

A Dravidian decipherment of Indus script

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This publication is for feedback and further elucidation on the basic decipherment for larger community of enthusiast out there in the world. Important documents for understanding Indus script is the corpus created by Asko Parbola and [Iravadham Mahadevan's concordance](#) work (here on referred to as M77). We also need the [Dravidian Etymological Dictionary](#) (DED) by Burrow and Emeneau. Please download the two PDFs from Internet Archive and you should be ready. There are two excellent software versions of these PDFs: [Iravadham Mahadevan's concordance](#) maintained by Roja Muthiah Research Library and [Dravidian Etymological Dictionary](#) maintained by Digital South Asia Library of the Chicago University. Another rich source of conjectures and data is the great work of Bryan Wells: [The Archaeology and Epigraphy of Indus Writing, Archaeopress, 2025](#), who also has an excellent online database.

If you want to write documents with Indus signs then you need Asko Parbola's NFM Indus Script font. This document was written in that font, a lovely gift from MVB to me. Now on to the beautiful discovery of the decipherment.

The decipherment became possible with the arrival of the splendid work by MVB in Sasanam: M.V. பாஸ்கர் (Bhaskar), அன்றைய தலைப்பு செய்திகள் (Yesterday's headlines), சிந்துவெளி நாகரீக சிறப்பு வெளியீடு (Indus Valley Civilization Special Issue), கிருஷ்ணகிரி மாவட்ட வரலாற்று ஆய்வு மையம் (Krishnagiri District History Research Center), சாசனம் (Sasanam), 2025.

This laid down the map that lead to all the linkage between graphics and the text, building this beautiful journey of discovery enabled by M.V. Bhaskar, with whom I have been working for the past several years. My learning in art, Brahmi and Indus Script derived from his interactions.

Decipherment is a commutative diagram:



Of course, a lot of hard work and walking on three legs. We use M77 to denote Mahadevan's sign numbers, but the glyphs are provided by Asko Parbola's NFM Indus Script font.

Skilled artistry of Indus script

At the core of Indus script lies the mastery of a skilled metallurgist (𑀲𑀺?). We will illustrate this with these few examples:

𑀲𑀺𑀲𑀺𑀲𑀺 = 𑀲𑀺𑀲𑀺𑀲𑀺 = vel-tiraḷ-nuraṇ-ūr = வேல்திரள்நுழனூர்

The semantic meaning being the town with tailors, jewellery and hunting professions.

𑀲𑀺𑀲𑀺𑀲𑀺 = 𑀲𑀺𑀲𑀺𑀲𑀺 = mu-iru-mel-per-ul = முவிரு மேல்பொருள்

The semantic meaning being the mighty great guardian of the township (elevated to kings and gods at later times).

Some important townships

This is just indicative of the various kinds of townships and professions, and a deeper quantitative study is required to obtain their relative importance. What is interesting is that the last one is farmer's town, which doesn't count really as a town, but in Dravidian languages, the term "ūr" seems to cover what we call "village" also.

| M77 Sign | Glyph | Syllable | DED | Description | Tamil |
|----------|-------|--------------------|-----|-----------------------------|------------------|
| 342 | 𑀲 | ūr | 752 | town | ஊர் |
| 347 | 𑀲 | velūr | - | hunter's town | வேலூர் |
| 358 | 𑀲 | chevūr | - | bronze worker town | செவ்வூர் |
| 351 | 𑀲 | vel-nuraṇ-ūr | - | hunter-cloth worker town | வேல்நுழனூர் |
| ? | 𑀲 | che-palla-ūr | - | bronze-elephant worker town | செவப்பல்லூர் |
| 355 | 𑀲 | vel-palla-ūr | - | hunter-elephant worker town | வேல்பல்லூர் |
| 361 | 𑀲 | che-ko-ūr | - | herder-bronze worker town | செங்கோவூர் |
| 372 | 𑀲 | vel-tiraḷ-nuraṇ-ūr | - | hunter-jeweller-tailor town | வேல்திரள்நுழனூர் |
| 15 | 𑀲 | uṛavūr | 688 | working, farming town | உழவூர் |

Numbers

Numbers are treated separately, but they are just like other glyphs, easily welded and affixed to other glyphs, producing a plethora of possibilities.

| M77 Sign | Glyph | Syllable | DED | Description | Tamil |
|----------|-------|----------------|----------|----------------------|------------------------|
| 86 | 𑀲 | mutal, -al | 4950 | one, primary | முதல், -ல் |
| 87 | 𑀲 | -ar, -ir, iru- | 474, 481 | two, great, eminence | ரண்டு, -இர், -ர், இரு- |

| | | | | | |
|--------------------------------------|--|----------------------|------|------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 89 | | mū-, mūn- | 5052 | three | மூ-, மூன்- |
| 95 | | nal-, -nāl, nalla- | 2912 | four, good | நல்-, -நால், நல்ல- |
| 96 | | -ai | 2826 | five, unity | -ஐ |
| 108 | | aru-, -ar | 2485 | six, river, fort | ஆறு, அறு |
| 110 | | eru-, -eru | 910 | seven, rise, fertile | ஏழு, -எழு |
| Application of above phonemes | | | | | |
| 112 | | nalām, nālam, munnāl | 2913 | land, healthy, before | நலம், நாலம், முன்னால் |
| 116 | | nallai, nellai | - | rice | நல்லை, நெல்லை |
| 121 | | nal.nel.āl | - | good rice person | நல்நெல்லான் |
| 120 | | mu-munamum | - | three generations back | மும்முன்னோனும், மும்முன்னமும் |
| 119 | | mu-munnor | - | two generations back | மும்முன்னோர் |

Clitics

Clitics provide sentence structure (the subject and the object). The default reading order is right to left, but before the clitic " (sign 99), the reading is left to right.

| M77 No. | Glyph | Syllable | Tamil |
|---------|-------|--------------------|-----------------------------|
| 97 | ┌ | -il, -da, -ta, -in | -ட, -டு, -த, -து -இல், -இன் |
| 99 | " | -ra, -ru | -ர, -ரு, -ற, -று |
| 123 | ┐ | -yar, -yin | -யர், -யார் |
| 344 | ┌┐ | ūr-ār | ஊரார் |
| 343 | ┌┐ | ūr-il | ஊரில் |

Learn through pun

Following are an indication of the pun that abounds in Indus script, which is termed as the “rebus principle”. Of course, it only makes sense if your language is close to ancient Dravidian. For deeper understanding you may have to refer to some of the sign values below this in the section on “Syllabic development”. We only sketch a few, but the Indus script syllabary abounds in such pun. The reduction of number of glyphs required for a writing system for Dravidian language is very much dependent on prudently choosing glyphs that provide highest possible homophony.

| M77 Sign | Glyph | Syllable | DED | Description | Tamil |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|-----------------|-----|-------------|----------|
| 298 |)))) | valai = vala+ai | - |) = vala+5 | வல+ஐ=வலை |
| Right-parenthesis is “vala” (curved as well as right) in Tamil and “vala” + “ai” = | | | | | |

| | | | | | |
|-----|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------|-------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|-----------------|
| | “valai”. “vala” is curve, as well as “right”, which fits well with description of right parenthesis. This is further explained by a pun statement shown in the next row. | | | | |
| 62 | (𑌵) | valai-kanni | 5379 | scabbard fish with fang-like teeth | வாளை மீன் |
| | The fish “vālai” is known as the scabbard fish that has sharp teeth. A nice tooth is drawn at the top to elucidate the learning. This explains that the parenthesis sign (299, 287) carry the phonetic value “valai” | | | | |
| 295 |)𑌵 | eri-valai | 902 | Another sharp tooth fish | ஏரி வாளை (மீன்) |
| | A fresh water shark, Wallago attu , also known “eri-valai”, a pun again on the word with rebus equation: “vālai” ≈ “valai”. The prefix “eri” comes from “two” or “iru”, leading to one more rebus equation: “iru” ≈ “eri”. | | | | |
| 63 | (𑌵𑌵) | kanni-pori-valai | - | Trapping of birds | கன்னி-பொறி-வலை |
| | This learning tablet defines the phonetic value of fish as “kanni” and the bird as “puri” by defining it through a polysyllabic pun as “kanni-pori” with a parenthetic “valai” . The “kanni-pori” in Tamil is “trapping”. | | | | |
| 64 | 𑌵𑌵) | valai-kanni | - | The clitic reverses reading order | கன்னி-பொறி-வலை |
| | The clitic sign 64 reverses the reading order to the right of it. This learning script defines that. | | | | |
| 376 | 𑌵 | pal | - | teeth | பல்லு |
| | A teeth is indicated by the protruding teeth effect, just like in the fish teeth. | | | | |
| 57 | 𑌵 | irumpu | 486 | iron | இரும்பு |
| | Now we have triple pun: iru-pu (two insects) ≈ erumpu (ant) ≈ irumpu (iron) | | | | |
| 181 | 𑌵 | kottu | 2065, 2064 | pour (sting) | கொட்டு |
| | We can see pincler claws are indicated to show “sting” and “pour” are homophones in Dravidian “kottu”. The stinging honey-bee also is supposed elucidate connotations of “honey” that pours (kottu) from the beehive. | | | | |
| 393 | 𑌵 | palla-ar | 3986a, 1045, 4016 | palla, pallar | பல்லர் (பள்ளம்) |
| | The sign 391 “palla” (see sign list below) is indicated here by putting it upside down in a hole (pallam) by creating the pun. | | | | |
| 310 | 𑌵 | vila-vila | 5424 | tremble with fear | விலவில |
| | This cognates with “vavvāl” (DED 5370), probably a long-tailed fruit bat, with an eerie shivering scene that it creates. | | | | |
| 303 |) (| iṭa, | 432 | cleft, gap, split, crack open , slit, breach, chasm | இட |

Also works as “iṭaveli” ≈ “iṭai-valai”.

Syllabic development

We outline from top to bottom how the syllabary is slowly developed from simple to complex glyphs. Happy journey!

| M77 Sign | Glyph | Syllable | DED | Description | Tamil |
|----------|--------|-----------------------|--------------------|------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1 | 𑌕 | an | 131, 132 | person | அன் |
| | 𑌕𑌕 | an(n)-an | 131, 132 | brother | அண்ணன் |
| 2 | 𑌕𑌃 | kāvalan | 1417, 1416 | security guard | காவலன் |
| 25 | 𑌕𑌃 | mutalvan | 4950 | chief | முதல்வன் |
| 26 | 𑌕𑌃𑌃 | nal-mutalvan | - | good chief | நல்முதல்வன் |
| 3 | 𑌕𑌃 | āl | 399 | servant, slave, soldier, messenger | ஆள் |
| 4 | 𑌕𑌃𑌃 | natt-an | 3638 | country man | நாட்டான் |
| 5 | 𑌕𑌃𑌃𑌃 | natt-ar-an | 3638 | country rules | நாட்டாரன் |
| 6 | 𑌕𑌃𑌃 | kompaṇ | 2115 | clever man | கொம்பன் |
| 7 | 𑌕𑌃𑌃 | val(i)-an | 5276 | skilled man | வலியன் |
| 8 | 𑌕𑌃𑌃 | vel-an | 5368 | lance fighter | வேலன் |
| 9 | 𑌕𑌃𑌃𑌃 | valai-velan, valaiyan | 5288 | animal trapper | வலையன் |
| 12 | 𑌕𑌃𑌃 | uṛavan | 688 | farmer | உழவன் |
| 13 | 𑌕𑌃𑌃𑌃 | uṛavāl | 688 | farm worker | உழவாள் |
| 14 | 𑌕𑌃𑌃𑌃𑌃 | per-uṛavan | 688 | big farmer | பேர் உழவன் |
| 15 | 𑌕𑌃𑌃𑌃𑌃 | uṛavūr | 688 | working, farming town | உழவூர் |
| 35 | 𑌕𑌃𑌃𑌃𑌃 | valaiyan | 5288 | trapper | வலையன் |
| 41 | 𑌕𑌃𑌃𑌃𑌃 | kīṛrān | 1621 | poor | கீழான் |
| 42 | 𑌕𑌃𑌃𑌃𑌃 | pallan | 3986a | mahout | பல்ல(வ)ன் |
| 54 | 𑌕𑌃𑌃𑌃𑌃 | pu | 4345 | flower, insect | பூ (பூச்சி) |
| 55 | 𑌕𑌃𑌃𑌃𑌃 | pol | 4550 | flowering | பொலி, பொலிவு |
| 374 | 𑌕𑌃𑌃𑌃𑌃𑌃 | -n | 1159b, 3621, 3621a | night, bug | நீர் (துளி), (ப)னி, நள், நல்லு |
| 410 | 𑌕𑌃𑌃𑌃𑌃𑌃 | nān | 3639 | me | நான் |
| 415 | 𑌕𑌃𑌃𑌃𑌃𑌃 | nannan | 3639 | a name | நண்ணன் |
| 417 | 𑌕𑌃𑌃𑌃𑌃𑌃 | nalnelāl | - | Good farmer | நல்நெல்லான் |
| 412 | 𑌕𑌃𑌃𑌃𑌃𑌃 | nānkuṛu | 2906 | earthworm | நாண்குழு |

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|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|---|------------------------------|------------------------|------------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 186 | 𑌕 | kūru | 1924 | section, division, share | சூறு |
| 299 | (| ida, idai | 449 | hip, left | இட-, இடை |
| 301 | 𑌕 | idayan | 450 | herder, herdsman | இடையன் |
| 287 |) | vala-, vaḷai | 5313, 5314 | bent, trap, right | வல, வளை |
| 293 | 𑌕 | valaiyan | 5288 | animal trapper (short form) | வலை வேலன், வலையன் |
| 303 | 𑌕 | iṭa, iṭavai | 432, 434 | narrow way | இட, இடவை |
| 186 | 𑌕 | kutai | 1714 | notch at end of bow | குதை |
| 312 | 𑌕 | kuṭa, kuṭai | 1660 | hollow, cavity, penetrate | குடை |
| 328 | 𑌕 | vu | 651, 761 | ooze, mortar | வ, உ, ஊ |
| ? | 𑌕 | vala, vala | 5304 | strong, fertile | வல-, வள- |
| 32 | 𑌕 | vuvan | | person between two | உவன் |
| 330 | 𑌕 | ūm (ūmaṇ) | 748 | to fly (owl) | ஊம் (ஊமன்) |
| 332 | 𑌕 | vai | 5549-53 | to stay, straw of paddy, to abuse, sharp | வை |
| 336 | 𑌕 | uṭaṇ | 945 | with, consent, immediately | உடன் |
| 337 | 𑌕 | uṭantai | 945 | relationship, alliance | உடன்தை |
| 342 | 𑌕 | ūr | 752 | town, village | ஊர் |
| 347 | 𑌕 | vellore | - | hunter's town | வேலூர் |
| 358 | 𑌕 | chevur | - | bronze worker's town | செவ்வூர் |
| 344 | 𑌕 | ūr-ar | - | important sign with clitics | ஊரார் |
| 343 | 𑌕 | ūr-il | - | important sign with clitics | ஊரில் |
| 373 | 𑌕 | pa | 3805, 4016, 4124, 3884 | sun, pot | பகல், பள்ளம், பாணை, பண் |
| 375 | 𑌕 | pal, pala | 3986a | teeth, many | பல், பல |
| 379 | 𑌕 | pammu | 3934 | to baste, to yarn | பம்மல் |
| 391 | 𑌕 | pallā | 3986a, 1045 | elephant | பல்லா (யானை) |
| Depicted by the ornamental oval-shaped plate that is fixed on it's forehead | | | | | |
| 392 | 𑌕 | nal-pallar (nalla-palla-iru) | - | good mahout | நல் பல்லர் |
| 403 | 𑌕 | parru, pattu, parai | | sale announcement with a drum beat | பற்று, பட்டு, பறை |
| 404 | 𑌕 | nal-parai | | good | நல்ல பறை |

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|-----|---|-----------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| | | | | announcement | |
| 387 | ⌚ | vel-pa | | hunter | வேலப்பன் |
| 389 | ⌚ | pañ-nilam | 3837 | ploughed land | பண்ணிலம் |
| 254 | ⌚ | paṭi, paṭṭi | 3848,3850 | settlement, rest, roost, step gradee, rank | படி, பட்டி |
| 186 | ⌚ | paṭi, paṭṭi | 3848,3850 | settlement, rest, roost, step gradee, rank | படி, பட்டி |
| 216 | ⌚ | tan, tăn | 2946, 3188, 3110 | earthen pot | தன், தண் (தண்டி), தவளை |
| 217 | ⌚ | atan | 1 | there | ஆதன் |
| 53 | ⌚ | tāvu | 3177 | jump, luxuriant, tread gently | தாவு, தவளை |
| 222 | ⌚ | talū | 3105 | beat, crush | தள்ளு |
| 223 | ⌚ | mumuta | - | grand-parent | மும்முத |
| 229 | ⌚ | tar, taṛi | 3178 | bow down | தாழு, தாழி |
| 36 | ⌚ | tan | 3045 | cold, water | தண் (தண்ணீர்) |
| ? | ⌚ | pān | 4068 | song, melody | பாண் |
| 396 | ⌚ | pāṇal | 4071 | rice-field | பாணல் |
| 31 | ⌚ | pāṇan | 4068 | tamil bard | பாணன், பாடுபவன் |
| 59 | ⌚ | kaṇ, kanni | 1159a, 1166, 1168, 1417, 1483 | bamboo raft, trap, trapper | கண், கன்னி |
| 60 | ⌚ | nalla-kanni | - | good vehicle, good trapper | நல்ல கன்னி |
| 67 | ⌚ | kondu, kōnda, gōnde | 2053, 2216 | bull, with | கொடு (கொண்டு), கோண்டே, கொண்டே, கொண் ட |
| 72 | ⌚ | kōl | 2238 | boat, raft | கோல் |
| 70 | ⌚ | kāl | 1483 | cart | கால் |
| 65 | ⌚ | peru-kanni | | big boat, big cart | பெருங்கன்னி |
| 78 | ⌚ | pūr, puri, pori, purā | 4374 | bird | புர், புரி, பொரி, புறா |
| 80 | ⌚ | parapurai | 3949 | to spread (message through pigeon?) | பறப்புறை |
| 81 | ⌚ | valai-puri | - | trapped bird | வலைபுரி, புரிவலை |
| 319 | ⌚ | mura | 4977 | snail, curl | முற, முறை, முறுக்கு |
| 134 | ⌚ | peru | 4411 | big, large | பெரு |
| 204 | ⌚ | mu-peru | - | mature large | முப்பெரு |
| 209 | ⌚ | peru-mutal | - | large primary | பெருமுதல் |
| 210 | ⌚ | mu-peru-mutal | - | mature three | முப்பெருமுதல் |

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|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---|--------------------|------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| | | | | large primary | |
| 205 | 𐎧 | nal-kompu | 2115 | good clever | நல்கொம்பு |
| 261 | 𐎠 | kō | 2177, 2178 | mountain, gentry | கோ, கோட்டை |
| Origin of the word “kō” could be the Gond people (gōnde, DED 2216) of the mountains, reinforced by the West wind, from western practice of having kings in Sumeria | | | | | |
| 30 | 𐎶 | kōvan | | herder, herdsman, gentry | கோவன் |
| Cattle class that eventually becomes the ruling gentry | | | | | |
| 267 | 𐎶 | kōtai, kōtta, kōtu | 2053, 2207, 2203, 2200 | gift, munificence, fort, gentry (west wind, western practice of having kings in Sumeria), horn | கொட, கோட்ட, கோடு, கொம்பன் |
| 244 | 𐎶 | aru, arai | 317, 322 | dwelling, camp, room | அறு, அறை |
| 242 | 𐎶 | māti, mātu | 4796a, 4798 | mansion, terrace, ox | மாடி, மாடு |
| 197 | 𐎶 | mē, mētu, mettai | 5086, 5058, 5069 | top, terrace | மேல், மெத்தை |
| 198 | 𐎶 | mē-mu | 5086 | higher excellence | மேழு |
| 199 | 𐎶 | mē-vēl | 5086 | excellent hunter | மேவேல் |
| 200 | 𐎶 | nal-mē | 5086 | good excellence | நல்மே |
| 402 | 𐎶 | nātu | 3638 | country (as a contrast to village) | நாடு |
| 162 | 𐎶 | vēl | 5536 | spear, valour | வேல் |
| 245 | 𐎶 | tatti | 3036 | cloth, wooden frame | தட்டி |
| 296 | 𐎶 | vari | 5297 | way | வழி |
| 149 | 𐎶 | nālvari | 5297 | cross-road | நால்வழி |
| 297 | 𐎶 | aruvari | 5297 | six-way crossing | அறுவழி, ஆறுவழி |
| 135 | 𐎶 | peruvari | 5297 | big way | பெருவழி |
| 136 | 𐎶 | aim perumvari | 5297 | five big way | ஐம் பெருவழி |
| 153 | 𐎶 | poru, peru (peral) | 4544, 4422 | object, goods, to get, receive | பெற்று |
| 155 | 𐎶 | ampi | 177 | boat, raft, ship | அம்பி |
| 211 | 𐎶 | anuppu (ampu) | 329 (178) | send | அனுப்பு, அன்பு |
| 83 | 𐎶 | iṛappan, iṛappu | 501 | death | இறப்பு |

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|-----|------|--------------------------------|------------------------|---------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 50 | 𑌕 | āṭu | 5152 | goat | ஆத்து ஆடு |
| 124 | 𑌕 | ēr | 2815 | plough | கலப்பை |
| 47 | 𑌕 | aṛan | 204 | squink | அரண், அரணை |
| 43 | 𑌕 | nal-aṛan | - | good behavior | நல் அறன் |
| 113 | (𑌕𑌕) | viḷai-ñālam | 5437, 2913 | fertile land | விளை நாலம் |
| 415 | 𑌕 | mu-pala | 7- | important many | முப்பல |
| 171 | 𑌕 | nil-(v)anji, nilai | - | stable | நில்வஞ்சி, நிலை |
| ? | 𑌕 | nal-inai, nāl-inai | - | good joining, joining four | நல்லிணை, நாலிணை |
| 49 | 𑌕 | kula | 1829 | generation, geneology | குலம் |
| 51 | 𑌕 | māru, māran, mu-kula-iru-māran | 4834 | reliable third generation barter | மாறு, மாறன், முக்குல மும்மாறனார் |
| 137 | 𑌕 | cēr, cēri | 2814, 207 | join, union, assemblage, hamlet | சேர், சேரி |
| 140 | 𑌕 | nal-iru-cēri | - | good, strong assemblage | நல்லிருச்சேரி |
| 141 | 𑌕 | cēri-vaṛi | - | road to assemblage | சேரிவழி |
| 142 | 𑌕 | cēri-vaṛi-anjih | | road to assemblage resting place | சேரிவழிவஞ்சி |
| 130 | 𑌕 | kol | 2151 | exchange, buy/sell | கொள், கொள்முதல் |
| 148 | 𑌕 | cērukoḷ | 5297, 2151 | exchange, buy/sell | சேர்ந்துகொள் |
| 237 | 𑌕 | mutal | 4951 | base, foot, stump | முதல் |
| 397 | 𑌕 | tiraḷ | 3245 | pearl necklace | திரள், முத்து மாலை |
| 304 | 𑌕 | vil, viḷ | 5422, 5421, 5432, 5433 | bow, call out, sell | வில் |
| 305 | 𑌕 | vilai | 5421 | price | வில்லை, விலை |
| 127 | 𑌕 | alaku, aṛagu | 239, 246, 255 | beak, beauty, grains of paddy | அலகு, அழகு |
| 306 | 𑌕 | aṛaku-ṽilam | - | good home | அழகு ஷிஇல்லம் |
| 307 | 𑌕 | viḷampu | 5433, 5434 | proclaim openly, serve food | விளம்பு |
| 17 | 𑌕 | villavaṇ | 5422 | archer | வில்லவன் |
| 28 | 𑌕 | viḷampan | 5434 | one who superintends the distribution | விளம்பன் |
| 310 | 𑌕 | vila-vila | 5424 | tremble with fear | விலவில |

| | | | | | |
|-----|---|----------------------|------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| 125 | 𑌵 | vilaku | 5423 | diverge | விலகு |
| 173 | 𑌶 | irunilai | 3675 | very firm, stable | இருநிலை |
| 174 | 𑌷 | iru-nilam | 481, 3676 | great/vast land | இருநிலம் |
| 88 | 𑌸 | nal-iru | 3610, 480 | fine life | நல்லிரு |
| 409 | 𑌹 | nan-nila | 3588, 3676 | amiable land | நன்னிலம், நன்செய் |
| 176 | 𑌺 | vanji, anjih, añcal | 5265, 56, 55 | paddy, rice, to take on shoulder, resting place | வஞ்சி, அஞ்சி, அஞ்சல் |
| 249 | 𑌻 | māṭṭu | 4801, 4802 | fasten, put in, fasten, hook, kindle, fire | மாட்டு |
| 253 | 𑌼 | māṭṭal | 4802 | necklace | மாட்டல் |
| 182 | 𑌽 | accu | 48 | loom frame, mould, ridge in field | அச்சு |
| 178 | 𑌾 | kalappai | 1304 | plough | கலப்பை |
| 323 | 𑌿 | il, ila | 494, 497 | non-existence, leaf | இல |
| 325 | 𑍀 | ila | 497 | leaf | இல |
| 326 | 𑍁 | ilai | 497, 496 | leaf | இலை, இலஞ்சி |
| 327 | 𑍂 | ila.māran | - | horticulturalist? | இலமாறன் |
| 76 | 𑍃 | cē | 1931 | red, bronze | சே, செம்மை |
| 311 | 𑍄 | yār, eṛil | 5156 | harp, music, beauty | யாழ், எழில், இசை |
| 400 | 𑍅 | nuṛan | 3714, 3715 | penetrate, stitch | நுழ்-, நுழன், நுழம்பு |
| 310 | 𑍆 | vila-vila | 5424 | tremble with fear | விலவில |
| 219 | 𑍇 | tai (ta + kaccai) | 3473 | sew, stitch | தை |
| 214 | 𑍈 | irutai | 481, 3473 | strong stitch, good tailor | இருதை |
| ? | 𑍉 | cī, cīpu, cil, calli | 2599, 2622, 1577, 2382 | wooden peg, small piece of stone | சீ, சிப்பு, சில் |
| 215 | 𑍊 | cīruttai | 2590 | panther | சிறுத்தை |
| 258 | 𑍋 | calavai | 2368 | washing/bleaching cloth | சலவை |
| 258 | 𑍌 | cilāpam | 2369 | pearl fishery | சில்லாபம் |
| 256 | 𑍍 | cutti, cuttiyal | 2668 | small hammer | சுத்தி, சுத்தியல் |
| 192 | 𑍎 | paḷḷi | 4018 | hamlet, herdsman's village | பள்ளி |
| 193 | 𑍏 | mumalai-perum-puli | 4307, 4411 | three-mountain big tiger | மும்மலை பெரும்புலி |

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|-----|----|----------|------------|----------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 321 | 𑌕 | naṇavu | 3629 | truthfull | நனவு |
| 321 | 𑌕𑌕 | nannalan | 3610 | goodness | நன்னலன் |
| 82 | 𑌕 | taṇupu | 3142, 3169 | to join together, amass (wealth) | தறுப்பு (தாரா - வாத்து) |
| 202 | 𑌕 | mā- | 4786 | up | மா- |
| 247 | 𑌕𑌕 | saṭṭam | 2304 | frame, mould | சட்டம் |
| 341 | 𑌕 | uṇu | 689 | harrow | உழு (பரப்பு, பரம்பு) |
| 240 | 𑌕 | cil | 1577 | small | சில் |
| 241 | 𑌕 | cira | 2589 | eminent, illustrious | சிற- |
| 381 | 𑌕 | ciraṇpu | 2589 | eminent, illustrious | சிறப்பு |

Common phrases

Here we list multiple logos (mostly pairs and triplets) that commonly occur together in IVC. We also list a few non-aglutinate entangled glyphs which we try to describe them as complex mixed states.

| M77 Signs | Glyph | Syllable | DED | Description | Tamil |
|-----------|-----------|---------------------------------|------------|-----------------------------|-------------|
| 148 | 𑌕 = 𑌕 + 𑌕 | maṇukoḷ | 5297, 2151 | exchange, buy/sell | மாற்று கொள் |
| 12-124 | 𑌕/𑌕 | ēr-vuṇavan | - | farmer | ஏர் உழவன் |
| 169-124 | 𑌕/𑌕 | ēr-nilam | - | farm land | ஏர் நிலம் |
| 113 | (𑌕𑌕) | viḷai-nallam | 5437-3613 | cultivable rich soil | விளை நல்லம் |
| 130-51 | 𑌕𑌕 | maṇu-koḷ, mu-kula-iru-māran-koḷ | - | barter | மாற்று கொள் |
| 402-267 | 𑌕𑌕 | koṭa-nāṭu | - | herder country | கொட நாடு |
| 402-267 | 𑌕𑌕 | valaiyan-nāṭu | - | trapper's country | வலையன் நாடு |
| 402-76 | 𑌕𑌕 | cē-nāṭu | - | red country, bronze country | சே நாடு |

| | | | | | |
|------------------------------|-------------|----------------------|------|--------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|
| 67-65 | 𑌕𑌕 | peru-kanni-kondu | - | with big vehicle | பெருங்கன்னி கொண்டு |
| 59-67 | 𑌕𑌕 | konda-kal | - | bullock cart | கொண்டா கல், கோண்ட கல், மாட்டு வண்டி |
| 59-67 | 𑌕𑌕𑌕 | peru-konda-kal | - | big bullock cart | பெரு கோண்ட கல், பெரு மாட்டு வண்டி |
| 307-379-176 | 𑌕𑌕𑌕 | pammu-vilambu-anji | - | bow stringer's resting place | பம்மு வில்லம்பு அஞ்சி |
| 402-379-319 | 𑌕𑌕𑌕 | mura-pammu-nadu | - | yarn twisting country | முறபம்மு நாடு |
| 342-379-398 | 𑌕𑌕𑌕 | perum.tiral-pammu-ūr | - | big necklace maker's town | பெருந்திரள் பம்முர் |
| 372 = 342+400+ 397+162 | 𑌕𑌕𑌕 = 𑌕𑌕𑌕𑌕 | vel-tiral-nuṟan-ūr | - | town with hunters, pearl and cloth workers | வேல்திரள்நுழனூர் |
| 194 = 342+400+ 397+162 | 𑌕𑌕𑌕 = ^ 𑌕 | mu-iru-mēl-per-ul | - | the mighty mel-perul | மூவிரு மேல்பொருள் |
| 96-409 | 𑌕 | nan-nilai | 3588 | amiable | நன்னிலை |