Mēlpāṭi, Cōḻēśvara temple, time of Rājakesarivarman Rājarāja, year 29

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Summary

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Edition

〈1〉 **svasti śrī**

1. Āciriyappa

tiru-makaḷ pōla-p peru-nila-c-celviyun=
taṉakkē y-urimai [pūṇ]ṭamai maṉa-k-koḷa-k
kān=ta[ḷ¡u!〈ū〉r]-〈c〉 c[ā]lai kalam aṟutt-aru[ḷi]
v[ē]ṅkai-nāṭuṅ kaṅka-pāṭiyu
[nu]ḷampa-pāṭiyun taṭ¡ī!〈i〉k¿a?〈ai〉-pāṭiyuṅ
kuṭa-malai-nāṭuṅ kollamuṅ kaliṅkamum
eṇ-ṭicai pukaḷ tara v-īḻa-maṇṭalamum

iraṭṭa-pāṭi y-Ēḷ’ arai y-ilakkamun=
tiṇ-ṭiṛal veṉṟi-t taṇṭāṛ-k koṇṭa ta¡nn!⟨ṉ⟩
eḷil vaḷar ūḷi Ēllā [y]ā[ṇ]ṭun=
toḷuta⟨k⟩ai viḷaṅkum yāṇṭē-y
ceḷiyarai-t tēcu koḷ

śrī-kō-v-i**rāja-rāja**-ke**sa**ri-pa**nmar-ā**na **śrī-rāja-rāja-de**varkku yāṇṭu 2 10 9-Āvatu

jayaṅ-koṇṭa-coḷa-maṇṭalattu-p perum-pāṇa-p-pāṭi-t-tū-ñāṭṭu m[ē]ṛ-p-pāṭi-y-ā[ki]ya **rājāśra**ya-purattu nakarattōm Āṛṛ¡u!⟨ū⟩rar-t tuñciṉa tēvark=ku-p-paḷḷi-paṭai-y-āka Uṭaiyār **śrī-rāja-rāja-de**var Eṅkaḷ nakarat[ti]l eṭuppitt-aru[ḷi]ṉa [ti]ru-Aṛiñcikai-**[ī]śva**rattu **ma**hā-**de**var [śrī]-kō[yi]lukkun [ti]ru-c-cuṛṛālaikkun [ti]ru-muṛṛattukkun [ti]ru-nantaṉa-vaṉattukkum⟨2⟩ maṭa-viḷākattukkum-ā[ka] nāṅ kaḷi-t-tēvaṛku-k kuṭutta nilattukk’ ellai

- nukā v-eṉṉu[m] āṛṛukku mēṛkum
- Ivv-ūr [mu]-m-m¿a?⟨u⟩ṭi-cōḷa-p-[p]erun-teruvil **vyā**pāri Āccerumāṉ vayira-mēkaṉ toṭṭa-p-pā[l]-āṉa [ni]lattiṉ vaṭa-v-arukē-y nukā-v-āṛṛi niṉṟum iru-kōl-akalattāl mēṛku nōkki-[p] pōṉa peru-vaḷi Eṇ-patt’ eḷu-[kō]l-ācaṛutikku vaṭakkum
- ivv-ācaṛutiyē-y vaṭakku nōkki-c cōḷē**n¡t!⟨d⟩ra-siṁ**[h¡i!⟨ī⟩]**śva**ram-uṭaiya tēvar tēva[ra]ṭiyār mattavāṇa-c-cēriyē-y e[ṛa]-p pōṉa teruvukku-k kiḷakkuñ
- cō[ḷē**n¡t!⟨d⟩ra**]-**siṁhīśva**ram-uṭaiyār kōyiliṉ teṛkil ti[ru]-nantaṉa-vaṉattiṉ t[e]¡nn!⟨ṉ⟩-arukē-y nukā v-eṉṉum āṛṛukkē-y kiḷakku nōkki nāṛ-kōl-akalattāṛ pōṉa pe[ru]-vaḷikku-t teṛkum

in-nāṛ-pēr-ellaiyuḷḷum aka-p-paṭṭa nilam Eṅkaḷ¡u!⟨ū⟩r aḷantu kūṛ-iṭṭa patiṉ-eṇ-cāṇ kō¡ll!⟨l⟩āṛ kuḷi Ai-¡yy!⟨y⟩-āyiratt’ [oru-n¡u!⟨ū⟩]{ra}ṛṛu mu-⟨p⟩-patt’ āṛ’ araiyum it-tēva[r]ku-t tēvatāṉa-Iṛai-y-ili-y-āka-k kuṭuttō[m]

I[n]-ni[la]tt[āṛē-y] nukā v-eṉṉu[m] āṛṛi ṉiṉṟum It-tē⟨3⟩var in-nilattukkum ilupp[ai]-k kaḷaṉikku nīr pāynta vāykkāl kāṛ-kōl-akalattāl It-tēvar in-nilattukkum iluppai-k kaḷaṉikku n¡i!⟨ī⟩r pāya-p peṛavum ip-pari[cu] tēvatāṉa-[I]ṛai-y-ili-y-āka-c cilā-lēkai ceytu kuṭuttō mēṛ-pāṭi-y-āṉa **rājāśra**ya-purattu nakarattōm

In-nakarattār colla Eḷutiṉēṉ In-nakara-k-karaṇattāṉ nārāyaṇaṉ aṭaikkalavaṉ-ēṉ

Ivai y-e¡nn!⟨ṉ⟩ eḷ¿a?⟨u⟩ttu ⤳

Itu [pa]ṉ-mā¿bh?⟨h⟩**eśva⟨ra⟩-rakṣai**⤳

Apparatus

〈1〉 maṉakkoḷak ◇ *maṉakkoḷk* SII.

Translation by Hultzsch 1899

〈1〉 Hail! Prosperity! In the 29th year 〈of the reign〉 of the glorious king Rājarāja-Kesarivarman, *alias* Śrī-Rājarājadeva, who, 〈in〉 his life of growing strength, during which,——〈in〉 the belief that, as well as the goddess of fortune, the goddess of the great earth had become his wife,——〈he〉 was pleased to destroy the ships 〈at〉 Kāntaḷūr-Cālai and conquered by 〈his〉 army, which was victorious in great battles, Vēṅkai-nāṭu, Kaṅka-pāṭi, Nuḷampa-pāṭi, Taṭīka-pāṭi, Kuṭamalai-nāṭu, Kollam, Kaliṅkam, Īḻa-maṇṭalam, 〈the conquest of which〉 made 〈him〉 famous 〈in〉 the eight directions, and the seven and a half *lakṣa*s of Iraṭṭa-pāṭi,——deprived the Ceḻiyas of 〈their〉 splendour at the very moment when Utak[ai], which is worshipped everywhere, was 〈most〉 resplendent;——we, the citizens of Mēṟpāṭi, *alias* Rājāśrayapuram, in Tūñāṭu, 〈a subdivision〉 of Perumpāṇa-pāṭi in Jayaṅkoṇṭa-Cōḻa-maṇṭala, gave land to the god Mahādeva (Śiva) of the holy Aṟiñcikai-Īśvara 〈temple〉,——which the lord Śrī-Rājarājadeva had been pleased to build in our city as a resting-place (? *paḷḷi-paṭai*) for the king who fell asleep[1] at Āṟṟūr,——for the sacred temple, for the temple enclosure,[2] for the temple court, for the temple garden, and for the environs of the temple.[3]

〈2〉 The 〈four〉 boundaries of 〈this land are〉 to the west of the river called Nukā; to the north of the limit, eighty-seven rods 〈in length〉, of the high-road which, at a breadth of two rods, leads westward from the Nukā river along the northern extremity of the wasteland of the garden of the merchant (*vyāpārin*) Āccerumāṉ Vayiramēkaṉ, 〈who resides〉 in the high-street of Mummaṭi-Cōḻa in this village; to the east of the street which leads up northward from this limit to Mattavāṇaccēri, 〈the quarter〉 of the dancing-girls of the god of the Cōḷēndrasiṁhīśvara 〈temple〉; and to the south of the high-road which, at a breadth of four rods, leads eastward to the river called Nukā along the southern extremity of the temple garden on the south of the temple of the lord Cōḷendrasiṁhīśvara. The land enclosed within these four great boundaries, 〈which measures〉 five thousand one hundred and thirty-six and a half *kuḻi*s by the rod of eighteen spans, by which our village is measured and divided, we gave to this

[1] In the Appendix to Paṇḍit Cāmināṭaiyar's edition of the *Puṟanāṉūṟu*, Mr. V. Kanakasabhai Pillai suggests that the expression *tuñciṉa* or *tuñcjiya*, 'who slept,' which forms part of the designations of several Cōḷa, Pāṇḍya and Cēra kings, means 'who died.'

[2] *ālai* is a corruption of *ālaiyam* (*ālaya* in Sanskrit). Hence *tiruccuṟṟālai* is synonymous with *tiruc cuṟṟumāḷikai* and *parivārālaya*, on which see Vol. II. p. 151, note 1.

[3] Compare Vol. I. p. 92, note 5.

god as tax-free temple land. The channel, a quarter rod in breadth, ⟨which flows⟩ through this land from the river called Nukā ⟨and⟩ supplies water to this land and to the *iluppai*[4] field of this god, shall ⟨continue to⟩ supply water to this land and to the *iluppai* field of this god.

⟨3⟩ Thus we, the citizens of Mēṟpāṭi, *alias* Rājāśrayapuram, having engraved ⟨this⟩ on stone, gave ⟨this land⟩ as tax-free temple land. At the bidding of these citizens, I, the accountant (*karaṇattāṉ*) of this city, Nārāyaṇaṉ Aṭaikkalavaṉ, wrote ⟨this⟩. This is my writing. This ⟨gift is placed under⟩ the protection of all Māheśvaras.

Translation

⟨1⟩ Prosperity! Fortune!

⟨1⟩ 29th year of the glorious king Rājarāja,*alias*the glorious king Rājarājakesarivarman,

⟨1⟩ who … [*meykkīrtti* of Rājarāja I Cōḷa]

⟨1–2⟩ The boundaries tot the land that … has given … ⟨are as follow⟩s:

- west of the river named Nukā;
- north of …;
- east of …;
- south of ….

⟨2⟩ The land comprised between these four great boundaries … We have given …

⟨2–3⟩ We, the members of *nakaram* of …

⟨3⟩ …

⟨3⟩ …

⟨3⟩ …

Bibliography

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[4]This is the Tamil name of the tree *Bassia longifolia*.

Primary

[SII] Hultzsch, Eugen Julius Theodor. 1899. *South-Indian inscriptions. Volume III: Miscellaneous inscriptions from the Tamil country. Part I: Inscriptions at Ukkal, Melpadi, Karuvur, Manimangalam and Tiruvallam*. South Indian Inscriptions 3.1. Madras: Government Press. Pages 23–24, item 15.