

- 32 खाद्यटपाकिकस्य महादण्डनायक-ध्रुवभूति-पुत्रस्य सान्धिविग्रहिक-कुमारामाल्य-
म[हादण्डनाय*]क-हरिषेणस्य¹ सर्व्व-भूत-हित-सुखायास्तु ।
- 33 अनुष्ठितं च परमभट्टारक-पादानुध्यातेन महादण्डनायक-तिलभट्टकेन ।

No. 3—Eran Stone Pillar Inscription of Samudragupta. (c. 330-76 A.D.)

ERAN, Sāgar (Saugor) Dist., C. P.; now in the
Indian Museum, Calcutta.

FLEET, *Corp. Ins. Ind.*, III., p. 20; BHANDARKAR, List, No. 1539.

Language : Sanskrit.

Script : Box-headed variety of Brāhmī of the southern class².

Metre : Verses 1-8 वसन्ततिलका. The first six lines of the record are broken away and lost. They contained probably one verse and a half in the वसन्ततिलका metre in which the existing portion of the record is composed. Line 28 of the record which is broken away contained the second half of V. 8.

1 खाद्यटपाकिक (=खाद्याट्टपाकिक ?) is possibly the head of the superintendents of the royal kitchen. महादण्डनायक is possibly chief of the police with power of judging criminal offences. सान्धिविग्रहिक is minister for peace and war. कुमारामाल्य seems to be an executive officer (cf. अमाल्य, a provincial governor, in the Nāsik inscription) of the same status as the Kumāra (the king's younger brother or son). Different designations may refer to different offices held at the same time or in different periods.

2 The box-headed (square-headed) tops (*mātrā* or *serif*) of *aksharas* are formed by sinking four short strokes in the shape of a square. On stone the block in the centre of the square is usually taken out; but on copper it is usually not. In another variety the tops of *aksharas* are nail-headed or triangular with the apex of the triangle downwards. It is sometimes called the Central Indian script; but it has been found outside that area, e.g., in the Kadamba records of the Kanarese country.

TEXT¹

- 1 — — — — — — — — — — — — — — —
2 — — — — — — — — — — — — — — — [1*]
3 — — — — — — — — — — — — — — —
4 — — — — — — — — — — — — — — — [11*] [१*]
5 — — — — — — — — — — — — — — —
6 — — — — — — — — — — — — — — — [1*]
7 — — — — — — — — — सुवर्ण-दाने
8 [संवा*]रिता नृपतयः^२ पृथु-राघवाद्याः [11*] २
9 [पुत्रो*] बभूव धनदान्तक-तुष्टि-कोप-
तुल्यः
10 [पराक्रम*]म-नयेन समुद्रगुप्तः [1*]
11 [यं प्रा*]प्य पार्थिव-गणस्सकलः पृथिव्याम्
12 [पर्य*]स्त-राज्य-विभव-द्ध, तमास्थितो(ऽ*)भूत् [11*] ३
13 [ताते*]न भक्ति-नय-विवक्रम-तोषितेन
14 [यो*] राज-शब्द-विभवैरभिषेचनाद्यैः [1*]
15 [सम्ना*]नितः परम-तुष्टि-पुरस्कृतेन
16 [सोऽयं ध्रु*][बो] नृपतिरप्रतिवार्य्य-वीर्य्यः [11*] ४
17 [दत्ता*]स्य^३ पौरुष-पराक्क्रम-दत्त-शुल्का
18 [हस्त्य*]श्व-रत्न-धन-धान्य-समृद्धि-युक्ता [1*]
19 [नित्य*]ङ्गुहेषु मुदिता बहु-पुत्र-पौत्र-
20 [स*]ङ्गामिणी कुलवधुः^४ व्रतिनी निविष्टा [11*] ५
21 [यस्यो*]र्जितं समर-कर्म पराक्रमेद्धं
22 [पृथ्व्या*] यशः सुविपुलम्परिवम्भ्रमीति [1*]
23 [वीर्या*]णि यस्य रिपवश्च रणोज्जितानि

1 From the facsimile in *Corp. Ins. Ind.*, III. The record may actually have been earlier than *supra*, No. 2. 2 त is written below the line.

3 The *nāmaikadeśa* दत्ता stands for दत्तदेवी ; cf. सत्यभामा सत्येति and सत्यभामा भामेति cited in the *Mahābhāshya*. 4 Read °वधुर्व°.

- 24 [ख*]प्रान्तरेष्वपि विचिन्त्य परित्सन्ति [॥*] ६
 25 — — — — — — — — — — — — — — —
 [स्त*][म्भ?]: स्वभोगनगरैरिकिण-प्रदेशे¹ [।*]
 26 — — — — — — — — — — — — — — —
 [सं*]स्थापितस्त्वयशसः परिव्रिड्हनार्थम्² [॥*] ७
 27 — — — — — — — — — — — — — — —
 — — — वो नृपतिराह यदा — — — [।*]³
 28 — — — — — — — — — — — — — — —
 — — — — — — — — — — — — — — — [॥*] [८*]

No. 4—Nālandā Spurious⁴ Copper-plate Inscription of Samudragupta—Year 5.

NĀLANDĀ (Baṛgaon), Pāṭnā Dist., Bihār.

H. SASTRI, *Arch. Surv. Ind.*, A. R., 1927-28, p. 138; D. R. BHANDARKAR, *List*, No. 2075. A. GHOSH, *Ep. Ind.*, XXV, p. 52f; D. C. SIRCAR, *ibid*, XXVI.

Language : Sanskrit.

Script : Brāhmī of the Northern class of about the 5th century A. D; but some *aksharas* have later forms.

1 Airikiṇa is the same as mod. Eraṇ.

2 Read ◦वृड्दृणा◦.

3 The rest of the record is lost. Lines 1-24 engrave one *pāda* each of the verse, with the exception of l. 9; ll. 24ff. engrave two *pādas* each.

4 The record is certainly spurious. It was forged sometime about the 6th-7th century. The authenticity of this grant of Gupta year 5 would indicate a rather unusually long reign-period for three generations, viz., Samudragupta, Chandra Gupta II and Kumara Gupta I. The *Aśvamedha* is not referred to in the elaborate Allahābād ins.; it could hardly have been celebrated before the 5th year of Samudragupta's reign or of the Gupta era. The indiscriminate use of *v* and *b* cannot be an early characteristic (see *infra*, p. 265, n. 6). Samudragupta never assumed the title *Paramabhāgavata* which was however the title assumed by his successors. The application of this title in the Nālandā and Gayā plates proves that they were forged by persons whose model was a record of a successor of this Gupta king (cf. also the words