# SII 3.42: original edition by Eugen Julius Theodor Hultzsch

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Alternative title: V.—INSCRIPTIONS AT TIRUVALLAM. No. 42.—ON A BOULDER NEAR TIRUVALLAM

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## Summary

Insert intro.

This inscription is engraved on the slightly sloping surface of a large boulder in the bed of the **Nīvā** river, one mile north-east of **Tiruvallam**. The alphabet is Tamil and Grantha of an archaic type. It resembles the alphabet of the inscriptions of the Western **Gaṅga** king **Kampavarman** (Nos. 5 and 8 above) and lies between the two Kīḻ-Muṭṭugūr inscriptions of **Vijaya-Narasiṁhavarman**[1] as the upper limit and the two Āmbūr inscriptions of **Vijaya-Nṛipatuṅga-Vikramavarman**[2] as the lower one. As in other archaic Tamil inscriptions,[3] the *virāma* is expressed by a vertical dash over the letter in a number of cases, though not throughout. In the word *Maṉṟāḍi* (l. 8) the syllable *ṟā* is expressed by two separate symbols.[4] The letter *ṉ* has generally its archaic form, but in

[1] *Ep. Ind.* Vol. IV. p. 177 f. and p. 360.
[2] *Ibid.* p. 182 f.
[3] See above, p. 4, note 2, and p. 50.
[4] Compare above, p. 45, note 3.

two cases[5] its central loop is fully developed. The language of the inscription is Tamil; but line 1 contains some invocations in Sanskrit prose, and line 15 f. a Sanskrit verse.

The record is dated in the 62nd year of the reign of **Vijaya-Nandivikramavarman** (l. 2 f.). Three other inscriptions of the same king are noticed in Vol. I. (Nos. 108, 124 and 125). As I have shown before,[6] he is probably identical with **Nandivarman**, the father of **Vijaya-Nṛipatuṅgavarman** and the son-in-law of the **Rāshṭrakūṭa** king **Amōghavarsha** I. If this identification is correct, the inscription would have to be placed before the end of the 9th century A.D.

Vijaya-Nandivikramavarman appears to have been the sovereign of **Mahāvalivāṇarāya** (l. 11) or Māvalivāṇarāya (l. 5), who was a descendant of the family of **Mahābali** (l. 5) and ruled the twelve thousand (villages) of **Vaḍugavaḷi** (l. 6), *i.e.* 'the Telugu road.' This province is mentioned in the **Muḍyanūr** plates of the Bāṇa king Malladēva as 'the twelve thousand villages in **Āndhra-maṇḍala**,'[7] and in the Udayēndiram plates of the Bāṇa king Vikramāditya II. as 'the land to the west of the **Āndhra** road.'[8] The attributes which are prefixed to the name of Mahāvalivāṇarāya in the subjoined inscription (l. 3 ff.) are also found in an undated inscription of Mahāvalibāṇarasa at **Gūlgānpode**.[9] As I have stated before,[10] Mahābalibāṇarāja seems to have been the hereditary designation of the **Bāṇa** chiefs. Hence it is impossible to say which individual chief is meant in the present inscription.

The inscription records that a goldsmith granted some land to a temple at **Vāṇapuram** (ll. 6 and 14), and that **Mahāvalivāṇarāya** confirmed this grant (l. 10 f.). Vāṇapuram, 'the town of the Bāṇas,' seems to have been the residence of the Bāṇa chief and to have been situated close to Tiruvallam.

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## Edition

〈1〉 O**m** na**maśśi**vāya**{m} (sva)sti śrī** [||]〈2〉 ko vicaiyanantivikkiramaparumaṟku yā〈3〉ṇṭaṟupa(t)tiraṇ(ṭ)ā(va)tu **sakalajaga〈t〉tra**〈4〉**yābhi**van**di**ta**surāsurādhīśaparameśvarapra**ti〈5〉hārīkṛi**ta**mahā¿v vaṭu(kava)l̲i (pa)n̲n̲ī{r}rāyiramum Āḷa v(āṇa)purattu〈7〉 vaṭa(ci)karakoyil putukku-vittu I(ta)ṟku Iḷaṅ〈8〉kiḻavar makaṉ maṉaṟāṭiṭai Aḻiñciṟka(ḷam) paṭṭi (vi)laikku〈9〉

[5] *aritīraṉ*, l. 10, and *paṭuvāṉ*, l. 13.
[6] *Ep. Ind.* Vol. IV. p. 181 f.
[7] *Ind. Ant.* Vol. XV. p. 175, text line 21 f.
[8] *Ep. Ind.* Vol. III. p. 76, text line 21.
[9] *Ind. Ant.* Vol. X. p. 39, No. I.
[10] *Ep. Ind.* Vol. V. p. 50.

koṇṭu kuṭutteṉ ūṟṟukkāṭṭukoṭṭattu (A)ḷiṅkaṇapā<kka>ttu〈10〉 kīḻakattu taṭṭāṉ mā(ta)n makan (A)ritīraṉ [|] kuṭutta tevar pokam〈11〉 mahāvalivāṇarāyar piṭākai valañceytu koṭuttār [|] Itu kāt〈12〉tā(r A)ṭi<yeṉ muṭi me>laṉa [|] Itu Aḷittāṉ kaṭikai (E)ḻā Iru(va)raiyum〈13〉 ko(ṉṟa p)āvattu (pa)ṭuvāṉ [|] Itu Aḷi(t)tāṉ Ippāvattu<k>ku Añcāṉāyil〈14〉 (Aṉ) [2+] koyilu<k>ku Āyiram kāṇam (ta)ṇṭappaṭuvom vāṇapuratto(m) [||]

1. Anuṣṭubh

〈15〉 ¿v?<b>a(hu)bhir vasudhā dattā
rāja(bhi)<ḥ> sa¿k?<g>arādibhi<ḥ> <|>
yasya yasya yadā bhū〈16〉mi<s>
tasya tasya tadā phalam [||]

## Apparatus

〈14〉 (Aṉ) [2+] • Read *aṉṟāḷ*.

## Translation by Hultzsch 1899

(Line 1.) *Ōm*. Obeisance to **Śiva !** Hail ! Prosperity !

(L. 2.) In the sixty-second year (*of the reign*) of king **Vijaya-Nandivikramavarman**, while the glorious **Māvalivāṇarāya**,—born from the family of **Mahābali**, who had been made door-keeper by the lord of gods and demons, Paramēśvara (Śiva), who is worshipped in all the three worlds,—was ruling the **Vaḍu[gava]ḻi** twelve-thousand,—I, **[A]ridhīraṉ**, the son of **Mā[da]ṉ**, a goldsmith (*and resident*) of a house in the east of **[A]ḷiṅgaṇapā[kka]m** in (*the district of*) **Ūṟṟukkāṭṭu-kōṭṭam**,[11] caused to be renewed the **Vaḍa-[śi]gara-kōyil**[12] at **Vāṇapuram** and gave to it the *paṭṭi*[13] (called) *Aḷiñjiṟka[ḷam]*, (which I had) bought from **Maṉṟāḍi**, the son of **Iḷaṅgiḷavar**.

(L. 10.) **Mahāvalivāṇarāya** circumambulated the hamlet (*piḍāgai*) towards the right and granted (*the land*) enjoyed by the god, which (Aridhīraṉ) had given.

(L. 11.) "The feet of him who protects this (*charity*), (*shall be*) on my head.[14] He who destroys this (*charity*), shall incur the sin of one who kills the great men who are

[11] See above, Vol. II. p. 345 and note 4.
[12] *I.e.* -the temple with the tower in the north.-
[13] On this term see above, Vol. II. p. 359, note 12.
[14] See above, p. 39, note 4.

permanent (*members)*[15] of the assembly.[16] If the destroyer of this (*charity*) does not fear this sin, we, (*the inhabitants*) of **Vāṇapuram**, shall pay a fine of one thousand *kāṇam*) to the palace of the king who is then ruling.[17]

(L. 15.) "Land has been granted by many kings, commencing with Sagara. Whosever (*is*) the earth at any time, his (*is*) then the reward (*of gifts of land*)."

# Bibliography

Digital edition of SII 3.42 by Hultzsch 1899 converted to DHARMA conventions by Emmanuel Francis.

## 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 90–92, item 42.

[15] Literally, 'who do not rise.'

[16] The two Tamil words *iruvar* and *kaḍigai* correspond to *mahājana* and *ghaṭige* in a Chalukya inscription; *Ep. Ind*. Vol. III. p. 360.

[17] With *aṉṟāḷ koyil* compare *aṉṟāḷ ko*, above, Vol. I. pp. 113 and 115.