NO. 43: MIDNAPORE PLATE OF ŚUBHAKĪRTTI, YEAR 8

Provenance : Midnapore, Midnapore district, West Bengal.

References : R.C. Majumdar, JASB (Letters), Vol. XI (1945), pp. 9 ff. and plate; and S.N. Rajaguru, IO, Vol. I, Part 2 (1958), pp. 144 ff.

Language : Sanskrit, in verse, except a portion in line 1.

Metre : Verses 1-9 anuṣṭubh.

Script : Eastern variety of the northern alphabet of about the seventh century A.D.

Date : 8th regnal year, the twelfth day of the month of Puṣya (Pauṣa).

TEXT<1>

First Side

(1) [samva]t 8 pauṣa di 10.2 asmindivasamāsasamvatsare ।। viṣṇoḥ potrāgravikṣe-

(2) pakṣaṇabhāvitasādhvasāṃ [।\*] śeṣāśeṣaśiromadhyamadhyāsīnamahātanuṃ ।। [1\*] kāmārā-

(3) tiśirobhraṣṭagaṅgaughadhva[sta\*]kalmaṣāṃ [।\*] śrīśaśāṅke mahīmpāti caturjjaladhimekhalāṃ(lām)

[।।\*2]

(4) yasya gāmbhīryalāvaṇyava(ba)huratnatayānayā [।\*] na samaḥ kṣārakāluṣyaṃ vyālopaya<2>-

(5) tayodadhi[ḥ\*] ।। [3\*] tasya pādanakhajyotsnāvibhūṣitaśiromaṇau [।\*] śrīmānmahāprati-

(tī)

(6) hāre śubhakīrttau vicakṣaṇeḥ<3> [4\*] daṇḍabhuktimimāṃ pāti pitṛvatpāpavarjite [।\*]

(7) dharmaśāstrānurodhena nyāyānyāyaṃ vicetari ।। [5\*] asyāṃ tāvirakaraṇaṃ viprapra-

(8) dhānasaṃṅgataṃ [।\*] bhaviṣyadvarttamānādhīnvi(dīna vi)jñāpayati sū(śu)nṛtaṃ ।। [6\*] kṛtvāsmatto

(9) yathānyāyaṃ śubhakīrttireyaṃ<4> vu(bu)dhaḥ [।\*] catvāriṅsa(riṃśa)ddadau droṇān droṇavāpaṃ ca

(10) vāstunaḥ ।। [7\*] ketakapadriddeśe<5> grāme kumbhārapadrake [\*] । bhāradvājasagottrā-

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(11) ya mādhyandināya dhīmate [।।8\*] dāmyasvāmina etasmai pitro[ḥ\*] puṇyābhivṛddhaye [।।\*9]<6>

(12) tadyo vāsmatkule jāto mohādanyopi vā naraḥ [।\*] pāpaṃ prakurute mohānmahā

Second Side<7>

(13) [pā\*]takavānbhavet ।। [10\*]

ABSTRACT

The charter begins with the date of the grant as samvat 8, the twelfth day of the month of Pauṣa. This is followed by three verses (lines 1-5), describing the illustrious monarch Śaśāṅka, who was the protector of the earth bounded by the four oceans. Verses 4 to 9 in lines 5-11 record that during Śaśāṅka’s rule, his feudatory, mahāpratihāra Śubhakīrtti was in charge of the division of Daṇḍabhukti. His administrative office at Tāvira was full of eminent brāhmaṇas. The royal order relating to the grant was issued from this office, which was addressed to the future and present officers and associates. Śubhakīrtti, having purchased forty drōṇas of land and one drōṇavāpa of homestead in the village of Kumbhārapadraka situated in the division of Kētakapadraka, donated in favour of Dāmyasvāmin of the Bharadvāja gōtra and Mādhyandina (śākhā) in order to increase the religious merit of his parents. Lines 12 and 13 contain one imprecatory verse.

<1. From the facsimile in JASB (Letters), Vol. XI (1945), plate II.>

<2. A letter seems to be missing here.>

<3. The visarga is redundant.>

<4. Read…rimaṃ.>

<5. Read deśe; the locality seems to denote a district in which the village kumbhārapadraka was situated.>

<6. The first half of the verse is not given.>

<7. A photograph of the reverse side of the plate is not given.>