# SII 3.94: original edition by H. Krishna Sastri

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Alternative title: X.—INSCRIPTIONS OF THE TIME OF RAJAKESARIVARMAN ADITYA I. No. 94.—ON THE NORTH WALL OF THE CENTRAL SHRINE IN THE AIRAVATESVARA TEMPLE AT NIYAMAM. No. 16 of 1899

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## Summary

The record belongs to the 24th year of the early **Chōḷa** king **Rājakēsarivarman** and has to be assigned to Āditya I. on palaeographical grounds. It registers a gift of gold by **Aḍigaḷ Gaṇḍaṉ Māṟambāvai**[1] , queen of **Nandippōttaraiyar** of the Pallavatilaka race. The fact that this Pallava queen made a grant in the reign of the **Chōḷa** king suggests that the **Pallavas** had been completely subdued by this time, as stated in the **Tiruvālaṅgāḍu** grant and that **Nandippōttaraiyar**, the husband of **Māṟambāvai**, was also dead.

[1] No. 13 of 1897, the first line of which is written in smaller characters than the rest of the inscription, also mentions Māṟambāvai making a gift of 12 *kaḷañju* of gold for a lamp to the goddess Piḍāri in the temple at Niyama-Māgāḷam.

## Edition

〈1〉 **svasti (śrī)** [||] (kovirāca)kecari [10+] (mā)t(e)vaṟkku〈2〉 Aippikai viṣ**u**vum citti(rai) [10+] ku tiruva(mirtuceta)ruḷa ney pāl tayir〈3〉 Aiññ(ā)l̤icce(tu)m tiruvamirtum tiru [10+] l̤ākkum (pariv)āramuḷiṭṭut tiruvamir〈4〉tarici patakku nāṉāl̤iyum maṟṟun tiruvamir [4+] (ve)ṇṭumavica(ttu)kkum Innāḷāl **br**¿a?〈ā〉**hma**(ṇar)〈5〉 I(ru)patiṉma(ru)ṇpatākavum Ittaḷippaṇi(cey)yum māṇi(kaḷ )t(eva) [3+] (rai)yum Ūṭṭuvatāka〈6〉 v¿a?〈ai〉tteṉ pallavatila(kaku)lattu nantip(po)ttaraiyar ma**hāde**viyārāṉavaṭikaḷ kaṇṭaṉ (māṟam)〈7〉pāvaiyār vaitta poṉ [3+] r̤ccemmai Aiṅkaḷañcu poṉṉuṅ kaḷañciṉvāy pūvilaraikkāl〈8〉 palicaiyāy vanta [3+] pūvilaraikkaḷañceyaraikkāl(p) poṉṉālum Innāḷālippaṭi celu〈9〉ttuveṉāy Ippo(ṉ ko)ṇteṉ I(t)taḷippaṭṭuṭaiyāṉ **Īśva**rakkāraṇi vāmad**(d)e**vaṉ tiru(v)eṇkāṭaṉeṉ [||]〈10〉 Itu paṉm¿a?〈ā〉**heśva**(rara**kṣai**) |||~

## Apparatus

〈7〉 [3+] r̤ccemmai • *Ūṟkaṟcemmai* occurs in other inscriptions.

## Translation by Krishna Sastri 1920

(Line 1.) Hail ! Prosperity ! . . . king **Rājakēsari[varman]. . . . I, Aḍigaḷ Gaṇḍaṉ Māṟambāvaiyār**, the great queen of **Nandippōttaraiyar** of the **Pallavatilaka**-race, deposited[2] five *kaḷañju* of pure gold (*ūrkaṟchemmai-poṉ*)[3] . . . assigning five *nāl̤i* of ghee, milk and curd for sacred offerings . . . to (*the god*) **Mahādēva** (*Śiva*) on the equinoxial days (*Vishu*) in (*the months*) Aippigai (*Aippaśi*) and Śittirai . . . *[ā]l̤ākku* . . . for sacred offerings and sacred . . . one *padakku* and four *nāl̤i* of rice for sacred offerings to (*other gods*) including the subsidiary (*deities*); again for sacred offerings . . . and other required food of the gods (*aviśu*), so that on those days twenty Brāhmaṇas may take food and boys (*māṇigaḷ*)[4] [and the devotees] (*dēvaraḍiyār*) who do service in this temple may be fed.

(L. 7.) And I, **Īśvarakkāraṇi Vāmadēvaṉ Tiruveṇkāḍaṉ**, the priest (*paṭṭuḍaiyāṉ*) of this temple, received the gold (*assuring the donor*) that from the gold, (*viz.,*) half *kaḷañju* and one-eighths at each *pū*(*crop*), accruing as interest at (*the rate of*) one-eighth every *pū* (*crop*) on each *kaḷañju*, I shall maintain (*the charity*) thus (*described*) on these days. (*This gift is placed under*) the protection of (*the assembly of*) all *Māhēśvaras*.

[2] *vaittēṉ* in line 6 and *vaitta* in line 7 cannot both be translated. Either of the two must be cancelled.

[3] Literally, good gold tested by the touch-stone of the town.

[4] In Malabar, even now, the chief priest of a temple in the discharge of his temple duties is helped by a number of boys who are generally the students of the Vēda, *i.e., brahmachārins*.

# Bibliography

Digital edition of SII 3.94 by Krishna Sastri 1920 converted to DHARMA conventions by Emmanuel Francis.

## 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 226–227, item 94.