

- (1) பக்கங்களின் எண்ணிக்கை 4
 (2) புதுக்கித் திருப்பிய நாள் 16.8.1993
 (3) ஆதாரங்குறிப்பவர் சுருக்கொப்பம் 10/11

தமிழ்நாடு ஆவணக் காப்பகம்.

தமிழ்நாடு அரசு

10/11 துறை

அரசாணை எண். <u>2101</u> மு. கோப்புத் தாள் எண்.	அச்சகம் பலவகை
நாள் : <u>16.8.1993.</u>	198

மடிக்கவோ கண்டபடி கையாளவோ கூடாது

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

PUBLIC DEPARTMENT.

READ—the following paper:—

From Dr. E. HULTZSCH, Government Epigraphist, to the Chief Secretary to Government, dated Bangalore, 7th July 1893, No. 264.

With reference to paragraph 2 of G.O., dated 16th January 1893, No. 19, Public, I have the honour to report that I have examined the inscriptions of the ruined Vishnu temple at Ukkal, in the North Arcot district, and have taken impressions of most of them. At the cost of a few rupees, a path was cut through the prickly-pear which surrounds the temple, and round those portions of the building which bear inscriptions. The mandapa in front of the shrine threatens to collapse at any moment, and of the shrine itself only the lower portions remain standing. The upper portions of the walls of the mandapa are covered with inscriptions in comparatively modern characters. If the mandapa is pulled down, as I am afraid it must be, the inscribed stones might be numbered and re-arranged subsequently. It is impossible to take impressions of these inscriptions, because the necessary beating with the brush might bring the walls down. Neither can they be read on the spot owing to the roughness of the stone. The inscriptions on the bases of both the shrine and the mandapa, however, are all in good preservation, engraved on smooth stones, and of great historical value, and deserve to be protected by periodical eradication of the thorn-bushes which grow on the top and in the crevices between the slabs, and by prohibiting the villagers from using the temple as a quarry in future. Whether they intend to re-build the temple or to utilize the stones of the upper portion of the mandapa for a new building, they ought to be strictly forbidden to remove any stones of the inscribed lower portions of both the shrine and the mandapa.

2. I subjoin a list of the inscriptions on the bases of the shrine and of the mandapa of the Ukkal temple:—

A. On the base of the shrine—

- (a) North wall—
No. 1. Rājakesarivarman, 23rd year (No. 19 of 1893).
- (b) North and west walls—
No. 2. Rājārāja, 13th year (No. 20 of 1893).
- (c) West wall—
No. 3. Rājārāja, 14th year (No. 21 of 1893).
" 4. " 29th " (" 22 of ").
- (d) South wall—
No. 5. Rājārāja, 16th year (unfinished).
" 6. Kambavarman, 15th " (No. 26 of 1893).
" 7. Rājārāja, 1[7]th " (" 23 " 1893).
" 8. Kannaradēva, 16th " (" 25 " 1893).
" 9. Kambavarman, 10th " (" 24 " 1893).

B. On the base of the mandapa—

(a) North wall—

- No. 10. Rājārāja, 24th year (No. 29 of 1893).
 „ 11. Rājendra-Chōla, 4th year (No. 27 of 1893).
 „ 12. Parakēsarivarman, 16th year (No. 28 of 1893).

(b) West wall—

- No. 13. Madirakonḍa Kō-Parakēsarivarman, 37th year (No. 30 of 1893).
 „ 14. Parakēsarivarman, 3rd year (beginning built in).

(c) South wall—

- No. 15. Rājākēsarivarman, 17th year (No. 31 of 1893).
 „ 16. Rājārāja, 24th year.
 „ 17. [Para]kēsarivarman, 4th year (No. 32 of 1893).

3. Of these inscriptions, the latest in time belong to the reigns of the great Chōla king Rājārāja (Nos. 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 10 and 16) and of his son Rājendra-Chōla (No. 11), i.e., to the end of the 10th and the beginning of the 11th century of our era. The remaining 9 inscriptions must be assigned to a still earlier period. This follows already from the fact that their alphabet is decidedly more archaic than that of the inscriptions of Rājārāja and his son. Both Rājākēsarivarman (Nos. 1 and 15) and Parakēsarivarman (Nos. 12 and 14) must have been predecessors of the great Rājārāja, but cannot be identified with individual kings in the list of the Chōla dynasty. One Parakēsarivarman, however, receives the epithet “who cut off the head of Vīra-Pāndya.” This enables us to identify him with Âditya II., the elder brother of Rājārāja, who, according to the large Leyden grant, “fought in his youth with Vīra-Pāndya.” Madirakonḍa Kō-Parakēsarivarman (No. 13) is identical with Parāntaka I., the great-grandfather of Rājārāja. Of Kambavarman (Nos. 6 and 9) nothing can be said but that a stone inscription of his is quoted in the Madras Museum plates of Uttama-Chōla.² Finally, Kannaradēva (No. 8) has been identified by my First Assistant³ with the Rāshtrakūṭa king Krishna III. (about 950 A.D.). As in other inscriptions of his, he bears the epithet “who conquered Conjeeveram and Tanjore.” The most interesting of the Ukkal inscriptions of Rājārāja is one of the 24th year of his reign (No. 10). It records an order of the king, which was issued at Tanjore and which empowers the authorities of the villages in the Chōla country, the Tondai country and the Pāndya country, to seize and sell the lands of those land-holders whose taxes fell into arrears. The edict is signed by three ministers, whose names are also met with in the large Leyden grant and in the inscriptions of the Tanjore temple.

4. According to the inscriptions, the ancient name of the ruined Vishnu temple at Ukkal was Puvaminānikka. This is a corruption of the Sanskrit Bhuvanaminikya, “the ruby of the world.” The village itself is called Ukkal in an inscription of Rājārāja (No. 4) and in one of Rājendra-Chōla (No. 11). In an inscription of Kambavarman (No. 6), the more ancient form Utkar is used. The village belonged to Pāgūr-nādu, a sub-division of Kāliyūr-kōṭṭam, one of the 24 districts into which Tondaimandalam was formerly divided.⁵

¹ வீரபாண்டியனைத் தலைகொண்ட ; No. 17.

² See p. 5 of my Progress Report for October 1890 to March 1891.

³ Christian College Magazine for April 1892.

⁴ கச்சியுந்தஞ்சைபுலகொண்ட.

⁵ See Mr. Crole's Chingleput Manual, p. 439.

ORDER—dated 22nd July 1893, No. 570, Public.

In the circumstances stated by Dr. Hultzsch in his letter read above, Mr. Rea's proposal in the first of his letters recorded in G.O., dated 31st October 1892, No. 753, that the temple at Ukkal, in the Arcot taluk of the North Arcot district, may be added

to the list of buildings selected for continuous conservation, is approved. An estimate will be called for in the Public Works Department for such repairs, &c., as may be immediately necessary.

(True Extract.)

Immei
for Chief Secretary.

To the Superintendent, Archaeological Survey.

- „ Government Epigraphist.
 „ Public Works Department.
 „ Revenue Department.

Ed. A. Raitt.

P. W. CURRENT No. 6929

Govt. of {1893} Madras.

PUBLIC.

no 1664 W 8 24.6.91
- 186 W 8 20.1.91
- 1574 W 8 9.6.91
- 1576 W 8 10.6.91
- 3189 W 8 17.11.92

No 2101 W 16 August 1893

Communicated, with
reference to S.O. No 3189 W
of 19th Nov 1892, to the
Suptg. Engr IV circle,
who will submit
an estimate for the
repairs necessary
to the temple in
question.

Issued

105.C

Recd.

9.8.93

Encl.

G.O., 22nd July 1893, No. 570.

JULY.

CVB JH
11.8.93 12.8

Temple at Ukkal.

Approving the —, in the Arcot taluk, being
added to the list of buildings selected for conti-
nuous conservation and directing that an estimate
be called for in the Public Works Department
for such repairs as may be immediately necessary.

S.E. IV circle
S.E. IV circle

DESPATCHED
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