Art Institute of Chicago bronze Buddha statue, label

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Summary

Inscription recording the pious donation (*dharma*) of Nācciyāṇaṉ. Engraved on the pedestal of a bronze Buddha statue kept in the Art Institute of Chicago (access no. 2021.240).

Edition

〈1〉 vaṇṇakkanācciyā〈2〉ṇaṉ **dha〈r〉mmaM**

Apparatus

〈1〉 °nācciyā〈2〉ṇaṉ ◇ *nācciyā〈2〉ṇa(ṉ/n̲)* C • C notes: “Given the label’s lack of the *puḷḷi*, it is undecidable whether the name ends in its stem consonant or with the adjectival/genitive ending *-a*; the possessive sense is, at any rate, clear.”

〈2〉 **dha〈r〉mmaM** ◇ *dhammam* C.

Translation

〈1–2〉 〈This is the〉 pious donation of Nācciyāṇaṉ, the coin tester (*vaṇṇakkaṉ*).

Bibliography

Edited and translated in Cox 2025 (p. 485), with photograph (fig. 8, p. 503).

This digital edition by Emmanuel Francis based on documentation kindly supplied by Nicolas Revire and on Cox 2025.

Primary

[C] Cox, Whitney. 2025. “Bricks from a Tamil Pagoda.” In: *For the Love of Tamil: Essays in Honor of E. Annamalai*. Edited by Margherita Trento. Napoli: UniorPress, pp. 479–504.