THY TIW I T

ADINA THA

TAMIL-BRAHMI FONT

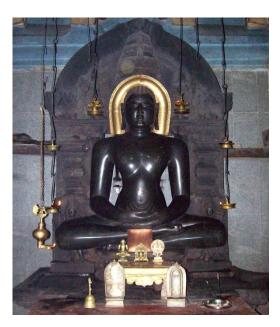
YRA ALD . 化LA

அத்நாதன்

क्रिकं त्याष् वलक्रिका

DAAITAGLYDTYIAAO





Bhagavat-Śrī-Arhat-Paramēśvara Ādinātha Tīrthaṅkara பகவத்ஸ்ரீஅர்ஹத்பரமேஸ்வரன் ஆதிநாத தீர்த்தங்கரர்

P+9YVL뷔.PY PIATPIT. 부ҲTY 및 YYEHI.

திருக்கிளர் தேவர்கோமான் ஏவலிற்குபேரன் செய்த விருப்புறு பொன்னெயிற்குள் விளங்க எண்ணெழுத்திரண்டும் பரப்பிய ஆதிமூர்த்தி பங்கயப்பாதம் போற்றி! – சூடாமணி நிகண்டு

지나 구 기 나는 보고 다 그 나는 나 나는 나는 나는 나는 나는 그 나는 사고 나는 그 지 사고 내는 사고 나는 그 지 사고 나는 그 지 나는 그 나는 그 그 나는 나는 그 그 나는 나는 그 그 나는 나는 그 그 나는 그 나는

ஆதிநாதர் தம் பெண்களுக்கு எண்ணெழுத்திரண்டையும் உபதேசித்தல் (ஸ்ரீபுராணம் - ஆதிபர்வத்தில் இருந்து...)

[...] "அன்னைமீர்! நீங்கள் பாலைகளாகவிருக்கின்றீர்களெனினும். சீலவிநயங்களால் பரிணதைகளாகவிருக்கின்றீர்கள்; ஈத்ரஸமாகிய ரூபயௌவனாவஸ்தா சீலாசாரங்கள் வித்தையால் அலங்கிருதமாகில் அன்றோ ஸ்ரேஷ்டமாகும்; ஜன்மபலமாவது வித்தையே; எஸஸ்ஸினையும், ஸ்ரேயஸ்ஸினையும் தருவது வித்தையே; கருதியவற்றைத்தரும் சிந்தாமணியாவதும் வித்தையே; தர்மார்த்தகாமங்களுள் சம்பத்பரம்பரையைத் தருவதும் வித்தையே; பந்துவாவதும். மித்திரராவதும், சர்வார்த்தங்களையும் சாதிக்கும் தேவதையாவதும் வித்தையே; ஆகையால், நீங்கள் வித்தையினைக் கைக் கொள்வீர்களாக" என்பனவே.

பகவான் இவ்வாறு சொல்லி அவர்களை ஆசிர்வாதவசனங்களால் வாழ்த்தித் தமது ஹிருதயகமலத்தெழுந்தருளியிருந்த ஸ்ருததேவியினை ஸ்வர்ணபட்டகத்தின் மிசை பூஜாபுரஸ்ஸரம் அதிவசிப்பித்து, ஸ்ஹீஸ்தமிரண்டினுலும் ஒரு முறையிலேயே எழுத்தினையும் எண்ணையும் அவர்கட்குக் காட்டியருளினர்.

அங்ஙனம் காட்டி அவருள் பிராம்மியென்னும் பெண்ணிற்கு தக்ஷிண ஹஸ்தத்தால், 'சித்தந்நம:' என்றெடுத்துக் கொள்ளப்பட்ட மங்களத்தையும், அகராதி ஹகாராந்தமாகிய ஸ்வரம் வியஞ்சனமென்னும் இரண்டு பேதத்தினை உடைத்தாகியதும், அயோகவாகங்கள் இரண்டாகவுடையதுமாகிய அக்ஷரமாலையினையும், சம்யோகாக்ஷரங்களது பிறப்பினையும் உபதேசித்தனர்.

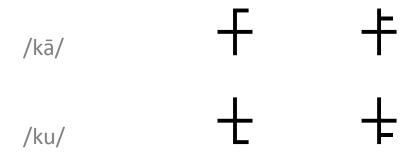
சுந்தரியென்னும் பெண்ணிற்கு வாம ஹஸ்தத்தினால் ஒன்று, பத்து, நூறு, ஆயிரமுதலாக ஒன்றிற்கொன்று பதின்மடங்காகிய கணிதஸ்தானங்களையும். பெருக்குதல், ஈதல் முதலாகிய ஷோடசபரிகர்மங்களையுமுபதேசித்தருளினார். இங்ஙனம் ஸ்வாமி தமது தக்ஷிண ஹஸ்தத்தினால் எழுத்துக்களை உபதேசித்ததால் எழுத்துக்கள் வலமாக வளர்ந்தன. [...]

In this way, it is the traditional belief of the Jaina-s that letters were all invented by rṣabha tīrthaṅkara, who then taught it to his daughter Brahmi. And therefore these original letters came to be known as "Brahmi" through his daughter.

The majority of the Tamil-Brahmi cave inscriptions is Jaina in nature, and usually is the records of the offerings made by the laity to the monks. It is speculated that the Tamil-Brahmi was adopted from Brahmi in the Jaina monasteries circa 3rd Centure BCE.

Placement of Vowel Signs

Tamil-Brahmi shows two distinct variants in the placement of Vowel Signs.



In the former variant, the vowel signs are placed at the edge of the stem of the character forming a contiguous shape. In the latter variant, they are placed several units above or below, and thereby leaving a portion of the stem to extrude.

In some cases both the variants are seen within the same inscription.

Mahadevan had normalized some vowel signs along the edge and others above/beneath the edge. (Perhaps, it was based upon on the relative frequency of the positions)

However, it was decided to create two separate fonts for each of those two variants.

Adinatha places the vowel signs along the edge.

The other position for the vowel signs will be released as a separate font variant.

Vowel sign /ō/

The vowel sign for /o/ is composite consisting of $/\bar{e}/$ and /a/. There are three possible ways of forming a syllable with $/\bar{o}/$ depending on the relative position of the two vowel signs.



The first variant with $/\bar{e}/$ sign below the /a/ sign was chosen to be the standard. Because, it was more imitative of the current $\bigcirc \pi$ sign. [Cognitively, the current $\bigcirc \pi$ is analyzed as $\pounds + \bigcirc + \lnot \pi$]. Mahadevan chose the second variant. The third variant occurs mostly in late Tamil-Brahmi.

We are considering the possibility of enabling tuned fonts such as in SIL, where the font features can be tuned and selected based on the user's needs. So that the user may choose the necessary orientation of $\bar{/o}$ based on his needs.

Reconstructions

As expected, the entire *varṇamāla* a.k.a *neḍuṅkaṇakku* of the Tamil alphabet is not attested in the epigraphs. Several letters do not make an appearance in the epigraphs. In order to round off the support to all the letters and subsequently support the transliteration of modern Tamil Script to Tamil-Brahmi script, we have made the following reconstructions.

ଗ /e/ and ஒ /o/

Among the short vowels, $\[\] /e/\ \] /o/\ \] deserve special mention. Of all the vowels, these two inherited the concept of <math>Pulli$ (Dot Virāma) akin to the consonants. The use of distinct letters for $\[\] /e/\[\] /e/\[\] /o/\[\] and their dependant vowel signs <math>\[\] /e/\[\]$ & $\[\] /e/\[\] /e/\[\]$ $\[\] /e/\[\] /$

This behavior is actually inherited from Tamil-Brahmi (via Vaṭṭeluttu). Brahmi was originally intended for the Prakrit languages, which phonemically lacked short /e/ and short /o/. When the Brahmi letters were adapted for Old Tamil, it didn't have any of these letters in its character repository.

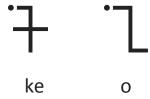
So, to represent these short vowels which had phonemic quality in Tamil, the *Puḷḷi* was adapted as an ad-hoc reducer with the corresponding long vowels. The short vowels went being actually derived from the long vowels rather than vice versa.

Among the Tamil-Brahmi inscriptions /e/ and /o/ is attested only in late Tamil-Brahmi (after Pulli was adapted) with two inscriptions currently available.

The Independent letter short /e/ is attested in Arachalur inscription [Mahadevan's Corpus Inscription: 85] and also in a coin legend. The corresponding vowel sign is unattested.

In a similar way, only the dependent vowel sign for short /o/ is attested in Kudimiyamalai inscription [Corpus Inscription: 77]. The Pulli is placed to the left in line with the $/\bar{e}/$ component of the composite $/\bar{o}/$ sign. However, the corresponding independent vowel sign is unattested.

Based on the placement of Pulli in Kudimiyamalai, we have reconstructed the dependant vowel sign /e/ and the Independent vowel sign /o/ as below:



There are several other reconstructions possible, if we are to back-trace the early Vaṭṭeluttu forms to Tamil-Brahmi. They are planned to be released as different font variants in the near future.

ஐ ai

The Independent vowel sign /ai/ is not attested in Tamil-Brahmi at all. The earliest attestation of the independent vowel appears in early Vaṭṭeluttu at Thirunatharkunru [Corpus Inscription: 116], shaped like a Trident. However /ai/ as a dependent vowel sign does appear in Tamil-Brahmi inscriptions in syllables such as kai, tai etc.

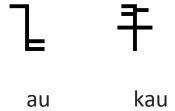
This letter has been reconstructed from the corresponding Mauryan Brahmi character.



ളണ au

/au/ is attested neither in the independent form nor as a dependant vowel sign.

As with /ai/, the forms have been reconstructed from Mauryan Brahmi as well.



.°. Āytam

Āytam is unattested in epigraphic inscriptions until as late as 8th century CE. The earliest attestation is from an inscription by Nandivarman circa 753 CE. The sign (an apparent derivation from the Visarga sign) is represented as an upwards curve with a dot above and below.

Āytam again appears in the Vaṭṭeluttu inscription of Varaguna II circa 874 CE. The character is shaped like a modern division sign \div .

The form from Varaguna's inscription has been used to reconstruct the Āytam [by virtue of Vaṭṭeluttu being a direct descendant of Tamil-Brahmi]. Though it is entirely anachronistic to borrow a character which is attested eight centuries later in an all together different script (albeit a descendant), it was necessary to represent this character to transliterate modern Tamil to Tamil-Brahmi.



It is to be noted that Siromoney (1970) also adapted the same character during the reconstruction of *Tirukkural* in Tamil-Brahmi.

Consonant-Vowels

Expectedly, all of the stereotypical 12 x 18 possible combinations are not attested in the inscriptions. The entire exotic \square / $\mathring{n}a$ / and \bigcirc / $\mathring{n}a$ / series is missing and there are several lacunas in the other commonly used consonant series as well. They have been reconstructed by studying the general placement pattern for the vowel signs and also the vowel sign placement for the same characters in Mauryan Brahmi.

For Instance, for /na/ and /ta/ the attested vowel signs are positioned at the center due to their shape. Based on this, the vowel signs for /na/ have also been reconstructed by placing them at the center.



See: Table 7.2 of *Early Tamil Epigraphy* for the distribution of the consonant-vowels in early Tamil inscriptions.

Addendum Consonants

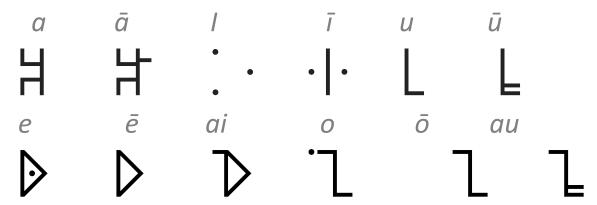
Among the Tamil addendum consonants list, the voiced aspirated dental plosive \mathfrak{G}^4 /dha/ and the fricatives \mathfrak{M} /ha/, \mathfrak{W} /śa/, \mathfrak{M} /sa/ occur in Tamil-Brahmi inscriptions.

The other characters $g_{j}/g_{s}/s_{s}$ though not attested have been reconstructed to complete the set. As like earlier, they have been directly adapted from Mauryan Brahmi.

E ja şa

Normalized Glyph Set

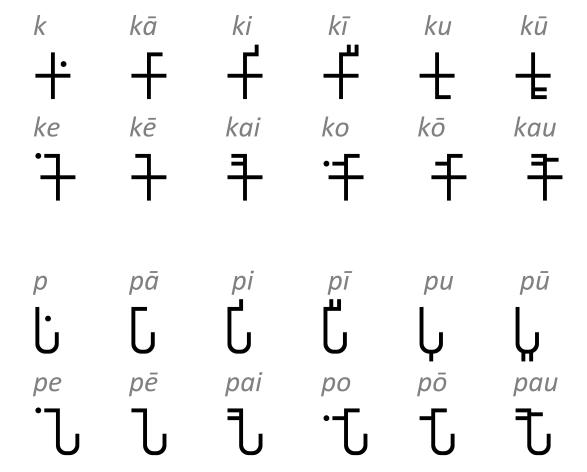
Vowels



Consonants

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Consonant-Vowels

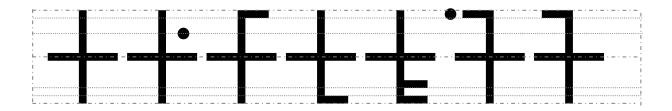


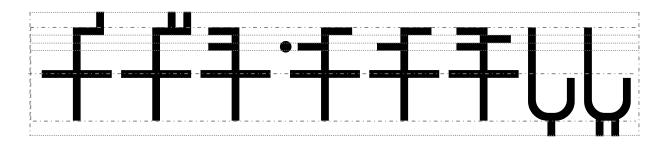
Aytam

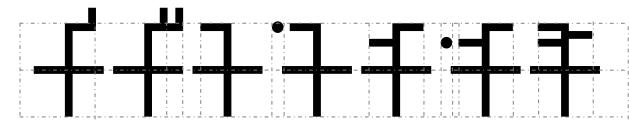
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Glyph Proportions

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Character Matrix

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Adinatha Tamil Brahmi - Code Points

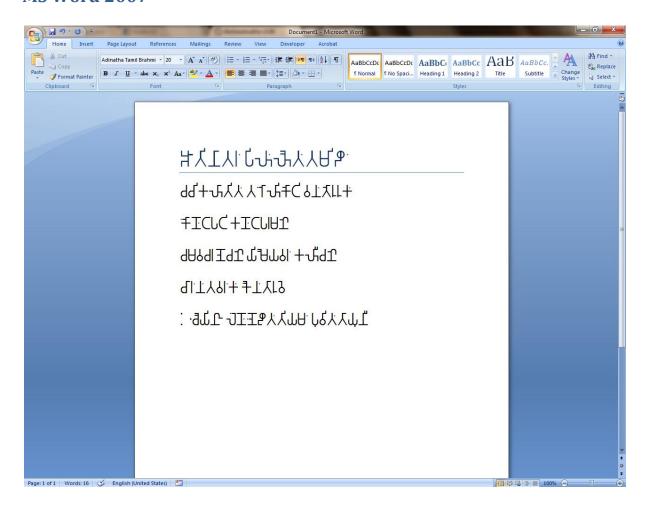
Code Point	Character	Name
U+11002	÷	BRAHMI SIGN VISARGA
U+11005	т	BRAHMI LETTER A
U+11006	计	BRAHMI LETTER AA
U+11007	•	BRAHMI LETTER I
U+11008	• •	BRAHMI LETTER II
U+11009	L	BRAHMI LETTER U
U+1100A	Ĺ	BRAHMI LETTER UU
U+1100F	\triangleright	BRAHMI LETTER E
U+11010	\supset	BRAHMI LETTER AI
U+11011	l	BRAHMI LETTER O
U+11012	Ţ	BRAHMI LETTER AU
U+11013	+	BRAHMI LETTER KA
U+11017		BRAHMI LETTER NGA
U+11018	Ъ	BRAHMI LETTER CA
U+1101A	3	BRAHMI LETTER JA
U+1101C	Ъ	BRAHMI LETTER NYA
U+1101D	\subset	BRAHMI LETTER TTA
U+11021	I	BRAHMI LETTER NNA
U+11022	人	BRAHMI LETTER TA
U+11025	D	BRAHMI LETTER DHA
U+11026	$\overline{\perp}$	BRAHMI LETTER NA
U+11027	b	BRAHMI LETTER PA
U+1102B	H	BRAHMI LETTER MA
U+1102C	ф	BRAHMI LETTER YA
U+1102D		BRAHMI LETTER RA

U+1102E	'ر	BRAHMI LETTER LA
U+1102F	- 0	BRAHMI LETTER VA
U+11030	\bigwedge	BRAHMI LETTER SHA
U+11031	Ъ	BRAHMI LETTER SSA
U+11032	근	BRAHMI LETTER SA
U+11033	<u>ل</u>	BRAHMI LETTER HA
U+11034	攴	BRAHMI LETTER LLA
U+11035	ዋ	BRAHMI LETTER OLD TAMIL LLLA
U+11036	<u>አ</u>	BRAHMI LETTER OLD TAMIL RRA
U+11037	L	BRAHMI LETTER OLD TAMIL NNNA
U+11038	::	BRAHMI VOWEL SIGN AA
U+1103A		BRAHMI VOWEL SIGN I
U+1103B		BRAHMI VOWEL SIGN II
U+1103C	····-	BRAHMI VOWEL SIGN U
U+1103D	····=	BRAHMI VOWEL SIGN UU
U+11042		BRAHMI VOWEL SIGN E
U+11043	=	BRAHMI VOWEL SIGN AI
U+11044		BRAHMI VOWEL SIGN O
U+11045	=	BRAHMI VOWEL SIGN AU
U+11046	••••	BRAHMI VIRAMA

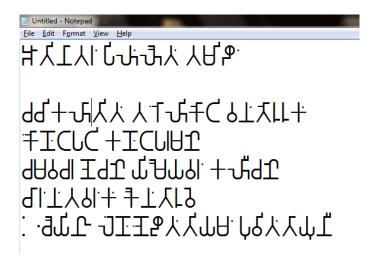
U+1100F	N	Tamil Brahmi Short /a/
U+11046	<i>V</i>	Tamil-Brahmi Short /e/
U+11011		Tamail Duahmai Shaut /a/
U+11046	L	Tamil-Brahmi Short /o/
U+11042	···.	Tamil Brahmi Vousal Sign Short /a/
U+11046	··	Tamil-Brahmi Vowel Sign Short /e/
U+11044	··	Tamil Brokmi Voyyal Sign Short /a/
U+110466	••••	Tamil-Brahmi Vowel Sign Short /o/

Screenshots

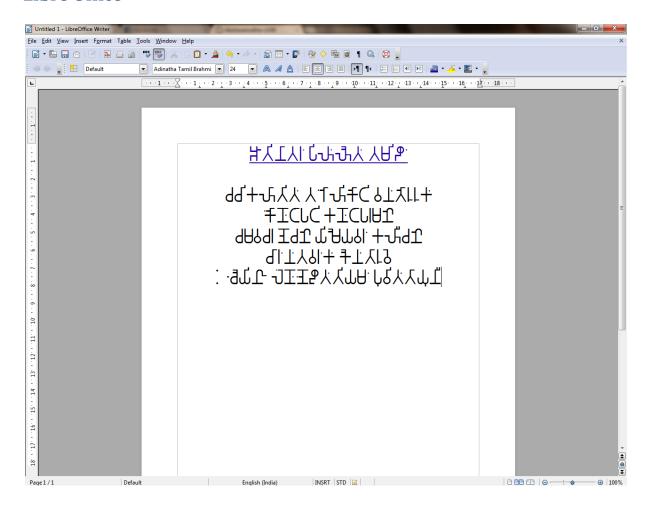
MS Word 2007



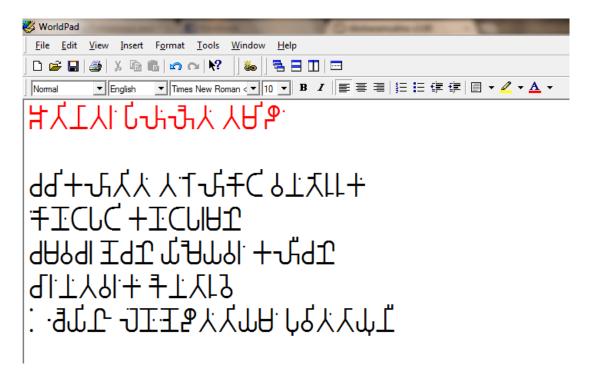
MS Notepad



Libre Office



Worldpad



Keyboard

Inscript keyboard has been included for NHM Writer.

They can be used to directly input Tamil-Brahmi in any Unicode supported application.

Inscript follows the usual layout for Tamil, with two additional characters - /dha/ and /śa/ being added at 'O' and 'M' respectively.

Download Link

http://software.nhm.in/products/writer

Usage Manual for NHM Writer

http://www.virtualvinodh.com/downloads/124-using-nhm-writer

Installing new keyboards in NHM Writer

http://www.virtualvinodh.com/downloads/123-installing-nhm-keyboard

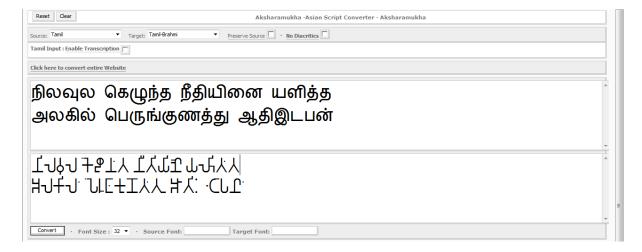
NHM Writer has some limitations in supporting multiple keystrokes mapping for SMP code points. Hence it was not possible to create Phonetic and Tamil99 Keyboards.

Conversion

The Online converter Aksharamukha can be used to convert any existing Tamil text to Tamil-Brahmi Unicode.

http://www.virtualvinodh.com/aksharamukha

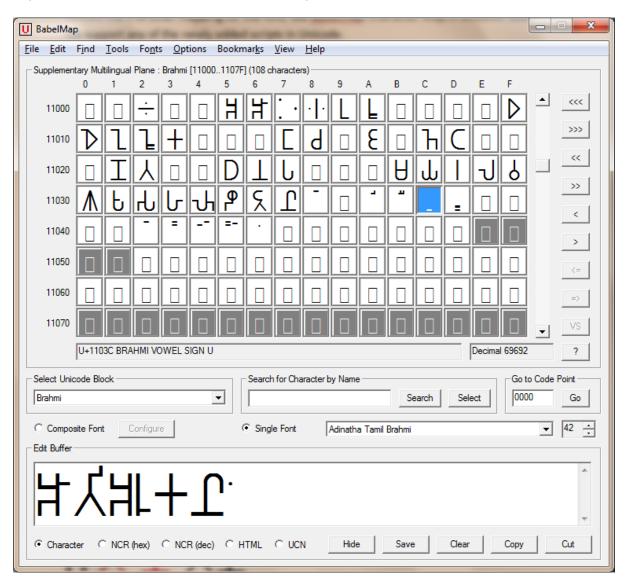
http://www.virtualvinodh.com/tamil-brahmi-lipi



Character Mapping & Input

To view the character mapping for the font, use BabelMap. Character Map in windows does not support any of the newly added scripts in Unicode.

http://www.babelstone.co.uk/software/babelmap.html



This application can be used to input the Brahmi characters directly using the code chart.

Issues with OpenType

Adinatha works in all Graphite enabled applications. However, there may be some issues that could arise with OT enabled applications such as Microsoft Office, and other applications running in Windows. In case of incorrect rendering, the vowel signs do not fuse with the base consonant, and are displayed stand alone.

Correct Rendering:



Faulty Rendering:



Minimum Requirements

- Microsoft Windows 7
- Microsoft Office 2010

MS Office 2007

MS Office 2007 under Windows 7 requires the replacement of the USP10.dll.

Please follow the below instructions:

- 1) Go to Windows/System32 and copy the USP10.dll file.
- 2) Go to Microsoft Office/Office12 and paste the USP10.dll replacing the file already present in the folder. Please take a back of the file being replaced beforehand.

Now, Tamil-Brahmi must be rendered without any issues.

Older Versions of Windows

Uniscribe version 1.626.7601.17514, which is the default version of Windows 7 SP1 is required for proper rendering of Unicode Brahmi. These older versions of Uniscribe do not seem to support SMP code points.

Sample Texts

TWITATIONIT DAA1474PATU4ALD しまつをかなてもつまりかれてもし 11-UUXKW

Mangulam Inscription No.: 2

Actual Reading

காணியநாநதாஸிரியகுஅன த⁴மாமஈதாநேடிஞசாழியானஸாலாகான ஈளாஞசாடிகானதாநதையசாடிகான சேஈயாபாளிய

kāṇiyanānatāsiriyakuaṇa dhamāmaītānēṭiñacāliyāṇasālākāṇ īlāñacāṭikānatānataiyacāṭikāṇa cēīyāpāliya

(Tamil Brahmi I - Notation)

Intended Reading

கணிய்–நந்தஸிரிய்–குஅன் த⁴(ம்)மம்–ஈதா–நெடிஞ்சழியன்–ஸாலகன் இளஞ்சடிகன்–தந்தைய்–சடிகன் சேஇய–ப(ள்)ளிய்

kaṇiy-nantasiriy-kuaṇ dha(m)mam-ītā-neṭiñcaliyaṇ-sālakaṇ ilañcaṭikaṇ-tantaiy-caṭikaṇ cēiya-pa(!)liy

TK PLY I. P LK TA D L T P X K Y I P V F Y

Jambai Inscription No.: 59

Actual Reading

ヤスヤインフトアイドアカンしてエアンドメイアンド

ஸதியபுதோஅதியநநேடுமாநஅஞசிஈததபாளி[1]

satiyaputōatiyananēţumānañciītatapāļi

(Tamil Brahmi // - Notation)

Intended Reading

ஸதியபுதோ-அதியந்-நெடுமாந்-அஞ்சி-ஈத்த-ப(ள்)ளி satiyaputō-atiyan-neṭumān-añci-ītta-pa(!)!i

[1] This is an archaic TB I type spelling for the word pali

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÷ሚብ. .ፒረሺፒ. +ፗቢብያ ▷፲+ፗϒሂፒ.

ŢŸŶŢ. ĦǶ. YI. ŢŦŶŊ. ŢŢŶŊ. ŢŢŶŊ.

ズイ・干じしむせ・ தொல்காப்பியம்

զ Հրիրը լր. այն հանրության անչություն անչության անչո

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ፆፆ大人大구비· எழுத்ததிகாரம்

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TIP.CT. P.ZM D.T.AT.I. PAPI.	33

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Glyph Design



varṇatano'mṛtavarṇe niyatam anirvarṇite'pi yogīndraiḥ | nirṇītikaraṇadūre varṇayituṁ devi dehi sāmarthyam ||

(Oh Vagishvari), whose form is composed of letters, who is imperishable, who is ever unfathomable even by the greatest Yogi-s;
Who is beyond definition!
Give me the capacity to describe.

-- Vāgīśvarī Stōtra

he'haṁ devi namaste
sā me prayacchatu guṇa augham ||
sarve sattvā viśiṣṭasiddhiṁ
pradadātu sarvakāryā |
nityaṁ ca rakṣatu māṁ
sarvānsattvāṁśca śatrumadhye ||

I bow down to this goddess [Sarasvati]

May she grant me an exalted heap of virtue;

May she grant success in every venture

May she always protect me

In the midst of my enemies;



-- Suvarṇaprabhāsa Sūtra