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Archaeology

Recording the progress report
of the Epigraphist, Archaeology,
Survey, for October 1889
January 1890.

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OF 188

FRONT PAPER, No.

OF 188

HEAD AND ORDER OF GOVERNMENT, DATED
88, No.

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B.—Inscription of the Bilvanathesvara Temple at Tiruvallam copied in 1890.

No.	Place of inscription.	Dynasty.	King.	Date.
1a	North wall of mahamandapa.	..	Ko-Vijaya-Nandivikramavarman.	17th year.
1b	Do. do. ..	Bana ..	Mahavali-Vana/raja ..	Saka 810. /93
2	South wall of do. ..	..	..	..
3	Do. of the mandapa in front of the Bilvanathesvara shrine.	..	Vira-Champa, son of Chola-bhupa.	Saka 1236.
4	North wall of mahamandapa.	Chola ..	Ko-Parakesarivarman alias Rajendra-Chola-deva.	5th year.
5	South wall of do. ..	..	Ko-Rajakesarivarman alias Udaiyar Rajamahendra-deva.	2nd "
6	West wall of the Nakulesvara shrine.	..	Ko-Rajakesarivarman alias Udaiyar Rajaraja-deva.	30th "
7	South wall of mahamandapa.	Chola ..	Ko-Parakesarivarman alias Udaiyar Rajendra-Chola-deva.	21st "
8a	West wall of garbhagriha ..	Do. ..	Ko-Rajakesarivarman ..	7th "
8b	Do. do. ..	Do. ..	Do. ..	10th "
9	Base of the veranda round the Bilvanathesvara shrine.	..	Ko-Rajakesarivarman alias Chakravartin Kulottunga-Chola-deva.	26th "
10	South wall of garbhagriha ..	Chola ..	Ko-Rajarajakesarivarman ..	7th "
11	North wall of do. ..	Do. ..	Ko-Rajaraja-Rajakesarivarman.	16th "
12	South wall of do. ..	Bana ..	Mahavali-Vanarayar ..	..
13	West wall of mahamandapa ..	Chola ..	Ko-Parakesarivarman alias Udaiyar Rajendra-Chola-deva.	26th year.
14	West and south walls of garbhagriha.	Do. ..	Ko-Rajaraja-Rajakesarivarman alias Rajaraja-deva.	20th "
15	North wall of mahamandapa ..	..	Ko-Parakesarivarman alias Udaiyar A[dhi]rajendra-deva.	3rd "
16	South wall of do. ..	..	Ko-Rajakesarivarman alias Udaiyar Vira-Rajendradeva.	6th "
17	South wall of garbhagriha ..	Chola ..	Ko-Parakesarivarman alias Udaiyar Rajendra-Chola-deva.	31st "
18	South, east and north walls of mahamandapa.	..		..

ORDER—dated 11 February 1890, No. 109, Public.

Recorded.

(True Extract.)

J. GROSE,
Ag. Chief Secretary.

To the Director-General, Archaeological Survey.

" Dr. E. Hultzsch, Epigraphist.

" the First Assistant, Archaeological Survey.

" R. Sewell, Esq.

" the Secretary, Royal Asiatic Society, London.

Copy to the Secretary, Royal Asiatic Society, Ceylon Branch.

" the President, Asiatic Society, Bengal.

" the Secretary, Madras Literary Society.

" V. A. Smith, Esq., Bengal Civil Service.

" Dr. Rost, Librarian, India Office.

" A. C. MacDonald, Esq., Dy. Keeper of the Indian Institute, Oxford.

" J. F. Fleet, Esq., B.C.S., C.I.E., Bijapur.

Editors' Table.

Exd. W. H. French.

No. 4. Of/put, Madras. 3

Sept 2
17/3/90.

Arcot district, Kalavai to the Arcot taluk, and Kukkanur and Aimbuni (Ammundi) to the Gudiyam taluk. A few of the geographical names, which are mentioned in the inscriptions, bear testimony to the rule of the Bana dynasty over this part of the country. These are: the district of Perumbanappadi, the town of Vanapuram and the village of Vanasamudram. A modern name, which may be connected with the Banas is Banavaram, a village near the Sholinghur station of the Madras Railway.

9. On the 26th January I moved to Arcot with the object of visiting some of the ancient temples in its neighbourhood, and was engaged up to the end of the month in arranging and transcribing the materials collected at Tiruvallam and Melpadi. The subjoined appendix contains a list of the inscriptions copied during the last two months.

APPENDIX.

A. Inscriptions copied in 1889.

No.	Place of inscription.	Dynasty.	King.	Date.
75	Bilvanathesvara temple at Tiruvallam, west wall of garbhagriha.	Chola ..	Ko-Parakesarivarman <i>alias</i> Udaiyar Rajendra-deva.	3rd year.
76	On a rock, 1 mile north-east of Tiruvallam.	..	Ko-Vijaya-Nandivikramavarman.	62nd ..
77	Bilvanathesvara temple at Tiruvallam, west wall of garbhagriha.	Bana ..	Vana-Vidyadhara-raja <i>alias</i> Vanarayar.	..
78	Do. do. ..	Do. ..	Vana-Vidyadhara-rayar <i>alias</i> Vanarayar.	..
79	Do. west wall of kitchen.	..	Vijaya-Ganda-Gopala-deva ..	3rd year.
80	Do. east wall of mahamandapa.	..	Sakalalokachakravartin, "who conquered [the goddess of fortune] and took the earth".	17th ..
81	Do. do. ..	..	Ko-Mara-varman Tribhuvana-chakravartin Vira-Pandya-deva.	23rd ..
82	Do. north wall of mahamandapa.	Chola ..	Ko-Parakesarivarman <i>alias</i> Rajendra-Chola-deva.	3rd ..
83	Cholesvara temple at Melpadi, base of garbhagriha.	Do. ..	Ko-Rajarajakesarivarman <i>alias</i> Rajaraja-deva.	29th ..
84	Cholesvara temple at Melpadi, base of garbhagriha.	Chola ..	Ko-Rajarajakesarivarman <i>alias</i> Rajaraja-deva.	29th ..
85	Cholesvara temple at Melpadi, north wall of garbhagriha.	Do. ..	Ko-Parakesarivarman <i>alias</i> Rajendra-Chola-deva.	9th ..
86	Do. do. ..	Do. ..	Ko-Rajaraja-Rajakesarivarman <i>alias</i> Rajaraja-deva.	29th ..
87	Somanathesvara temple at Melpadi, south wall of garbhagriha.	Do. ..	Mummudi-Chola-deva [<i>alias</i>] Ko-Rajaraja-Rajakesarivarman.	14th ..
88	Somanathesvara temple at Melpadi, south wall of mahamandapa.	..	Rajaraja-deva ..	8th ..
89	Do. do. ..	..	Vira-Kambana-Udaiyar ..	Plava/samvatsara.
90	Do. do. ..	..	Samburayar, "who conquered the goddess of fortune and took the earth."	16th year.
91	Rock inscription in a Jaina cave on the hill of Vallimalai.	Ganga ..		..

follows:—"Vana-Vidyadha[ra]-raja *alias* Vanarayar, who sprang from the Mahavalikula (i.e., the race of the great Bali), who had been appointed door-keepers by Paramesvara, the lord of gods and demons, who is praised by all the three worlds." As stated in the preceding paragraph, the Ganga king Sivamaharaja was reigning between Saka 942 and 958. Accordingly, the Bana king Vidyadhara, who was married to his grand-daughter, seems to have belonged to the second half of the tenth century of the Saka era. As he is probably identical with the Bana-Vidyadhara of Mr. Foulkes' grant, it will now be possible to assign approximate dates to those of his ancestors and successors, who are mentioned in that grant. There is another Tiruvallam inscription (No. 1), which professes to be a copy of an older inscription, made when an ancient mandapa, which contained the original, was pulled down. The copy consists of two separate edicts. The first of them (No. 1a) is dated in the 17th year of the reign of Ko-Vijaya-Nandivikramavarman and mentions as his feudatory Mavali-Vanarayan *alias* Vikramaditya-Vanarayan. According to one of the Gulganpedigree includes two other Bana kings named Vikramaditya. The Tiruvallam inscription might refer to any of these three Vikramadityas. Three other inscriptions of Ko-Vijaya-Nandivikramavarman, found at Virinchipuram and at Sadupperi near Vellore, and dated in his 9th, 47th and 52nd years—are noticed in my first volume of South-Indian inscriptions; and an inscription on the top of a rock near Tiruvallam (No. 76), which is dated in his 62nd year, mentions Mavali-Vanarayar as his contemporary. It is at present impossible to say, to which dynasty and period Nandivikramavarman belonged. The second part of the copy (No. 1b) contains the name of Mahavali Vanaraja and the date Saka 810 (in words). This is the earliest date, which has hitherto been found in any Tamil inscription; and it must be accepted with some caution, as the original may have been tampered with or misread by the engraver of the copy. Besides, Mahavali-Vanaraja is not a proper name, but a general title, which might refer to any of the Bana kings. The name Mahavali-Vanarayar occurs also in an undated Tiruvallam inscription (No. 12). The subjoined table shows the synchronisms between the Cholas, Gangas and Banas, which may be derived from the Tiruvallam inscriptions:—

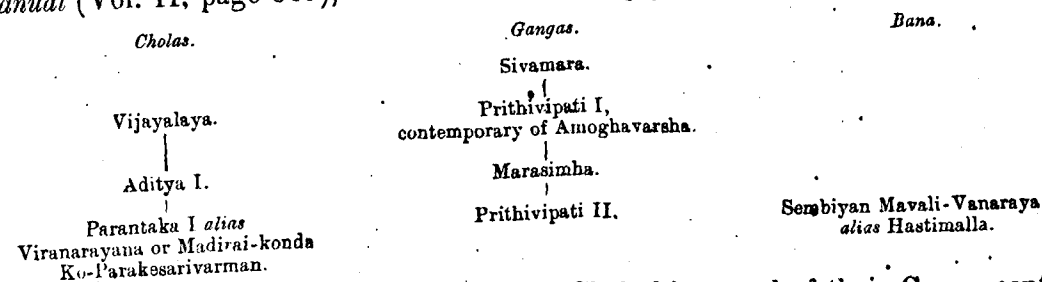
Cholas.	Gangas.	Banas.
Ko-Rajaraja-Rajakesarivarman, 16th year = Saka 942.	Srinatha Srimat-Sivamaharaja.	
Ko-Parakesarivarman <i>alias</i> Rajendra-Chola-deva, 3rd year = Saka 958.		
	Pratipati-Araiayar.	
	Kundavvayar, married to	Vana-Vidyadhararaja <i>alias</i> Vanarayar.

7. Among the remaining inscriptions at Tiruvallam and Melpadi, there are two which contain a date. One of them (No. 3) records in Sanskrit verse that, with funds provided by Prince Vira-Champa, son of Chola-bhupa, a certain Jnanamurti built a mandapa at Vallapuri, i.e., Tiruvallam, in the tungasrika-Sakabda, i.e., in the Saka year 1236. Another inscription (No. 89) is dated during the reign of Vira-Kambana-Udaiyar and in the Plava-samvatsara. Two Conjeeveram inscriptions, which are published in my first volume of South-Indian inscriptions (pages 117 ff), prove that this year of the cycle of Brihaspati corresponds to Saka 1284.

8. In conclusion, some geographical names deserve to be noted. Tiruvallam was also called Tikkali-Vallam. According to some of the inscriptions, it belonged to Miyarunadu, a division of Paduvur-kottam, while, according to others, it formed part of Perumbanappadi, a district of Javankonda-Chola-Mandalam. Melpadi, which is always spelt Melpadi in the inscriptions, was also called Rajasrayapuram, probably after the Chola king Rajaraja, one of whose surnames was Rajasraya according to the large Leyden grant. It belonged to Tuy-nadu, a division of Perumbanappadi, a district of Javankonda-Chola-Mandalam. The river Nuga, which is mentioned in several Melpadi inscriptions, is probably identical with the modern Ponni or Nivar. The inscriptions refer to several places, which are still known by the same or similar names. Kachhippedu is one of the ancient names of Conjeeveram. Kaverippakkam (Kaveripakk) and Vannipedu (Vannivedu) belong to the Vallaja taluk of the North

supply of garlands to the Tiruvallam temple from the interest of a sum of money, which had been paid by two vassals (Pamanta) of Vikrama-Pandya-deva and by a princess called Madurantaki.

5. Two of the Tiruvallam inscriptions establish the period of the reign of a king of the Ganga dynasty. An inscription (No. 11) of the 16th year of Ko-Rajaraja-Rajakesarivarman, *i.e.*, Saka 942, mentions as his feudatory:—Gogunidharma-paramadharmanamaharaja-Nipunilapuraparamesvara-Srinaradha-Srimat-Sivamaharaja-Tiruvaiyan Samkaradevar; and in an inscription (No. 82) of the 3rd year of Ko-Parakesarivarman *alias* Rajendra-Chola-deva, *i.e.*, Saka 958, the donor is Kokunita-paramadharmanamaharaja-Nipunilapuraparamesvara-Srinata-Srimat-Sivamaharaja-Vaidumban Samkaradevan Somanathan. The first of the titles of this chief, Gogunidharma in No. 11 and Kokunita in No. 82, occurs as Koganivarman or Kongunivarman in Mr. Fleet's inscription of Marasimha (*Indian Antiquary*, Vol. VII, page 101) and as Kongunivarman or Konginivarman in Mr. Kittel's Kiggatnadu inscription (*Ibid.*, Vol. VI, page 102-f.). The two next titles mean "the most righteous great king" and "the supreme lord of the city of Nipunila," which I am unable to identify. The next epithet seems to be a corruption of Srinatha, "the lord of prosperity." Then follows the real name of the king, Sivamaharaja, which is attributed to three different personages in a would-be historical account of the Ganga kings, included in the Kongu chronicle. Of the remaining surnames, one, Samkaradeva, occurs in both inscriptions and is a synonym of his real name Sivamaharaja; another, Vaidumba, may have been assumed by the king in consequence of some intermarriage of the Ganga and Vaidumba dynasties. The historical result of the two Tiruvallam inscriptions is, that a Ganga king, called Sivamaharaja, was a feudatory of the Chola kings between Saka 942 and 958. Three other trustworthy dates of the Ganga dynasty are—that of Mr. Kittel's inscription of Satyavakya, Saka 809, that of Mr. Fleet's inscription of Marasimha, Saka 890, and that of Mr. Kittel's inscription of Rachamalla, Saka 900. An important copper-plate grant, which was published by Mr. Foulkes in the *Salem Manual* (Vol. II, page 369), contains the following pedigrees and synchronisms:—



The reigns of the three abovementioned Chola kings and of their Ganga contemporaries can be approximately fixed, as, according to the large Leyden grant, Parantaka I was the great grandfather of Rajaraja, the first year of whose reign corresponded to Saka 927; and Amoghavarsha, the contemporary of Prithivipati I, is perhaps identical with the Rashtrakuta king Sarva Amoghavarsha I (Saka 737 to at least 800). The Marasimha of the above table seems to be distinct from, and earlier than, the Marasimha of Mr. Fleet's inscription. The earlier copper-plate grants of the Gangas with their wonderfully ancient dates have been shown by Mr. Fleet to be later forgeries.

6. Several of the Tiruvallam inscriptions throw new light on the dynasty of the Banas. This ancient dynasty was first brought to notice by Mr. Rice, who discovered two inscriptions of it at Gulganpode in Mysore (*Indian Antiquary*, Vol. X, page 36). An important copper-plate grant, which was published by Mr. Foulkes (*Ibid.*, Vol. XIII, page 6), contained the names of two princes, who were mentioned in Mr. Rice's inscriptions, Bana-Vidyadhara and his son Prabhumeru, and also those of several of their ancestors and successors. Two inscriptions at Tiruvallam (Nos. 77 and 78) record, that the Bana king Bana-Vidyadhara was married to Kundavvayar, the daughter of Pratipati-Araiyan, who was the son of Srinaradha or Sririnnatha, (*i.e.*, Srinatha?) Srimat-Sivamaharaja-Peruman, who bore the surnames "Gogunidharma or Kokunidharma, the most righteous Maharaja, and the supreme lord of Nipunilapura." The full titles of the king, to whose reign the two inscriptions belong, are as

4. The most important of the Tiruvallam inscriptions is No. 10. It is dated "in the 7th year of (the reign of) Ko-Rajarajakesarivarman, on the day of an eclipse of the moon at the equinox, which corresponded to (the nakshatra) Revati and to a full-moon (in) the month of Aippasi in this (above-mentioned) year." Mr. Fleet, to whom I submitted this date for favor of calculation, kindly informed me by return of post on the 18th January 1890, that the date of the inscription is the 26th September A. D. 1010 (Saka 933 current), when there was an eclipse of the moon in Aippasi on the day of the equinox and the Revati nakshatra. This result falls within the probable period, which I have assigned to the Chola king Ko-Rajakesarivarman *alias* Rajaraja-deva, and fixes Saka 927 current = A. D. 1004-5 as the first year of his reign. His latest known date, —the 29th year of his reign,—corresponds to Saka 955 current = A. D. 1032-33. Rajaraja's son and successor, Ko-Parakesarivarman *alias* Rajendra-Chola-deva, probably ascended the throne soon after this date, and we shall not be far wrong, if we place the first year of his reign in Saka 956 current. Many of the inscriptions of Rajaraja open with a list of his conquests, to which new items were added in the course of his reign. As Mr. Fleet's calculation of the lunar eclipse has now established the date of his accession to the throne, the time of each of his expeditions can be fixed within narrow limits:—

1st to 14th years, or Saka 927 to 940—	Vengi, Gangapadi, Nulambapadi, Tadigaipadi and Coorg.
14th to 16th " "	940 to 942—Quilon and Kalingam.
16th to 20th " "	942 to 946—Ceylon.
21st to 25th " "	947 to 951—Irattapadi.

In a similar way, the conquests of Rajendra-Chola can be allotted to approximate periods as follows:—

1st to 5th years, or Saka 956 to 960—	Edatore (in Mysore), Banawasi (in the Bombay Presidency), Kollippakkai, Mannakkadakkam, and Ceylon.
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5th to 6th " "	960 to 961—Malabar.
7th to 9th " "	962 to 964—Irattapadi, which Rajendra-Chola took from the Western Chalukya king Jayasimha III, who reigned from about Saka 940 to about 961, and Navanedikkula.

10th to 12th " "	965 to 967—A large number of other conquests, for a list of which I may refer to page 99 of my first volume of South-Indian inscriptions.
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12th to 15th " "	967 to 970—Kadaram or Kidaram (in the Raminad Zemindari).
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The Tiruvallam temple contains inscriptions of the 21st, 26th and 31st years of Rajendra-Chola, or Saka 976, 981 and 986, respectively. The historical passage at the beginning of these inscriptions is identical with that of the 15th year at the Tanjore temple. Accordingly, the king does not seem to have carried on any wars between Saka 970 and 986. The next Chola king, whose time can be approximately fixed, is Ko-Parakesarivarman *alias* Rajendra-deva. He was a contemporary of the Western Chalukya king Ahavamalla II (about Saka 964 to about 990). Sir Walter Elliot has published an inscription of his 9th year from the Seven Pagodas, and my first volume of South-Indian inscriptions contains one of his 5th year from the Virinchipuram temple. At the Tiruvallam temple there is one of his 3rd year (No. 75), which describes his victory over Ahavamalla and records that he set up a pillar of victory at Kollapuram, *i.e.*, Kolhapur in the Bombay Presidency. Another Tiruvallam inscription (No. 16) is dated in the 6th year of Ko-Rajakesarivarman *alias* Vira-Rajendra-deva; though it refers twice to Ahavamalla, the king to whose reign it belongs, must be different from the abovementioned Rajendra-deva, who had the surname Parakesarin, and not Rajakesarin. There are four more inscriptions (Nos. 5, 6, 9 and 15) of Chola kings, whose names and surnames resemble those of Rajaraja and Rajendra, but who must have been distinct from them as well as from each other, as their inscriptions open with different historical passages. One of these four inscriptions (No. 6), which is dated in the 30th year of Ko-Rajakesarivarman *alias* Udaiyar Rajaraja-deva, refers to victories over Sundara-Pandya and Vikramabahu. It records that the village assembly of Mandiram pledged themselves to furnish a daily

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

PUBLIC DEPARTMENT.

READ—the following paper:—

From Dr. E. HULTZSCH, Epigraphist, Archæological Survey of Southern India, to the Chief Secretary to Government, dated Camp Arcot, 4th February 1890, No. 49.

I have the honor to submit my progress report for October 1889 to January 1890. With the sanction of Government (G.O., dated 12th November 1889, No. 905, Public), I remained at head-quarters until the correction of the first proofs of the final portion of my first volume of South Indian inscriptions was finished. The volume is now almost ready for issue, as the final proofs of the last sheets have been received from, and returned to, the Superintendent, Government Press.

2. From the 7th December 1889 to the 25th January 1890, I stayed at Tiruvallam, a village on the western bank of the Nivar river, which is here about to join the Palar, the chief river of the North Arcot district. It was originally intended to pay only a short visit to Tiruvallam on the way to Madura. But the inscriptions of the Siva temple, which is dedicated to Bilvanathesvara, i.e., the lord of the Bel tree, proved so ancient and interesting, that it was resolved to stay until at least the most important ones had been copied. As I was not allowed to enter the temple, the task of copying devolved upon my Brahmin assistant, Mr. V. Venkayya, M.A. He had to work under considerable difficulties. The interior of the temple was almost dark, and the inscriptions were covered with lamp-oil and soot. Many of them had to be deciphered at lamp-light, before mechanical copies could be made, as the lines are irregular and the writing runs into every nook and corner of the original building.

3. From the 15th to 20th December, I paid a visit to Melpadi. This village is situated 1 mile north of Tiruvallam and on the western bank of the same river, which is here called Ponni. There are two temples at Melpadi, the larger of which, Somanathesvara, is still used, while the other, Cholesvara, is deserted. It appears from the inscriptions that, at the time of the Chola king Rajaraja, the Somanathesvara temple was called Cholendrasimhesvara, and that the old name of the second temple was Arinjigai-Isvara or Arinjisvara. The first part of this compound is probably a corruption of Arimjaya, the name of the grandfather of the Chola king Rajaraja. Three well-preserved inscriptions (Nos. 83, 84 and 86) of the 29th year of Rajaraja, i.e., Saka 955, record that the temple was built by "the lord Rajaraja-deva" himself and thus belongs to the same period as the great temple at Tanjore. About one mile west of Melpadi rises the rock of Vallimalai, which bears on its top a temple of Subrahmanya. Two caves with Jaina figures are cut in different parts of the rock. In the northernmost of these caves is a very rough rock inscription (No. 91), which I have not yet succeeded in making out completely. It begins with the word Sivamarat-maja, "the son of Sivamara"; in line 2 occurs the name Ranavikrama, and in line 4, Rajamalla. Sivamara was the name of an early king of the Ganga dynasty, who is mentioned in Mr. Foulkes' grant of the Bana king Hastimalla (*Salem Manual*, page 370), and Rajamalla may be compared with Rachamalla in one of Mr. Kittel's Ganga inscriptions (*Indian Antiquary*, vol. VI, page 102).

1 Vol. II,

Pub. C. No 399

From

Dr. E. Hultzsch
Epigraphist.

No 49

Dated 4th Feb 90
Recd 6th Feb 90

Subject

Submitting his progress
report for October 89
to January 1890.

12/11/89 Wagos

Order 11th March 90, No. 189.

Recorded.

7013
10.2.90.



Number	Place of inscription.	Dynasty.	King.	Date.
9	Base of the veranda, round the Piliśanāthesvara Shrine.		No- Rājakesarivarman, alias Chakravartin ^{Mulottunga-} Chola - deva.	26 th year.
10	South wall of garbhagriha.	Chola.	No- Rājārājakesarivarman.	17 th year.
11	North wall of do.	do.	No- Rājārāja - Rājakesarivarman.	18 th year.
12	South wall of do.	Pāṇa.	Mahāvali - Vānarāja.	
13	West wall of Mahāmāndapa.	Chola.	No- Parakesarivarman, alias Udayār Rājendra - ^{deva.} Chola - deva.	26 th year.
14	West and South walls of garbhagriha.	do.	No- Rājārāja - Rājakesarivarman, alias Rājārāja - ^{deva.} deva.	20 th year.
15	North wall of Mahāmāndapa.		No- Parakesarivarman, alias Udayār ^{Aditya} Rājendra - ^{deva.} deva.	3 rd year.
16	South wall of do.		No- Rājakesarivarman, alias Udayār Vira-Rājendra - ^{deva.} deva.	6 th year.
17	South wall of garbhagriha.	Chola.	No- Parakesarivarman, alias Udayār Rājendra - ^{Chola -} Chola - deva.	31 st year.
18.	South, East and North walls of Mahāmāndapa.			

5. Inscriptions of the Villuvattur Temple at Tiruvallam copied in 1890.

Number.	Place of inscription.	Dynasty.	King.	Date.
1a	North wall of Mahamandapa.		No. Vijaya- Vandivikramavarman.	17 th year.
1b	do.	Pāṇa.	Mahāvali - Vāṇa - Rāja.	Saka 810.
2	South wall of do.			
3	South wall of the Mandapa in front of the Pillar of the Deva shrine.		Vēra-Champa, Son of Chōla - Chūpa.	Saka 1236.
4	North wall of Mahamandapa.	Chōla.	No. Parakramavarman, alias Rājendra - Chōla - deva.	5 th year.
5	South wall of do.		No. Rājakesaravarman, alias Udayar Rājamahendra - deva.	2 nd year.
6	West wall of the Mahamandapa shrine.		No. Rājakesaravarman, alias Udayar Rājaraja - deva.	30 th year.
7	South wall of Mahamandapa.	Chōla.	No. Parakramavarman, alias Udayar Rājendra - Chōla - deva.	21 st year.
8a	West wall of garbhagrha.	do.	No. Rājakesaravarman.	7 th year.
8b	do.	do.	do.	10 th year.

Number.	Place of inscription.	Dynasty.	King.	Date.
84	Choleśvara Temple at Melpāḍi, base of garbhagrīha.	Chola.	No. Rājaraḍja-keśarivarman, <u>alias</u> Rājaraḍja-deva.	29 th year.
85	do., North wall of garbhagrīha.	do.	No. Parakeśarivarman, <u>alias</u> Rājendra- Chola-deva.	9 th year.
86.	do. do.	do.	No. Rājaraḍja - Rājakeśarivarman, <u>alias</u> Rājaraḍja-deva.	29 th year.
87	Somanātheśvara Temple at Melpāḍi, South wall of garbhagrīha.	do.	Mummudi-Chola-deva, <u>alias</u> No. Rājaraḍja- Rājakeśarivarman.	14 th year.
88	do., South wall of mahāmāṇḍapa.		Rājaraḍja-deva.	8 th year
89	do. do.		Vēra - Kambana - Uḍaiyan.	Plava- samantara.
90	do. do.		Samburaḍga, "who conquered the goddess of fortune and took the earth."	16 th year.
91	Rock inscription in a Jaina cave on the hill of Vallimalai.	Ganga.		

Appendix.
A. Inscriptions copied in 1889.

Number.	Place of inscription.	Dynasty.	King.	Date.
75	Vibramātheśvara Temple at Tiruvallam, West wall of garbhagriha.	Chola.	No. Parakramavarman, <u>alias</u> Udayār Rājendra - deva.	3 rd year.
76	On a rock, 1 mile north-east of Tiruvallam.		No. Vijaya - Sandivikramavarman.	62 nd year.
77	Vibramātheśvara Temple at Tiruvallam, West wall of garbhagriha.	Pāṇa.	Vāṇa - Vidyādhara - rāja, <u>alias</u> Vāṇarāja.	
78	do. do.	do.	Vāṇa - Vidyādhara - rāja, <u>alias</u> Vāṇarāja.	
79	do., West wall of kitchen.		Vijaya - Ganda - Gopāla - deva.	3 rd year.
80	do., East wall of Mahāmāṇḍapa.		Sakalabhaktachakravartin, "who conquered [the goddess of fortune] and took the earth."	19 th year.
81	do. do.		No. Māraṇam Tirthuvana - chakravartin Vira - Pāṇḍya - deva.	23 rd year.
82	do., North Wall of Mahāmāṇḍapa.	Chola.	No. Parakramavarman, <u>alias</u> Rājendra - Chola - deva.	3 rd year.
83	Choleśvara Temple at Melpādi, base of garbhagriha.	do.	No. Rājārājakesarivarman, <u>alias</u> Rājārāja - deva.	29 th year.

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to Arcot with the object of visiting some of
the ancient temples in its neighbourhood,
and was engaged up to the end of the month
in arranging and transcribing the materials
collected at Tiruvallam and Melpādi.
The subjoined appendix contains a list
of the inscriptions copied during the last
two months.

10. As this report contains many
proper names, I request that I might be
supplied with a proof in duplicate before
it is printed.

I have the honour to be, Sir,
your most obedient servant,

E. Hultzsch
Epigraphist.

Leyden front. It belonged to ¹²⁸Tūy-nādu,
a division of Perumbānappādi, a district of
Jayamkonda-Chōla-mandalam. The
river Nūgā, which is mentioned in
several Melpādi inscriptions, is probably
identical with the modern Pōnni or
Nēvār. The inscriptions refer to several
places, which are still known by the same
or similar names. Kachchippēdu is one
of the ancient names of Conjeevaram.
Kāvirippākkam (Kaveripakkam) and Vanni-
pēdu (Vannivedu) belong to the Walajah
Taluk of the North Arcot District, Kalavai
to the Arcot Taluk, and Kukkānūr and
Aimbūni (Ammundi) to the Gudiyātām
Taluk. A few of the geographical names,
which are mentioned in the inscriptions,
bear testimony to the rule of the Pāṇa
dynasty over this part of the country. These
are: the district of Perumbānappādi,
the town of Vānapuram and the village
of Vānasamudram. A modern name,
which may be connected with the Pāṇas,
is Pāṇāvaram, a village near the Sholin-
ghur Station of the Madras Railway.

9. On the 26th January I moved

7. Among the remaining inscriptions at Tiruvallam and Melpādi, there are two which contain a date. One of them (No. 3) records in Sanskrit verse that, with funds provided by prince Vira-Champa, son of Chōla-bhūpa, a certain Jñānamūrti built a mandapa at Vallapurī, i.e., Tiruvallam, in the tūṅgaśrīka-Sakābda, i.e., in the Saka year 1236. Another inscription (No. 89) is dated during the reign of Vira-Kambana-udaiyar and in the Plava-Samvatsara. Two Conjeeveram inscriptions, which are published in my first volume of South-Indian Inscriptions (pp. 117ff.), prove that this year of the cycle of Brihaspati corresponds to Saka 1284.

8. In conclusion, some geographical names deserve to be noted. Tiruvallam was also called Tikkāli-Vallam. According to some of the inscriptions, it belonged to Mūyāru-nādu, a division of Paḍuvār-kottam, while, according to others, it formed part of Perumbānappādi, a district of Jayankonda-Chōla-Mandalam. Melpādi, which is always spelt Merpādi in the inscriptions, was also called Rājāśrayapuram, probably after the Chōla king Rājaraja, one of whose surnames was Rājāśraya according to the large

Nandivikkramavarman belonged. The second part of the Copy (No. 16) contains the name of Mahāvali - Vānarāja and the date Taka 810 (in words). This is the earliest date, which has hitherto been found in any Tamil inscription; and it must be accepted with some caution, as the original may have been tampered with or misread by the engraver of the Copy. Besides, Mahāvali - Vānarāja is not a proper name, but a general title, which might refer to any of the Pāṇa kings. The name Mahāvali - Vānarāyar occurs also in an undated ~~in~~ Tiruvallam inscription (No. 12). The subjoined table shows the synchronisms between the Cholas, Gangas and Pāṇas, which may be derived from the Tiruvallam inscriptions:

<u>Cholas.</u>	<u>Gangas.</u>	<u>Pāṇa.</u>
No - Rājārāja - Rājakesari- varman, 16 th year = Taka 942. No - Parakesarivarman, alias Rājendra-Chola-deva, 3 rd year = Taka 958.	Śrīnātha Śrīmat- Sivamahārāja. Pratipati-araiyar. Kundavayār, married to Vāṇa-Vidyādhara- rāja, alias Vānarāyar.	

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Vidyādhara of Mr. Foalke's grant, it will
now be possible to assign approximate dates
to those of his ancestors and successors, who are
mentioned in that grant. There is another
Tiruvallam inscription (No. 1), which professes
to be a copy of an older inscription, made
when an ancient mandapa, which contained
the original, was pulled down. The copy
consists of two separate edicts. The first
of them (No. 1a) is dated in the 17th year of the
reign of Ko-Vijaya-Nandivikramavarman
and mentions as his feudatory Māvali-
Vānarāyan, alias Vikramāditya-Vānarāyan.
According to one of the Gulgānpode inscriptions,
Vikramāditya was a surname of Osāna-
Vidyādhara, and Mr. Foalke's pedigree
includes two other Osāna kings named Vikra-
māditya. The Tiruvallam inscription might
refer to any of these three Vikramādityas.
Three other inscriptions of Ko-Vijaya-Nandi-
vikramavarman, — found at Virūchipuram
and at Tadupperi near Vellore and dated
in his 9th, 47th and 52nd years — are noticed
in my first volume of South-Indian Inscriptions,
and an inscription on the top of a rock near
Tiruvallam (No. 76), which is dated in his
62nd year, mentions Māvali-Vānarāyan
as his contemporary. It is at present impossible
to say, to which dynasty and period

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Gulbānpode in Mysore (Indian Antiquary, Vol. X,
p. 36). An important copper-plate grant, which
was published by Mr. Foulkes (Ibid., Vol. XIII, p. 6),
contained the names of two princes, who were mentioned
in Mr. Rice's inscriptions, Dāna-Vidyādhara and his
son Prabhumeru, and also those of several of their
ancestors and Successors. Two inscriptions at Tiruvallam
(Nos. 77 and 78) record, that the Dāna king Dāna-
Vidyādhara was married to Kundavayār, the
daughter of Pratiapati-Araiyar, who was the son of
Śrīmāradha or Śrīminātha (i.e., Śrīnātha?) Śrīmat-
Sivamahārāja-Perumān, who bore the surnames
'Goṇunidharma or Kokunidharma, the most
righteous mahārāja, and the Supreme Lord of
Nipunilapura'. The full titles of the King, to whose
reign the two inscriptions belong, are as follows:-
'Vāna-Vidyādhara]-rāja, alias Vānarāyar,
who sprang from the Mahāvalikula (i.e., the
race of the great Bali), who had been appointed
door-keepers by Paramesvara, the Lord of gods
and demons, who is praised by all the three
worlds'. As stated in the preceding paragraph,
the Gaṅga King Sivamahārāja was reigning
between Saka 942 and 958. Accordingly, the
Dāna king Vidyādhara, who was married to
his grand-daughter, seems to have belonged to
the second half of the 10th Century of the Saka era.
As he is probably identical with the Dāna-

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Nipuhila", which I am unable to identify. The next epithet seems to be a corruption of Śrinātha, "the lord of prosperity." Then follows the real name of the king, Sivamahārāja, which is attributed to three different persons in a would-be historical account of the Gainga Kings, included in the *Koinga Chronicle*. Of the remaining names, one, Śaṅkaradeva, occurs in both inscriptions and is a synonym of his real name Sivamahārāja; another, Vaidumba, may have been assumed by the king in consequence of some intermarriage of the Gainga and Vaidumba dynasties. The historical result of the two Tiruvallam inscriptions is, that a Gainga king, called Sivamahārāja, was a feudatory of the Chōla Kings between Saka 942 and 958. Three other trustworthy dates of the Gainga dynasty are:— that of Mr. Kittel's inscription of Satyavākya, Saka 809, that of Mr. Fillet's inscription of Maṇasirika, Saka 890, and that of Mr. Kittel's inscription of Rāchamalla, Saka 900. An important copper-plate grant, which was published by Mr. Foulkes in the *Salem Manual* (Vol. II, p. 369), contains the following pedigrees and synchronisms:—

Sundara-Pāṇḍya and Vikramabāhu. It records that the village assembly of Mandiram pledged themselves to furnish a daily supply of garlands to the Tiruvallam Temple from the interest of a sum of money, which had been paid by two vassals (śāmantas) of Vikrama-Pāṇḍya-deva and by a princess called Madurantakī.

5. Two of the Tiruvallam inscriptions establish the period of the reign of a king of the Chingga dynasty. An inscription (No. 11) of the 16th year of Ko-Paravarāja-Parakeśarivarman, i.e., Saka 942, mentions as his feudatory: —
 Gogunidharma-paramadharma mahārāja-
 Nipunilapurapamesvara-Śrināradha-Śrīmat-
 Sivamahārāja-Tiruvaiyom Śaṁkaradevan; and
 in an inscription (No. 82) of the 3rd year of Ko-
 Parakeśarivarman, alias Rājendra-Chōla-deva,
 i.e., Saka 958, the donor is Kokunīta-parama-
 dharmamahārāja-Nipunilapurapamesvara-
 Śrināta-Śrīmat-Sivamahārāja-Vaidumban-
 Śaṁkaradevan Somanāthan. The first of the
 titles of this chief, Gogunidharma in No. 11 and
 Kokunīta in No. 82, occurs as Koganivarman or
 Kōngunivarman in Mr. Fleet's inscription of
 Mārasinika (*Indian Antiquary*, Vol. VII, p. 101)
 and as Kōngunivarman or Kōnginivarman in Mr.
 Kittel's Kiggatnādu inscription (*Ibid.*, Vol. VI, p. 102f.).
 The two next titles mean "the most righteous
 great king" and "the Supreme lord of the city of

narrow limits:—

1st to 14th years, or Saka 927 to 940: Veigē, Gaigapādi,
Mālabapādi, Tadiḡai
14th to 16th " " " 940 to 942: Quilon and Kalingam.
16th to 20th " " " 942 to 946: Ceylon.
21st to 25th " " " 947 to 951: Irattapādi.

In a similar way, the conquests of Rājendra-
Chola can be allotted to approximate periods
as follows:—

1st to 5th years, or Saka 956 to 960: Edatore (in Mysore), Banawāsi
(in the Bombay Presidency),
Kollippakkai, Mannaiikkada-
kham, and Ceylon.
5th to 6th " " " 960 to 961: Malabar.
7th to 9th " " " 962 to 964: Irattapādi, which Rājendra-
Chola took from the Western
Chālukya king Jayasimha III,
who reigned from about Saka
940 to about 964, and
Navanedikula.
10th to 12th " " " 965 to 967: a large number of other conquests,
for a list of which I may refer
to p. 99 of my first volume of
South-Indian Inscriptions.
12th to 15th " " " 967 to 970: Kadānam or Kidānam (in
the Rāmnād Zamindārī).

The Tiruvallam Temple contains inscriptions of the
21st, 26th and 31st years of Rājendra-Chola, or
Saka 976, 981 and 986, respectively. The historical
passage at the beginning of these inscriptions is
identical with that of the 15th year at the
Tanjore Temple. Accordingly, the king does not

seem to have carried on any wars between
Saka 970 and 986. The next Chola king, whose
time can be approximately fixed, is Ko-
Parakesarivarman, alias Rajendra-deva. He
was a contemporary of the Western Chalukya
king Shavamalla II (about Saka 964 to about 990).
Sir Walter Elliot has published an inscription of
his 9th year from the Seven Pagodas, and my
first volume of South-Indian Inscriptions
contains one of his 5th year from the Virinchi-
puram Temple. At the Tiruvallam Temple
there is one of his 3rd year (No. 75), which describes
his victory over Shavamalla and records, that
he set up a pillar of victory at Kollāpuram, i.e.,
Kolhapur in the Bombay Presidency. Another
Tiruvallam inscription (No. 16) is dated in the 6th
year of Ko-Rajakesarivarman, alias Vira-
Rajendra-deva; though it refers twice to Shavamalla,
the king to whose reign it belongs, must be different
from the above mentioned Rajendra-deva, who had
the surname Parakesarin, and not Rajakesarin.

There are four more inscriptions (Nos. 5, 6, 9 and 15)
of Chola kings, whose names and surnames
resemble those of Rajaraja and Rajendra, but
who must have been distinct from them as well
as from each other, as their inscriptions open with
different historical passages. One of these four
inscriptions (No. 6), which is dated in the 30th year
of Ko-Rajakesarivarman, alias Udaiyar
Rajaraja-deva, refers to victories over

Revati and to a full-moon (in) the month of Kippasi in this (above-mentioned) year." Mr Fleet, to whom I submitted this date for favour of calculation, kindly informed me by return of post on the 18th January 1890, that the date of the inscription is the 26th September A.D. 1010 (Saka 933 current), when there was an eclipse of the moon in Kippasi on the day of the equinox and the Revati nakshatra. This result falls within the probable period, which I have assigned to the Chola king Ko-Rājakesarivarman, alias Rājaraṇja-deva, and fixes Saka 927 current = A.D. 1004-5 as the first year of his reign.

His latest known date, — the 29th year of his reign, — corresponds to Saka 955 current = A.D. 1032-33.

Rājaraṇja's son and successor, Ko-Parakesarivarman, alias Rājendra-Chola-deva, probably ascended the throne soon after this date, and we shall not be far wrong, if we place the first year of his reign in Saka 956 current. Many of the inscriptions of Rājaraṇja open with a list of his conquests, to which new items were added in the course of his reign. As Mr Fleet's calculation of the lunar eclipse has now established the date of his accession to the throne, the time of each of his expeditions can be fixed within

The first part of this compound is probably a corruption of Arinjaya, the name of the grandfather of the Chola king Rājaraṇja. Three well-preserved inscriptions (Nos. 83, 84 and 86) of the 29th year of Rājaraṇja, i.e., Saka 955, record that the temple was built by 'the lord Rājaraṇja-deva' himself and thus belongs to the same period as the great temple at Tanjore. About one mile west of Melpādi rises the rock of Vallimalai, which bears on its top a temple of Subrahmanya. Two caves with Jaina figures are cut in different parts of the rock. In the northernmost of these caves is a very rough rock-inscription (No. 91), which I have not yet succeeded in making out completely. It begins with the word Sivamāratnaja, 'the son of Sivamāra'; in line 2 occurs the name Rānavikrama, and in line 4, Rājamalla. Sivamāra was the name of an early king of the Ganga dynasty, who is mentioned in Mr Foulkes's grant of the Bāna King Hastemalla (Salem Manual, p. 370), and Rājamalla may be compared with Rāchamalla in one of Mr Kittel's Ganga inscriptions (Indian Antiquary, vol. VI, p. 102).

4. The most important of the Tiruvallam inscriptions is No. 10. It is dated "in the 7th year of (the reign of) Ko-Rājaraṇjakesarivarman, on the day of an eclipse of the moon at the equinox, which corresponded to (the nakshatra)

C. No. 399 ^{1P} Camp Meest,
4th February 1890.

No. 49.

From

Dr E. Hultzsch,
Epigraphist,
Archaeological Survey of Southern India.

To

The Chief Secretary to Government,
Madras.

Sir,

I have the honour to submit my
progress report for October 1889 to January 1890.
With the sanction of Government (G.O., dated
12th November 1889, No. 905, Public) I remained
at headquarters until the correction of the first
proofs of the final portion of my first volume of
South-Indian Inscriptions was finished. The
volume is now almost ready for issue, as the
final proofs of the last sheets have been received
from, and returned to, the Superintendent,
Government Press.

2. From the 7th December 1889 to
the 25th January 1890, I stayed at Tiruvallam
a village on the western bank of the Moar
river, which is here about to join the Páhar
the chief river of the North Arcot District.

2. It was originally intended to pay only a short visit to Tiruvallam on the way to Madura. But the inscription of the Siva temple, which is dedicated to Pillanāthesvara, i.e., the lord of the Ael tree, proved so ancient and interesting, that it was resolved to stay until at least the most important ones had been copied. As I was not allowed to enter the temple, the task of copying devolved upon my Brahmin assistant, Mr. V. Venkayya, M. A. He had to work under considerable difficulties. The interior of the temple was almost dark, and the inscriptions were covered with lamp-oil and soot. Many of them had to be deciphered at lamp-light, before mechanical copies could be made, as the lines are irregular and the writing runs into every nook and corner of the original building.

3. From the 15th to 20th December I paid a visit to Melpādi. This village is situated 8 miles north of Tiruvallam and on the western bank of the same river, which is here called Ponni. There are two temples at Melpādi, the larger of which, Tomanāthesvara, is still used, while the other, Cholesvara, is deserted. It appears from the inscriptions that, at the time of the Chola King Rājārāja, the Tomanāthesvara Temple was called Cholendra-simhesvara, and that the old name of the second temple was Ariñjigai - Śvara or Ariñjīvara.

FOR WHAT PURPOSE.

Government of Madras.

PUBLIC DEPARTMENT.

Recd.

} 1890

Enclosures

Regd.

Spare copies

G.O. No. 189, 11th March 1890.

Archæology.

Recording the progress report of the Epigraphist, Archaeological Survey, for October 1889 to January 1890.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

PUBLIC DEPARTMENT.

READ—the following paper :—

Letter—from Dr. E. HULTZSCH, Epigraphist, Archaeological Survey of Southern India.

To—the Chief Secretary to Government.

Dated—Camp Arcot, the 4th February 1890.

No. —49.

I have the honor to submit my progress report for October 1889 to January 1890. With the sanction of Government (G.O., dated 12th November 1889, No. 995, Public), I remained at head-quarters until the correction of the first proofs of the final portion of my first volume of South-Indian inscriptions was finished. The volume is now almost ready for issue, as the final proofs of the last sheets have been received from, and returned to, the Superintendent, Government Press.

2. From the 7th December 1889 to the 25th January 1890, I stayed at Tiruvallam, a village on the western bank of the Nivar river, which is here about to join the Palar, the chief river of the North Arcot district. It was originally intended to pay only a short visit to Tiruvallam on the way to Madura. But the inscriptions of the Siva temple, which is dedicated to Bilvanathesvara, i.e., the lord of the Bel tree, proved so ancient and interesting, that it was resolved to stay until at least the most important ones had been copied. As I was not allowed to enter the temple, the task of copying devolved upon my Brahmin assistant, Mr. V. Venkayya, M.A. He had to work under considerable difficulties. The interior of the temple was almost dark, and the inscriptions were covered with lamp-oil and soot. Many of them had to be deciphered at lamp-light, before mechanical copies could be made, as the lines are irregular and the writing runs into every nook and corner of the original building.

3. From the 15th to 20th December, I paid a visit to Melpadi. This village is situated 6 miles north of Tiruvallam and on the western bank of the same river, which is here called Ponni. There are two temples at Melpadi, the larger of which, Somanathesvara, is still used, while the other, Cholesvara, is deserted. It appears from the inscriptions that, at the time of the Chola king Rajaraja, the Somanathesvara temple was called Cholendrasimbesvara, and that the old name of the second temple was Arinjigai-Isvara or Arinjisvara. The first part of this compound is probably a corruption of Arimjaya, the name of the grandfather of the Chola king Rajaraja. Three well-preserved inscriptions (Nos. 83, 84 and 86) of the 29th year of Rajaraja, i.e., Saka 955, record that the temple was built by "the lord Rajaraja-deva" himself and thus belongs to the same period as the great temple at Tanjore. About one mile west of Melpadi rises the rock of Vallimalai, which bears on its top a temple of Subrahmanya. Two caves with Jaina figures are cut in different parts of the rock. In the northernmost of these caves is a very rough rock inscription (No. 91), which I have not yet succeeded in making out completely. It begins with the word Sivamaratmaja, "the son of Sivamara;" in line 2 occurs the name Ranavikrama, and in line 4, Rajamalla. Sivamara was the name of an early king of the Ganga dynasty, who is mentioned in Mr. Foulkes' grant of the Bana king Hastimalla (*Salem Manual*, Vol. II, page 370), and Rajamalla may be compared with Rachamalla in one of Mr. Kittel's Ganga inscriptions (*Indian Antiquary*, Vol. VI, page 102).

4. The most important of the Tiruvallam inscriptions is No. 10. It is dated "in the 7th year of (the reign of) Ko-Rajarakesarivarman, on the day of an eclipse of the moon at the equinox, which corresponded to (the nakshatra) Revati and to a full-moon (in) the month of Aippasi in this (above-mentioned) year." Mr. Fleet, to whom I submitted this date for favor of calculation, kindly informed me by return of post on the 18th January 1890, that the date of the inscription is the 26th September A.D. 1010 (Saka 933 current), when there *was* an eclipse of the moon in Aippasi on the day of the equinox and the Revati nakshatra. This result falls within the probable period, which I have assigned to the Chola king Ko-Rajakesarivarman *alias* Rajarajadeva, and fixes Saka 927 current = A.D. 1004-5 as the first year of his reign. His latest known date,—the 29th year of his reign,—corresponds to Saka 955 current = A.D. 1032-3. Rajaraja's son and successor, Ko-Parakesarivarman *alias* Rajendra-Chola-deva, probably ascended the throne soon after this date, and we shall not be far wrong, if we place the first year of his reign in Saka 956 current. Many of the inscriptions of Rajaraja open with a list of his conquests, to which new items were added in the course of his reign. As Mr. Fleet's calculation of the lunar eclipse has now established the date of his accession to the throne, the time of each of his expeditions can be fixed within narrow limits :—

1st to 14th years, or Saka 927 to 940—	Vengi, Gangapadi, Nulambapadi, Tadigaipadi and Coorg.
14th to 16th " "	940 to 942—Quilon and Kalingam.
16th to 20th " "	942 to 946—Ceylon.
21st to 25th " "	947 to 951—Irattapadi.

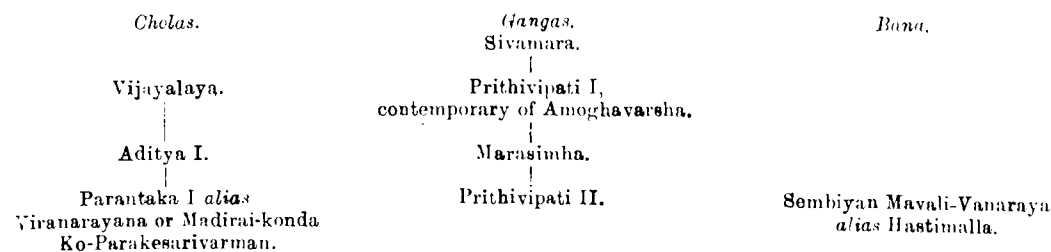
In a similar way, the conquests of Rajendra-Chola can be allotted to approximate periods as follows :—

1st to 5th years, or Saka 956 to 960—	Edatore (in Mysore), Banawasi (in the Bombay Presidency), Kollippakkai, Mannaikkadakkam, and Ceylon.
5th to 6th " "	960 to 961—Malabar.
7th to 9th " "	962 to 964—Irattapadi, which Rajendra-Chola took from the Western Chalukya king Jayasimha III, who reigned from about Saka 940 to about 964, and Navanedikkula.
10th to 12th " "	965 to 967—A large number of other conquests, for a list of which I may refer to page 99 of my first volume of South-Indian inscriptions.
12th to 15th " "	967 to 970—Kadaram or Kidaram (in the Ramnad Zemindari).

The Tiruvallam temple contains inscriptions of the 21st, 26th and 31st years of Rajendra-Chola, or Saka 976, 981 and 986, respectively. The historical passage at the beginning of these inscriptions is identical with that of the 15th year at the Tanjore temple. Accordingly, the king does not seem to have carried on any wars between Saka 970 and 986. The next Chola king, whose time can be approximately fixed, is Ko-Parakesarivarman *alias* Rajendra-deva. He was a contemporary of the Western Chalukya king Ahavamalla II (about Saka 964 to about 990). Sir Walter Elliot has published an inscription of his 9th year from the Seven Pagodas, and my first volume of South-Indian inscriptions contains one of his 5th year from the Virinchipuram temple. At the Tiruvallam temple there is one of his 3rd year (No. 75), which describes his victory over Ahavamalla and records that he set up a pillar of victory at Kollapuram, i.e., Kolhapur in the Bombay Presidency. Another Tiruvallam inscription (No. 16) is dated in the 6th year of Ko-Rajakesarivarman *alias* Virajendra-deva; though it refers twice to Ahavamalla, the king to whose reign it belongs, must be different from the above-mentioned Rajendra-deva, who had the surname Parakesarin, and not Rajakesarin. There are four more inscriptions (Nos. 5, 6, 8 and 15) of Chola kings, whose names and surnames resemble those of Rajaraja and Rajendra, but who must have been distinct from them as well as from each other, as their inscriptions open with different historical passages. One of these four inscriptions (No. 6), which is dated in the 30th year of Ko-Rajakesarivarman *alias* Udaiyar Rajaraja-deva, refers to victories over Sundara-Pandya and Vikramabahu. It records that the village assembly of Mandiram pledged themselves to furnish a daily supply of

garlands to the Tiruvallam temple from the interest of a sum of money, which had been paid by two vassals (samanta) of Vikrama-Pandya-deva and by a princess called Madurantaki.

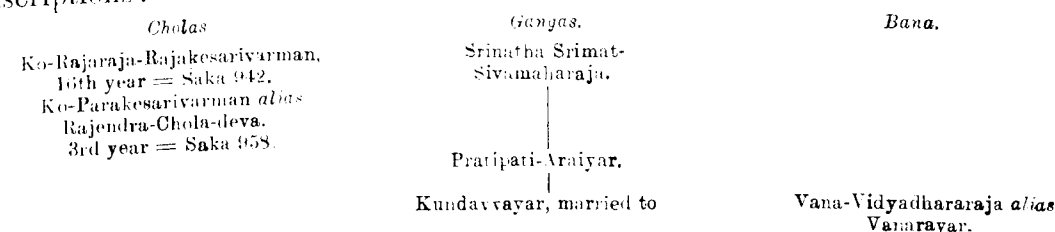
5. Two of the Tiruvallam inscriptions establish the period of the reign of a king of the Ganga dynasty. An inscription (No. 11) of the 13th year of Ko-Rajaraja-Rajakesarivarman, *i.e.*, Saka 942, mentions as his feudatory:—Gogunidharmaparamadharmanaharaja - Nipunilapuraparamesvara - Srinaradha-Srinat-Sivamaharaja-Tiruvaiyan Samkaradevar; and in an inscription (No. 82) of the 3rd year of Ko-Parakesarivarman *alias* Rajendra-Chola-deva, *i.e.*, Saka 958, the donor is Kokunitaparamadharmanaharaja-Nipunilapuraparamesvara-Srinata-Srinat-Sivamaharaja-Vaidumban Samkaradevan Somanathan. The first of the titles of this chief, Gogunidharma in No. 11 and Kokunita in No. 82, occurs as Koganivarman or Kongunivarman in Mr. Fleet's inscription of Marasimha (*Indian Antiquary*, Vol. VII, page 101) and as Kongunivarman or Konginivarman in Mr. Kittel's Kiggatnadu inscriptions (*Ibid.*, Vol. VI, page 102-f.). The two next titles mean "the most righteous great king" and "the supreme lord of the city of Nipunila," which I am unable to identify. The next epithet seems to be a corruption of Srinatha, "the lord of prosperity." Then follows the real name of the king, Sivamaharaja, which is attributed to three different personages in a would-be historical account of the Ganga kings, included in the Kongu chronicle. Of the remaining surnames, one, Samkaradeva, occurs in both inscriptions and is a synonym of his real name Sivamaharaja; another, Vaidumba, may have been assumed by the king in consequence of some intermarriage of the Ganga and Vaidumba dynasties. The historical result of the two Tiruvallam inscriptions is, that a Ganga king, called Sivamaharaja, was a feudatory of the Chola kings between Saka 942 and 958. Three other trustworthy dates of the Ganga dynasty are—that of Mr. Kittel's inscription of Satyavakya, Saka 809, that of Mr. Fleet's inscription of Marasimha, Saka 890, and that of Mr. Kittel's inscription of Rachamalla, Saka 900. An important copper-plate grant, which was published by Mr. Foulkes in the *Salem Manual* (Vol. II, page 369), contains the following pedigrees and synchronisms:—



The reigns of the three abovementioned Chola kings and of their Ganga contemporaries can be approximately fixed, as, according to the large Leyden grant, Parantaka I was the great-grandfather of Rajaraja, the first year of whose reign corresponded to Saka 927; and Amoghavarsha, the contemporary of Prithivipati I, is perhaps identical with the Rashtrakuta king Sarva Amoghavarsha I (Saka 737 to at least 800). The Marasimha of the above table seems to be distinct from, and earlier than, the Marasimha of Mr. Fleet's inscription. The earlier copper-plate grants of the Gangas with their wonderfully ancient dates have been shown by Mr. Fleet to be later forgeries.

6. Several of the Tiruvallam inscriptions throw new light on the dynasty of the Banas. This ancient dynasty was first brought to notice by Mr. Rice, who discovered two inscriptions of it at Gulganpode in Mysore (*Indian Antiquary*, Vol. X, page 36). An important copper-plate grant, which was published by Mr. Foulkes (*Ibid.*, Vol. XIII, page 6), contained the names of two princes, who were mentioned in Mr. Rice's inscriptions, Bana-Vidyadhara and his son Prabhu-meru, and also those of several of their ancestors and successors. Two inscriptions at Tiruvallam (Nos. 77 and 78) record, that the Bana king Bana-Vidyadhara was married to Kundavvayar, the daughter of Pratipati-Araiya, who was the son of Srinaradha or Srinatha, (*i.e.*, Srinatha?) Srinat-Sivamaharaja-Peruman, who bore the surnames "Gogunidharma or Kokunidharma, the most righteous maharaja, and the supreme lord of Nipunilapura." The full titles of the king, to whose

reign the two inscriptions belong, are as follows:—"Bana-Vidyadha[ra]-raja *alias* Vanarayar, who sprang from the Mahavalikula (*i.e.*, the race of the great Bali), who had been appointed door-keepers by Paramesvara, the lord of gods and demons, who is praised by all the three worlds." As stated in the preceding paragraph, the Ganga king Sivamaharaja was reigning between Saka 942 and 958. Accordingly, the Bana king Vidyadhara, who was married to his grand-daughter, seems to have belonged to the second half of the tenth century of the Saka era. As he is probably identical with the Bana-Vidyadhara of Mr. Foulkes' grant, it will now be possible to assign approximate dates to those of his ancestors and successors, who are mentioned in that grant. There is another Tiruvallam inscription (No. 1), which professes to be a copy of an older inscription, made when an ancient mandapa, which contained the original, was pulled down. The copy consists of two separate edicts. The first of them (No. 1a) is dated in the 17th year of the reign of Ko-Vijaya-Nandivikramavarman and mentions as his feudatory Mavali-Vanarayan *alias* Vikramaditya-Vanarayan. According to one of the Gulganpode inscriptions, Vikramaditya was a surname of Bana-Vidyadhara, and Mr. Foulkes' pedigree includes two other Bana kings named Vikramaditya. The Tiruvallam inscription might refer to any of these three Vikramadityas. Three other inscriptions of Ko-Vijaya-Nandivikramavarman,—found at Virinchipuram and at Sadupperi near Vellore, and dated in his 9th, 47th and 52nd years—are noticed in my first volume of South-Indian inscriptions; and an inscription on the top of a rock near Tiruvallam (No. 76), which is dated in his 62nd year, mentions Mavali-Vanarayar as his contemporary. It is at present impossible to say, to which dynasty and period Nandivikramavarman belonged. The second part of the copy (No. 1b) contains the name of Mahavali-Vanaraja and the date Saka 810 (in words). This is the earliest date, which has hitherto been found in any Tamil inscription; and it must be accepted with some caution, as the original may have been tampered with or misread by the engraver of the copy. Besides, Mahavali-Vanaraja is not a proper name, but a general title, which might refer to any of the Bana kings. The name Mahavali-Vanarayar occurs also in an undated Tiruvallam inscription (No. 12). The subjoined table shows the synchronisms between the Cholas, Gangas and Banas, which may be derived from the Tiruvallam inscriptions:—



7. Among the remaining inscriptions at Tiruvallam and Melpadi, there are two which contain a date. One of them (No. 3) records in Sanskrit verse that, with funds provided by prince Vira-Champa, son of Chola-bhupa, a certain Jnanamurti built a mandapa at Vallapuri, *i.e.*, Tiruvallam, in the tungasrika-Sakabda, *i.e.*, in the Saka year 1236. Another inscription (No. 89) is dated during the reign of Vira-Kambana-Udaivar and in the Plava-samvatsara. Two Conjeeveram inscriptions, which are published in my first volume of South-Indian inscriptions (pages 117 ff.), prove that this year of the cycle of Brihaspati corresponds to Saka 1284.

8. In conclusion, some geographical names deserve to be noted. Tiruvallam was also called Tikkali-Vallam. According to some of the inscriptions, it belonged to Miyaru-nadu, a division of Paduvur-kottam, while, according to others, it formed part of Perumbanappadi, a district of Jayankonda-Chola-mandalam. Melpadi, which is always spelt Melpadi in the inscriptions, was also called Rajasapuram, probably after the Chola king Rajaraja, one of whose surnames was rayapuram, according to the large Leyden grant. It belonged to Tuy-nadu, a Rajasraya according to the large Leyden grant. It belonged to Tuy-nadu, a division of Perumbanappadi, a district of Jayankonda-Chola-mandalam. The river Nuga, which is mentioned in several Melpadi inscriptions, is probably identical with the modern Ponni or Nivar. The inscriptions refer to several places, which are still known by the same or similar names. Kachchippedu is one of the ancient

names of Conjeeveram. Kaverippakkam (Kaveripak) and Vannipedu (Vannivedu) belong to the Walaja taluk of the North Arcot district, Kalavai to the Arcot taluk, and Kukkanur and Aimbuni (Ammundi) to the Gudiyatam taluk. A few of the geographical names, which are mentioned in the inscriptions, bear testimony to the rule of the Bana dynasty over this part of the country. These are: the district of Perumbanappadi, the town of Vanapuram and the village of Vanavaram, a village near the Sholinghur station of the Madras Railway.

9. On the 26th January I moved to Arcot with the object of visiting some of the ancient temples in its neighbourhood, and was engaged up to the end of the month in arranging and transcribing the materials collected at Tiruvallam and Melpadi. The subjoined appendix contains a list of the inscriptions copied during the last two months.

APPENDIX.

A.—Inscriptions copied in 1889.

No.	Place of inscription.	Dynasty.	King.	Date.
75	Bilvanathesvara temple at Tiruvallam, west wall of garbhagriha.	Chola	Ko-Parakesarivarman alias Udayar Rajendra-deva.	3rd year.
76	On a rock, 1 mile north-east of Tiruvallam.	...	Ko-Vijaya-Nandivikramavarman	62nd ..
77	Bilvanathesvara temple at Tiruvallam, west wall of garbhagriha.	Bana	Vana-Vidyadhara-rajya alias Vana-rayar.	...
78	Do. do.	Do.	Vana-Vidyadhara rayar alias Vana-rayar.	...
79	Do. west wall of kitchen	...	Vijaya-Ganda-Gopala deva	3rd year.
80	Do. east wall of mahamandapa.	...	Sakalalokachakravartin, "who conquered [the goddess of] fortune and took the earth."	17th ..
81	Do. do.	...	Ko-Madavarman Tribhuvanamachakravartin Viru-Pandya-deva.	23rd ..
82	Do. north wall of mahamandapa.	Chola	Ko-Parakesarivarman alias Rajendra-Chola-deva.	3rd ..
83	Cholesvara temple at Melpadi, base of garbhagriha.	Do.	Ko-Rajarajakesarivarman alias Rajaraja-deva.	29th ..
84	Cholesvara temple at Melpadi, base of garbhagriha.	Do.	Ko-Rajarajakesarivarman alias Rajaraja-deva.	29th ..
85	Cholesvara temple at Melpadi, north wall of garbhagriha.	Do.	Ko-Parakesarivarman alias Rajendra-Chola-deva.	9th ..
86	Do. do.	Do.	Ko-Rajaraja-Rajakesarivarman alias Rajaraja deva	29th ..
87	Somanathesvara temple at Melpadi, south wall of garbhagriha.	Do.	Mummudi-Chola-deva [alias] Ko-Rajaraja-Rajakesarivarman.	14th ..
88	Somanathesvara temple at Melpadi, south wall of mahamandapa.	...	Rajaraja-deva	8th ..
89	Do. do.	...	Vira-Kambana-Udayar	...
90	Do. do.	...	Plava sam-vatsara.	16th year.
91	Rock inscription in a Jaina cave on Ganga the hill of Vallimalai.	...	Samburayar, "who conquered the goddess of fortune and took the earth."	...

B.—Inscriptions of the Bilvanathesvara Temple at Tiruvallam copied in 1890.

No.	Place of inscription.	Dynasty.	King.	Date.
1a	North wall of mahamandapa.	Bana	Ko-Vijaya-Nandivikramavarman	17th year.
1b	Do. do.	...	Mahavali-Vannaraja	Saka 813.
2	South wall of do.	...	Vira-Chempakam 4 Chola-bhupa	Saka 1236.
3	Do. do. and a fragment of the Bilvanathesvara Shrine.	Chola	Ko-Parakesarivarman alias Rajendra-Chola-deva.	5th year.
4	North wall of mahamandapa.	...	Ko-Rajakesarivarman alias Udayar Rajamthendradeva.	2nd ..
5	South wall of do.	...	Ko-Rajakesarivarman alias Udayar Rajaraja-deva.	30th ..
6	West wall of the Naga-mandapa.	...	Ko-Parakesarivarman alias Udayar Rajaraja-Chola-deva.	21st ..
7	South wall of mahamandapa.	Chola	Ko-Rajakesarivarman	7th ..
8a	West wall of mahamandapa.	Do.	Do.	10th ..
8b	Do. do.	Do.	Ko-Rajakesarivarman alias Chakravartin Kulottunga-Chola-deva.	29th year.
9	Base of the gopuram and the Bilvanathesvara Shrine.	Chola	Ko-Rajarajakesarivarman	7th ..
10	South wall of garbhagriha.	Do.	Ko-Rajarajakesarivarman	16th ..
11	North wall of do.	Do.	Mahavali-Vannaraja	...
12	South wall of do.	Bana	Ko-Parakesarivarman alias Udayar Rajaraja-Chola-deva.	29th ..
13	West wall of mahamandapa.	Chola	Ko-Parakesarivarman alias Rajendra-Chola-deva.	20th ..
14	West wall of mahamandapa.	Do.	Ko-Parakesarivarman alias Udayar Rajaraja-deva.	2nd ..
15	North wall of mahamandapa.	...	Adhi Rajendra-deva.	6th ..
16	South wall of do.	...	Ko-Rajakesarivarman alias Udayar Vira-Rajendra-deva.	31st ..
17	South wall of garbhagriha.	Chola	Ko-Parakesarivarman alias Udayar Rajendra-Chola-deva.	...
18	South, east, and north walls of mahamandapa.	...	...	...

Order—No. 189, Public, dated 11th March 1890.

Recorded.

(True Extract.)

J. GROSE,
Ag. Chief Secretary.

To the Director-General, Archaeological Survey.

1. Dr. E. Hultzsch, Epigraphist.

2. The Director, Archaeological Survey.

3. R. Sewell, Esq.

4. The Secretary, Royal Asiatic Society, London.

Copy to the Secretary, Royal Asiatic Society, Ceylon Branch.

the President, Asiatic Society, Bengal.

the Secretary, Madras Literary Society.

V. A. Smith, Esq., Bengal Civil Service.

Dr. Roett, Librarian, India Office.

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J. E. Fleet, Esq., R.C.S., and B. Esq.

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