SII 22.7: original edition by G.V. Srinivasa Rao

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Alternative title: No. 7. (A.R. No. 7 of 1906) SALEM DISTRICT, NAMAKKAL TALUK, NĀMAKKAL RAṄGANĀTHA TEMPLE ON THE HILL-IN THE MONOLITHIC CAVE FORMING THE CENTRAL SHRINE

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Summary

This consists of a few Sanskrit *birudas* in the Pallava-Grantha script of about the 8th century A.D. like those found for the Pallava king Mahēndravarman I in the Pallavaram and Tiruchirapalli cave temples, and of two verses in Sanskrit both damaged. One of them seems to record the excavation of this cave temple called the Atiyēndra-Vishṇugriha by a king of the Atiyānvavāya (family) whose name is lost. It also makes mention of the grandsons by the daughter (*dāuhitras*) of this king (?). In the second verse we can read the names Śaśi, Sūrya, Tumburu, Nārada, Madhu and Kaiṭabha. The images of these (and other) heavenly beings are actually found cut in relief on the walls of the temple. For a detailed description of this and the other two temples on the hill at this place, see the *Annual Report on Epigraphy* for 1906. Part II, paragraphs 35 and 36. The following are the *birudas* mentioned above: Utpala-karṇika, Naravāhana, Madana-vilāsa, Mānapara, Nayapara, Udārachitta, Prakritipriya and Naradēva.

Edition

Text (Birudas)

〈A1〉 Utpalakarṇṇika | naravāhana | madanavilāsa | mānapara | nayapara | Udāracittaḥ | prakṛtipriyaḥ | naradevaḥ |

Text (verse 1)

〈B1〉 [5+] greṣu yasyādyeṣu yaśasviṣu〈B2〉 somapūrvvotiyendrāṇāṁ dauhitreṣvanvayasthita〈B3〉 [5+] Atiyānvavāyaguruṇā [4+] patineva [4+]〈B4〉 Atiyendraviṣṇugṛhamiti [3+] (muḥ) kāritaṁ kṛtinaḥ [||]

Text (verse 2)

〈C1〉 yammaṇḍapa [1+] mā [4+] vairiṇā brahmā śa [2+]〈C2〉 śaśi sūryastumpuru nārado śura hṛṣṭagaruḍaśca〈C3〉 [4+] tat· [7+] diśantaśrayaḥ [3+]〈C4〉 [3+] te madhukaiṭabha kṣa [1+] yakiṁta [4+]

Bibliography

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Primary

[SII] Srinivasa Rao, G.V. 1983. *South Indian inscriptions. Volume XXII, Part I: inscriptions collected during the year 1905-06*. South Indian Inscriptions 22.1. Delhi: Archaeological survey of India (Director General). Page 4, item 7.