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Alternative title: XIV.—INSCRIPTIONS OF PARAKESARIVARMAN UTTAMA-CHOLA. No. 124.—ON THE NORTH WALL OF THE CENTRAL SHRINE IN THE MAHALINGASVAMIN TEMPLE AT TIRUVIDAIMARUDUR. No. 199 of 1907

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Summary

This inscription is dated in the 4th year of **Parakēsarivarman** and registers that the assembly of **Tiraimūr**, the merchants of **Tiruviḍaimarudil** (the modern Tiruviḍaimarudūr), the trustees and other officers of the temple assembled in the theatrical hall of the temple and made up an account of the gifts of gold made for maintaining lamps in that temple. It is stated that the stones which bore the original inscriptions regarding these gifts were placed in underground cellars and when the temple was renovated, true copies were made of them and that from these copies the documents were re-incised on the stone walls of the renovated temple. One such gift was that made by **Kāḍupaṭṭigaḷ Nandippōttaraiyar** for burning a lamp called *Kumaramārtāṇḍaṉ*.

The acting of dramas in temples is mentioned in a Tanjore inscription of the time of Rājarāja I. The present record contains, though incidentally, an earlier reference to dramatic performances by introducing the term *nāṭakacālai* in line 1. The inscription gives us also an idea of how the important documents of a temple were engraved on

stones and preserved in underground cellars and how when the temples had to be renovated they were copied over and re-engraved.

Kāḍupaṭṭigaḷ Nandippōttaraiyar may possibly be **Nandivarman Pallavamalla** of the **Udayēndiram** grant.[1]

Edition

〈1〉 **svasti śrī** [||] kopparа**kesa**riva**nma**r̲k=ku yāṇṭu 4 Āvatu nāḷ (3) 100 2 10 5 n̲āl tiruviṭai(maru)til **de**var nāṭakacālaiye Ittevar **śrīkāryya**m tiruttak(kaṭa)va tiraimur **sabhai**yārum tiruviṭaima(rutil) nakarattārum (tirukkp)yiluṭaiyārkaḷum teva〈2〉rkaṇakku marutan̲ piramakuṭṭan̲um **śrī**kāryamārā〈y〉kiṉ̲ra pūcalān̲kuṭaiyārum Iruntu **de**vaṟku v(ai)ytta poliyūṭṭiṉāl vaitta viḷakku Ārāynta Iṭattu Inta **śrī**koyil kaṟṟaḷi (E)ṭuppataṟku muṉ poliyūṭṭuk=kup (pira)māṇa{m}māy Uḷḷa kaṟkaḷ〈3〉 Ellām Aṭimaṉaik=kiḻe Iṭṭ¿i?〈a〉 kalliṉpaṭi Eṭuttukkoṇṭu Iṭṭamaiyil muṉpaṭi Eṭuttapaṭi māṟṟiṉaparicey tirukkaṟṟaḷimele kaṉmel veṭṭikkoḷ〈ka〉 (ve)n̲ṟu Evak kaṉmel veṭṭiṉapaṭi kāṭupaṭṭikaḷ na〈n〉tippottarai〈4〉yar kumaramā〈r〉ttāṇṭa{n̲}ṉeṉaṉum viḷa〈kki〉n̲ukku vaicca poṉ̲ 6 10 <kaḷañcu> Ipp(o)n̲ Aṟupatiṉ̲ kaḷaiñcum koṇ(ṭa) tiraimur cavaiy¿a?〈ā〉r Aṭ〈〈ṭakkaṭava(tā)n̲a〉〉 ney Uri Iṉāl viḷakku 1 Um[2]

Translation by Krishna Sastri 1920

(Line 1.) Hail ! Prosperity ! In the 4th year and the [3]25th day of (*the reign of*) king **Parakēsarivarman**, there being present in the theatrical hall (*nāḍayaśālai*) of the god at **Tiruviḍaimarudil**, the assembly of **Tiraimūr** whose business it was to regulate the temple affairs (*śrīkāryam*) of this god, the merchants (*nagarattār*) of **Tiruviḍaimarudil**, the trustees of the sacred temple, the temple-accountant **Marudaṉ̲ Piramakuṭṭaṉ̲**, and the temple manager (*śrīkāryamārāygiṉ̲ra*) **Pūśalāṉ̲kuḍaiyār**, an account was made up of the lamps maintained from the interest (*on money*) deposited for (*the benefit of*) the god.

(L. 2.) All the documentary stones of (*i.e., relating to) (investments on*) interest (*by the temple*) having been copied over[3] and kept as on the stones which were placed below in the underground cellars, prior to the renovation of this temple (*śrīkōyil*) in stone, it was ordered that in the same manner as the transferred copies were made before (*from the*

[1] See above, Vol. II, pp. 361 ff. For Kumaramārtāṇḍaṉ see p. 223 above.
[2] The inscription stops here abruptly.
[3] The word *eḍuttukoṇḍu* seems to be used here in the sense of 'having made or taken copies from.

originals) (they) may now be re-engraved on the stones of the sacred stone temple; and (*the following copy*) was thus engraved on the stone:—**Kāḍupaṭṭigaḷ Nandippōttaraiyar** gave 60 *kaḻañju*[4] of gold for a lamp called *Kumaramārttāṇḍaṉ*. One lamp (*has to be maintained*) from (*one) uri* of ghee to be measured (*daily*) by the (*members of the*) assembly of **Tiraimūr** who received this sixty *kaḻañju* of gold.

Commentary

〈4〉 *Uri Iṉāl viḷakku 1 Um*. The inscription stops here abruptly.

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 260–261, item 124.

[4]The word *kaḻañju* is here expressed by the symbol <kaḻañcu>.