SII 14.22: original edition by A. S. Ramanatha Ayyar

Emmanuel Francis

Alternative title: No. 22. (A.R. No. 705 of 1905.) AYYAMPĀḶAIYAM, PALANI TALUK, MADURAI DISTRICT. ABOVE THE NATURAL CAVE ON THE HILL CALLED AIVARMALAI

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Summary

This Vaṭṭeḻuttu record which couples the **8th regnal year** of king **Varaguṇa** with **Śaka 792** and the Āṉaimalai inscription of Jaṭila-Parāntaka which is dated in the Kali era form the two important landmarks in early Pāṇḍya chronology. The present epigraph yields A.D. 862-3 as the date of accession of Varaguṇa. It registers a gift of 505 *kāṇam* of gold by Śāntivīrakkuravar of Kāḻam, the disciple of Guṇavīrakkuravaḍigaḷ for offerings to the images of Pāriśva-Bhaṭāra, i.e., Pārśvanātha and of the attendant *yakshīs* which he had renovated and for the feeding of one ascetic.

The images sculptured on the brow of the cavern on this hill, as well as the references in this record indicate that a Jaina colony flourished on this hill in the 9th century A.D. It may be noted that the hill is called *Tiruvayirai*, which is the name by which it is referred to in early Tamil literature.

Edition

〈1〉 cakāyāṇṭu Eḷunūṟṟut toṇṇūṟṟiraṇṭu〈2〉 pontaṉa varakuṇaṟku yāṇṭu Eṭṭu kuṇavirakku〈3〉ravaṭikaḷ māṇākka(r) kāḷattu cāntivirak〈4〉kāvar tiruvayirai pāriśva paṭāraraiyu miyak〈5〉ki Avvaikaḷaiyum putukki Iraṇṭukku muṭ〈6〉ṭāvaliyu moraṭikaḷukku coṟāka Amaittaṉa〈7〉 poṉa Ainnūṟṟaintu kāṇam [||]

Bibliography

Digital edition of SII 14.22 by Ramanatha Ayyar 1962 converted to DHARMA conventions by Emmanuel Francis.

Primary

[SII] Ramanatha Ayyar, A. S. 1962. *South Indian inscriptions. Volume XIV: The Pāṇḍyas*. South Indian Inscriptions 14. Delhi: Archaeological survey of India (Manager of Publications). Pages 21–22, item 22.