Hero stone in context of a brahmahatyā

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Edition

〈1〉 kēdārarāśipaṇḍitu〈2〉lakuṁ brahmahatya śrā(pi)〈3〉ñci poḍici koṇi cac-cina〈4〉candrarāśi(bha)ṭārala rūpu

Translation

This is the picture of *Candrarāsibhaṭāra* who accused (someone) of brahmicide of *Kēdārarāśipaṇḍitulu*, got in close combat, slew (him), and died.

Commentary

The text follows the edition of H. Krishna Sastri in 1925, p. 21, № 58 in absence of a picture. Following the entry in A. R. No. 471 of 1893 Krishna Sastri edited the text which was written on two faces on a stone slab as one entry with continuous line numbering although the two faces evidently display two distinct inscriptions. They are given here

as 58a and 58b respectively. The term *rūpu* probably refers to a carving that depicts *Candrarāśibhaṭāra*. However, mention of such a picture is neither made in A. R. nor in Krishna Sastri 1925. The spelling *śrāpiñci* (line 2-3) is a mistake for *śāpiñci*. Besides 'to curse' *śāpiñcu* can also mean 'to accuse' (e. g. Sītārāmācāryulu 1922, pp. 752, 754 '*tiṭṭu*' which also means '*niṁdiṁcu*' (Reḍḍi 1989, p. 381)). The verb *koṇu* means 'to take' in most instances but also the meanings 'to prick, peirce, strike down' are attested. The expression *caccina* 'died' is remarkable since this intransitive verb is not the standard for denoting death in a battle. Hence, one *could* surmise that he died a natural death (long) after his successful revenge.

Bibliography

The text was noted in A. R. No. 471 of 1893 and edited by H. Krishna Sastri in 1925, p. 21, № 58 without a picture. The text was re-edited by K. M. Sastri (1969, p. 345, № 97) on basis of SII with some errors and without translation.

Secondary

Krishna Sastri, H. 1925. *South-Indian inscriptions (texts). Volume V: Miscellaneous inscriptions from the Tamil, Malayalam, Telugu and Kannada countries*. South Indian Inscriptions 5. Madras: Government Press. Page 21, item 58.

Sastri, Korada Mahadeva. 1969. *Historical grammar of Telugu with special reference to Old Telugu c. 200 B.C. - 1000 A.D.* Anantapur: Sri Venkateswara Univ. Page 345, item 97.