Madurai, Minākṣi temple, time of Māṟavarmaṉ Sundara Pāṇḍya, year 4

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Summary

Remission of taxes on village Nampiyātanallūr by Vāṇātarāyar for the food offerings, for feeding the ascetics (*kōvaṇavar*) reciting the *tiruvempāvai* during the festival of Mārkaḻi, and for the procession of the deity so that it listens to the *cātāripaṇ* at the sacred door (*tiruvācal*) named after Vāṇātarāyar.

Palaeographic description

No distinction between *e* and *ē*, *o* and *ō*.

Edition

〈1〉 **svasti śrī**

1. Āciriyappā

pūmalar tiruvum poruceyamaṭantaiyum
tāmaraikkuvimulai cērppuyattiruppa
vētanāviṉ veḷḷi naṭṭāmarai-k
kātaṉ mātu kaviṉpeṟat tiṉaippa
veṇṭirai yuṭutta maṇṭiṇi kiṭakkait
tirunila maṭantai yurimaiyiṟ kaḷippa
〈2〉 camaiyamu nītiyuñ tarumamun taḷaippa
imaiyavar viḻāk koṭiyiṭantoṟu meṭuppak
karuṅkalikkaṉal keṭak kaṭavuṉ vētiyar
aruntoḷil vēḷvic ceṅkaṉal 〈vaḷarppa-c〉
〈porutiṟa lāḻi〉 pūtalañ cūḻtara
orukaiyirucevi mummata nāṟkōṭṭ'
ayirāvata mutaṟ ceyitīr koṟṟatt'
oṇṭicaiyā〈3〉ṉaiyerutta mēṟik
kaṇṭanāṭā ṭemateṉak kayal kaḷi kūrak
kōcalan tuḷūvaṅ kutiram kuccaram
pōcal makatam poppaḷam puṇṭaram
kaliṅka mīḻaṅ kaṭāraṅ kavuṭam
teliṅkañ cōṉakañ cīṉa mutalā
vitimuṟai tikaḻa vevvēṟu vakutta
mutunilakkiḻamaiyiṉ muṭipuṉai vēntark
korutaṉi nāyakaṉe〈4〉ṉṟulakēttat
tirumuṭi cūṭic ceṅkō lōccik
koṟṟat tāḷak kuḷir kuṭainiḻaṟ
kaṟṟaik kavari kāvalar vīca
miṭaikatir navamaṇi vīraciṅkātaṉattu
〈u〉ṭaṉ muṭicūṭi yuyarkulat tiruveṉap
paṅkaya malarkaraṅ kuvittup pārttivar
paṅkaiyar tiraṇṭu vaṇaṅkuñ ceṉṉi
cuṭaroḷi mavuḷic cūṭāmaṇi micaic
〈5〉 civanta Iṇaimalarc cīraṭikkamala matukaraṅ
kamalameṉṟaṇukum Ulakamuḻututaṭai
yārōṭum vīṟṟiruntaruḷiya

śrī-kō-māṟapaṉmar-āṉa tiripuvaṉa-c-cakkaravarttikaḷ **śrī** cuntara-pāṇṭiya-tēvarkku yāṇṭu nālāvatu nāḷ nūṟṟorupattaiñciṉāl

maturōtaiya vaḷanāṭṭu māṭa-k kuḷa-k kīḻ maturai-k〈6〉 kōyil paḷḷi-y-aṟai-k kūṭattup paḷḷi-pīṭam maḻavarāyaṉil Eḻuntaruḷi Iruntu Uṭaiyār tiruvālavāy uṭaiyār kōyil

pati-pāta-mūla-p-paṭṭ-uṭaiya pañcācāriyārkku miḻalai-k kūṟṟattu kīḻ-kūṟṟu taccaṉūr-u〈7〉ṭaiyāṉ Aruḷāḷaṉ cēvaka-t tēvaṉāṉa pāṇātarāyaṉ kaṇṭa-cantikku tiruppaṭimāṟṟ' uḷḷiṭṭu vēṇṭu〈m〉 nivantaṅkaḷukkum Ālavāyuṭaiyārai mārkaḻi-t tirunāḷ tiruvempāvai cēvikkum paratēci-k-kōvaṇavarkku-p pōcaṉam uḷḷiṭṭu vēṇṭum avaiyiṟṟukkum

Ikkōyil tirukkāma〈8〉kōṭṭttattu Āḷuṭaiya-nācciyār kōyil teṟkil vāṇātarāyaṉ tiruvācalil Uṭaiyār Eḻuntaruḷi cātārippaṇ kēṭṭaruḷa vēṇṭuvaṉvayiṟṟukkum

Iv-vāṇātirāyaṉ kāṇiyāṉa veṇpaikkuṭi-naṭṭu nampitāyanallūr nāṉkellai〈9〉kku Uṭpaṭṭa nīr-nilamum ka¿la?〈ru〉ñcey puṉceyum nattamum tōṭṭamum kuḷamum kuḷappaṟippu muṉpaṭa nīr-nilamum kāraṇmai mīyaṭciyum Antarāyamum viṉiyōkamum taruvat-āṉa Accum kāriya-v-ārāycciyum veṭṭi-〈p〉-pāṭṭamum pañcu-〈p〉-pīli cantu vikkirama-p pē¡r!〈r〉um E〈10〉ppērppaṭṭaṉavum Uṭpaṭa nālāvatu mutal tēvatāṉa Iṟaiyili y-āka Iṭa-p peṟa vēṇum eṉṟu maḻavarāyaṉ namakku-c coṉṉamaiyil Ivv-uṭaiyāṟku Iv-vāṇātirāyaṉ cantikku tiruppaṭimāṟṟ' uḷḷiṭṭu vēṇṭum nivantaṅkaḷukkum Ivv-uṭaiyār mārkaḻi-t〈11〉 tirunāḷil-t tiruvempāvai cēvikkum paratēcikkum kōvaṇaṟkum pōcaṉam uḷḷiṭṭu vēṇṭu-vaṉavukkum Ik-kōyil tirukkāma-k-kōṭṭattu Āḷuṭaiya-nācciyār kōyil teṟkil vāṇātirāyaṉ tiruvācalil Uṭaiyār Eḻuntaruḷi-c cātāripaṇ kēṭṭaruḷa vēṇṭuvaṉavu〈12〉kkum

Iv-vāṇātirāyaṉ kāṇiyāṉa veṇpai-k-kuṭi-nāṭṭu nampitāyanallūr nāṉkellaikk' uṭpaṭṭa nīr-nilamum karuñcey puñceyum nattamum tōṭṭamuṅ kuḷamum kuḷapparippum Uṭpaṭṭa nilam kārāṇmai mīyāṭciyum Antārāyamum viṉiyōkamum taruvatāṉa Ac-cum〈13〉 kāriya-v-ārāycciyum veṭṭi-p-pāṭṭamum pañcu-pīli ca¿t?〈n〉tu vikkiraka-p pēṟum maṟṟum Eppērppaṭṭaṉavum Uṭpaṭa Ivv-āṇṭu mutal tēvatāṉa Iṟaiyili y-āka Iṭṭamaikku Ivv-uṭaiyāṟku vāṇātirāyaṉ cantikku tiruppaṭimāṟṟ' uḷḷiṭṭu vēṇṭum ni-vantaṅkaḷukku〈14〉{kku}m Ivv-uṭaiyārai mārkaḻi-t tirunāḷ tiruvempāvai cēvikkum paratēci-k kōvaṇavaṟkum pōcaṉam uḷḷiṭṭu vēṇṭuvaṉa vayiṟṟukkum Ik-kōyiṟ tirukkāma-k-kōṭṭattu Āḷuṭaiya-nācciyār kōyilil teṟkil vāṇātirāyaṉ tiruvācalil Uṭaiyār cātārippaṇ kēṭṭaruḷa vēṇ〈15〉ṭuvaṉavukkum

Iv-vāṇātirāyaṉ kāṇiyāṉa veṇpai-k-kuṭi-nāṭṭu nampitāyanallūr nāṉkellai Uṭpaṭa nīr-nilamum karuñcey puṉceyum nattamum tōṭṭamum kuḷamum kuḷa-p-parippum Uṭ-paṭṭa nilam kārāṇmai mīyaṭci Antarāyamum viṉiyōkamum taruvatāṉa Accum kāriya-v-ārāycciyum veṭṭi-p-pāṭṭamu〈16〉m pañcu-〈p〉-pīli cantu vikkiraka-p pēṟum maṟṟum Eppērpaṭṭaṉavum Uṭpaṭa Ivv-āṇṭu mutal tēvatāṉa Iṟaiyili y-āka-t tantōm eṉṟu tiru-vāymoḻin〈17〉 taruḷiḷur

Translation

〈1〉 This is the 115th day of the fourth year of the glorious King Māravarman, alias the Emperor of the three worlds(*tribhuvana-cakravarti*), the glorious king Sundara Pāṇḍya.

〈5–7〉 The Lord (*uṭaiyar*=most probably, Sundara Pāṇḍya), while being seated upon the Maḻavarāyaṉ throne in the hall (*kūṭattu*) of the bed-chamber (*paḷḷiyaṟai*) of the temple at Māṭakuḷakīḻmaturai in the Maturōtaiya vaḷanāṭu 〈issued the following endowment〉 to the five *ācāryas* who own the right of being at the feet of the Lord (*pati-pāt-amūla-p-paṭṭ-uṭaiya*) in the temple of the Lord of Tiruvālavāy:

- to meet the requirements needed for(*vēṇṭum nivantaṅkaḷukkum*) the food offerings (*tiruppaṭimāṟu*) 〈given during〉 the *sandhi* in honour of Pāṇātarāyaṉ Kaṇṭa, alias Aruḷāḷaṉ Cēvakatēvaṉ of Taccaṉūr in the eastern subdivision (*kūṟṟu*) of Miḻalai-kūṟṟam.
- for those items needed (*avaiyiṟṟukkum vēṇṭum*) , including the meals (*pōcaṉam*) for the wandering mendicants (*paratēci kōvaṇavarkku*) who recite (*cevikkum*) the *Tiruvempāvai* during the festival in Mārkaḻi 〈i.e., the Tiruvātirai festival〉 to the Lord of Ālavāy
- for those things needed (*vēṇṭuvaṉayiṟṟukkum*) to listen to the *cātāri* melody[1] after the Lord was gracefully processed (*eḻuntaruḷi*) at the sacred gate named after Vāṇātarāyaṉ, in the south side of the temple of the Goddess Āḷuṭaiya-nācciyār in the Kāmākṣi shrine (*kāma kōṭṭam*) of this temple.

〈8–9〉 〈This *devadāna*〉 includes all of the following: the wetlands (*nīr-nilam*), dry lands (*puṉcey*), residential areas (*nattam*), gardens (*tōṭṭam*), tanks (*kuḷam*), tank-bunds and irrigated lands attached to them (*kuḷa-p-paṟippu muṉpaṭa nīr nilam*), together with the rights of cultivation (*kāraṇmai*), proprietary right (*mīyāṭci*), the taxes called *antarāyam* and *viṉiyōkam*, which are payable in *accu* coins, superintendency charges (*kāriyavārāycci*), the tax on unpaid labor *veṭṭi pāṭṭam*, the cotton due (*pañcuppīli*), the fee payable to the village judicial officer *cantuvikraka pēṟu*, and all other fees whatsoever (*eppērppaṭṭaṉavum*), within the four boundaries of Nampitāyanallūr in Veṇpaikkuṭi-nāṭu, the hereditary land (*kāṇiyāṉa*) of this Vāṇātarāyaṉ.

〈9–12〉 Since Maḻavarāyaṉ had requested us (*coṉṉamaiyil*) that, from the fourth year onward, it was assigned that (*āka iṭa peṟa*) the aforesaid village, with all the lands, rights, taxes, and fees specified above, should be assigned as a tax-free *devadāna* for the following purposes: the sacred food offerings (*tiruppaṭimāṟṟu*), the endowments

[1] Cātāri is one of the ancient traditional melody types.

required for the *sandhi* in the name of this Vāṇātarāyaṉ, for the meals of the wandering ascetics *paratēci kōvaṇar* who recite the *Tiruvempāvai* during the Mārkaḻi festival, and for what is required when the Lord graciously comes forth at the Vāṇātarāyaṉ sacred gate to listen to the *cātārippaṇ*.

〈12–15〉 Accordingly, from this very year onward, the aforesaid village, with the same lands, rights, taxes, and appurtenances, was established as a tax-free *devadāna* for those same purposes.

〈15–17〉 〈The king ordered then that 〉 "From this year onward, we have given it as a tax-free *devadāna*," namely the aforesaid Nampitāyanallūr with all its appurtenances, for the same purposes as stated above.

Commentary

As the inscription repeats the same content of the endowment, I have translated it in full only in the first instance, while giving an abridged version in the next two occurrences.

Bibliography

Reported in ARIE 1943–45 (ARIE/1943-1945/B/1943-1944/192).

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