Siwani Charter of Pravarasena II

Dániel Balogh

Alternative title: Siwani Plates of Pravarasena II, Seoni Grant

Author of digital edition: Dániel Balogh

Identifier: DHARMA_INSSiddham00163

Repository: SIDDHAM (siddham)

File path: XML-Provisional/DHARMA_INSSiddham00163.xml

Language: Sanskrit [Southern Brāhmī (unspecified)]

Commit: 2026-09-16 10:40 (3083d2d), last modified 2026-09-16 10:40 (3083d2d)

Palaeographic description

Halanta consonants are simplified forms of the regular consonants, reduced in size and lowered, normally with a dash above them, but the latter is absent in the incipit. Punctuation marks are double plain daṇḍas at major stops and small marks at minor stops. The latter may be short horizontal dashes (sometimes barely longer than a dot), or very short vertical strokes. Other palaeographic observations: As usual in this script, the consonants ḍa and da are not distinguished in the script and have been read on the basis of context. Subscript ṇ is likewise objectively indistinguishable from subscript n. As Fleet observes, ba occurs in two forms: a regular one with a notched left size and a headmark (e.g. l1, bṛhaspati) and a simplified one resembling the archaic form, a plain square (e.g. l17, beṇṇā). The upadhmānīya is used in l3 of the seal, but not elsewhere, even where applicable (e.g. l12, cakkrapāṇeḥ prasādopārjjita). The dental n is used several times in place of anusvāra (e.g. l4 Ansa) or the class nasal (e.g. l33 paribādhān).

Edition

Seal

1. Anuṣṭubh

〈1〉 vākāṭaka-lalāmasya
〈2〉 krama-prā_pta-nṛpa-śriyaḥ
〈3〉 rājñaḥ pravarasenasya
〈4〉 śāsana〈ṁ〉 ripu-śāsana(M)

Plates

〈Page 1v〉 〈01〉 dṛṣṭaM||〈02〉 siddhaM

〈1〉 Agniṣṭomāptoryyāmokthya-ṣoḍaśy-atirātra-vāja¿y?〈p〉eya-bṛhaspati-sava〈2〉-sādyaskra-¿v?〈c〉atur-aśvamedha-yājinaḥ viṣṇuvṛddha-sagotrasya sa¿ṣ?〈m〉r¿a?〈ā〉¡Ṭ! vākāṭakānā〈3〉m mahārāja-śrī-◯pravarasenasya sūnoḥ sūnoḥ Atyanta-svāmi-mahā-〈4〉 bhairava-bhaktasya _ A¡n!sa-bhāra-sanniv¿a?〈e〉śita-śiva-liṅgodvahana-śiva-suparituṣṭa〈5〉-samutpādita-rāja-va¡n!śānāM parākramādhigata-bhāgīratthy-¿ā?〈a〉mala-jala-mūrddhābhi〈Page 2r〉〈6〉ṣiktānāM daśāśvamedhāvabhṛtha-snātānām bhāraśivānā(m) mahārāja-śrī-bhavanā〈7〉ga-dauhitrasya(~?) gautam¿i?〈ī〉putrasya putrasya~ vākāṭakānām mahārāja-śrī〈8〉-rudrasenasya ◯ sūnoḥ Atyanta-māheśvarasya~ satyārjjava-kāruṇya-śau〈9〉ryya-vikrama-naya◯-vinaya-māhātmya-dh¿i?〈ī〉ma¡tv!〈ttv〉a-pātra-gata-bhaktitva-dharmma-vijayi〈10〉tva-mano-nairmmalyādi-guṇa-samuditasya~ varṣa-śatam abhivarddhamāna-kośa〈11〉-daṇḍa-sādhana-santāna-putra-pautriṇaḥ yudhiṣṭhira-vṛtter vvākāṭakānām mahārāja〈Page 2v〉〈12〉-śrī-pṛthiv¿i?〈ī〉ṣeṇasya sūno〈ḥ〉 _ bhagavataś cakrapāṇeḥ prasādopārjjita〈13〉-śrī-samudayasya~ vākāṭakānām mahārāja-śr¿i?〈ī〉-rudrasenasya sūnoḥ〈14〉 pūrvvarājānu◯vṛtta-mārggānusāriṇaḥ sunaya-bala-parākkramo〈15〉cchinna-sarvva-dviṣaḥ mahārājādhirāja-śrī-devagupta-sutāyām prabhāvat¡i!〈16〉guptāyām utpannasya śambho〈ḥ〉 _ prasāda-dhṛt¿i?〈a〉-kārtta-yugasya{ḥ} vākāṭaka〈Page 3r〉〈17〉va¡n!śālaṅkāra-(bh)ūtasya~ mahārāja-śrī-pravarasenasya vacanāT

beṇṇā-〈18〉 kārppara-bhāge _ pravarddhamāna-rājya-sa〈ṁ〉¡vv!vatsare~ ¡Aṣṭā-daśame!〈aṣṭādaśe〉~ phālgu〈19〉¿ṇ?〈n〉a-śukla-dvāda◯śyāM maudgalya-sagotrāya~ taittir¿i?〈ī〉yāyāddhvaryya〈20〉ve _ devaśarmmā◯cāryyāyodakapūrv-vaM sakoraṭaḥ sapañcāśatkaḥ〈21〉 brahmapūrakan nāma grāmo 〈’〉tisṛṣṭaḥ〈.〉 vaṭapūrakasyottareṇa~ kiṇihikhe〈22〉ṭakasyāpareṇa, pavarajjavāṭakasya dakṣiṇena~

kollapūrakasya〈Page 3v〉 〈23〉 pūrvveṇa, sva-sīmā-par¿a?〈i〉cch¿a?〈e〉dena _ karañjaviraka-taṭe,

Atrāsmat-santakā(ḥ)〈24〉 sarvvāddhyakṣa-n¿a?〈i〉yoga-n¿a?〈i〉yuktāḥ Ājñā-sañcāri-kulaputrādhikṛtāḥ bhaṭāḥ〈25〉 {ś}chāttrāś ca viśru◯ta-pūrvvayā _ Ājñayā _ Ājñāpayitavyāḥ〈.〉 vidita〈26〉m astu ¿t?〈v〉aḥ yathaiṣo 〈'〉smābhiḥ Ātmano dharmmāyur-bbala-vijayaiśvaryya-v[[r]]ivṛ〈d〉dhaye〈27〉 Ih¿a?〈ā〉mutra-hitārttham āt¿v?〈m〉ānugrahāya~ vaijayike dharmma-sthāne~ A-bhaṭa〈Page 4r〉〈28〉-cch¿a?〈hā〉tra-prāveśyaḥ A-pārampara-go-balivarddaḥ A-puṣpa-kṣīra-sandoha〈ḥ〉 A-cā〈29〉rāsana-carmmāṅgāraḥ A-l[[i]]〈〈a〉〉vaṇa-¡klinva!-kreṇi-khanakaḥ(~) sarvva-viṣṭi-parihāra〈30〉-parihṛtaḥ sa◯nidhiḥ sopanidhiḥ sak¡li!〈l̤〉pt-opak¡li!〈l̤〉ptaḥ Ācandrāditya〈31〉-kāl¿i?〈ī〉yaḥ putra-◯pautr-ānugāmī~ bhujyamāno na kenacid vyāghātayi〈32〉tavyaḥ sarvva-kriyābhiḥ saṁrakṣitavyaḥ parivarddhayitavy¿ā?〈a〉ś ca〈.〉 yaś cāsma〈33〉c-chāsanam agaṇayamānaḥ svalpām api paribādhā¡n!〈ṅ〉 k¿a?〈u〉ryyāt ¡kārayīta!〈kārayeta〉 vā〈Page 4v〉 〈34〉 tasya brāhmaṇair āveditasya~ sa-daṇḍa-nigrahaṁ kuryyāma kārayema veti

〈35〉 senāpatau bāppadeve likhitaṁ Ācāryyeṇa|| Asmi〈ṁ〉ś ca dharm(m)ād-hikara〈36〉ṇe At¿i?〈ī〉tā◯neka-rāja-datt¿ās ?〈a-〉saṁcintana-paripālana〈ṁ〉 kṛta-pu〈37〉ṇyānukīrtta〈na-parihārārtthaṁ na kīrtta〉yāmaḥ〈.〉 ¡Eṣyantat!-kāla-prabhaviṣṇūnaṁ gauravād bhaviṣyān vi〈38〉jñāpayāmaḥ|| vyāsa-gītau cātra ślokau pramāṇ¿i?〈ī〉-karttavyau||

1. Anuṣṭubh

〈Page 5r〉 〈39〉 ṣaṣṭi-varṣa-sahasrāṇi
svargge modati bhūmi-daḥ
Ācchettā cānuma¿t?〈n〉tā〈40〉 ca
tāny eva nara◯ke vase¿ta?〈T〉

2. Anuṣṭubh

sva-dattām para-dattā〈ṁ〉 ¡vv!ā
yo hare〈41〉ta vasundharā¿ma?〈M〉
gavāṁ śata-sahasrasya
hantur harati duṣkṛtam

iti||

Apparatus

Plates

〈2〉 -¿v?〈c〉atur- F ◇ *-(ca)tur-* M. — 〈2〉 sa¿ṣ?〈m〉r¿a?〈ā〉¡Ṭ! F ◇ *samrāṬ* M • F emends in a footnote to *samrāḍ-*, and M likewise to *samrājo*. I find the latter preferable for standard grammar but prefer not to emend, since I believe that what the composer had in mind here was not a proper compound in the standard sense, but a string of adjectives qualifying Pravarasena, without declensional endings, but including the in-itself complete phrase phrase *vākāṭakānām mahārāja*. Thus, in standard grammar, his intent would be expressed by *samrājo vākāṭakānāṁ mahārājasya* or *samrāḍ-vākāṭaka-mahārāja-*.

〈4〉 -suparituṣṭa • Here, *su* may be a correction, possibly from *pa*.

〈7〉 -dauhitrasya(~?) F ◇ *-dauhitrasya* M • F shows the punctuation mark as clear and remarks that it is unnecessary. It is not visible at all in the estampages and not read by M, whereas subsequent punctuation marks (likewise dismissed as unnecessary by both Fleet and M) are clearly discernible. Since F alone had access to the originals, I accept his testimony that this punctuation mark is present.

〈15〉 -sarvva- F ◇ *-sarva-* M.

〈18〉 -bhāge F ◇ *-bh¿ā?〈o〉ge* M • The word *bhāga* as a territorial division is used in the Pattan Charter of Pravarasena II, while *bhoga* appears in the Dudia Charter of Pravarasena II. — 〈18〉 phālgu〈19〉*¿ṇ?〈n〉*a- F ◇ *phālgu〈19〉na-* M.

〈22〉 pavarajjavāṭakasya F ◇ *pravarajjavāṭakasya* M.

〈23〉 pūrvveṇa M ◇ *purvveṇa* F • Fleet does not emend, so this is probably a typo in his edition. — 〈23〉 -sīmā- M ◇ *-sīmā-* F • Fleet does not emend, so this is probably a typo in his edition. — 〈23〉 karañjaviraka- • Fleet tentatively offers the alternative reading *karañjaciraka-*. This cannot be excluded altogether, but does not seem likely. — 〈23〉 -santakā(ḥ) • The *visarga* is not visible in the estampage, but both previous editors show it.

〈24〉 sarvvāddhyakṣa F ◇ *sarvvādhyakṣa* M. — 〈24〉 -n¿a?〈i〉yuktāḥ F ◇ *-niyuktāḥ* M. — 〈24〉 -kulaputrādhikṛtāḥ F ◇ *-kulaputrādhikṛtā* M.

〈26〉 -v⟦r⟧ivṛ〈d〉dhaye M ◇ *-v⟦ṛ⟧〈〈ri〉〉vṛ〈d〉dhaye* F.

〈27〉 -sthāne~ F ◇ *-sthāne* M • As both F and M note, *atisṛṣṭaḥ* or an equivalent is missing after this word. In fact, related grants typically have *apūrvva-datyā udaka-*

pūrvvam atisṛṣṭaḥ. This might be a case of eyeskip omission where instead of continuing with *apūrvva*, the scribe jumped to *abhaṭa-*. Compare the omission in line 37.

〈29〉 -¡klinva!- ◇ *-¿tlinva?〈klinna〉-* F; *-kli¿v?〈nn〉a-* M • M's reading is probably a typo and he did, in fact, read *klinva*. — 〈29〉 -khanakaḥ(~) F ◇ *-khanakaḥ* M • F prints the punctuation mark as clear (and dismissing it as superfluous). In the estampage, there seem to be four dots here, of which the leftmost two must be a *visarga*, although the upper one of the two is not straight above, but to the right of the lower. The fourth dot is probably a random surface defect, while the third may be a very short punctuation dash.

〈33〉 k¿a?〈u〉ryyāt F ◇ *kuryyāt* M.

〈35〉 dharm(m)ādhikara〈36〉ṇe • According to Mirashi's note, other cognates plates generally have *dharmmādara-karaṇe* here. In fact it seems that the two alternatives are attested in roughly equal numbers.

〈37〉 ¡Eṣyantat!- ◇ *Eṣya{nta}t-* F M • In this formula, the spelling of the non-standard word is generally *Eṣyatat-* in related grants. It may be a local non-standard future participle or a persistent spelling mistake that had crept into the chancellery's template. I wonder if the original composer's intent may have been *Eṣyat-tat-* rather than *Eṣyat-*. In the Dudia Charter of Pravarasena II, the *ta* of *Eṣyatat-* is a subsequent scribal insertion, which clearly shows that it was considered essential by a contemporary editor. — 〈37〉 pramāṇ¿i?〈ī〉- F ◇ *pramāṇī-* M.

Commentary

The incipit comprises a block at the top left coner: *dṛṣṭam* is roughly in line with (very slightly above) l1 of the body text, while *siddham* is in line with the space between l1 and l2. The *daṇḍa*s are at the same level as *dṛṣṭam*, but were probably meant to end and delimit this block as a whole. The first line of the text proper thus begins with an indent of about 3 character widths.

Bibliography

First published (with an eye copy, a partially accurate Devanagari transcript based on an eye copy, and an English translation) by James Prinsep (1836, pp. 726–731). Edited from the original plates by John Faithfull Fleet (1888, pp. 243–249, № 56), with inked estampages and translation. Re-edited by Vasudev Vishnu Mirashi (1963, pp. 28–32, №

7) from Fleet's estampages, with a new translation. The present edition is based on a collation of Fleet's and Mirashi's editions with Fleet's estampages.[1]

Originally encoded for Siddham in the project Beyond Boundaries (Grant Agreement No. 609823) by Dániel Balogh (2019, № IN00163). Encoding updated to DHARMA conventions by Dániel Balogh.

Primary

[P] Prinsep, James. 1836. "Facsimiles of various ancient inscriptions, lithographed by James Prinsep, Secretary As. Soc. &c." JASB 5, pp. 340–349, 482–486, 554–561, 657–661, 724–731, 795. Pages 726–731.

[F] Fleet, John Faithfull. 1888. *Inscriptions of the early Gupta kings and their successors*. First edition. Vol. 3. Corpus Inscriptionum Indicarum. Calcutta: Superintendent of Government Printing. Pages 243–249, item 56.

[M] Mirashi, Vasudev Vishnu. 1963. *Inscriptions of the Vākāṭakas*. Corpus Inscriptionum Indicarum 5. Ootacamund: Archaeological Survey of India. Pages 28–32, item 7.

Secondary

Bhau Daji. 1865. "Ajunta Inscriptions." JBBRAS 7, pp. 53–74. Pages 70–72.

Bhandarkar, Devadatta Ramakrishna. 1927–1936. *A list of the inscriptions of northern India in Brahmi and its derivative scripts, from about 200 A. C.: Appendix to Epigraphia Indica and record of the Archaeological Survey of India, volumes XIX to XXIII*. Calcutta: Archaeological Survey of India. [URL]. Item 1705.

Mirashi, Vasudev Vishnu. 1935. "Epigraphic Notes." NUJ 1, pp. 1–4.

Shastri, Ajay Mitra. 1997. *Vākāṭakas: sources and history*. New Delhi: Aryan Books International. Pages 19–20.

[1] Prinsep's transcript, now of interest only for the history of scholarship, has not been collated.