Sonpur plates of Mahābhavagupta Janamejaya year 17

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Summary

The object of the inscription is to record the gift of the village Gottaikelā attached to the khaṇḍa of Luputtarā in Kosalā, to the Kamalavana-vaṇik-sthāna, resident at Suvarṇapura and having migrated from Khadirapadra. An eulogisitic stanza praises the minister Sādhāraṇā. The record was written by Mahākṣapaṭalin Āllava son of Kailāsa, when Rāṇaka Malladatta held the office of Mahāsandhivigrahin. It was incised by Haradāsa, son of Sivṛlla.

Edition

〈Page 1v〉

〈1〉 Om svasty amala-maṇi-kuṭṭima-sadana¿c?〈v〉alayanaikavaravāravilāsi-jīja〈2〉nacaraṇanṛpuraracatrast{r}apārā¿p?〈v〉atakula-pakṣa-svana¡v!〈b〉dhig-

itidaśagnānā〈3〉de¡s!〈ś〉āntarādāgatavandijanavistāritak¿i?〈ī〉rttirvvividha-vidyālaṁkṛta-vidvajjanaja〈4〉nitakāvyālāpastutadhanapativibhavastyārddhitaracita-vicitra-prāsādāṭṭā〈5〉likhādevakuledyāna-vana-vāpī-kūpa-taḍāgopa¡s!〈ś〉obhājitata-surapurama〈6〉himnaḥ| pracaṇḍadordaṇḍa-maṇḍalāgratuṇḍa-khaṇḍitārātimatta〈7〉mātaṅga-vimukta-muktāphala-prasādhitā¡s!〈ś〉eṣa-mahī-maṇḍala〈8〉sakala-bhūpāla-mauli-mālāvilagnamāṇikyamay¿u?〈ū〉kha-vrātābhir añji〈9〉ta-krama-kamala-yugalāT śrīmadārāmāT parama-bhaṭṭāraka-mahārājā〈10〉dhirāja-parameśvara-parama-māheśvara-śrī¡s!〈ś〉ivagupta-deva-pādānudhyā〈11〉ta-paramamāheśvara-paramabhaṭṭāraka-mahārājādhirāja-parameśvara〈Page 2r〉〈12〉somakulati-lakatrikaliṅgādhipatiśrīmahābhavaguptarājadevaḥ ku¡s!〈ś〉a〈13〉lī kosalāyāṁ luputurālhaṇḍāprati¡v!〈b〉addhagottaIkelāgrāme| ¡v!〈b〉rāhmaṇāN saṁp¿u?〈ū〉jya tadviṣa〈14〉yīya-yathākālādhyāsinaḥ samāhartṛ-sannidhātṛ-dāṇḍapā¡s!〈ś〉ika-pi¡s!〈ś〉una-vetṛkā〈15〉varodhajana-rājavallabhādīN sarvvāN samājñāpayati| viditam astu bhavatāṁ| ya〈16〉thāsmābhir ayaṁ grāmaḥ sanidhiḥ sopanidhiḥ sarvva¡v!〈b〉ād-hāvivarjjitaḥ sarvvoparika〈17〉rakarādāna-sametaḥ sām{v}ramadhukaḥ sagart-toṣaraścatu〈ḥ〉sīmāpa〈18〉ryantaḥ sa-jala-sthala-sahitaḥ| khadirapadra-vinirggatāya suvarṇṇa〈19〉pura-vāstavyāya śrī-kamalavana-vaṇik-sthānāya saliladhārā-puraḥsaramāca〈20〉ndra-tārakārka-kṣiti-samakālopabhogārthaṁ māt¿ṛ?〈ā〉-pitror ātmanaś ca puṇya-ya¡s!〈ś〉o〈21〉 'bhivṛddhaye tām{v}ra¡s!〈ś〉āsanenākarīkṛtya pratipādita Ity avagatya samucita〈22〉bhoga-bhāga-kara-hiraṇyādibhir bhavadhiḥ sukhena prativastavyaṁ| Anenāpi prā〈23〉pta{ṁ}¡s!〈ś〉āsanena suvaṛṇṇapurīya-śrī-kamala-vanavanaksthānena ¡v!〈b〉li-caru-naivedya〈Page 2v〉〈24〉khaṇḍa-sphuṭita-pratikaraṇārya śrī-ke¡s!〈ś〉ava-śrī-Āditya-bhaṭṭarakābhyāṁ| de-vakul¿o?〈ā〉〈25〉bhyāṁ ¡s!〈ś〉āsanīkṛtya pradatta〈ḥ〉| bhāvibhiś ca bhūpatibhir dattir iya{ṁ}m asmadīyā dharmagau〈26〉ravād asmad-anuro〈d〉hāc ca sva-dattir i¿y?〈v〉ānupalanīyā| tathā coktaṁ dharma¡s!〈ś〉āstre|

1. Anuṣṭubh

〈27〉 ¡v!〈b〉ahubhir vasudhā dattā
rājabhiḥ sagarādibhir
〈ya〉sya 〈yasya〉 yadā bhūmis
tasya tasya tadā〈28〉 phalaṁ|

2. Anuṣṭubh

mā bhūd a-phala-śa¡ṁ!〈ṅ〉kā vaḥ
para-datteti pārthivāḥ|
sva-dānāt phala〈m ā〉nantyaṁ
pa〈29〉ra-dattānupālane|

3. Anuṣṭubh

ṣaṣṭhi-varṣa-sahasrāṇi
svargge modati bhūmidaḥ
〈Ākṣeptā cānumantā ca〉
〈tāny eva narake vaseT〉

4. Anuṣṭubh

〈30〉 Āsphoṭayanti pitaro
valganti pitāmahāḥ
bhūmi-dātā kule jā〈31〉taḥ
sa nas trātā bhaviṣyati|

5. Anuṣṭubh

bhūmiṁ yaḥ pratigr̥h¡n!〈ṇ〉āti
yaś ca bhūmiṁ prayacchati|
Ubhau〈32〉 tau puṇya-karmāṇau
niyataṁ svargga-{r}gāminau|

6. Anuṣṭubh

taḍāgānāṁ sahasr¿āṇi?〈eṇa〉
vāja-peya-¡s!〈ś〉a〈33〉t¿āṇi?〈ena〉 ca|
gavāṁ koṭi-pradānena
bhūmi-harttā na śudhyati|

7. Anuṣṭubh

suvarṇṇam ekaṁ gām ekāṁ
bhūme〈34〉r apy arddham aṅgulaṁ|
haran 〈n〉arakam āyāti
yāvad—ā-hūta-saṁplavaḥ|

8. Anuṣṭubh

Anyāyena hr̥tā bhūmi〈35〉r
anyāyena tu hāritā|
harato hārayantaś caiva
sa hanyātsaptamaṁ kulaṁ||

9. Anuṣṭubh

sva-dattāṁ para-da〈36〉ttāṁ {m}vā
yo hare¿cca?〈ta〉 vasundharāṁ

sa viṣṭhāyāṁ kṛmir bhūtvā
pacyate pitṛbhiḥ saha|

12. Anuṣṭubh

Ā<Page 3r><37>dityo varuṇo viṣṇur
¡v!<b>rahmā somo hutā¡s!<ś>anaḥ|
¡s!<ś>ūlapāṇis tu bhagavāN|
Abhina<38>ndanti bhūmidaṁ|

13. Śālinī

sāmānyo 'yaṁ dharmma-setu<r> nṛpāṇāṁ
kāle kāle pālanīyo bhavadbhiḥ
<39> riti sarvvān etāN bhāvinaḥ pārthivendrāN
bhūyo bhūyo yācate rāmabhadra<ḥ>|

14. Puṣpitāgrā

Iti<40> kamala-dalām¡v!<b>u-¡v!<b>indu-lolāṁ|
śr¿ī?<i>yam anucintya manuṣya-j¿i?<ī>vitaṁ ca
sakalam idam u<41>dāhṛtaṁ ca v¿e?<u><d>dhvā|
na hi puruṣaiḥ para-k¿i?<ī>vrtayo vilopyāḥ|

paramabhaṭṭāraka-mahārājādhi<42>rāja-parameśvara-soma-kula-tilaka-trikaliṅgādhipati-śrī<ma>j-jana<43>mejaya-devasya vijayarājye samvatsare saptadasame Āṣāḍha<44>más-asitapakṣapañcabhyāṁ| yatrāṅkataḥ| samvaT 17 Āṣāḍha-śudi 5|

15. Sragdharā

jñeyā<45> 'śeṣārtha¡s!<ś>āstra-smṛti-vima<la>dhiyā deva-devāṅga-vidyā|
¿sī?<śi>kṣākalpetihāsapra<46>kaṭa-sura-guru-prāpta-bhūyiṣṭha-dhāmnā|
nāmnā sādhāraṇena dvijavaratanunā ma<47>ntriṇā yasya rājyaṁ
nirv<y>ūḍhaṁ soyasuccais¡tṛ!<tri>jagatī deva-janamejaya

<48> śrīḥ [...]sa[...]suta|<49> [...]vṛ[...]suta[...]tki[...]harada[...]<Page 2v> <50> l¿ī?<i>kh¿ī?<i>tam ¿ī?<i>daṁ tām{v}ra-sāsanaṁ mahāsandh¿ī?<i>v¿ī?<i>grah¿ī?<i>rāṇaka-śrī-malladattaḥ|| mahākṣapaṭa<51> l¿ī?<i>nā kailāsa-sutena śrī-Alavena|| Utkīrṇṇañ ca sīvṛllāsutena haradāsenet¿ī?<i>|| ○ ||

Translation by Chhabra 1935–1936

<1–13> Om ! Hail ! From the prosperous Arāma, which has (all) the ten quarters deafened by the fluttering noise of the flocks of pigeons frightened by the jingle of the anklets

(worn) on the feet of the numerous excellent courtesans (moving) within the enclosures of mansions having floors (studded) with bright jewels, which has its fame spread by minstrels hailing from different countries, which (ries (in opulence) with) the wealth of Kubera (lit. lord of riches) exalted in poetic narrations produced by scholars endowed with various learning, (and) which has eclipsed the grandeur of Amarāvatī (lit. city of gods) by the splendour of its array of magnificent palaces, lofty buildings, temples, gardens, step-wells, wells and tanks ; the illustrious *paramabhaṭṭāraka mahārājādhirāja parameśvara* Mahābhavaguptarājadeva, the overlord of Trikaliṅga, an ornament of the Soma-kula, (and) a devout worshipper of Maheśvara, who has meditated on the feet of the illustrious *paramabhaṭṭāraka mahārājādhirāja parameśvara* Śivaguptadeva, a devout worshipper of Maheśvara, who (i.e., Mahā-Bhavagupta) has the entire circle of the (battle)-field decorated by the pearls loosened from the (temples of the) enemies' rutting elephants rent asunder with the point of the scimitar (wielded) by his cudgel-like impetuous arm (and) who has the pair of his lotus-like feet tinted by the collection of rays (emanating) from the precious stones attached to the wreaths over the coronets of all the princes, being in good health,

〈13–15〉 having paid homage to the Brāhmaṇas in the Gottaïkelā village included in the Luputurā-khaṇḍa in Kosalā, issues a command to all (his officials) of that district, (persons) who mav at any time be holding office, (namely) *Samāhartṛ*, *Sannidhātṛ*, *Dāṇḍapāśika*, *piśuna*, *Vaitrika*, *Avarodhajana*, *Rājavallabha*, and so forth

〈15–21〉 Be it known to you that by (this) copper-charter We have, for the accretion of merit and fame to (Our) parents as well as to Ourself, donated this (Gottaïkelā) village, with libations of water, having made (it) tax-free, exempt from all hindrance, extending up to (its) four boundaries, along with (its) hidden treasures and deposits, mango and *Bassia latifolia* trees, pits and barren plots, water and land, with (the privilege of) collecting toll and revenue, to the illustrious Kamalavana Merchants' Association, immigrant from Khadirapadra (and) resident in Suvarṇapura, to be enjoyed as long as the sun, the moon, the stars and the earth {endure).

〈21–22〉 Being aware of this, you should dwell in happiness, offering (to its) customary share of income, rent, (tribute of) gold, and so forth.

〈22–25〉 Being in possession of the charter, this illustrious Kamalavana Merchants' Association has, in its turn, bestowed (the same village), having registered it as a deed, on the two temples, (one) of the lord Keśava (and the other) of the lord Āditya, for charity, oblation and offerings as well as for repairing wear and tear (in the temples).

〈25–26〉 And, future kings should, through respect for the dharma and out of regard for Us, protect this Our grant as their own grant. For, it is declared in the *Dharmaśāstra* :

〈27–41〉

〈41–44〉 (This charter has been issued) during the victorious reign of the illustrious *paramabhaṭṭāraka mahārājādhirāja parameśvara* Janamejayadeva, the overlord of Trikaliṅga, an ornament of the Soma-kula. in the seventeenth year on the fifth day of the bright fortnight of the month of Aṣādha, where in figures (it is) Anno 17 Aṣādha *śudi* 5.

〈44–48〉 Highly renowned in (all) the three worlds is this very illustrious Janamejayadeva, the administration of whose kingdom has been carried on by his minister Sādhāraṇa by name, an eminent *dvija* (lit. twice-born) by birth, whose intellect is clear owing to (his knowledge of) all the lores of polity and law worth knowing, who is manifestly a very Bṛhaspati (lit. preceptor of gods) in (expounding) the Vedas and the Vedāṅga-vidyās (such as) *śikṣā*, *kalpa*, *itihāsa* (and so forth), (and) who is (on account of all that) possessed of supreme glory.

〈50–51〉 This *tāmraśāsana* has been composed by Kailāsa's son, the illustrious Alava, the *mahākṣapaṭalin* (attached to) the illustrious *mahāsāndhivigrahin* Rāṇaka Malladatta and engraved by Haradāsa, son of Sīvṛllā.

Commentary

The verse 15 (lines 44-47) can be found in :

- Gopalpur plates of Mahābhavagupta Janamejaya year 12 (verse 15; lines 59-63: deva-janamejaya-śrīḥ in pāda d)
- Sonpur plates of Mahābhavagupta Janamejaya year 17 (verse 15; lines 44-47: deva-janamejaya-śrīḥ in pāda d)
- Gaintala plates of Mahābhavagupta Janamejaya year 17 (verse 16; lines 48-51: deva-janamejaya-śrīḥ in pāda d)
- Chaudwār plates #1 of Mahābhavagupta Dharmakandarpa year 31 (verse 15; lines 39-42: dharma-kandarpa-devaḥ in pāda d)
- Kālibhanā Plates of Mahābhavagupta Janamejaya, Year 34 (verse 15; lines 43-46: dharma-kandarpa-devaḥ in pāda d)
- Chaudwār Plates #2 of Mahābhavagupta Janamejaya, Year 31 (verse 15; lines 43-47 : dharma-kandarpa-devaḥ in pāda d)
- Ranipur-Jharial Plates of Mahābhavagupta Janamejaya Royal Year 16 (verse 15; lines 51-54: deva-janmejaya-śrī in pāda d)

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