SII 3.91: original edition by H. Krishna Sastri

Emmanuel Francis

Alternative title: X.—INSCRIPTIONS OF THE TIME OF RAJAKESARIVARMAN ADITYA I. No. 91.—ON A PILLAR LYING IN THE MANDAPA IN A STREET AT TIRUNAGESVARAM. No. 222 of 1911

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Summary

This is a record, in archaic characters, of **Rājakēsarivarman** (perhaps **Āditya** I.) dated in his 2nd year. It registers gifts made by the merchants (*nagarattār*) of **Kumaramārtāṇḍapuram** to meet the cost of repairs to the enclosure (*called*) **Maunakumaramārtāṇḍaṉ** and the *gōpura* of **Milāḍuḍaiyārpaḷḷi**. From No. 199 of the Madras Epigraphical collection for 1907 it appears that **Kumaramārtāṇḍaṉ** was a surname of the **Pallava** king **Nandippōttaraiyar**. In the word **Milāḍuḍaiyārpaḷḷi** we may have a possible reference to the **Śaiva** saint **Meypporuṇāyaṉār** also called **Milāḍuḍaiyār**. As the usual imprecation *paṉmāheśvararakṣai* does not occur at the end of the inscription, it is much more probable that **Milāḍuḍaiyārpaḷḷi** was a Jaina temple than a Śaiva shrine called after **Milāḍuḍaiyār**.

Edition

〈1〉 **svasti śrī** [||] ko Irāca〈2〉kecipar**ma**〈r〉kku yāṇ〈3〉ṭu Iraṇṭāvatu teṉ〈4〉karait tiraimur¿t?〈n〉āṭṭu〈5〉k kumaramāttāṇṭapu〈6〉rattu perunakaratto〈7〉m Ivvūr milāṭuṭaiyā〈8〉rpaḷḷiyil Eṅkaḷ me〈9〉(ḷa)ṉakumaramāttāṇṭaṉā〈10〉ṉa (ti)ruccuṟṟālaikkuṅ〈11〉 kopurattukkum putu〈12〉kkuppuṟamāka Ippa(ḷ)ḷi〈13〉yiṉ kiḻai nantavāṉa〈14〉ttukkum melai nanta〈15〉vāṉattukkumāka nakara〈16〉ttoṅ koḷḷum vārā〈17〉vaikal Āṇṭaṭuttu〈18〉 koḷvatu Ittiruccuṟṟā〈19〉laikkuṅ kopurattukku〈20〉(m) putukkuppuṟamāka naka〈21〉ra Anuccaiyāl vai〈22〉ttukkuṭuttom [||] Iv〈23〉vārāvai{y}kal koḷ〈24〉kaveṉṟu nakaratto〈25〉māka taṉi [4+] ṉāka (co)〈26〉ṉṉāṉ¿e?〈ai〉 Ippaḷḷi Uṭai〈27〉yo{m}mava{(ṉ)}ṉe tāṉ ve〈28〉ṇṭu kaḷattu tāṉ veṇ〈29〉ṭu poṉ maṟaiyili ma〈30〉ṉṟapperuvatākavum ka〈31〉ṅkaikkarai Āy¿a?〈i〉raṅ kurā〈32〉lākkoṉṟāṉ pāvaṅ k(o)〈33〉ḷvatākavum Ipparicu can〈34〉tirātittavaṟ vaittukku〈35〉ṭuttom kumaramāttāṇ〈36〉ṭapurattu perunakarattom[||]

Apparatus

〈25〉 taṉi [4+] • The gap may be filled up with the letters *ppuruṣa*.

Translation by Krishna Sastri 1920

(Line 1.) Hail ! Prosperity ! In the 2nd year of (*the reign of*) king **Rājakēsarivarman**, we, the great merchants (*nagarattōm*) of **Kumaramārtāṇḍapuram** in **Tiraimūr-nāḍu** on the southern bank (*of the Kāvērī river*), assigned and gave, with the consent of the guild, the income of every alternate year from the collection (*vārāvaigal*) which we, the merchants, are receiving on account of the flower gardens on the eastern and western sides of this *paḷḷi (temple)*, for the benefit of the repairs (*pudukkuppuṟam*) to the sacred enclosure called **Maunakumaramārtāṇḍaṉ** and the *gōpura* of ours (*i.e., built by us*) in (*the temple*) **Milāḍuḍaiyārpaḷḷi** in this village[1] .

(L. 22.) Should we, as a guild or a single individual (*of the guild*), propose to appropriate these collections (*presented to the temple*), the person among us[2] who is (*then*) in charge of this *paḷḷi (temple*) might levy any (*fine of*) gold himself and realize (*it*) from him openly at any place he likes; besides, (*the culprit*) shall incur the sin of one who kills one thousand tawny cows on the banks of the Gaṅgā. We, the great merchants of

[1]In lines 18 to 20 the phrase *ittiruccuṟṟālaikkuṅ kopurattukkum putukkuppuṟamāka* repeats the object of the grant unnecessarily. Consequently the phrase is not translated.

[2]The use of the words *ippaḷḷiyuṭaiyomavaṉē* in the peculiar sense given above suggests that while the body of merchants were the actual owners of the temple (see also 1.8), one of them was in direct charge of it.

Kumaramārtāṇḍapuram, have thus assigned and given (*the above-mentioned gift*) to last as long as the moon and the sun (*endure*).

Bibliography

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Primary

[SII] Krishna Sastri, H. 1920. *South-Indian inscriptions. Volume III: Miscellaneous inscriptions from the Tamil country. Part III: Inscriptions of Aditya I, Parantaka I, Madiraikonda, Rajakesarivarman, Parantaka II, Uttama-Chola, Parthivendravarman and Aditya-Karikala and the Tiruvalangadu plates of Rajendra-Chola I*. South Indian Inscriptions 3.3. Madras: Government Press. Pages 223–224, item 91.