NO. 45: GANJAM PLATES OF MĀDHAVARĀJA, GUPTA SAMVAT 300

Provenance : Ganjam district.

References : E. Hultzsch, EI, Vol. VI (1900-1), pp. 144-46 and plate; and S.N. Rajaguru, IO, Vol. I, Pt. 2 (1958), pp. 157-61.

Language : Sanskrit, in prose, except the customary verses at the end.

Metre : Verses 1-4 anuṣṭubh.

Script : Eastern variety of the northern class of the post-Gupta Brāhmī alphabet of about the seventh century A.D.

Date : Gupta year 300; on the occasion of a solar eclipse.

TEXT<1>

First Plate

(1) siddham<2> svasti ।<3> caturūdadhisalilavīcimekhalānilīnāyāṃ sadvīpā(pa)-

(2) gara(giri) pattanavatyā(tyāṃ) gauptāvde(bde) varṣaśatattraye varttamāne

(3) mahārājādhirājā(ja)śrśrī(śrī) śaśāṅkarājye<4> śāsati gagaṇa(na) tala-

(4) vini[ḥ\*]sṛtabhagīrathāvatāritāyā himavadgiri(re)rupari

(5) patanā[da\*]nekaśilāsaṃhā(saṃghā) tavibhinnava(ba) hi ≍ pātālāttarjjalaudhe<5>

(6) surasarita iva vividhataruvarakusumasañcchannobhayataṭā-

Second Plate: First Side

(7) ntavinipatitajalāśayāyāḥ śālimāsaritaḥ kulā(kūlo)pakaṇṭhā-

(8) dve(dvi)jayakoṅgedātma(nma)hārājamahāsāmantaśrīmādhavarājasya priyatanayo

(9) mahārājā(ja)yaśobhītastasyāpi priyasūnuḥ svaguṇamarīcinikara-

(10) pravo(bo)dhitaśilodbhavakulakamalo vikośanīlotpala-

(11) pratisparddhinīkhaḍgadhārāniśitaniśśeṣapratihataripu<6>-

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(12) va(ba)lo dīnānāthakṛpaṇavanīpakopabhujyamānavibhavaḥ svabhu-

(13) japarighayugalopārjjitanṛpaśrī[ḥ\*] kamalavimalarutha(ci)ra-

Second Plate: Second Side

(14) tanurjjaganma(ṇḍa)lamaṇḍanaśrutaśauryadhairyaguṇānvito mahāvṛṣabhaparyaṅka-

(15) kakudho(do)padhānavinyastavā(bā)horvvā(rbā)lacandro[d\*]dyotitajaṭākalāpaikade-

(16) śasya bhagavatassthityutpattipralayasṛṣṭisaṅhā(saṃhā)rakāraṇasya

(17) nṛ(tri) bhuvanaguro≍ pādabhaktaḥ paramavra(bra)hmaṇyo mahārājamahāsā-

(18) mantaśrīmādhavarājaḥ kuśalī kṛṣṇagiriviṣayasaṃva(ba)ddhacchavala-

(19) kkhayagrāme varttamānabhaviṣyakku(tku)mārāmātyoparikatadāyuktakānanyā(nyāṃ)śca

(20) yathārha(rha) pūjayati mānayati ca [।\*] viditamastu bhavatāmayaṃ grāmo-

Third Plate: First Side

(21) svābhirarddheṇa<7> mātāpitrorātmanaśca puṇyābhivṛddhaye saliladhārāpura-

(22) ssareṇācandrārkkasamakālīnākṣayanīye<8> bharadvājasagottrāyāṅgi-

(23) rasavā(bā)rhaspatyapravarāya charampasvāmine sūryoparāge pratipādita[ḥ\*] ।।

(24) uktañca smṛtiśāstre ।<9> va(ba)hubhirvvasudhā dattā rājabhissagarādibhiḥ [।\*]

(25) yasya yasya yadā bhūmi[s\*] tasya tasya tadā phalaṃ (lam) ।। [1\*] ṣaṣṭiṃ varṣasahasrā-

(26) ṇi svarge modati bhūmidaḥ [।\*] ājñeptā cānumantā ca tānyeva narake

(27) vase[t\*] ।। [2\*] svadattā(ttāṃ) paradattāmvā(ttāṃ vā) ।<10> yo hareta vasunddharā[m\*।] sa viṣṭhāyāṃ

Third Plate: Second Side

(28) [kṛmi]rbhūtvā pitṛbhissaha pacyate ।। [3\*] mā bhuta(bhūda)phalaśaṅkā va[ḥ] paradatte-

(29) [ti] pārthiva(vāḥ) ।। (।)svadānā[t\*] phalamānantyaṃ ।।<11> parada[ttānupālane] । [4\*]

(30) <12>

(31) [praya]cchati ।।

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ABSTRACT

The charter opens with a symbol for siddham and the word svasti. It records (lines 1-4) that in the current Gupta year 300, the glorious mahārājādhirāja Śaśāṅkarāja was ruling over the earth surrounded by the waters of the four oceans, together with the islands, mountains and cities. Lines 4-8 record the description of the chief city of the kingdom which was situated near the bank of the river Śālimā, resembling the holy Gaṅgā. Lines 8-18 introduce the reigning king, the glorious mahārāja-mahāsāmanta Śrī-Mādhavarāja, the son of mahārāja Yaśōbhīta and the grandson of the glorious mahārāja-mahāsāmanta Śrī-Mādhavarāja I. He has been described as a devotee of the god Brahman. From the victorious Kōṅgēda (Kōṅgōda),<13> he caused the prosperity of the Śailōdbhava (Śilōdbhava) family to which he belonged, by his own arms. He was also devoted to the feet of the blessed lord of the three worlds. Lines 18-23 record that the royal order in respect of the grant was addressed to the present and future officials, such as kumārāmātya, uparika and tadāyuktaka, and others at the village named Cchavalakkhaya, situated in the district of Kṛṣṇagiri. The officers were informed that half of the said village was granted, with the libation of water, to Charampasvāmin of the Bharadvāja gōtra and Āṅgirasa-Bārhaspatya pravara. The grant was made on the occasion of a solar eclipse, to increase religious merit of the donor and his parents. It was made a permanent endowment according to the system of akṣaya-nīvi, for the enjoyment of the donee, and to last as long as the sun and the moon would exist. Lines 24-31 record four of the imprecatory and benedictory verses stated to have been quoted from the Smṛti-śāstra.

<1. From the facsimile in EI, Vol. VI (1900-1), p. 144.>

<2. Expressed by a symbol.>

<3. The punctuation is indicated by a short horizontal stroke.>

<4. Read mahārājādhirājaśrīśaśāṅkarāje.>

<5. Hultzsch suggests vahiṣpātitāntarjalaudhāyāḥ (?).>

<6. The line should be read pratisparddhiniśitakhaḍgadhārāpratihataniḥśeṣaripu-.>

<7. Hultzsch suggests…rarthe-; but the intended reading seems to mean half of the said village.>

<8. Hultzsch suggests…līnokṣayaṇīyo; but the record seems to indicate the expression akṣayanīvi, that is, a permanent endowment, which is found in several early medieval epigraphs of Orissa.>

<9. The punctuation is indicated by a small horizontal stroke.>

<10. The punctuation is redundant.>

<11. The punctuation is redundant.>

<12. The line is illegible.>

<13. Kōṅgōda here seems to indicate the chief city of the kingdom of the same name.>