



# Gaekwad's Archaeological Series

No. II.

## THE ASOKAN ROCK AT GIRNAR.

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## FOREWORD.

The present book is the result of a visit in the month of April 1935 to Gīrnār where I went in the course of a tour to study the question of the location of the old Dvārakā or Dvāravatī. While I was looking into the inscriptions on the famous rock, I saw visitors going back disappointed for want of a suitable book which would help them to understand the old inscriptions on the boulder. I heard them remark that such a book ought to have been written for the guidance of the general public. I realised the desideratum and decided to prepare such a book and thereby remove this just complaint. During my short sojourn at Mount Abu I prepared the material and then showed it to Sir V. T. Krishnamachariar, the enlightened Dewan of Baroda. He readily approved of the idea of publishing it in the Gaekwad's Archæological Series. This guide book is the result of his approval. It is hoped that a Gujarātī rendering of it will soon follow.

The rock described in the present book bears three very important inscriptions. One of them, which is the earliest, comprises the fourteen well-known rock edicts of Aśoka, the Great. The second is a record of the *Mahākshatrapa* Rudradāman, one of the old rulers of Western India, and the third is an epigraph of the time of Skandagupta, the great Gupta ruler of ancient India. All these records have been published already, but in different books. In the present publication their text with translation and a brief analysis of the contents are given in one place. In the case of the Aśokan edicts I have largely followed the late Dr. Hultsch who was one of my predecessors as Government Epigraphist for India. The text and the translation of the Rudradāman inscription mostly agree with those of the late Professor Kielhorn, and the reading and rendering of the inscription of Skandagupta are practically the same as were given by the late Dr. Fleet. A few changes, of course, have been made, but these are of a minor nature. In the transcriptions, however, the diacritical marks could not be used consistently. In giving a brief note on Aśoka I have based my remarks on the account written by the late Dr. V. Smith in his book named *Asoka, the Buddhist Emperor of India*. My indebtedness to all these scholars is thankfully acknowledged.

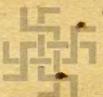
Though it is desirable to give facsimilies of inscriptions when the transcripts are given, yet I am leaving them out to reduce the cost of the book. Besides, facsimilies have already been published in the books to which I have referred above, namely, the *Corpus Inscriptionum Indicarum*, Volumes I and III, and the *Epigraphia Indica*, Volume VIII. The reader desirous of making a further study of the records described in this book can see them in those publications.

For the names of places occurring in these inscriptions the attention of the reader is invited to the above-mentioned works and to the learned articles by Bhagwanlal Indraji in the *Indian Antiquary* (Vol. VII pp. 259 ff.) and by J. Burgess in the *Archæological Survey of Western India*, Vol. IV, *Kutch and Kathiawad*, pp. 130-131, as also to the notes of Dr. D. R. Bhandarkar in his scholarly work on Aśoka. In the appendix to the present Memoir general equivalents are given without detailed discussion in order to enable the reader to form a rough idea of the localities which were probably meant. As to the names of the historical personages, their identity is practically settled and hardly any discussion is needed to establish it.

The appendixes were added as an afterthought at the suggestion of my esteemed friend C. E. A. W. Oldham, Esq., C. S. I., I. C. S. (Retired), who very kindly went through the final proof of this as well as of the first Memoir. I cannot close this foreword without expressing my indebtedness to him.

Baroda,  
Tuesday, the 10th of September, 1936.

HIRANANDA SASTRI.



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## THE ASOKAN ROCK AT GIRNAR.

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The rock or boulder which forms the subject of the present Memoir lies about one mile to the east of Jūnāgaḍh, the capital of the Jūnāgaḍh State. It bears three different records. One forms the famous set of Aśoka's fourteen edicts; the second, an inscription of *Mahākshatrapa Rudradāman*; and the third, an inscription of the reign of the Gupta king **Skandagupta**. The Aśokan edicts are incised on the north-east face of the boulder. They are arranged in two columns, separated from one another by straight lines. The left column consists of edicts I to V, and the right, of edicts VI to XII. The edicts XIII and XIV are engraved below the edicts V and XII.

The Aśokan inscription was intact till 1822, but subsequently portions of edicts V and XIII were blasted with gunpowder by the workmen of a merchant who constructed a causeway from Jūnāgaḍh to Gīrnār. Two fragments of the lost portions of edict XIII were recovered some years ago and are now kept in the State museum at Jūnāgaḍh. At the recommendation of the late Dr. Burgess, a shed was built to protect the rock from the sun and rain. A watchman has also been appointed to take care of this very important ancient monument.

The Rudradāman inscription was engraved on the rock about A. D. 150, i.e., some four centuries after these immortal edicts of the great Maurya Emperor were incised. It is written on the western side near the top of the rock. This important epigraph bears direct testimony to the care which was bestowed in ancient India by the Central Government upon irrigation even in the remote provinces. Gīrnār is situated at a distance of at least 1000 miles from the ancient Pāṭaliputra, the capital of the Maurya Empire, still the needs of the local farmers did not escape the attention of the throne. A detailed notice of the contents of this inscription is given in the sequel. The record tells us that **Pushyagupta**, the Vaiśya, who was the governor of the western provinces under **Chandragupta**, dammed up a small stream and turned it into a reservoir of great value, which was called सुदर्शन, i. e., the beautiful. The necessary supplemental channels were constructed during the reign of Aśoka under the superintendence of his representative **Tushāspha**, the **Yavana chieftain**. These beneficial works constructed under the patronage of the Maurya Emperor endured for four hundred years, but finally burst owing to a storm of exceptional intensity in the

General  
remarks.



year A. D. 150. The embankment was rebuilt three times stronger than before by the orders of the Saka Satrap **Rudradāman** as stated in the inscription. In spite of the triple strength of the masonry, the dam burst again as it could not withstand the fury of the elements. It was again repaired in A. D. 458 by the local governor under **Skandagupta**, the great Gupta Emperor. At some time unknown, these ancient works fell to ruins, and the lake thus finally disappeared. Its site, buried in deep jungle, is now utterly forgotten and cannot be located with certainty.

The third inscription on the rock is of **Skandagupta**, the Gupta Emperor of ancient India who flourished in the fifth century of the Christian era. It occupies the north-western face of the boulder and is equally important as a historical document. A detailed notice of it is given below, where a transcript as well as translation have been added. The main object of this valuable inscription is to record that the lake **Sudaršana** again burst owing to the heavy rainfall during the reign of **Skandagupta**, but was promptly restored by **Chakrapālita**, who was the son of **Parṇadatta**, the Emperor's deputy, by the renewal of the embankment.

The history of **Sudaršana** lake recorded in the inscriptions would show that labour and expense were lavished upon irrigation works, even in remote dependencies of the Empire, and that provision of water for the fields was recognised as an important royal duty from the time of the Maurya Emperors down to that of the Guptas. As stated by the late Dr. Vincent Smith, Megasthenes was right when he remarked that the imperial officers were wont to "measure the land as in Egypt, and inspect the sluices by which water is distributed into the branch canals so that every one may enjoy his fair share of the benefit."

After this brief introductory note let us examine the inscriptions in detail. The Aśokan inscription, which is the main record, is incised, as remarked above, on the north-east face and comprises the fourteen well-known edicts of the great Maurya Emperor.

The Aśokan edicts are written in the Brāhmī alphabet which gave rise to the Devanāgarī script of the present day. Their language is a form of Prākṛit closely allied to Sanskrit and the Pāli of the Ceylonese Buddhist books, but not identical with either. This was a dialect which was generally understood and read by the public of the Kāthiāwāḍ Peninsula. The use of this alphabet and language would show that there was one general script and one common language in practically the whole of India in the Maurya period of Indian history i. e. about the 3rd century B. C.

The inscription was first deciphered by the learned and ingenious scholar James Prinsep, to whom Indian epigraphy owes a great debt of gratitude.



His transcript and translation were based on tracings on cloth which were taken in 1835. Several eminent scholars worked on them subsequently. The late Dr. E. Hultzsch, one of my distinguished predecessors, published them finally in his monumental work, the new edition of the first volume of the *Corpus Inscriptionum Indicarum*, which was printed for the Government of India at the Clarendon Press, Oxford, in 1925. The transcript and translation of these well-known edicts given below are based on that edition. Excepting a few slight changes made here and there, they have been taken from his book. Before giving the text, I should like to introduce their author to the general reader.

### Asoka.

Asoka, whose edicts are engraved on this well-known rock, was the third sovereign of the great Maurya Dynasty of India who ascended the throne of Pataliputra about 273 B. C. He was a son of Bindusara and grandson of Chandragupta. The latter was a great personality indeed. With the help of the astute Brahmana minister, Chanakya, he succeeded in exterminating the Nandas and in liberating his country from the foreign garrisons soon after the death of Alexander in 323 B. C. Seleukos, surnamed Nikator or the Conqueror, had to contract a matrimonial alliance with him by giving him his daughter in marriage. Chandragupta received four of the satrapies in exchange of a small recompense of 500 elephants. This treaty with the king of Syria, who even tried to eclipse the glory of Alexander the Great, considered to be "invincible before all enemies save death," extended Chandragupta's empire to the Hindukush mountains and brought practically the whole of what is now known as Afghanistan under his sway. According to the account given by an eye-witness, named Megasthenes, who resided at Pataliputra as an ambassador of Seleukos about 305 B. C., Chandragupta had a standing army numbering 600,000 infantry, 30,000 cavalry, 9,000 elephants and a multitude of chariots. With this well equipped force he had overrun and subdued the whole of India and his empire extended at least from the river Narmada to the Himalaya and the Hindukush.

Chandragupta ruled India sternly for some twenty-four years and transmitted his immense empire to his son Bindusara Amitraghata, who ruled for about twenty-eight years. The only recorded public event of the latter's reign was the despatch to his court by the king of Syria of an ambassador named Deimachos. The accounts given by Greek writers would indicate that the Indian monarchs communicated with their European allies on terms of perfect equality.

Previous to his accession, Asoka served as a Viceroy, first at Taxila and afterwards at Ujjain. The vast empire of Chandragupta passed on to him after

the demise of his father Bindusāra. He ruled without any internal discord and his orders were obeyed even in the most distant provinces.

#### Aśoka's titles.

Like his father, Aśoka bore the title of Devānampiya (Sanskrit *Devānāmpriya*) which literally means "dear to the gods." It may well be rendered by the phrase "His Sacred Majesty." He was also called "Piyadasi" (Sanskrit *Priyadarśin*) meaning "of gracious mien". This title may be rendered as 'His Gracious Majesty'. Chandragupta was called Piyadasana (Sanskrit *Priyadarśana*) meaning "dear to the sight". This epithet was also applied to Aśoka. Thus his full royal title was *Devānāmpriya Piyadasi Rājā*. i. e., "His Sacred and Gracious Majesty the King." It occurs in inscriptions both in the complete and the abbreviated forms.

#### Early years of Aśoka's reign.

Aśoka in all probability followed Brahmanism, and did not wage any war in the early days of his rule. During the thirteenth year of his reign, that is, his 9th regnal year, he wanted to round off his dominions by the conquest of the kingdom of Kalinga on the coast of the Bay of Bengal between the Mahānadi and the Godāvāri rivers. He succeeded in conquering this kingdom and annexing it to his empire. But the horrors of the war he had had to wage made a deep impression on his heart, and he became a changed man. The profound sorrow and regret he felt on this occasion is expressed in the Rock Edict XIII, a translation of which will be found in the sequel. It was possibly after this war that he first became a lay disciple under the guidance of the monk Upagupta and finally a convert to Buddhism.

#### Aśoka's Dharma (Dharma)

His ninth regnal year was the turning point of his career, and it was some two and a half years later that he assumed the monastic robe, abolished the Royal Hunt and substituted pious tours for pleasure excursions. It was about this time that he organised preaching missions to spread the teachings of the Buddha not only in India but in the far off lands of Western Asia, Northern Africa and Eastern Europe. The said Rock Edict XIII gives a detailed account of the countries to which the imperial missionaries were sent and tells us that Aśoka had sought the conversion of even the wild forest tribes and of the Yonas (Skt. *Yavanas*). As has been correctly remarked by the late Dr. V. Smith, the scheme propounded by this pious Emperor was not only comprehensive but successful. It resulted in Buddhism quickly becoming the dominant religion throughout India and Ceylon and ultimately extending over Burma, Siām, Cambodia, the Indian Archipelago, China, Korea, Japan, Mongolia, Tibet and other countries of Asia. In some of these countries Buddhism did not effect its entry until centuries after the time of Aśoka, but the diffusion of the religion in them all was due to the impetus given by this great Buddhist Emperor of India, who transformed the creed of a local Indian sect into a world religion, the most

important of all the religions, if the numbers of its adherents be taken as the test.

Asoka is often compared with Constantine the Great but it has to be admitted that the actions of the Indian monarch were far more influential than those of the Roman Emperor.

It was to propagate the *dharma* that he appointed for the first time special officers of high rank, entitled *Dharma-mahāmātras* or superior officials (*Mahāmātras*) exclusively engaged in the enforcement of the edicts concerning *dharma* or the Law of Piety in addition to the ordinary civil *Mahāmātras*. He issued special instructions to these officials to enforce the Law among all religious denominations, among the Yonas and other border tribes, and even in the households of his brothers and sisters and other relatives: such was his anxiety to spread the religion.

His younger brother Mahendra went to Ceylon for the diffusion of Buddhism. Processions are held even now in his honour in that island with his image placed in a chariot. Men, women, boys and girls in white robes follow it and, in recognition of his services, with one voice call out "*Mahendra, sādhu, sādhu, Buddha parihara*", meaning "Well done, well done, O Mahendra! in serving the Buddha." There is nothing inherently impossible in the story of Saṅghamitrā, whom people of Ceylon believe to have been the daughter of Asoka who went to spread the "*dhamma*" in the island. Asoka must have done whatever was possible to propagate the Law which was so dear to him. Saṅghamitrā can be taken as a name given to her at the time of *dikshā* or spiritual initiation.

In the early years of his reign Asoka was not troubled by any scruples about the sanctity of animal life, and, as is stated in the first Rock Edict, he allowed "many hundred thousands of living creatures to be slaughtered every day to make curries." Later on, about his eleventh regnal year, this huge slaughter was reduced to two peacocks and one antelope, and that, too, "not invariably". From the thirteenth regnal year all killing for the royal table was stopped. Finally this care for animal life was developed into "an elaborate code of regulations restricting the slaughter and mutilation of animals" throughout his vast empire. This must have brought about vexatious results. Such an over-regard for the sanctity of animal life is practised more rigidly by the Jainas even in these days. A Buddhist may even take meat, but will not say that an animal may be killed for his sake. In this respect Asoka was more a Jaina than a Buddhist.

**Sanctity of animal life.**

Asoka, as is clearly shown in his edicts, was very insistent upon the duty of reverence to parents, seniors and teachers, and he reiterated this duty repeatedly in his edicts.

**Reverence to parents.**

**Religious toleration.**

Another important feature of Aśoka's faith was the religious toleration which he recommended very often and emphatically. But, as is taught in the *Bhagavadgītā*, he preferred adherence to one's own creed स्वधर्मं निवृत्तं श्रेयः in spite of his doing honour to all the sects—to Jainism, to Brahmanism, etc., alike. His point of view was that all these sects were in essence one and the same and all aimed at "self-control" and purity of life. This toleration or reverence for all creeds alike was practised by all the Hindu kings of ancient India.

**Aśoka's beliefs.**

The Rock Edicts show that Aśoka believed in another world or future life and was anxious to attain *punyam* or merit, which is the aim of every pious Buddhist even now. In the Rock Edict XIII he clearly says that the things which concern the other world bear much fruit, and he asks his descendants to think of the joy in this as well as in the next world. He believed in the superior effect of meditation and extolled the merit of alms-giving and works of benevolence. He planted in his empire shade-giving and fruit-bearing trees for the comfort of all human beings and animals and provided for the digging of wells, the construction of rest-houses and watering places along the highroads. In addition to all this, he made special arrangements for the care and healing of the sick and for the provision of medicinal herbs. He must have made arrangements for free hospitals in the empire. The Rock Edict II is clear evidence of this. Fa Hien, a Chinese pilgrim to India, saw a free hospital working at Pāṭaliputra, the modern Patna, which was probably founded by Aśoka himself.

Vincent Smith has beautifully summed up Aśoka's moral teaching in the words of the church catechisms "To love, honour and succour my father and mother.....to submit myself to all my governors, teachers, spiritual pastors and masters; to order myself lowly and reverently to all my betters; to hurt nobody by word or deed; to be true and just in all my dealing; to bear no malice or hatred in my heart; to keep my hands from picking and stealing and my tongue from evil speaking, lying and slandering....." His Edicts do not show that he believed in any personal God, but his teaching was of practical morality which recognised obligations not only to human beings or neighbours, but to animals as well. It is in this respect that his moral doctrines are considered to be so very high.

**Extent of Aśoka's Empire.**

Aśoka's empire probably comprised the countries now called Afghanistan, Balūchistan, Makrān, Sind, Cutch, Swāt Valley, Kashmir, Nepal and the whole of India proper except the extreme south, and his dominions were far more extensive than the British India of today. The legends would show that even the city and kingdom of Khotan to the north of the Himalaya were under the political authority of this mighty Indian monarch.

The system of government developed by Chandragupta with the help of his preceptor Chāṇakya was maintained by his grandson Aśoka, who supplemented it by several reforms. Pāṭaliputra was the capital of the kingdom. It stood on the northern bank of the Soṅ, a few miles above the confluence of that river with the Ganges. The Soṅ has now changed its course and the old Pāṭaliputra, the glory of which was sung by many witnesses from abroad, does not exist now save in its ruins which lie hidden under a deep layer of silt by the side of modern Patna. The remains of the Royal Palace near the village of Kumhrār have been partially excavated by the Indian Archaeological Survey Department, and they testify to the correctness of the accounts given by the Chinese Pilgrim Fa Hien and other witnesses.

The metropolis was administered by a commission of thirty persons divided into six boards of five members each, like the modern Hindu *pañchāyat*. The words *pañchāyat* and *pañch* are evidently derived from *pañch* meaning 'five' (Sanskrit *pañchan*). These boards were charged with various functions. One was entrusted with the superintendence of industrial arts and artisans; another, with the supervision and care of foreigners, provision of medical aid to them, the administration of their estates in case of death, etc. The third had to keep registers of births and deaths, which were maintained for the information of Government and for realization of the revenues. The fourth supervised trade, the recovery of taxes and the examination of weights and measures. The fifth looked after the manufactured goods, and the sixth was in charge of the collection of the tax on sales, the evasion of which was considered a heinous crime. Very satisfactory arrangements were made for maintaining communication between the capital and the provinces of the State. There was a royal highway from Pāṭaliputra to the Indus through Takshaṣilā, which might be regarded as the forerunner of Lord Dalhousie's Grand Trunk Road.\* River communications, waterways and a system of roads were maintained in the empire. Distances were marked by pillars, and by each pillar a well was dug. For the comfort of travellers shady and fruit trees were planted on the sides of the roads. Rest-houses were constructed at suitable places, and provision was made for the supply of drinking water by erecting sheds along the roads. The Imperial orders were communicated through a body of officials and the work of administration was done by crown officials of whom four, namely, the Princes of Takshaṣilā, Ujjain, Tosali and Suvarṇagiri, are mentioned in the Edicts. The Prince of Ujjain must have been responsible for the administration of Mālwa, Gujarāt and Saurāshṭra. Next to these Princes came the *Rājūkas* or Commissioners "set over hundreds of thousands of souls". Below them were the *Prādeśikas* or District Officers. These officials were generally called *Mahāmātras*. Under the district officers there were several petty officials like the *Yuktas*.

\* Vincent Smith, *Aśoka, the Buddhist Emperor of India*, p. 91



The State had several departments, of which that for Irrigation was very important. It regulated the use of sluices for the proper distribution of water to the farmers. The Rudradāman inscription noticed in this book gives us a glimpse of the actual working of this department. This important record tells us that the Sudarṣana lake at Gīrnār was embanked in the reign of Chandragupta, the grandfather of Aśoka, and in the reign of Aśoka it was equipped with water-courses under the supervision of a Yavana chieftain named Tushāspa. All this was done to promote agriculture and safeguard the revenue. How eager Aśoka was to look to the prosperity of his subjects is seen in the Rock Edict VI. "I am never fully satisfied", says he, "with my efforts and despatch of business. Work I must for the welfare of all... Nothing is more efficacious than to secure the welfare of all." He personally attended to every business and heard cases even when he was being massaged. He wanted his people to regard him as their father, for he loved them as his own children.

### FIRST ROCK-EDICT.

#### TEXT.

१. इयं धंमलिपी देवानंप्रियेन
२. प्रियदसिना राजा लेखापिता [.] इध न किं-
३. चि जीवं आरभित्पा प्रजुहितव्यं [.]
४. न च समाजो कतव्यो [.] बहुकं हि दोसं
५. समाजमिह पसति देवानंप्रियो प्रियदसि राजा [.]
६. अस्ति पि तु एकचा समाजा साधुमता देवानं-
७. प्रियस प्रियदसिनो राजो [.] पुरा महानसमिह
८. देवानंप्रियस प्रियदसिनो राजो अनुदिवसं व-
९. हूनि प्राणसतसहस्रानि आरभिसु सूपाथाय [.]
१०. से अज यदा अयं धंमलिपी लिखिता ती एव प्रा-
११. णा आरभरे सूपाथाय द्वा मोरा एको मगो सो पि
१२. मगो न ध्रुवो [.] एते पि त्री प्राणा पछा न आरभिसरे

#### ROMAN TRANSCRIPT.

- 1 Iyam dhamma-lipī Devānampriyena
- 2 Priyadasinā rājā lekhāpitā [.] idha na kiṁ-
- 3 chi jīvaṁ ārabhitpā prajūhitavyaṁ [.]

- 4 na cha samājo katavyo [·] bahukaṁ hi dosaṁ  
 5 samājamhi pasati **Devānāmpriyo Priyadasī rājā** [·]  
 6 asti pi tu ekachā samājā sādhu-matā **Devānā-**  
 7 **priyasa Priyadasino rāṇo** [·] purā mahānasamhi  
 8 **Devānāmpriyasa Priyadasino rāṇo** anudivasaṁ ba-  
 9 hūni prāṇa-sata-sahasrāni ārabhisu sūpāthāya [·]  
 10 se aja yadā ayam dhamma-lipī likhitā tī eva prā-  
 11 ṇā ārabhare sūpāthāya dvo morā eko mago so pi  
 12 mago na dhruvo [·] ete pi trī prāṇā pachhā na ārabhisare

TRANSLATION.

This edict on morality has been caused to be written by **king Devānāmpriya Priyadarśin**.

Here no living being should be killed and sacrificed. And no festival meeting should be held.

For **king Devānāmpriya Priyadarśin** sees much evil in festival meetings.

But there are also some festival meetings which are considered meritorious by **king Devānāmpriya Priyadarśin**.

Formerly in the kitchen of **king Devānāmpriya Priyadarśin** many hundred thousands of animals were killed daily for the sake of curry.

But now, when this rescript on morality is written, only three animals are being killed (*daily*) for the sake of curry, (*viz.*), two peacocks (and) one deer, (*but*) even this deer not regularly.

Even these three animals shall not be killed in future.

SECOND ROCK-EDICT.

TEXT.

१. सर्वत विजितम्हि देवानंप्रियस प्रियदसिनो राजो
२. एवमपि प्रचंतेसु यथा चोडा पाडा सतियपुतो केतलपुतो आ तंब-
३. पंगी अंतियको योनराजा ये वा पि तस अंतियकस सामीपं
४. राजानो सर्वत्र देवानंप्रियस प्रियदसिनो राजो द्वे चिकीळ कता
५. मनुसचिकीळा च पसुचिकीळा च [·] ओसुद्वानि च यानि मनुसोपगानि च
६. पसोपगानि च यत यत नास्ति सर्वत्रा हारापितानि च रोपापितानि च [·]
७. मूलानि च फलानि च यत यत नास्ति सर्वत हारापितानि च रोपापितानि च [·]
८. पथेसु कूपा च खानापिता व्रळा च रोपापिता परिभोगाय पसुमनुसानं [·]

## ROMAN TRANSCRIPT.

- 1 Sarvata vijitamhi **Devānāmpriyasa Priyadasino rāño**  
 2 evam=api prachamtesu yathā **Choḍā Pāḍā Satiyaputo Ketalaputo**  
 ā **Tāmba-**  
 3 **pamñi Antiyako Yona-rājā ye vā pi tasa Antiyakasa sāmipam**  
 4 **rājāno sarvatra Devānāmpriyasa Priyadasino rāño** dve chikichha  
 katā  
 5 manusa-chikichhā cha pasu-chikichhā cha [.] osuḍhāni cha yāni  
 manusopagāni cha  
 6 pasopagāni cha yata yata nāsti sarvatrā hārāpitāni cha ropāpitāni  
 cha [.]  
 7 mūlāni cha phalāni cha yata yatra nāsti sarvata hārāpitāni cha  
 ropāpitāni cha [.]  
 8 pamthesū kūpā cha khānāpitā vrachhā cha ropāpitā paribhogāya  
 pasu-manusānam [.]

## TRANSLATION.

Everywhere in the dominions of **king Devānāmpriya Priyadarśin**, and likewise among (*his*) borderers, such as the \***Choḍas**, the **Pāṇḍyas**, the **Satiyaputa**, the **Ketalaputa**, even **Tāmraparñi**, the **Yona king Antiyaka**, also the kings who are the neighbours of this **Antiyaka**, everywhere two (*kinds of*) medical treatment were established by **king Devānāmpriya Priyadarśin**, (*viz.*), medical treatment for men and medical treatment for cattle.

And wherever there were no herbs that are beneficial to men and beneficial to cattle, everywhere they were caused to be imported and planted.

Wherever there were no roots and fruits, everywhere they were caused to be imported and to be planted.

On the roads wells were caused to be dug, and trees were caused to be planted for the use of cattle and men.

## THIRD ROCK-EDICT.

## TEXT.

१. देवानंप्रियो प्रियदसि राजा एवं आह [.] द्वादसवासाभिसितेन मया इदं आजपितं [.]  
 २. सर्वत विजिते मम युता च राज्ञके च प्रादेशिके च पंचसु पंचसु वासेसु अनुसं-  
 ३. यानं नियातु एतायेव अथाय इमाय धंमानुससित्य यथा अजा-  
 ४. य पि कंमाय [.] साधु मातरि च पितरि च सुसूसा मित्रसंस्तुतजातीनं बाम्हण-  
 ५. समणानं साधु दानं प्राणानं साधु अनारंभो अपव्ययता अपभाडता साधु [.]  
 ६. परिसा पि युते आजपयिसति गणनायं हेतुतो च व्यंजनतो च [.]

\* For the identification of the geographical as well as of the historical names occurring in these inscriptions, the Appendixes given at the end may be seen.

## ROMAN TRANSCRIPT.

1. **Devānāmpīyo Piyadasi rājā** evaṃ āha [-] dbādasa-vāsābhisitena mayā idaṃ āñapitaṃ [-]
2. sarvata vijite mama Yutā cha Rājūke cha Prādesike cha pañchasa pañchasa vāsesu anusaṃ-
3. yānaṃ niyātu etāyeva athāya imāya dhammānusasṭiya yathā āñā-
4. ya pi kaṃmāya [-] sādhu mātari cha pitari cha susrūsā mitra-saṃstuta-ñātināṃ Bāmhāṇa-
5. Samañānaṃ sādhu dānaṃ prāñānaṃ sādhu anāraṃbho apavyayatā apabhāḍatā sādhu [-]
6. paṛisā pi yute āñapayisati gaṇanāyaṃ hetuto cha vyamjanato cha [-]

## TRANSLATION.

**King Devānāmpriya Priyadarśin** speaks thus:-

( *When I had been* ) anointed twelve years, the following was ordered by me:—

Everywhere in my dominions the *Yuktas*, the *Rājūkas*, and the *Prādesikas* shall set out on a complete tour ( *throughout their charges* ) every five years for this very purpose, ( *viz.* ), for the following instruction in morality as well as for other business.

Meritorious is obedience to mother and father. Liberality to friends, acquaintances and relatives, to Brāhmaṇas and Śramaṇas is meritorious. Abstention from killing animals is meritorious. Moderation in expenditure ( *and* ) moderation in possessions are meritorious.

The council ( of *Mahāmātras* ) also shall order the *Yuktas* to register ( *these rules* ) both with ( *the addition of* ) reasons and according to the letter.

## FOURTH ROCK-EDICT.

## TEXT.

१. अतिक्रान्तं अन्तरं बहूनि वाससतानि वदितो एव प्राणारंभो विहिंसा च भूतानं ज्ञातीसु
२. असंप्रतिपती ब्राम्हणस्त्रमणानं असंप्रतीपती [-] त अज देवानंप्रियस प्रियदसिनो राजो
३. धंमचरणेन भेरीवोसो अहो धंमघोसो विमानदसणा च हस्तिदसणा च
४. अगिखंधानि च अत्रानि च दिव्यानि रूपानि दसयित्वा जनं [-] यारिसे बहूहि वाससतेहि
५. न भूतपुवे तारिसे अज वदिते देवानंप्रियस प्रियदसिनो राजो धंमानुसस्ठिया अनारं-

६. भो प्राणानं अविहीसा भूतानं जातीनं संपटिपती ब्रम्हणसमणानं संपटिपती मातरि पितरि  
 ७. सुसुसा थैरसुसुसा [.] एस अत्रे च बहुविधे धंमचरणे वढिते [.] वढयिसति चैव देवानंप्रियो  
 ८. प्रियदसि राजा धंमचरणं इदं [.] पुत्रा च पोत्रा च प्रपोत्रा च देवानंप्रियस प्रियदसिनो राजो  
 ९. प्रवधयिसंति इदं धंमचरणं आव सवटकपा धंमम्हि सीलम्हि तिस्टंतो धंम अनुसासिसंति [.]  
 १०. एस हि सेस्ते कंमे य धंमानुसासनं [.] धंमचरणे पि न भवति असीलस [.] त इमम्हि अथम्हि  
 ११. वधी च अहीनी च साधु [.] एताय अथाय इदं लेखापितं इमस अथस वधि युजंतु हीनि ज्ञ  
 १२. नो लोचेतव्या [.] द्वादसवासाभिसितेन देवानंप्रियेन प्रियदसिना राजा इदं लेखापितं [.]

## ROMAN TRANSCRIPT.

1. Atikātaṃ aṃtaraṃ bahūni vāsa-satāni vadḥito eva prāṇāraṃbho vihiṃsā cha bhūtānaṃ jātīsu
2. asaṃpratīpati Brāhmaṇa-Samaṇānaṃ asaṃpratīpati [.] ta aja  
**Devānaṃpriyasa Priyadasino rāṇo**
3. dhamma-charaṇena bherī-ghoso aho dhamma-ghoso vimāna-darsaṇā cha hasti-dasaṇā cha
4. aḡi-khaṃdhāni cha añāni cha divyāni rūpāni dasayitpā jaṇaṃ [.] yārise bahūhi vāsa-satehi
5. na bhūta-puve tārise aja vadḥite **Devānaṃpriyasa Priyadasino rāṇo** dhammānusaṣṭiyā anāraṃ-
6. (bh)o prāṇānaṃ avihisā bhūtānaṃ jātīnaṃ saṃpaṭīpati Brahmaṇa-Samaṇānaṃ saṃpaṭīpati mātari pitari
7. susrusā thaira-susrusā [.] esa añe cha bahavidhe dhamma-charaṇe vadḥite [.] vadḥayisati cheva **Devānaṃpriyo**
8. **Priyadasī rājā** dhamma-charaṇaṃ idaṃ [.] putrā cha potrā cha prapotrā cha **Devānaṃpriyasa Priyadasino rāṇo**
9. pravadhayisaṃti idaṃ dhamma-charaṇaṃ āva savata-kapā dhammamhi silamhi tiṣṭaṃto dhammaṃ anusāsisaṃti [.]
10. esa hi seṣṭe kaṃme ya dhammānusaṇaṃ [.] dhamma-charaṇe pi na bhavati asilasa [.] ta imamhi athamhi
11. vadhi cha ahīni cha sādhu [.] etāya athāya idaṃ lekhāpitaṃ imasa, athasa vadhi yuḡanta hīni cha
12. no lochetavyā [.] dbādasavāsābhisitena **Devānaṃpriyena Priyadasinā rāṇā** idaṃ lekhāpitaṃ

## TRANSLATION.

In times past, for many hundreds of years, there had ever been promoted, the killing of animals and the hurting of living beings, discourtesy to relatives, (and) discourtesy to Brāhmaṇas and Śramaṇas.



But now, in consequence of the practice of morality on the part of **king Devānāmpriya Priyadarśin**, the sound of drums has become the sound of morality, showing the people representations of aerial chariots, representations of elephants, masses of fire, and other divine figures.

Such as had not existed before for many hundreds of years, thus there are now promoted, through the instruction in morality on the part of **king Devānāmpriya Priyadarśin**, abstention from killing animals, abstention from hurting living beings, courtesy to relatives, courtesy to Brāhmaṇas and Śramaṇas, obedience to mother (*and*) father, (*and*) obedience to the aged.

In this and many other ways is the practice of morality promoted.

And **king Devānāmpriya Priyadarśin** will ever promote this practice of morality.

And the sons, grandsons, and great-grandsons of **king Devānāmpriya Priyadarśin** will promote this practice of morality until the aeon of destruction (*of the world*), (*and*) will instruct (*people*) in morality, abiding by morality (*and*) by good conduct.

For this is the best work, viz., instruction in morality.

And the practice of morality is not (*possible*) for (*a person*) devoid of good conduct.

Therefore promotion, and not neglect, of this object is meritorious.

For the following purpose has this been caused to be written, (*in order that*) they should devote themselves to the promotion of this practice, and that the neglect (*of it*) should not be approved (*by them*).

This was caused to be written by **king Devānāmpriya Priyadarśin** (*when he had been*) anointed twelve years.

## FIFTH ROCK-EDICT.

### TEXT.

१. देवानंप्रियो पियदस्सि राजा एवं आह [-] कलाणं दुकरं [-] यो आदिकरो कलाणस सो दुकरं करोति [-]
२. त मया बहु कलाणं कतं [-] त मम पुता च पोता च परं च तेन य मे अचं आव संवटकपा अनुवतिसरे तथा
३. सो सुकतं कासति [-] यो तु एत देसं पि हापेसति सो दुकतं कासति [-] सुकरं हि पापं [-] अतिकतं अंतरं
४. न भूतप्रवं धम्महामाता नाम [-] त मया त्रैदस्वासाभिसितेन धम्महामाता कता [-] ते सवपासडेसु व्यापता धामधिष्ठानाय

६. ....धंमयुतस च योणकंब्रोजगंधारानं रिस्टिकपेतेणिकानं ये वा पि अजे आपराता [.] भतुमयेसु व  
 ६. ....सुखाय धंमयुतानं अपरिगोधाय व्यापता ते [.] बंधनबधस पटिविधानाय  
 ७. ....प्रजा कताभीकारेसु वा धैरेसु वा व्यापता ते [.] पाटलिपुते च बाहिरसु च  
 ८. ....ये वा पि मे अजे जातिका सर्वत व्यापता ते [.] यो अयं धंमनिस्सितो ति  
 ९. ....ते धंममहामाता [.] एताय अथाय अयं धंमलिपी लिखिता  
 १०. ....

## ROMAN TRANSCRIPT.

1. **Devānāmpriyo Piyadasi rājā** evaṃ āha [.] kalāṇaṃ dukaraṃ [.] yo  
 ādikaro kalāṇasa so dukaraṃ karoti [.]  
 2 ta mayā bahu kalāṇaṃ kataṃ [.] ta mama putā cha potā cha paraṃ  
 cha tena ya me apachaṃ āva saṃvaṭa-kapā anuvatisare tathā  
 3 so sukataṃ kāṣati [.] yo tu eta desaṃ pi hāpesati so dukataṃ kāṣati [.]  
 sukaraṃ hi pāpaṃ [.] atikātaṃ aṃtaraṃ  
 4 na bhūta-pruvaṃ dhamma-mahāmātā nāma [.] ta mayā traidasa-  
 vāsābhisitena dhamma-mahāmātā katā [.] te savapāsaṃdesu  
 vyāpatā dhāmadhiṣṭānāya  
 5 dhamma-yutasa cha **Yoṇa-Kamboja-Gaṃdhārānaṃ Ristika-  
 Petenikānaṃ** ye vā pi aṃñe āparātā [.] bhatamayesu va  
 6 .....sukhāya dhamma-yutānaṃ aparigodhāya vyāpatā te [.]  
 baṃdhana-badhasa paṭividhānāya  
 7 .....prajā katābhikāresu vā thairesu vā vyāpatā te [.] **Pāṭalipute**  
 cha bāhirusu cha  
 8 .....ye vā pi me aṃñe nātikā sarvata vyāpatā te [.] yo ayaṃ dhamma-  
 nisrito ti va  
 9 .....te dhamma-mahāmātā [.] etāya athāya ayaṃ dhāmalipī likhitā  
 10. ....

## TRANSLATION.

**King Dēvānāmpriya Priyadarśin** speaks thus:-

It is difficult to perform virtuous deeds.

He who starts performing virtuous deeds accomplishes something difficult.

Now, by me many virtuous deeds have been performed.

Therefore (*among*) my sons and grandsons, and (*among*) my descendants (*who shall come*) after them until the aeon of destruction (*of the world*), those who will conform to this (*duty*) will perform good deeds.

But he who will neglect even a portion of this (*duty*) will perform evil deeds.

For sin is easily committed.

In times past (*officers*) called *Mahāmātras* of morality (*Dharma-mahāmātra*) did not exist.

But *Mahāmātras* of morality were appointed by me (*when I had been*) appointed thirteen years.

These are occupied with all sects in establishing morality.....of those who are devoted to morality even among the *Yōṇas*, *Kambōjas* and *Gandhāras*, the *Risṭikās* and *Petenikas*, and whatever other western borderers (*of mine there are*).

They are occupied with servants and masters ..... for the ..... happiness of those who are devoted to morality, (*and*) in freeing (*them*) from desire (*for worldly life*).

They are occupied in supporting prisoners (*with money*).....(*if one has*) children, or with those who are bewitched (i. e. incurably ill?) or with the aged.

They are occupied everywhere, both in *Pāṭaliputra* and in the outlying .....and whatever other relatives of mine (*these are*).

These *Mahāmātras* of morality.....whether one is eager for morality.....

For the following purpose has this rescript on morality been written.....

## SIXTH ROCK-EDICT.

### TEXT.

१. देवा.....सि राजा एवं आह [.] अतिक्रातं अंतरं
२. न भूतपुत्र सब..ल अथकमे व पटिवेदना वा [.] त मद्रा एवं कतं [.]
३. सवे काले भुंजमानस मे ओरोधनमिह गभागारमिह वचमिह व
४. विनीतमिह च उयानेसु च सवत्र पटिवेदका स्ठिता अथे मे जनस
५. पटिवेदेथ इति [.] सर्वत्र च जनस अथे करोमि [.] य च किंचि मुखतो
६. आज्ञपयामि स्वयं दापकं वा स्रावापकं वा य वा पुन महामात्रेषु
७. आचायिके अरोपितं भवति ताय अथाय विवादो निज्ञती व संतो परिसायं
८. आनंतरं पटिवेदेतव्यं मे सर्वत्र सर्वे काले [.] एवं मया आज्ञपितं [.] नास्ति हि मे तोसो
९. उस्टानमिह अथसंतीरणाय व [.] कतव्यमते हि मे सर्वलोकहितं [.]
१०. तस च पुन एस मूले उस्टानं च अथसंतीरणा च [.] नास्ति हि कमतरं
११. सर्वलोकहितत्पा [.] य च किंचि पराक्रमामि अहं किंति भूतानं आनंगं गच्छेयं
१२. इध च नानि सुखापयामि परत्रा च स्वगं आराधयंतु त [.] एताय अथाय
१३. अयं धंमलिपी लेखापिता किंति चिरं तिस्टेय इति तथा च मे पुत्रा पोता च प्रपोत्रा च
१४. अनुवतरं सवलोकहिताय [.] दुकरं तु इदं अजत्र अगेन पराक्रमेन



## ROMAN TRANSCRIPT.

1. Devā.....si rājā evaṃ āha [.] atikrātāṃ aṃtaram
2. na bhūta-pruva sava...la atha-kamme va paṭivedanā vā [.] ta mayā evaṃ katam [.]
3. save kāle bhūṃjamānasa me orodhanamhi gabhāgāramhi vachamhi va
4. vinītamhi cha uyānesu cha savatra paṭivedakā sītā athe me janasa
5. paṭivedetha iti [.] sarvatra cha janasa athe karomi [.] ya cha kiñchi mukhato
6. āñāpayāmi svayam dāpakam vā srāvāpakam vā ya vā puna mahāmātresu
7. āchāyi[ke] aropitam bhavati tāya athāya vivādo nijhatī va samto parisāyam
8. ānamtaram paṭivedetavyam me sarvatra sarve kāle [.] evam mayā āñāpitam [.] nāsti hi me toso
9. uṣṭānamhi atha-samṭiraṇāya va [.] katavya-mate hi me sarvaloka-hitam [.]
10. tasa cha puna esa mūle uṣṭānam cha atha-samṭiraṇā cha [.] nāsti hi kammataram
11. sarvaloka-hitapā [.] ya cha kiñchi parākramāmi aham kiñti bhūtānam ānamṇam gachheyam
12. idha cha nāni sukhāpayāmi paratrā cha svagam ārādhayāmtu ta [.] etāya athāya
13. ayam dhamma-lipī lekhāpitā kiñti chiram tiṣṭeya iti tathā cha me putrā potā cha prapotrā cha
14. anuvataram sava-loka-hitāya [.] dukaram tu idam āñatra agena parākramena [.]

## TRANSLATION.

**King Devānāmpriya Priyadarśin** speaks thus:—

In times past neither the disposal of affairs nor the submission of reports at any time did exist.

But I have made the following (*arrangement*):—

Reporters are posted everywhere, (*with instructions*) to report to me the affairs of the people at any time, while I am eating, in the women's apartments, in the inner apartment, even at the cowpen, in the palanquin, and in the parks.

And everywhere I am disposing of the affairs of the people.

And if in the council (*of Mahāmātras*) a dispute arises, or an amendment is moved, in connection with any donation or proclamation which I myself am

ordering verbally, or (*in connection with*) an emergent matter which has been delegated to the *Mahāmātras*, it must be reported to me immediately, anywhere, (*and*) at any time.

Thus I have ordered.

For I am never content in exerting myself and in despatching business.

For I consider it my duty to promote the welfare of all men.

But the root of that (*is*) this, (*viz.*), exertion and the despatch of business.

For no duty is more important than (*promoting*) the welfare of all men.

And whatever effort I am making, (*is made*) in order that I may discharge the debt (*which I owe*) to living beings (*that*) I may make them happy in this (*world*), and (*that*) they may attain heaven in the other (*world*).

Now for the following purpose has this rescript on morality been caused to be written, (*viz.*), that it may last long, and that my sons, grandsons, and great-grandsons may conform to this for the welfare of all men.

But it is difficult to accomplish this without great zeal.

## SEVENTH ROCK-EDICT.

### TEXT.

१. देवानंपियो पियदसि राजा सर्वत इच्छति सवे पासंडा वसेयु [.] सवे ते सयमं च
२. भावसुधिं च इच्छति [.] जनो तु उचावचछंदो उचावचरागो [.] ते सर्वं व कासंति एकदेशं व कसंति [.]
३. विपुले तु पि दाने यस नास्ति सयमे भावसुधिता व कतंजता व ददभतिता च निचा बाढं

### ROMAN TRANSCRIPT.

1. **Devānāmpīyo Piyadasi** rājā sarvata ichhati save pāsāṇḍā vaseyu [.] save te sayamaṁ cha
2. bhāva-sudhīm cha ichhati [.] jano tu uchāvacha-chhaṇdo uchāvacharāgo [.] te sarvaṁ va kāsanti eka-desam va kasanti [.]
3. vipule tu pi dāne yasa nāsti sayame bhāva-sudhitā va katamñatā va dadhabhātītā cha nichā bādham

### TRANSLATION.

**King Devānāmpriya Priyadarśin** desires (*that*) all sects may reside everywhere.

(For) all these desire both self-control and purity of mind.

But men possess various desires (*and*) various passions.

Either they will fulfil the whole, or they will fulfil (*only*) a portion (of their duties).

But even one who (*practises*) great liberality, but does not possess self-control, purity of mind, gratitude and firm devotion is very mean.

### EIGHTH ROCK-EDICT.

#### TEXT.

१. अतिक्रान्तं अंतरं राजानो विहारयातां अयासु [.] एत मगव्या अत्रानि च एतारिसनि
२. अभीरमकानि अहुंसु [.] सो देवानंप्रियो प्रियदसि राजा दसवर्साभिसितो संतो अयाय संबोधि [.]
३. तेनेसा धंमयाता [.] एतयं होति बाम्हणसमणानं दसणे च दाने च थैरानं दसणे च
४. हिरणपट्टिविधानो च जानपदस च जनस दस्पनं धंमानुसस्टी च धमपरिपुञ्ज च
५. तदोपया [.] एसा भुय रति भवति देवानंपियस प्रियदसिनो राजो भागे अंबे

#### ROMAN TRANSCRIPT.

1. Atikātaṃ antaraṃ rājāno vihāra-yātāṃ āyāsu [.] eta magavyā añāni cha etārisani
2. abhīramakāni ahumsu [.] so **Devānāmpriyo Priyadasī rājā** dasa-  
varsābhisito samto ayāya **Sambodhiṃ**[.]
3. tenesā dhamma-yātā [.] etayaṃ hoti Bāhmaṇa-Samaṇānaṃ dasaṇe cha  
dāne cha thairānaṃ dasaṇe cha
4. hiraṇṇa-paṭṭividhāno cha jānapadasa cha janasa daspanāṃ  
dhammānusasṭī cha dhama-paripucchā cha
5. tadopayā [.] eśā bhuya rati bhavati **Devānāmpiyasa Priyadasino rāṇo**  
bhāge ambe

#### TRANSLATION.

In times past kings used to set out on pleasure-tours.

On these (*tours*) hunting and other such pleasures were (*enjoyed*).

But when **king Devānāmpriya Priyadarśin** had been anointed ten years, he went to **Sambodhi**.

Therefore these tours of morality (*were undertaken*).

On these (*tours*) the following takes place, (*viz.*), visiting Brāhmaṇas and Sramaṇas and making gifts (*to them*), visiting the aged and supporting (*them*) with gold, visiting the people of the country, instructing (*them*) in morality, and questioning (*them*) about morality, as suitable for this (*occasion*).

This second period (*of the reign*) of **king Devānāmpriya Priyadarśin** becomes a pleasure in a higher degree.



## NINTH ROCK-EDICT.

## TEXT.

१. देवानंपियो प्रियदसि राजा एव आह [.] अस्ति जनो उच्चावचं मंगलं करोते आवाधेसु वा  
 २. आवाहवीवाहेसु वा पुत्रलाभेसु वा प्रवासंमिह वा एतमही च अजमिह च जनो उच्चावचं  
 मंगलं करोते [.]  
 ३. एत तु महिडायो बहुकं च बहुविधं च छुदं च निरथं च मंगलं करोते [.] त कतव्यमेव तु  
 मंगलं [.] अपफलं तु खो  
 ४. एतरिसं मंगलं [.] अयं तु महाफले मंगले य धंममंगले [.] ततेत दासभतकमिह सम्यप्रतिपती  
 गुरूने अपचिति साधु  
 ५. पाणेसु सयमो साधु बम्हणसमणानं साधु दानं एत च अज च एतारिसं धंममंगलं नाम [.] त  
 वतव्यं पिता व  
 ६. पुतेन वा भ्रात्रा वा स्वामिकेन वा इदं साधु इदं कतव्य मंगलं आव तस अथस निस्तानाय [.]  
 अस्ति च पि वुतं  
 ७. साधु दन इति [.] न तु एतारिसं अस्ता दानं व अनगहो व यारिसं धंमदानं व धमनुगहो व [.]  
 त तु खो मित्रेन व सुहृदयेन वा  
 ८. अतिकेन व सहायन व ओवादितव्यं तमिह तमिह पकरणे इदं कचं इदं साधु इति इमिना सक  
 ९. स्वगं आराधेतु इति [.] कि च इमिना कतव्यतरं यथा स्वगारधी [.]

## ROMAN TRANSCRIPT.

1. **Devānaṃpiyo Priyadasi rājā** eva āha [.] asti jano uchāvacham  
maṅgalam karote ābādhesu vā
2. āvāha-vivāhesu vā putra-lābhesu vā pravāsammihi vā etamhi cha  
añamhi cha jano uchāvacham maṅgalam karote [.]
3. eta tu mahidāyo bahukam cha bahuvidham cha chhudam cha  
nirath(m) cha maṅgalam karote [.] ta katavyameva tu  
maṅgalam [.] apa-phalam tu kho
4. etarisaṃ maṅgalam [.] ayam tu mahāphale maṅgale ya dhamma-  
maṅgale [.] tateta dāsa-bhatakamhi samya-pratipatī gurūnaṃ  
apachiti sādhu
5. paṇesu sayamo sādhu Bamaṇa-Samaṇa sāindhu dānam et[a]  
cha añā cha etārisaṃ dhamma-maṅgalam nāma [.] ta vatavyam  
pitā vā
6. putena vā bhātrā vā svāmikena vā idam sādhu idam katavya  
maṅgalam āva tasa athasa niṣṭānāya [.] asti cha pi vutam
7. sādhu dana iti [.] na tu etārisaṃ astā dānam vā anagaho vā yārisaṃ  
dhamma-dānam vā dhamanugaho vā [.] ta tu kho mitrena vā suha-  
dayena vā



8. ñatikena va sahāyana va ovādītavyam tamhi tamhi pakarāṇe idam  
kacham idam sādha iti iminā saka
9. svagam ārādhetu iti [.] ki cha iminā katavyataram yathā  
svagāradhī [.]

## TRANSLATION.

**King Devānāmpriya Priyadarśin** speaks thus:—

Men are practising various ceremonies during illness, or at the marriage of a son or a daughter, or at the birth of a son, or when setting out on a journey; on these and other (*occasions*) men are practising various ceremonies.

But in such (*cases*) women are practising many and various vulgar and useless ceremonies.

Now, ceremonies should certainly be practised.

But ceremonies like these bear little fruit indeed.

But the following practice bears much fruit, viz., the practice of morality.

Herein the following (*are comprised*), (*viz.*) proper courtesy to slaves and servants, reverence to elders, gentleness to animals, (*and*) liberality to Brāhmaṇas and Śramaṇas; these and other such (*virtues*) are called the practice of morality.

Therefore a father, or a son, or a brother, or a master ought to say:—'This is meritorious. This practice should be observed until the (*desired*) object is attained'

And it has been said also:—'Gifts are meritorious'.

But there is no such gift or benefit as the gift of morality or the benefit of morality.

Therefore, a friend, or a well-wisher, or a relative, or a companion should indeed admonish (*another*) on such and such an occasion:—'This ought to be done; this is meritorious. By this (*practice*) it is possible to attain heaven.'

And what is more desirable than this, viz., the attainment of heaven?

## TENTH ROCK-EDICT.

## TEXT.

१. देवानंपियो प्रियदत्सि राजा यसो व कीर्ति व न महाश्रावहा मज्जे अजत तदात्पनो दिघाय  
च मे जनो
२. धंममुसुंसा सुसुसता धंमवुत्तं च अनुविधियतां [.] एतकाय देवानंपियो प्रियदत्सि राजा यसो व  
कीर्ति व इच्छति [.]

३. यं तु किञ्च परिक्रमते देवानं प्रियदत्सि राजा त सर्वं पारत्रिकाय किञ्चि सकले अपपरिस्त्रवे अस [.]  
 एस तु परिसवे य अपुञ्जं [.]
४. दुकरं तु खो एतं छुदकेन व जनेन उसटेन व अत्र अगेन पराक्रमेन सर्वं परिचजित्पा [.] एत  
 तु खो उसटेन दुकरं [.]

## ROMAN TRANSCRIPT.

1. **Devānāmpriyo Priyadasi rājā** yaso va kīti va na mahāthāvahā mañate añata tadātpano dighāya cha me jano
2. dhamma-susruṃsā susrusatā dhamma-vutaṃ cha anuvidhiyatāṃ[.] etakāya **Devānāmpriyo Piyadasi rājā** yaso va kiti va i[cccha]ti [.]
3. yaṃ tu kich[i] parikamate **Devānāṃ[priyo\*] Priyadasi rājā** ta savāṃ pāratrikāya kiñti sakale apa-parisrave asa [.] esa tu parisave ya apuññāṃ [.]
4. dukaraṃ tu kho etaṃ chhudakena va janena usaṭena va añatra agena parāk[r]amena savāṃ parichajitpā [.] et[a] t[u] kho usaṭena dukaraṃ[.].

## TRANSLATION.

**King Devānāmpriya Priyadarśin** does not think that either glory or fame conveys much advantage, except ( *on account of his aim that* ) in the present time, and in the distant ( *future* ) men may ( *be induced* ) by him to practise obedience to morality, and that they may conform to the duties of morality.

On this (account) **king Devānāmpriya Priyadarśin** is desiring glory and fame.

But whatever effort **king Devānāmpriya Priyadarśin** is making, all that ( *is* ) for the sake of ( *merit* ) in the other ( *world* ), ( *and* ) in order that all ( *men* ) may run little danger.

But the danger is this, viz., demerit.

But it is indeed difficult either for a lowly person or for a high one to accomplish this without great zeal ( *and without* ) laying aside every ( *other aim* ).

But among these ( *two* ) it is indeed ( *more* ) difficult to accomplish for a high ( *person* ).

## ELEVENTH ROCK-EDICT.

## TEXT.

१. देवि(वा)नं प्रियो पियदत्सि राजा एवं आह [.] नास्ति एतारिसं दानं यारिसं धमदानं धमसंस्तवो  
 वा धमसंविभागो व धमसंबंधो व [.]

२. तत इदं भवति दासभतकम्हि सम्यप्रतिपती मातरि पित[रि] साधु सुखुसा मितसस्तुतजात्रिकानं  
बाम्हणस्त्रमणानं साधु दानं
३. प्राणानं अनारम्भो साधु [.] एत वतव्यं पिता व पुत्रेन व भाता व मितसस्तुतजातिकेन च आव  
पटीवेसियेहि इदं साधु इद कतव्यं [.]
४. सो तथा करु इलोकचस आरधो होति परत च अनंतं पुइजं भवति तेन धंमदानेन [.]

## ROMAN TRANSCRIPT.

1. **Devi(ā)nāmpriyo Piyadasi rājā** ev[a]m āha [.] nāsti etārisaṃ dānaṃ  
yārisaṃ dhamma-dānaṃ dhamma-saṃstavo vā dhamma-saṃvibhāgo  
[vā] dhamma-sambāndho va [.]
2. tata idaṃ bhavati dāsa-bhatakamhi samya-p[r]atipatī mātari pitar[i]  
sādhu sus[r]usā mita-[sa]stuta-ñātikānaṃ Bāmaṇa-S[r]amaṇā-  
[naṃ] sādhu dā[naṃ]
3. prāṇānaṃ anāraṃbho sādhu [.] eta vatavyaṃ pitā va putrena va bhāt-  
[ā] va mita-sastut[a]ñāt[i]k[e]na va āva paṭivesiyehi idaṃ sādhu ida  
ka[tav]ya[m] [.]
4. so t[a]thā karu ilokachasa āradho hoti parata cha aṇṇaṃtānaṃ  
puññaṃ bhavati tena dhamma-dānena[.]

## TRANSLATION.

**King Devānāmpriya Priyadarśin** speaks thus :-

There is no such gift as the gift of morality, or acquaintance through morality, or the distribution of morality, or kinship through morality.

Herein the following are (*comprised*), (*viz.*) proper courtesy to slaves and servants, obedience to mother (*and*) father, liberality to friends, acquaintances, and relatives, to Brāhmaṇas and Śramaṇas, (*and*) abstention from killing animals.

Concerning this a father, or a son, or a brother, or a friend, an acquaintance, or a relative, (*or*) even (*mere*) neighbours, ought to say: 'This is meritorious. This ought to be done'.

If one is acting thus the attainment of (*happiness*) in this world is (*secured*), and endless merit is produced in the other (*world*) by that gift of morality.



## TWELFTH ROCK-EDICT.

## TEXT.

१. देवानंपिये पियदसि राजा सवपासंडानि च पवजितानि च घरस्तानि च पूजयति दानेन च वि(वि)धाय च पूजाय पूजयति ने [.]
२. न तु तथा दानं व पूजा व देवानंपियो मंत्रते यथा किति सारवदी अस सवपासंडानं [.] सारवदी तु बहुविधा [.]
३. तस तु इदं मूलं य वचिगुती किति आत्पपासंडपूजा व परपासंडगरहा व नो भवे अप्रकरणम्हि लहुका व अस
४. तम्हि तम्हि प्रकरणे [.] पूजेतया तु एव परपासंडा तेन[ते]न प्रकरणेन [.] एवं करं आत्पपासंडं च वदयति परपासंडस च उपकरोति[.]
५. तदंजया करोतो आत्पपासंडं च छणति परपासंडस च पि अपकरोति[.] यो हि कोचि आत्पपासंडं पूजयति परपासंडं वा गरहति
६. सवं आत्पपासंडभतिया किति आत्पपासंडं दीपयेम इति सो च पुन तथ करातो आत्पपासंडं बाढतरं उपहनाति[.] त समवायो एव साधु
७. किति अजमंजस धंमं स्तुणारु च सुसुंसेर च [.] एवं हि देवानंपियस इञ्जा किति सवपासंडा बहुसुता च असु कलाणागमा च असु [.]
८. ये च तत्र तत प्रसंजा तेहि वतव्यं [.] देवानंपियो नो तथा दानं व पूजां व मंत्रते यथा किति सारवदी अस सर्वपासंडानं [.] बहका च एताय
९. अथा न्यापता धंममहामाता च इथीझखमहामाता च वचभूमीका च अजे च निकाया[.] अयं च एतस फल य आत्पपासंडवदी च होति धंमस च दीपना [.]

## ROMAN TRANSCRIPT.

1. **Devānampiye piyad[a]si rājā sava-pāsāṃḍāni cha [pa]vajitāni cha gharastāni cha pūjayati d[ā]nena cha vi[vi]dhāya cha pūjāya pūjayati .ne [.]**
2. na tu tathā dānaṃ va pū[jā] va **D[e]vānampiyo** maṃñate yathā kiti sāra-vaḍhī asa sa[va-pā]sāṃḍānaṃ [.] sār[a]-vaḍhī tu bahuvidhā [.]
3. tasa tu idaṃ mūlaṃ ya vachi-guṭī kimti ātpa-pāsāṃḍa-pūjā va para-pāsāṃḍa-garahā va no bhava aprakaraṇamhi lahukā va asa
4. tamhi tamhi prakaraṇe [.] pūjetayā tu eva para-pāsāṃḍā tena [te]na prakaraṇena [.] evaṃ karuṃ ātpa-pāsāṃḍaṃ cha vaḍhayati parapā-sāṃḍasa cha upakaroti [.]
5. tad-amñathā karoto ātpa-pāsāṃḍaṃ cha chhaṇati para-pāsāṃḍasa cha pi apakaroti [.] yo hi kochi ātpa-pāsāṃḍaṃ pūjayati para-pāsāṃḍaṃ v[a] garahati

6. savam ātpa-pāsamḍa-bhatiyā kiṃti ātpa-pāsamḍam dipayema iti so cha puna tatha karāto ātpa-pāsamḍa[m] bāḍhataram upahanāti [.] ta samavāyo eva sādhu
7. kiṃti [a]ñnamamñasa dhammam sruṇāru cha susumsera cha [.] evam hi D[e]vānāmpriyasa icchā kiṃti sava-pāsamḍā bahu-srutā cha, asu kal[ā]nāgamā cha asu [.]
8. ye cha tatra tata prasamṇā tehi vatavyam [.] Devānāmpriyo no tathā dānam va pūjām va mamñate yathā kiṃti sāra-vaḍhi asa sarva-pāsadānam [.] bahakā cha etāya
9. athā vyāpatā dhamma-mahāmātā cha ithijhakhamahāmātā cha vacha-bhūmikā cha añe cha nikāyā [.] ayam cha etasa phala ya ātpa-pāsamḍavaḍhī cha hoti dhammasa cha dip[a]nā [.]

## TRANSLATION.

**King Devānāmpriya Priyadarśin** is honouring all sects, both ascetics and householders; both with gifts and with honours of various kinds he is honouring them.

But **Devānāmpriya** does not value either gifts or honours so (*highly*) as (*this*), (viz.) that the promotion of the essentials of all sects should take place.

But the promotion of the essentials (is *possible*) in many ways.

But its root is this, viz., guarding (*one's*) speech, (i. e.) that neither praising one's own sect nor blaming other sects should take place on improper occasions, or (*that*) it should be moderate in every case.

But other sects ought to be duly honoured in every case.

If one is acting thus, he is both promoting his own sect and benefiting other sects.

If one is acting otherwise than thus, he is both hurting his own sect and wronging other sects as well.

For whosoever praises his own sect or blames other sects—all (*this*) out of devotion to his own sect, (i. e.) with the view of glorifying his own sect—if he is acting thus, he rather injures his own sect very severely.

Therefore, concord alone is meritorious, (i. e.) that they should both hear and obey each other's morals.

For this is the desire of **Devānāmpriya**, (viz.) that all sects should be full of learning, and should be pure in doctrine.

And those who are attached to their respective (*sects*) ought to be spoken to (*as follows*).

**Devānāmpriya** does not value either gifts or honours so (*highly*) as (*this*), (viz.) that the promotion of the essentials of all sects should take place.



And many (*officers*) are occupied for this purpose, (*viz.*) the *Mahāmātras* of morality, the *Mahāmātras* controlling women, the inspectors of cowpens, and other classes (*of officials*).

And this is the fruit of it:— the promotion of one's own sect takes place, and the glorification of morality also takes place.

### THIRTEENTH ROCK-EDICT.

#### TEXT.

१. ....ओ कळिंगा वज.....वढे सतसहस्रमात्रं  
तत्रा हतं बहुतावतकं मत [-] तता पछा अधुना लधेसु कळिंगेमु तीवो धंमवायो
२. ....सयो देवानंप्रियस वज.....वधो व मरणं व  
अपवाहो व जनस त बाढं वेदनमत च गुरुमत च देवानंपि..स
३. ....वाम्हणा व समणा व अजे.....सा मात्रि पितरि  
सुसुंसा गुरुसुसुंसा मितसंस्ततसहायजातिकेसु दासभ.....
४. ....अभिरतानं व विनिखमण [-] येसं वा प .....हायजातिका  
व्यसनं प्रापुणति तत सो पि तेस उपघातो हाति [-] पटीभागो चेसा सव.....
५. ....स्ति इमे निकाया अजत्र योनेसु .....म्हि यत्र  
नास्ति मानुसानं एकतरम्हि पासंडम्हि न नाम प्रसादो [-] यावतको जनो तदा
६. ....स्रभागो व गुरुमतो देवानं ..... न य सक  
छमितवे [-] या च पि अटवियो देवानंपियस पिजिते पाति
७. ....चते तेसं देवानंपियस .....सवभूतानां  
अछर्ति च सयमं च समचैरं च मादव च
८. ....लधो.....नंप्रियस इध सवेसु च.....योनराज  
परं च तेन चत्पारो राजानो तुरमायो च अंतेकिन च मगा च
९. ....इध राजविसयम्हि योनकंत्रो.....ध्रपारिंदेसु  
सवत देवानंपियस धंमानुसर्स्ट अनुवतरे [-] यत पि दूति
१०. ....नं धमानुसर्स्ट च धमं अनुविधियरे.....विजयो  
सवथा पुन विजयो पीतिरसो सा [-] लधा सा पीती होति धंमवीजयम्हि
११. ....ंप्रियो [-] एताय अयाय अयं धंम[लि].....वं विजयं  
मा विजेतव्यं मंत्रा सरसके एव विजये छाति च
१२. ....किको च पारलोकिको.....इलोकिका  
च पारलोकिका च



## ROMAN TRANSCRIPT.

- 1 .....**ṅo Kaliṅgā** [vaja]..... [va. dh]e [sa]ta-sahasra-mātraṁ  
tatrā hataṁ bahu-tāvatakarṁ mata [·] tatā pachhā adh[u]nā **dad**kesu  
**Kaliṅgesu** ti[v]o dhammavāyo
- 2 .....[sa]yo **Devānāmpriyasa** [vaja].....[va]dho va maraṇāṁ va  
apavāho va janasa ta bādhaṁ vedana-mata cha g[u]r[u]-mata cha  
**Devā[nampi]**. [sa]
3. ....Bāmhaṇā va Samaṇā va añe.....[s]ā mātr[i] pitari susuṁsā  
guru-susuṁsā mita-saṁstata-sahāya-ñātike[su] dāsa-[bha].....
4. ....abhiratānaṁ va vinikhamāṇa [·] yesaṁ vā [pa.].....[h]āya-  
ñātikā vyasanāṁ prāpuṇati tata so pi tesā [u]paghāto hāti [·] paṭibhā[g]o  
chesā [s]ava.....
5. ....sti ime nikāyā añatra **Yone[su]**.....[mh]i yatra nāsti mānusa-  
naṁ ekataramhi pāsamḍamhi na nāma prasā[d]o [·] y[ā]va'a[k]o [j]ano  
tad[ā]
6. ....sra-bhāgo va garu-mat[o] **Devānaṁ**.....na ya saka chhami-  
tave [·] yā cha pi aṭaviyo **D[e]vānāmpriya[s]** pijite pāti
7. ....chate te[s]aṁ **Devānāmpriyasa**.....sava-bhūtānaṁ acchatim  
cha sayamaṁ cha samachairam ch[a] mādava cha
8. [la]dh[o].....**naṁpriyasa** idha [sa]vesu [ch].....[**Yo**]na-rāja paraṁ cha  
tena **chatpāro rājāno Turamāyo** cha [**A**]nt[ek]ina cha **Magā cha**
9. ....idha rāja-vi[sa]yamhi [**Yo**]na-**Kambo**.....**indhra-**  
**Pāriṁdesu** savata **Devānāmpriyasa** dhammānus[a]stīm anuv[a]tare  
[·] yata pi dūti
10. ....[na]ṁ dhamānusastīm cha dhamam anuvidhiyare.....[v]ijayo  
savathā puna vijayo pīti-raso sā [·] ladhā sā pīti hoti dhamma-vijayamhi
11. ....**m[p]riyo** [·] etā[ya] athā[ya] ayāṁ dhamma-[li]...[va]ṁ vijayam  
mā vijetavyam māññā sarasake eva vijaye chhāti cha
12. kik[o] ch[a] pā[r]alo[ki]ko].....ilokikā cha pāralokikā cha

## TRANSLATION.

.....the **Kaliṅgas**.....

.....one hundred thousand in number were those who were slain there, (and) many times as many those who died.

After that, now that (the country of) the **Kaliṅgas** has been taken, a zealous study of morality.....(the repentance) of **Devānāmpriya**.....slaughter, death, and deportation of people, this is considered very painful and deplorable by **Devānāmpriya**.



.....Brāhmaṇas or Śramaṇas, (or) other.....obedience to mother (and) to father, obedience to elders..... to friends, acquaintances, companions, and relatives, (to) slaves.....or deportation of (their) beloved ones.

.....(Companions) and relatives are then incurring misfortune, this (misfortune) as well becomes an injury to those (persons).

This is shared (by) all.....these classes.....except among the **Yonas** .....where men are not indeed attached to some sect.

As many people as at that time.....part is considered deplorable by (**Devānāmpriya**).

.....what can be forgiven.

And even the forests which are (included) in the dominions of **Devānāmpriya**.....

• They are (told).....of **Devānāmpriya**.....towards all beings abstention from hurting, self-control, impartiality, and kindness.

.....has been won by [**Devā**]nāmpriya here and among all.....the **Yona** king, and beyond him **four kings**, (viz.) **Turamāya**, **Antekina**, **Magā**..... here in the king's territory, (among) the **Yonas** and **Kambojas**.....among the [**Ā**]ndhras and **Pārindas**,—everywhere (people) are conforming to **Devānāmpriya**'s instruction in morality.

• Even where the envoys.....and the instruction in morality, are conforming to morality... ..this conquest—a conquest (won) in every respect (and) repeatedly—causes the feeling of satisfaction.

This satisfaction has been obtained (by me) at the conquest by mortality.

.....**Devānāmpriya**.

For the following purpose this (rescript) on morality.....should not think that a (fresh) conquest ought to be made, (that) if a conquest does please them, mercy.....

.....in the other world.

.....both in this world and in the other world.

BELOW THE THIRTEENTH ROCK-EDICT.

( Left Side ).

१. ....तेष.....

२. ....पिपा.....

ROMAN TRANSCRIPT.

1. ....tesha.....

2. ....pipā.....



## TEXT.

## BELOW THIRTEENTH ROCK-EDICT.

( Right Side. ).

.....र्वस्वेतो हस्ति सर्वलोकसुखाहरो नाम

## ROMAN TRANSCRIPT.

.....rva-sveto hasti sarva-loka-sukhāhara nāma

## TRANSLATION.

.....the entirely white elephant bringing indeed happiness to the whole world.

## FOURTEENTH ROCK-EDICT.

## TEXT.

१. अयं धंमलिपी देवानंप्रियेन प्रियदसिना राजा लेखापिता अस्ति एव
२. संखितेन अस्ति मज्जमेन अस्ति विस्ततन [.] न च सर्वं सर्वत घटितं [.]
३. महालके हि विजितं बहु च लिखितं लिखापयिसं चैव [.] अस्ति च एत कं
४. पुन पुन वुतं तस तस अथस माधूरताय किंति जनो तथा पटिपजेथ [.]
५. तत्र एकदा असमातं लिखितं अस देसं व सछाय कारणं व
६. अलोचेत्पा लिपिकरापरधेन व

## ROMAN TRANSCRIPT.

1. Ayam dhamma-lipī **Dēvānāmpriyena Priyadasinā** r(ā)nā lekhāpitā asti eva
2. saṅkhitena asti majjhamena asti vistatana [.] na cha sarvaṃ sarvata ghaṭitam [.]
3. mahālake hi vijitam bahu cha likhitam likhāpayisaṃ cheva [.] asti cha eta kaṃ
4. puna puna vutam tasa tasa athasa mādhūratāya kiṃti jano tathā paṭipajetha [.]
5. tatra ekadā asamāt[a]m likhita[m] asa desaṃ va sachhāya [kā]-raṇaṃ va
6. alochetpā lipikarāparadhena va

## TRANSLATION.

These rescripts on morality have been caused to be written by **king Devānāmpriya Priyadarśin** either in an abridged (*form*), or of middle (*size*) or at full length.

And the whole was not suitable everywhere.

For (*my*) dominions are wide, and much has been written, and I shall cause still (*more*) to be written.

And some of this has been stated again and again because of the charm of certain topics, (*and*) in order that men should act accordingly.

In some instances (*some*) of this may have been written incompletely, either on account of the locality, or because (*my*) motive was not liked, or by the fault of the writer.

### THE INSCRIPTION OF RUDRADAMAN.

This inscription is incised on the western side near the top of the rock. It contains twenty lines of well-engraved writing covering a space of about 11'-1" broad by 5'-5" high. Only the last four lines are fully preserved and the remaining ones are badly damaged, owing to which circumstance a good deal of the record has been entirely lost.

It is written in **Sanskrit** prose and in characters which were the precursors of the South Indian alphabets. Its object is to record the restoration, by the *Mahākshatrapa Rudradāman*, of the lake **Sudarśana** near which it was engraved. This lake, it tells us, was originally constructed during the reign of the **Maurya Emperor Chandragupta** and was perfected under the command of his grandson, the **Great Aśoka**. It was destroyed by a storm during the reign of Rudradāman and the whole of its water flowed out. Owing to this circumstance the lake became *durdarśana* or 'ugly to look at', in place of being *sudarśana* or 'beautiful to look at'. **Rudradāman** got it restored through the provincial Governor **Suviśakha** and made it more beautiful than it was originally. The record gives a vivid account of the storm by which the lake and the surrounding country were devastated and possesses considerable historical value in that it supplies the genealogy of the king *Mahākshatrapa Rudradāman* and recounts the great exploits through which he gained several territories like **Ānarta**, **Saurāshtra**, **Aparānta**, etc. Herein we are told that Rudradāman twice routed **Sātakarṇi**, the lord of **Dakṣiṇāpatha**, but did not kill him in consideration of the nearness of his relationship. The storm, we are told, took place **on the first of the dark half of Mārgaśīrṣha in the 72nd year of, probably, the Śaka era**. This date would correspond to the 16th of November, A. D. 150. The inscription was probably written one or two years later.

The Governor **Suviśakha**, we are told, was a **Pahlava** and the son of **Kulaipa**. The official who constructed the lake in the reign of **Chandragupta** was the **Vaiśya Pushyagupta**, and the governor who perfected it was the **Yavana king Tushāspha** who was governing the province under **Aśoka**, the great Maurya Emperor.

According to the description given in the inscription **Girinagara**, the hill-city, would be the earlier name of the town of Jūnāgaḍh or rather of its ancient representative and **Ūrjayat** would be the mountain now called Girnār. The river **Suvarṇasikatā** mentioned in the record is possibly the modern **Sonārskhā**. The name of the other river, viz., **Palāsinī**, mentioned in it, does not survive now.

This is the **earliest known long inscription** in Sanskrit. The earliest short inscription, in pure Sanskrit, known at present is that on the *yūpa* or sacrificial post at Īsāpur near Mathurā, which is dated in the year '24 in the reign of Shāhi Vāśishka. It is however only a few years earlier than the Girnār inscription of **Rudradāman**.

### Rudradāman.

**Rudradāman I.** was the grandson of **Chashāna** the great Satrap under Kadphises II. of the Kushāna dynasty. The exact dates of the various events in his life are not known, but he must have been reigning between 130 and 150 A.D. He was a learned and accomplished prince who raised his house to the position of the leading power in the west. His rule, as shown by the place-names in this inscription, extended over nearly the whole of Western India, and included the country around Cambay and Kāthiāwād, Sind and adjacent portion of Western Rājputānā and the Northern Koṅkaṇa. He annexed Cutch in A. D. 130 and gave his daughter in marriage to **king Vāsish/hiputra Śrī Puḷumāyi**, though the matrimonial connection did not prevent the great Satrap from twice defeating his son-in-law and taking from him most of the country that his father, **Gautamīputra Sātakarṇi**, had won from the **Kshaharātas**. His capital was at Ujjain, which was described by the ancient geographer Ptolemy (cir. 139 A. D.) as Ozene, the capital of Tiastanes (Chashāna). His victories won for him the title of *Mahākshatraṇa*.

## THE INSCRIPTION OF RUDRADĀMAN.

### TEXT.

१. सिद्धं [॥\*] इदं तडाकं सुदर्शनं नि[रि]नगराद[पि] [दू]रम[न्]त.....[त्ति]-  
कोपलविस्तारायामोच्छ्रयनिःसंधिवद्भृदसर्वपालिकत्वात् पर्वतपा-
२. दम्प्रतिस्पद्धि-सुश्लि[ष्ट][बन्धं] .....  
.....[व]जातेनाकृत्रिमेण सेतुबन्धेनोपपन्नं सुप्रतिबिहित-  
प्रणालीपरी[वा]ह-
३. मीढविधानं च त्रिस्क[न्ध].....  
.....नादिभिरनुग्रहैर्महत्युपचये वर्त्तते [॥\*] तदिदं राज्ञो महाक्षत्रपस्य सुगृही-
४. तनाम्नः स्वामि-चष्टनस्य पौत्र..... : पुत्रस्य राज्ञो महाक्षत्रपस्य  
गुरुभिरभ्यस्तनाम्नो रुद्रदाम्नो वर्षे द्विसप्ततितमे ७०[+] २

६. मार्गशीर्ष-बहुल-प्रति[पदि].....  
 ..... : सृष्टवृष्टिना पर्जन्येन एकार्णवभूतायामिव पृथिव्यां कृतायां  
 गिरेरूर्जयतः सुवर्णसिकता—
७. पलाशिनीप्रभृतीनां नदीनां अतिमात्रोद्बृत्तैर्वैः सेतु[ म ].....  
 .....[ य ]माणानुरूपप्रतिकारमपि गिरिशिखरतरुतटाद्यालकोपतल्पद्वार-  
 शरणोच्छ्रयविध्वंसिना युगनिधनसद-
८. श-परमधोरवो(वे)गेन वायुना प्रमथितसलिलविक्षिप्तजर्जरीकृताव[दी ].....  
 .....[क्षि]प्ताश्मवृक्षगुल्मलताप्रतानं(म्) आ नदी[त]लादि-  
 त्युद्घातितमासात् [।\*] चत्वारि हस्तशतानि वी(विं)शदुत्तराण्यायतेन एतावन्त्येव विस्तीर्णेन
९. पंचसप्ततिं हस्तानवगाढेन भेदेन निस्सृतसर्वतोयं मरु[ध]न्वकल्पमतिभृशं दुर्द(द्वि).....  
 .....[स्या]यै मौर्यस्य राज्ञः चंद्रगुप्तस्य [रा]ष्ट्रियेण [वै]श्येन पुण्यगुप्तेन  
 कारितं(म्) अशोकस्य मौर्यस्य ते[न] यवनराजेन तुष[र]स्केनाधिष्ठाय
१०. प्रणालिभिरलंकृतं तत्कारितया च राजानुरूपकृतविधानया तस्मि[न्] भेदे दृष्ट्या प्रनाड्या  
 विस्[त्]तसे[त्]तु].....णा आ गर्भात्प्रभृत्यविहतसमुदि-  
 [त]र[र]जलक्ष्मीध[र]णागुणतस्सर्ववर्णैरभिगम्य रक्षणार्थं पतित्वे वृतेन आ प्राणोच्छ्वासा-  
 त्पुरुषवधनिवृत्तिकृत-
११. सत्यप्रतिज्ञेन अन्यत्र संग्रामेष्वभिमुखागतमदृशशत्रुप्रहरणवितरणत्वाविगुणरि[पु].....  
 .....तकारुण्येन स्वयमभिगतजनपदप्रणिपति[तायु]व-  
 शरणदेन दस्युव्यालभृगोरोगादिभिरनुपसृष्टपूर्व्वनगरनिगम-
१२. जनपदानां स्ववीर्याजितानामनुक्तसर्वप्रकृतीनां पूर्वापरकरावन्त्यनूपनीवृदान्तसुगण्डूश्व[भ्र]  
 [म]रु[क]च्छसिन्धुसौवीरकुकुरापरान्तनिषादादीनां समग्राणां तत्प्रभावाद्य.....  
 .....त्यैकामविषया[णां] पतिना सर्वक्षेत्राविकृत-
१३. धीरशब्दजातोत्सेकाविधेयानां यौधेयानां प्रसह्योत्सादकेन दक्षिणापथपनेस्सातकर्णेद्विरपि  
 नी(नि)व्याजमवजित्यावजित्य संबन्धाविदूरया अनुत्सादनात्प्राप्तयशसा मा[द].....  
 [स]विजयेन भृष्टराजप्रतिष्ठापकेन यथार्थहस्तो-
१४. च्छर्याजितोर्जितधर्मानुरागेण शब्दार्थगान्धर्वन्यायाद्यानां विद्यानां महतीनां पारणधारणविज्ञानप्रयोगा-  
 वाप्तविपुलकीर्तिना तुरगगजरथचर्यासिचर्मनियुद्धाद्य.....  
 .....[ति]परबललाघवसौष्ठवक्रियेण अहरहर्दानमानान-
१५. वमानशीलेन स्थूलक्षयेण यथावत्प्राप्तैर्वलिशुल्कभागैः कनकरजतवज्रवैडूर्यरत्नोपचयविष्यन्द-  
 मानकोशेन स्फुटलघुमधुरचित्रकान्तशब्दसमयोदारालंकृतगद्यपद्य..... न  
 प्रमाणमानोन्मानस्वरगतिवर्णसारसंवादिभिः
१६. परमलक्षणव्यंजनैरुपेतकान्तमूर्तिना स्वयमभिगतमहाक्षत्रपनाम्ना नरेन्द्रकन्यास्वयंवर्गनेकमात्यप्रा-  
 सश[म्ना] महाक्षत्रपेण रुद्रदाम्ना वर्षसहस्राय गोत्राद्वा .....त्यै धर्मकीर्तिवृद्ध्यर्थं च  
 अपीडयित्वा करविष्टि-



१६. प्रणयक्रियाभिः पौरजानपदं जनं स्वस्मात्कोशा[न्] महता धनौघेन अनतिमहता च कालेन त्रिगुणदृढतरविस्तारायामं सेतुं विधा[य] सर्व्वतटे.....सुदर्शनतरं कारितमिति [।\*][अ]स्मिन्नर्थे
१७. महाक्षत्रपस्य मतिसचिवकर्मसचिवैरमात्यगुणसुमुशुकैरप्यतिमहत्वाद्भेदस्यानुत्साहविमुख-  
मतिभिः प्रत्याख्यातारम्भं
१८. पुनःसेतुबन्धनैर[ि]श्याद् हाहाभूतासु प्रजासु इहाधिष्ठाने पौरजानपदजनानुग्रहार्थं पार्श्वेन  
कृत्स्नानामानर्त्तसुराष्ट्राणां पालनार्थन्नियुक्तेन
१९. पह्लवेन कुलैपपुत्रेणामात्येन सुविशाखेन यथावदर्थधर्मव्यवहारदर्शनैरनुरागमभिवर्धयता  
शक्तेन दान्तेनाचपलेनाविस्मितेनानार्येणाहार्येण
२०. स्वधितिष्ठताधर्मकीर्त्तियशांसि भर्तुरभिवर्द्धयतानुष्ठितमिति । (II)

## ROMAN TRANSCRIPT.

1. Siddham [u\*] Idam tadākaṁ **Sudarśanam Girinagarād**=api dūram=  
anta.....[tt]ik-opala-vistār-āyām-ochchhraya-niḥsandhi-  
baddha-dṛiḍha-sarvva-pālikatvāt=parvvatapā-
2. da-ppratisparddhi-suslishṭa-[bandha]m.....  
[va]jāten=akṛitrimena setubandhen=opapannam supprativihita-  
ppraṇāli-parivāha-
3. mīdhavidhānam cha tri-skan[dha].....n-ādibhir=  
anugrahair=mahaty=upachaye varttate [।\*] Tad=idam rājño mahā-  
kshatrapasya sugrihi-
4. ta-nāmnah **Svāmi-Chash/anasya** putra.....  
ḥ putrasya rājño mahākshatrapasya gurubhir=abhyasta-nāmno  
**Rudradāmno varshe dvisaptatitam[e] 70[+]2**
5. **Mārggaśrīsha-bahula prat[i]**.....ḥ śriṣṭa-  
vṛiṣṭinā parjjanyena ekārṇava-bhūtāyām=iva pṛithivyām kṛitāyām  
girer=**Ūrjayataḥ Suvarṇasikatā-**
6. **Palāśini**-prabhṛitinām nadinām atimātr-odvṛittair=vvegaiḥ setum=  
[a].....[ya]mān-ānurūpa-pratikāram=api  
giriśikhara-taru-taṭṭālak-opatalpa-dvāra-śaraṇochchhraya-vidhvam-  
sinā yuganidhanasadri-
7. śa-paramaghora-vo(e)gena vāyunā pramathita-salila-vikshipta-  
jarjarikṛit-āva[di].....[k]sh[il]pt-āśma-vṛikshagulma-  
latāpratānam ā nad[īta]lā[d]=ity=udghāṭitam=āsit[।\*] Chatvāri has-  
ta-śatāni viśad[vimsaty]-uttarāny=āyatena etāvamty=eva vistṛṇena
8. pañcha-saptatim hastān=avagādḥena bhedena nisṛita-sarvva-  
toyam marudha[n]vakalpam=atibhṛiṣam durd[d]a.....sy=

[ā]rthe **Mauryasya** rājñah **Chāndraguptasya** [r]āshṭriyeṇa [V]-  
aiśyena **Pushyaguptena** kāritam **Aśokasya** **Mauryasya** te[na]  
**Yavanarājena** **Tush[ā]sphen=ādhishtāya**

9. praṇālibhir=alāmkṛitam tat-kāritayā cha rājānurūpa-kṛita-vidhānayā  
tasmi(in) bhede dṛiṣṭayā pranādyā vi[stṛi]ta-set[u].....nā  
ā garbhāt = prabhṛitty=avihata-samu[dita]rājalakshmi-dh[āra]ṇā-  
gūnatas=sarvva-varṇair=abhiga[m]ya rakshaṇ-ārtha(m) patitve vṛitena  
ā prāṇochchhvāsāt=purushavadhanivṛitti-kṛita-
10. satyapratijñena anya[t]ra saṁgrāmeshv=abhimukhāgata-sadṛiṣa-  
śatru-praharaṇa-vitarāṇatv-āviguṇa-ri[pu] .....ta-kāru-  
ṇyena svayamabhigata-janapada-praṇipati[t-āyu]sha-saraṇadena  
dasyu-vyāla-mṛiga-roga-ādibhir=anupasriṣṭapūrva-nagara-nigama-
11. janapadānām svaviryy-ārjitānām=anurakta-sarvva-prakṛitīnām  
**pūrvv-āpar-Ākar-āvanty-Anūpanivṛid-Ānartta-Surāsh[tra-S]va--**  
**[bh]ra-[M]aru-[Kach]chha-[S]i[n]dhu-S[au]vira-Kukur - Āpa-**  
**rānta-Nishādādinām** samagrānām tat-prabhāvād=[y]a.....  
.....r[ttha]-kāma-vishayānām patinā sarvva-kshatr-āvishkṛita-
12. viraśabda-jātotsek-āvidheyānām **Yaudheyānām** prasahy=otsādakena  
**Dakṣiṇāpatha-pates=Sātakarṇer=dvir=api** ni(i)rvyājam=avaji(i)-  
tyāvaji(i)tya sambandh-āvidūrayā anutsādanāt=prāpta-yaśasā mā[d]  
.....[pta]-vijayena bhrasṭa-rāja-pratishṭhāpakena  
yathārthta-hasto-
13. chchhray-ārjit-orjita-dharm-ānurāgeṇa śabdārthta-gāndharvva-  
nyāy-ādyānām vidyānām mahatīnām pāraṇa-dhāraṇa-vijñāna-  
prayog-āvāpta-vipula-kirttinā turaga-gaja-rathacharyyāsi-charma  
niyuddh-ādyā..... [ti]-para-bala-lāghava-saushṭhava-  
kriyeṇa ahar-ahar=ddāna-mān-āna-
14. vāmāna-śīlena sthūlalakṣheṇa yathāvat=prāptair=bali-sulka-bhāgaiḥ  
kanaka-rajata-vajra-vaidūrya-ratn-opachaya-vishyandamāna-koṣena  
sphuṭa-laghu-madhura-chitra-kānta-śabdasaamayodār-ālamkṛita-gad-  
ya-padya.....na pramāṇa-mān-onmāna-  
svara-gati-varṇṇa-sāra-satv-ādibhiḥ
15. parama-lakṣhaṇa-vyāmjanair=upeta-kānta-mūrttinā svayam-adhi-  
gata-mahākshatrpa-nāmnā nareṁdra-kannyā-svayāmvar-āneka-  
mālya-prāpta-dāmnā mahākshatrapeṇa **Rudradāmnā** varsha-  
sahasrāya go-Brāh[m]a.....r[ttha]m dharmma-kirtti-vṛid-  
dhy-artham cha apīdayit[v]ā kara-vishṭi-
16. praṇayakriyābhiḥ paura-janapadam janam svasmāt=kośā[n]  
mahatā dhan-augheṇa anatimahatā cha kālena trig[u]ṇa-dṛiḍhatara-



- vistār-āyāmam setum vidhā[ya] sar[v]va-ta[t]e.....[s]uḍars-  
anatarāṁ kārītam=iti [1\*] [ a ? ]sminn=artthe
17. mahākshatra[pa]s[ya] matisachiva-karmasachivair=amātyagūṇa-sam-  
udyuktair=apy=atimahatvād=bhedasy =ānutsāha-vimukha-matibhi[ḥ]  
pratyākhyāt-ārambham
18. punaḥsetubandha-nair[ā]śyād=hāhābhūtāsu prajāsu ih=ādhishtāne  
paura-jānapada-jan-ānugrah-ārtham pārthivena kṛitsnānām=  
**Ānartta-Surāsh[rān]**(*n*)ām pālanārtthan=niyuktena
19. **Pahlavena Kulaipa**-putreṇ=amātyena **Suvisākhena** yathā-  
vad=artha-dharma-vyavahāra-darśanair=anurāgam=abhivardhayatā  
śaktena dānten=āchapalen=āvismiten=āryyeṇ=āhāryyeṇa
20. svadhitiḥṭhatā dharma-kirtti-yaśāmsi bhartur=abhivarddhayaḥ=  
ānushṭhitam=iti [11\*]

## TRANSLATION.

(Lines 1-2) Be it accomplished. This lake **Sudarśana**, from **Girinagara** (even a long distance ?).....of a structure so well joined as to rival the spur of a mountain, because all its embankments are strong, in breadth, length and height, constructed without gaps, as they are of stone, (clay)..... furnished with a natural dam, (formed by ?)....., and with well-provided conduits, drains and weirs (?)......three sections.....by.....and other favours is (now) in an excellent condition.

(Ll. 3-6) This same (lake)—on the **first of the dark half of Mārgaśirsha** in the seventy-second-72nd-year of the king, the **Mahākshatraṇa Rudradāman**, whose name is repeated by the venerable, the son of.....(and) son's son of the king, the **Mahākshatraṇa Lord Chashāna** the taking of whose name is auspicious.....when by the clouds pouring with rain, the earth had been converted as it were into one ocean, by the excessively swollen floods of the **Suvarṇasikatā, Palāśini** and other streams of mount **Ūrjayat** the dam....., though proper precautions (were taken), the water churned by a storm which, of a most tremendous fury befitting the end of a mundane period, tore down hill-tops, trees, banks, turrets, upper stories, gates and raised places of shelter-scattered, broke to pieces, (tore apart).....with stones, trees, bushes and creeping plants scattered about, was thus laid open down to the bottom of the river.

(L. 7.) By a breach four hundred and twenty cubits long, just as many broad, (and) seventy-five cubits deep, all the water escaped, so that (the lake), almost like a sandy desert, (became) extremely ugly (to look at).

(L. 8.).....for the sake of.....ordered to be made by th<sup>c</sup> Vaiśya **Pushyagupta**, the provincial governor of the Maurya King **Chandragupta**: adorned with conduits for **Aśoka** the **Maurya** by the **Yavana king Tushāspa** while governing; and by the conduit ordered to be made by him, constructed in a manner worthy of a king (*and*) seen in that breach, the extensive dam.....

(Ll. 9-15).....he who, because from the womb he was distinguished by the possession of undisturbed consummate royal fortune, was resorted to by all castes and chosen their lord to protect them; who made, and is true to, the vow to the latest breath of his life to abstain from slaying men, except in battles; who (*showed*) compassion .....not failing to deal blows to equal antagonists meeting him face to face; who grants protection of life to people repairing to him of their own accord and those prostrating themselves before him; who is the lord of the whole of **eastern and western Akarāvanti**, the **Anūpa** country, **Ānarta**, **Surāsh/ra**, **S'vabhra**, **Maru**, **Kachchha**, **Sindhu-Sauvīra**, **Kukura**, **Aparānta**, **Nishāda** and other territories gained by his own valour, the towns, marts and rural parts of which are never troubled by robbers, snakes, wild beasts, diseases and the like, where all subjects are attached to him, (*and*) where through his might the objects of (*religion*), wealth and pleasure (*are duly attained*); who by force destroyed the **Yaudheyas** who were loath to submit, rendered proud as they were by having established their title of heroes among all Kshatriyas; who obtained good report because he, in spite of having twice in fair fight completely defeated **Sātakarṇi**, the lord of **Dakṣiṇāpatha**, on account of the nearness of their connection did not destroy him; who (*obtained*) victory.....  
.....; who reinstates deposed kings; who by the customary raising of his hand (*at the time of dispensing justice*) has earned the strong attachment of *Dharma*; who has attained wide fame by studying and remembering, by the knowledge and practice of, grammar, music, logic and other great sciences; who.....the management of horses, elephants and chariots, (*the use of*) sword and shield, pugilistic combat and other.....the acts of quickness and efficiency of opposing forces; who day by day is in the habit of bestowing presents and honours and eschewing disrespectful treatment; who is bounteous; whose treasury by the tribute, tolls and shares rightfully obtained overflows with an accumulation of gold, silver, diamonds, beryl stones and (*other*) precious things; who.....prose and verse, which are clear, agreeable, sweet, charming, beautiful, excelling by the proper use of words and adorned; whose beautiful frame owns the most excellent marks and signs, such as (*auspicious*) length, dimension and height, voice, gait, colour, vigour and strength; who himself has acquired the name of *Mahākshatrāpa*; who has been wreathed with many garlands at the *svayamvaras* of kings' daughters—he, the *Mahākshatrāpa* **Rudradāman**, in order to.....cows and Brāhmaṇas for a thousand years, and to increase his religious merit and fame—without oppressing the inhabitants of the towns and country by taxes,

forced labour and acts of affection—by (*the expenditure of*) a vast amount of money from his own treasury and in not too long a time made the dam three times as strong in breadth and length.....(*on*) all (*banks*).....(*and so*) had (*this lake*) made (*even*) more beautiful to look at.

(Ll. 16-20) When in this matter the *Mahākshatrapa's* counsellors and executive officers, who, though fully endowed with the qualifications of ministers, were averse to the task (*regarded as*) futile on account of the enormous extent of the breach and opposed the commencement (*of the work*), (*and*) when the people in their despair of having the dam rebuilt were loudly lamenting, (*the work*) was carried out by the minister **Suviśākha**, the son of **Kulaipa**, a **Pahlava**, who for the benefit of the inhabitants of the towns and country had been appointed by the king in this government to rule the whole of **Ānarta** and **Surāshṭra**, (*a minister*) who by his proper dealings and view in things temporal and spiritual increased attachment (*of the people*), who was able, patient, not wavering, not arrogant, upright (*and*) not to be bribed, (*and*) who by his good government increased the spiritual merit, fame and glory of his master.

### THE INSCRIPTION OF SKANDAGUPTA.

This inscription is engraved on the north-west face of the boulder and covers a space of about 10' broad by 7'-3" high. It is in a state of fair preservation, but is not very easy to read as the engraving is not perfect. The characters in which it is written belong to the southern class of alphabets which may be termed the Saurāshṭrī or Kāthiāwāḍī alphabet of the fifth century of the Christian era. The language is Sanskrit. Excepting the opening word *Siddham* and a few words in line 23, the whole record is in verse.

The inscription belongs to the reign of the early **Gupta** king **Skandagupta** who succeeded in vanquishing the Hūnas. It tells us that **Skandagupta** appointed a certain **Parṇadatta** to govern his territories in **Saurāshṭra** or Kāthiāwāḍ who in his turn placed his son **Chakrapālita** in charge of the city (*of Gīrinagara*). Further, it informs us — and this is its main object — that the lake **Sudaršana**, which was formed round the foot of Gīrnār, burst on account of excessive rain in the **Gupta** year one hundred and thirty-six (A. D. 455-56) at night, on the sixth day of the month of Praushṭhapaḍa (August-September) but **Chakrapālita** repaired the breach by renewing the embankment, after two months' work, in the year one hundred and thirty-seven (A.D. 456-57). The latter portion of the record shows that **Chakrapālita**, son of **Parṇadatta**, Skandagupta's deputy, erected a Vishṇu temple in the year one hundred and thirty-eight of the same **Gupta** era (A. D. 457-58) and called it **Chakrabhṛit** (the bearer of the discus), evidently in reference to his own name.

## Skandagupta.

**Skandagupta** was the son and successor of **Kumāragupta I.** and ascended the throne in A. D. 455. He may well be considered to have been one of the greatest Hindu rulers of ancient India. Even as the crown prince he showed ability in restoring the fortunes of his family by effecting the overthrow of the enemy, the rich and powerful nation named Pushyamitras. The struggle he had to make in routing their hostile army that had endangered the stability of the Gupta Dynasty was so severe that he had to spend one night sleeping on the ground. When he came to the throne the savage Huns, the Hūnas of Sanskrit literature, poured down from the steppes of Central Asia through the north-western passes and carried devastation over the smiling plains and flourishing cities of India. Skandagupta, however, succeeded in inflicting a decisive defeat on them and saved his country from further plunder. The joy he must have felt at his victory over the barbarians is beautifully expressed by the author of the eulogy incised on a column standing at Bhitari in the Ghāzipur district to the east of Benares in the United Provinces, where it is stated that he carried the news of his triumph to his mother 'just as Kṛishṇa, when he had slain his enemies, betook himself to his mother Devaki'. His undisputed possession of the peninsula of Saurāshṭra (Kāthiāwād) is proved by this inscription. This record shows, as stated above, that he appointed as the viceroy of this western portion of his empire an officer named **Parṇadatta** who gave the responsible post of governor of the capital city of Jūnāgaḍh to his own son. The latter distinguished himself by rebuilding the embankment of the lake under the Girnār hill, which had burst again in the above-mentioned year of **Skandagupta's** accession. The benevolent work was completed in the following year, and one year later a costly temple of Vishṇu was erected near this lake. Owing to his success in the campaigns he assumed the title of *Vikramāditya*. Towards the close of his royal career he was not very successful. He passed away about the year 467 A. D.

### THE INSCRIPTION OF SKANDAGUPTA.

#### TEXT.

#### First Part

१. सिद्धं [॥\*] श्रियमभिमतभोग्यां नैककालापनीतां त्रिदशपतिसुखार्थं यो बलेराजहार । कमल-  
निलयनायाः शाश्वतं धाम लक्ष्म्याः
२. स जयति विजितार्त्तिर्विष्णुरस्यंतजिष्णुः ॥ तदनु जयति शश्वत् श्रीपरिक्षिप्तवक्षाः स्वभुजजनित-  
वीर्यो राजराजाधिराजः । नरपति-
३. भुजगानां मानदर्पोत्फणानां प्रतिकृतिगरुडा[ज्ञां] निर्विभी चावकर्ता ॥ नृपतिगुणनिकेतः स्कन्दगुप्तः  
पृथुश्रीः चतुरुदधिजलान्तां स्फीतपर्यन्तदेशाम् ।

४. अवनिमवनतारिण्यः चकारात्मसंस्थां पितरि सुरसखित्वं प्राप्तवत्यात्मशक्त्या ॥ अपि च जितमेव तेन प्रथयंति यशांसि यस्य रिपवोऽपि आमूलभग्नदर्पा निव.....~~म्लेच्छ~~देशेषु ॥
५. क्रमेण बुद्ध्या निपुणं प्रधाय ध्यात्वा च कृत्स्नाङ्गुणदोषहेतून् । व्यपेत्य सर्वान् मनुजेन्द्रपुत्राँलक्ष्मीः स्वयं यं वरयांचकार ॥ तस्मिन्नूपे शासति नैव कश्चिद्भर्मादपेतो मनुजः प्रजासु ।
६. आतौ दरिद्रो व्यसनी कदर्यो दण्ड् [यो] न वा यो भृशपीडितः स्यात् ॥ एवं स जित्वा पृथिवीं समग्रां भग्नाग्रद्रुपाँन् ] द्विषतश्च कृत्वा । सर्वेषु देशेषु विधाय गोसृ(वृ)न् संचिन्तया[स्त्रा]स बहुप्रकारम् ॥ स्यात्कोऽनुरूपो
७. मतिमान् विनि(नी)तो मेधास्मृतिभ्यामनपेतभावः । सत्यार्जवौदार्यनयोपपन्नो माधुर्यदाक्षिण्यशो-  
न्वितश्च ॥ भक्तानुरक्तो नृविशेषयुक्तः सर्वोपधामिश्च विशुद्धबुद्धिः । आनृण्यभावोपगतान्तरात्माः  
(ःमा) सर्वस्य लोकस्य हिते प्रवृत्तः ॥
८. न्यायार्जनेऽर्थस्य च कः समर्थः स्यादर्जितस्याप्यथ रक्षणे च । गोपायितस्यापि [च] वृद्धिहेतौ वृद्धस्य पात्रप्रतिपादनाय ॥ सर्वेषु भृत्येष्वपि संहतेषु यो मे प्रशिष्यान्निखिलान् सुराष्ट्रान् । आं ज्ञातमेकः खलु पर्णदत्तो भारस्य तस्योद्बहने समर्थः ॥
९. एवं विनिश्चित्य नृपाधिपेन नैकानहोरात्रगणान्स्वमत्या । यः संनियुक्तोऽर्थनया कथञ्चित्सम्यक् सुराष्ट्रावनिपालनाय ॥ नियुज्य देवा वरुणं प्रतीच्यां स्वस्था यथा नोन्मनसो बभूवुः [ : ] पूर्वैतरस्यां दिशि पर्णदत्तं नियुज्य राजा धृतिमास्तथाभूत् (॥)
१०. तस्यात्मजो ह्यात्मजभावयुक्तो द्विधेव चात्मात्मवशेन नीतः । सर्वात्मनात्मेव च रक्षणीयो नित्यात्म-  
वानात्मजकान्तरूपः । (॥) रूपानुरूपैर्ललितैर्विचित्रैः (र) नित्यप्रमोदान्वितसर्वभावः । प्रबुद्धपद्माकर-  
पद्मवक्त्रो नृणां शरण्यः शरणागतानाम् । (॥)
११. अभवद्भुवि चक्रपालितोऽसाविति नाम्ना प्रथितः प्रियो जनस्य । स्वगुणैरनुपस्कृतैरुदात्तैः पितरं यश्च विशेषयांचकार । (॥) क्षमा प्रभुत्वं विनयो नयश्च शौर्यं विना शौर्यमह(१)र्ष्वनं च । वाक्यं दमो दानमदीनता च दाक्षिण्यमानृण्यमशून्यता च । (॥) सौंदर्यमार्थैतरनिग्रहश्च अविस्मयो धैर्यमुदीर्णता च
१२. इत्येवमेतेऽतिशयेन यस्मिन्नविप्रवासेन गुणा वसन्ति । (॥) न विद्यतेऽसौ सकलेपि लोके यत्रोपमा तस्य गुणैः क्रियेत । स एव कात्स्न्येन गुणान्वितानां बभूव नृ(नृ)णामुपमानभूतः । (॥) इत्येवमे-  
तानाधिकानतोऽन्याङ्गुणाः परीक्ष्य स्वयमेव पित्रा । यः संनियुक्तो नगरस्य रक्षां विशिष्य पूर्वान्प्रचकार सम्यक् । (॥)
१३. आश्रित्य वि(वी)र्यं सुमुजद्वयस्य स्वस्थैव नान्यस्य नरस्य दर्प(म्) । नोद्वेजयामास च कंचिदेवमस्मिन्पुरे चैव शशास दुष्टाः (न) । (॥) विश्रंभमल्पे न शशास योऽस्मिन् काले न लोकेषु सनागरेषु । यो लालयामास च पौरवर्गान् [ - - - ] पुत्रान्सुपरीक्ष्य दोषान् । (॥) संरंजयां च प्रकृतीर्बभूव पूर्वस्मिताभाषणमानदानैः ।
१४. निर्यत्रगान्योन्यगृहप्रवेशैः [ : ] संवर्द्धितप्रीतिगृहोपचारैः । (॥) ब्रह्मण्यभावेन परेण युक्तः शक्तः शुचिर्दानपरो यथावत् । प्रायान्सकाले विषयान्सिषेवे धर्मार्थयोश्चा[प्य]विरोधनेन । (॥) यो [ - - - - - ] पर्णदत्तात्स न्यायवानत्र किमस्ति चित्रम् । मुक्ताकलापाम्बुजपद्मशीता चंद्रात्किमुष्णं भविता कदाचित् । (॥)



१५. अथ क्रमेणाबुदकाल आगते निदाघकालं प्रविदार्य तोयदैः । वर्षर्ष तोयं बहु संततं चिरं सुदर्शनं येन विभेद चाचिरात् । (II) संवत्सराणामधिके शते तु त्रिंशद्भिरन्यैरपि षड्भिरेव । रात्रौ दिने प्रौष्ठपदस्य षष्ठे गुप्तप्रकाले गणनां विधाय । ( II )
१६. इमाश्च या रैवतकाद्विनिर्गता[ः] पलाशिनीयं सिकताविलासिनी । समुद्रकान्ताः चिरबन्धनोपिताः पुनः पतिं शास्त्रयथोचितं ययुः । (II) अवेक्ष्य वर्षागमजं महोद्भ्रमं महोदधेरूर्जयता प्रियेसुना । अनेकेतीरान्तजपुष्पशोभितो
१७. नदीमयो हस्त इव प्रसारितः । (II) विषाद्यमानाः खलु सर्वतो ज]नाः कथंकथं कार्यमिति प्रवादिनः मिथो हि पूर्वापररात्रमुत्थिता विचिन्तयां चापि बभूवुरुत्सुकाः । (II) अपीह लोके सकले सुदर्शनं पुमां(न्)हि दुर्दर्शनतां गतं क्षणात् ।
१८. भवेन्नु साम्भोनिधितुल्यदर्शनं सुदर्शनं [ - - - - - ] [ II ] [ - - - - - ] वणे स भूत्वा पितुः परां भक्तिमपि प्रदर्श्य । धर्मं पुरोधाय शुभानुबन्धं राज्ञो हितार्थं नगरस्य चैव ( II ) संवत्सराणामधिके शते तु
१९. त्रिंशद्भिरन्यैरपि सप्तमिश्च । प्र [ - - - - - ] शास्त्रचेत्ता विश्वोप्यनु ज्ञातमहाप्रभवः । ( II ) आज्यप्रणामैः विबुधानथेष्ट्वा धनैर्द्विजातीनापि तर्पयित्वा । पौरास्तथाभ्यर्च्य यथार्हमानैः भृत्यांश्च पूज्यान्सुहृदश्च दानैः । (II)
२०. ग्रैष्मस्य मासस्य तु पूर्वपक्षे [ - - - - - प्र]थमेहि सम्यक् । मासद्वयेनादरवान् स भूत्वा धनस्य कृत्वा व्ययमप्रमेयम् । (II) आयामतो हस्तशतं समग्रं विस्तारतः पष्टिरयापि चाष्टौ ।
२१. उत्सेधतो न्यत्पुरुषाणि सप्त (?) [ - - - - - ह]स्तशतद्वयस्य (II) बन्ध यत्नान्महता नृदेवान् [ अभ्यर्च्य ? ] सम्यग्घटितोपलेन । अजातिदुष्टप्रथितं तटाकं सुदर्शनं शाश्वतकल्पकालम् । (II)
२२. अपि च सुदृढसेतुप्रान्तविन्यस्तशोभयचरणसमाह्वक्रौंचहंसासधूतम् । विमलसलिल [ - - - - - ] भुवि त [ - - - - - ] दार्कः शशी च । ( II )
२३. नगरमपि च भूयाद् वृद्धिमत्पौरजुष्टं द्विजबहुशतगीतब्रह्मनिर्नष्टपापं । शतमपि च समानामीतिदुर्भिक्ष [ - - - - - ] [ II ] [ इति सुद- ] शनतटाकसंस्कारप्रथरचना [ स]माप्ता ॥

## Second Part.

२४. दृप्तारिदर्पणुदः पृथुश्रियः स्वत्र(वं)ङ्ग(श)केतोः सकलावनीपतेः । राजाधिराज्याद्भुतपुण्य[कर्मणः ] [ - - - - - ] [ II ] [ - - - - - ] द्वीपस्य गोप्ता महतां च नेता दण्डद्वि [ ? - ] नां
२५. द्विषतां दमाय । (II) तस्यात्मजेनात्मगुणान्वितेन गोविन्दपादापितजीवितेन । [ - - - - - ] [ II ] [ - - - - - ] ग्धं विष्णोश्च पादकमले समवाप्य तत्र । अर्थव्ययेन



8. Nyāy-ārjanê=rthasya cha kaḥ samarthah syād=arjitasy=āpy=atha rakshaṇê cha | gôpāyitasy=āpi [cha] vṛiddhi-hêtau vṛiddhasya pātra-pratipādanāya || Sarvvêshu bhṛityêshv=api samhatêshu yô mē praśishyān=nikhilān **Surāsh/rān** | ān jñātam=êkaḥ khalu **Parṇadattô** bhārasya tasy=ôdvahanê samarthah ||
9. Evam viniśchitya nṛip-ādhipêna naikân=ahô-râtragaṇân=sva-matyâ yaḥ samniyuktô=rthanayâ kathamchit samyak-**Surāsh/r-**āvani-pālanāya || Niyujya dēvâ Varuṇam pratichyām svasthâ yathâ n=ônmanasô babhûvu[h] [1] pûravvêtarasyām diśi **Parṇadattam** niyujya rājâ dhṛitimāms=tath=ābhût | (||)
10. Tasy=âtma-jô hy=âtma-maja-bhâva-yuktô dvidh=êva ch=âtm=âtma-vasêna nitaḥ sarvvâtman=âtm=êva cha raksaniyô nityâtmavân=âtma-maja-kântarûpaḥ | (||) Rûp-ânurûpair=lalitair=vichitraiḥ nitya-pramôd-ânvita-sarva-bhâvaḥ | prabuddha-padmâkara-padmavaktrô nṛiṇām śaranyah śaraṇ-âgatânām | (||)
11. Abhavad=bhuvi **Chakrapâlito**=sāv=iti nâmnâ prathitaḥ priyô janasya | sva-guṇair=an-upaskṛitair=udâtt[ai]ḥ pitaram yaś=cha viśêshayām-chakâra | (||) Kshamâ prabhutvam vinayo nayaś=cha śauryam vinâ śaurya-mah-[â]rchchanam cha | vâkyam damô dânam=adīnatâ cha dâkshinyam=ânṛinyam=aś[û]nyatâ cha | (||) Saum̄daryam=âryêtaranigrahaś=cha a-vismayô dhairyam=udīrnatâ cha |
12. ity=êvm=êtê=tiśayêna yasminn=a-vipravâsêna guṇâ vasanti | (||) Na vidyatê=sau sakalê=pi lôkê yatr=ôpamâ tasya guṇaiḥ kriyêta | (||) sa êva kârtsnyêna guṇ-ânvitânām babhûva nṛi(nṛi)ṇām=upamâna-bhûtaḥ | (||) Ity=êvam=êtân=adhikân=atô=nyân guṇân par[i]kshya svayam=êva pitrâ | yaḥ samniyuktô nagarasya rakshâm viśishya pûrvân prachakâra samyak | (||)
13. Aśritya vi(vi)ryam su-bhuja-dvayasya svasy=aiva n=ânyasya nara-sya darpaḥ | n=ôdvêjayâm-âsa cha kamchid=êvam=asmin=purê ch=aiva śasâsa dushtāḥ(n) | (||) Viśrambham=alpê na śasâma yô=smin kâlê na lôkêshu sa-nâgarêshu | yô lâlayâm-âsa cha paura-vargân (- - -) putrân=suparīkshya dôshân | (||) Samram̄jayām cha prakṛitir=babhûva pûrvasmitâbhâshana-mâna-dânaiḥ |
14. niryantṛaṇ-ânyônya-griha-pravêśai[h] samvarddhita-riti-grihōpachâraiḥ | (||) Brahmanya-bhâvêna parêṇa yuktaḥ śaktaḥ śuchir=dâna-parô yathâvat | prâpyân=sa kâlê vishayân = sishêvê dharm-ârthayôś=ch=āpy=a-virôdhanêna | (||) Yô(- - - - -) **Parṇadattât**=sa nyâyavân=atra kim=asti chitram | muktâkalâp-âmbuja-padma-śitâch=chandrât=kim=ushṇam bhavitâ kadâchit | (||)





## Second Part.

24. Dṛipt-âri-darpa-praṇudaḥ pṛithu-śriyaḥ sva-vaṅ(m)śa-kêtoḥ sakal-  
âvani-patêḥ | râjâdhirâjy-âdbhuta-puṇya-[karmaṇaḥ] [ - - - - -  
- - - - - ] [u] [ - - - - - ] [ - - - - - ] [ - - - - - ]  
- - - ) [i] dvipasya gôptâ mahatâm cha nêtâ daṇḍadvi[-]nâm
25. dvishatâm damâya (u) Tasy=âtmajên=âtma-guṇ-ânvitêna Gôvinda-  
pâd-ârpita-jivitêna | [ - - - - - ] [ - - - - - ] [ - - - - - ] [ - - - - - ]  
- - - - - ] [u] [ - - - - - ] [ - - - - - ] [ - - - - - ] [ - - - - - ]  
pâda-kamalê samavâpya tatra | artha-vyayêna
26. mahatâ mahatâ cha kâlên=âtma-prabhâva-nata-paurajanêna  
têna (u) Chakraṁ bibharti ripu [ - - - - - ] [ - - - - - ] [ - - - - - ]  
- - - - - ] [i] [ - - - - - ] [ - - - - - ] [ - - - - - ] [ - - - - - ]  
tasya  
sva-tamtra-vidhi-kâraṇa-mânushasya (u)
27. Kâritam=avakra-matinâ Chakrabhṛitaḥ **Chakrapâlitêna** gṛihaṁ |  
varsha-śatê=śtâ-trimśê **Guptânâm** kâla.....[u] [ - - - - - ]  
- - - - - ] [ - - - - - ] [ - - - - - ] [ - - - - - ] [ - - - - - ]  
â]rtham=utthitam=iv=Ôrjayatô=chalasya
28. kurvat=prabhutvam=iva bhâti purasya mûrdhni || Anyach=cha  
mûrddhani su[ - - - - - ] [ - - - - - ] [ - - - - - ] [ - - - - - ]  
- - - - - ] [ - - - - - ] [ - - - - - ] [ - - - - - ]
29. ruddha-vihaṅga-mârgaṁ vibhrâjatê [ - - - - - ] [ - - - - - ] [ - - - - - ] [ - - - - - ] [u]

## TRANSLATION.

## First Part.

Perfection has been attained ! Victorious is he, (the god) Vishṇu—the perpetual abode of the (goddess) Lakshmî whose dwelling is the waterlily, the conqueror of distress, the completely victorious one—who, for the sake of the happiness of (Indra) the lord of the gods, rescued from (the demon) Bali the goddess of wealth and splendour, who is admitted to be worthy of enjoyment, (and) who had been kept away from him for a very long time.

(Lines 2 to 4)—And next, victorious for ever is the supreme king of kings over kings, whose breast is embraced by the goddess of wealth and splendour; who has developed heroism by (the strength of his) arms; and who commandeered (and utilised) the authority of (his local) representatives, who were so many Garuḍas, (and used it as) an antidote against the (hostile) kings, who were so many serpents, lifting up their hoods in pride and arrogance—**Skandagupta**, of great glory, the abode of kingly qualities, who, when (his) father by his own power had attained the position of being a friend of the gods, overthrew his enemies and made subject to himself the (whole) earth, bounded by the waters of the



(And) having noticed the great bewilderment caused by the excess of rain, (the mountain) **Ūrjayat**, desirous of appropriating the wives of the mighty ocean, stretched forth as it were a hand, consisting of the river (**Palāśini**), decorated with the numerous flowers that grew on the edges of (its) banks.

(Line 17)—(Then on all sides) the people fell into despair, discussing how they should act and, spending the whole night awake in vain, in great anxiety they reflected:—“Here in a moment, (the lake) **Sudarśana** has (by the overflowing of its waters) assumed an unpleasing appearance towards all the people, (as if it were) a man (?), having the appearance of the ocean, quite full of water, can it ever (again) become pleasing of aspect,.....?”

(Lines 18 to 22)—.....he having become.....and displaying the height of devotion towards his father, (and) holding in full view, for the welfare of the king and of the city also, religion, which has such auspicious results, in a century of years, increased by thirty and seven others. also,..... attentive to the sacred writings.....whose majesty is well known. Then, having sacrificed to the gods with oblations of clarified butter and with obeisances, and having gratified the twice-born with (presents of) riches, and having paid respect to the citizens with such honours as they deserved, and to such of (his) servants as were worthy of notice, and to (his) friends with presents, in the first fortnight of the month.....belonging to the hot season, on the first day, he, having practised (all the above) respectful observances for two months, made an untold expenditure of wealth, and, (built an embankment) a hundred cubits in all in length, and sixty and eight in breadth, and seven (?) men’s height in elevation,.....of two hundred cubits. (Thus), having done honour to the kings, he laboriously built up, with a great masonry work, properly constructed, the lake **Sudarśana**, which is renowned as not being evil by nature, so that it should last for all eternity—agitated by the challenges of the ruddy-geese, the herons and the swans which display (their) beauty along the edges of the firmly-built embankment,.....pure waters; on the earth..... the sun and the moon.

(Line 23)—And may the city become prosperous, full of inhabitants, cleansed from sin by prayers sung by many hundreds of Brāhmaṇas, (and freed from) drought and famine for a hundred years..... (Thus) ends the record of the description of the restoration of (the lake) **Sudarśana**.

## Second Part.

(Line 24)—.....of him (**Skandagupta**), who destroyed the pride of (his) haughty enemies; who is of great glory; who is the banner of his lineage; who is the lord of the whole earth; whose pious deeds are even more wonderful than his supreme sovereignty over kings;.....

(Line 24)—.....(**Parṇadatta**), the protector of the peninsula, and the leader of great.....of armies for the subjugation of (*his*) enemies.

(Lines 25 and 26)—By his son, who is endowed with his good qualities, (*and*) whose life is devoted to (*the worship of*) the feet of (the god) Govinda,.....—by him, who causes the citizens to bow down by his own prowess, having there attained.....and the feet, which are like waterlilies, of (the god) Vishṇu, with a great expenditure of wealth and time (*there was built a temple*) of that famous (*god*) Vishṇu who carries the discus,.....enemies, (*and*) who became (*incarnate and*) human by the exercise of his own free will. (*Thus*) by **Chakrapālita**, who is of a straightforward mind, there has been caused to be built a temple of (the god) Chakrabhṛit, in a century of years together with the thirty-eighth (*year*),.....the time of the **Guptas**.

(Line 27).....uprisen, as it were, of the mountain **Urjayat**, shines as if displaying (*its*) lordship on the forehead of the city.

(Line 28) And another.....on the forehead.....  
.....obstructing the path of the  
birds, is resplendent.....



## APPENDIX A

## Place-names occurring in the inscriptions dealt with in the Memoir.

<b>Ānarta:—</b>	Northern Kāthiāwād with Kuśasthalī (Dvārakā) as its capital.
<b>Āndhras:—</b>	The Telugu people and their country on the eastern coast of India.
<b>Anupa-nivṛid:—</b>	The realm ( <i>nivṛid</i> ) of <b>Anūpa</b> . Cf. <b>Anūpa-deśa</b> .
<b>Aparānta:—</b>	The western coast of India including the <b>Koṅkana</b> .
<b>Chodas:—</b>	The people on the Coromandel coast and their country.
<b>Gandhāras:—</b>	The people of the present North-West Frontier Province and eastern Afghānistān.
<b>Kachchha:—</b>	The same as the present Cutch State.
<b>Kaliṅga:—</b>	The east-coast between the Mahānadī and the Godāvāri, roughly.
<b>Kambojas:—</b>	Identification is not certain. Some people near the North-West Frontier Province seem to be meant.
<b>Ketalaputa:—</b>	(Possibly Ketala stands for Kerala). King of <b>Kerala</b> or <b>Malabār</b> .
<b>Kukura:—</b>	Some portion of <b>Rājputānā</b> seems to be meant.
<b>Maru:—</b>	Possibly some portion of <b>Mārwād</b> .
<b>Nishāda:—</b>	Probably the part round the Sātpurā range in the Khāndesh and Nāsik districts.
<b>Pāṇdyas:—</b>	The people of southernmost India; possibly of the Tinnevely and Coimbtore districts.
<b>Pārindas:—</b>	Some eastern tribe.
<b>Pāṭaliputra:—</b>	The old city of this name, also called Kusumapura and Pushpapura. It was founded by Udaya the grandson of Ajātaśatru, who was the contemporary of Gautama Buddha. The modern Bankipore and Patna mark its site.
<b>Peteṅikas:—</b>	Identification not settled.
<b>Pūrv-āpar-Ākar-āvanti:—</b>	Eastern and western <b>Mālwā</b> ( <i>Pūva-Ākara+Apara-Avanti</i> ).
<b>Risṅikas:—</b>	Identification not settled.
<b>Satiyaputa:—</b>	Not identified. Travancore has been suggested as a possible equivalent.



**Sindhu-Sauvīra:**—

Sind with a part of the Multān district in the Panjab.

**Surāshīra:**—

Sorath. Southern Kāthiāwād, Jūnāgadḥ and other southern States ( ? )

**S'vabhra:**—

The tract watered by the Svabhramatī, the modern Sābaramatī river.

**Tāmraparī:**—

Possibly Ceylon. Or it may be the extreme south of India watered by the river of the same name.

**Yaudheyas:**—

A Rājput tribe in western **Rājputānā**.

**Yonas, or } :—**  
**Yonās**

The Ionian Greeks.

APPENDIX B

Historical personages mentioned in the inscriptions dealt with  
in the Memoir.

- Amtekina:—** Antigonos Gonatos of Macedonia (276–239 B. C.).
- Antiyaka:—** The 'Yona' King Antiochus II. Theos of Syria is probably meant (261–246 B. C.).
- Chakrapālita:—** The son of Paṇḍadatta who was in charge of the city of Gīrnār or, we can say, of Jūnāgaḍh.
- Chandragupta:—** The Maurya Emperor of this name (322–298 B. C.).
- Magā:—** Magas of Cyrene (cir. 300–250 B. C.).
- Paṇḍadatta:--** Skandagupta's deputy in charge of the province of Kāthiāwād.
- Pushyagupta:--** A Vaiśya whom Chandragupta, the Maurya Emperor, put in charge of Kāthiāwād.
- Rudradāman:--** The *Mahākshatrapa* ruler of Western India. (cir. 150 A. D.).
- Sātakarṇi:--** The Lord of the Dakṣiṇāpatha and son-in-law of the *Mahākshatrapa* Rudradāman. He was the Andhra king called Vāsishṭhīputra Śrī-Puḷumāyi. (cir. 150 A. D.).
- Skandagupta:—** A Gupta Emperor (455–467 A. D.).
- Suviśākha:—** The Pahlava governor under Rudradāman the *Mahākshatrapa*. His father's name was Kulaipa.
- Turamāya:—** Ptolemy II. Philadelphus, King of Egypt (cir. 285–247 B. C.).
- Tushāspha :—** A *Yavana* chieftain who ruled under Aśoka over Kāthiāwād.

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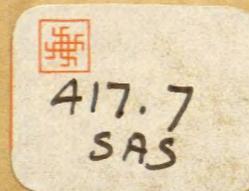
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