangalam and Tiruvallam*. South Indian Inscriptions 3.1. Madras: Government Press. Pages 43–45, item 23.