



A CATALOGUE OF COPPER PLATE GRANTS

1918 - 2010

Dr.T.S. SRIDHAR, I.A.S.,

Principal Secretary

and

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PREFACE

Archaeology is a branch of study which studies man's past through his material remains. It comprises several branches including excavation, epigraphy, protection of monuments, up keep of museums, registration of antiquities, study of numismatics, decipherment of manuscripts etc.

The political and social history of any nation can be written only on the basis of contemporary evidences. Inscriptions and copper plates are foremost among them. India, a nation having a long heritage possesses very many numbers of such documents.

Tamil Nadu has the unique distinction of having not only the largest number of stone inscriptions, but also the largest number of copper plate grants.

An epigraph or inscription is known as "*sasanam*" which in Sanskrit means a command or order. A majority of the inscriptions refer to the royal commands granting land or other privileges to temples and other institutions, besides learned Brahmins well versed in Vedic lore.

Incidentally, the inscriptions throw light upon the administration, economic condition of the people, the nature of taxation, commerce and conditions of the mercantile community etc. A careful study of the inscriptions reveals various aspects of the social life and conditions in those days. They are also useful for a study of the growth of language and literature.

The copper plate grant, in addition to the above, contains information about the ancestry and genealogy of the king. It narrates how the king ordered the gift of the grant and closes with imprecatory verses.

The bulk of the epigraphic material was prompted by religious motives and not by a desire to record the past history. All the religious faiths are represented in the epigraphs as the recipients of the donations and endowments, with Saiva and Vaishnava faiths figuring predominantly. There are donative records and occasionally votive tablets also. There are also grants bearing testimony to the relations between South India and foreign islands.

This catalogue of the Copper-plate grants preserved in the Government Museum, Chennai contains a short description of each of the grants, one hundred and seventy-two copper-plates that have been received from 1918 up to May 2010. This is the second catalogue of this series. The first catalogue was published in 1918 containing more than 200 copper-plate grants. It went out of stock for some time and a second edition was made in 2000. This shows the popularity of the publication among the scholars and students. The information they contain forms the primary source for Indian Archaeology and History of South India. They range from 9th century CE to 19th Century CE, from the Pallava period to the reign of Petty Zamindars.

The languages of these grants vary from Prakrit, Sanskrit, Tamil, Telugu, Kanarese, Malayalam to Modern Tamil. The script used varies according to the dynasties; and also of the localities where, and the period when, the grants were issued. Most of these grants are donative records dealing with gifts made by the kings, usually of land, which may extend to entire villages. They were executed on days specially selected because they were auspicious, such as solar and lunar eclipses. They are usually dated some times in the regnal year of the king, or other times in the Kaliyuga or in the Saka era. In certain cases astronomical data are given and their date would be decided on the basis of the ephemeris data.

Each of these records opens, as a rule, with a verse invoking the blessings of their tutelary deity, and followed by a more or less imaginary genealogy of the king, tracing his ancestry back to mythical founder of the dynasty, and sometimes stating the number of regnal years, or certain historical events.

In the present catalogue the grants are arranged in alphabetical order, dynasty-wise containing data as they were recorded in the Museum's Accession Register. In the case of each grant its nature is described briefly, i.e., the number of plates employed and the features of the seal, if one is present, the language and script and followed by a brief description of the content, and finally references to publications in which full description have appeared. Some of the plates like the following are very important:

A set of eleven copper plates of Pallava King Nandivarman, about 8th Century CE, strung on a ring with a seal bearing the figure of a bull, record that the King gave the village of Ekadharamangalam to a Brahman in the 22nd year of his regnal year.

A set of 31 plates of King Rajendra Chola from Tiruvalangadu, (highest on record at the time of acquiring in 1920) strung on a massive ring the ends of which are secured by means of a seal bearing in relief the emblem of a tiger, two fish, a bow, two lamps, two ankusas, two spears, two flagships, two chamaras, a drum, a Varaha, a swastika and tripod, a parasol and a legend in Sanskrit which has been translated "Hail! Prosperity! This is Parakesarivarman Rajendra Chola's edict to be borne on the glittering jewels of the row of royal diadems". They record that in his sixth regnal year the King granted the village of Palaiyanur to the Siva temple at Tiruvelangadu. The first ten plates are in Sanskrit and give valuable information about Chola genealogy and the history of different Chola Kings. The next 21 plates are in Tamil and register the order of the Kings and specify the boundaries of the village at the time of the grant ie. 1016-1017 AD. This is a very important and valuable acquisition.

TIRUINDALUR COPPER PLATES:

It was during temple renovation work in May 2010 of Sri Kailasanatha temple, at Kazhukkanimuttam, a hamlet of Tiruindalur village near Mayiladuthurai that this remarkable chance discovery was made by the temple trustees. The hoard consisted of 12 bronze idols as well as 8 musical instruments and puja utensils. But the jewel in the crown of the hoard was the copper plate of Rajadhi Raja I.

The grant is in two parts, the first part is in Sanskrit while the other is in Tamil. The scripts employed are Grantha and Tamil respectively. It records the forming of two chaturvedimangalams in the name of Rajendra chola and Solakula narayana, and gifted to 130 brahmins and also to other supporting communities at the instance of Vikrama Chola-Pandya. Rajendra Chola Chaturvedi mangalam has been formed by unifying eight villages namely Tattamangalam, Kuttanur, Panchavan Nallur, Karambaikkudi, Melnagakkudi, Kilnagakkudi, Korransallur and Periyangudi.

These copper plates give a list of the genealogy of the King Rajendra Chola –II beginning with mythical ancestors. An interesting historical fact is revealed as the elder brother (Rajathiraja -I) is killed in the battle field at Kuppam in Chalukhya territory and the younger brother Rajendra Chola –II assumes control and is crowned in the battle field itself.

From the above, it can be seen that copper plate forms the vital source of historical evidence which helps scholars to understand and appreciate the socio economic and political history of a nation. The present

catalogue contains valuable information covering more than 10 dynasties spanning over nearly ten decades. It helps the students to know the history of the above dynasties.

I wish to place on record my indebtedness to Thiru R. Srinivasa Raghava Ayyangar, author of the first volume published in the year 1918, and Thiruvalrgal. T.N.Ramachandran, C.Sivaramamurti, P.R.Srinivasan, V.N.Srinivasa Desikan who have contributed to the decipherment of several copper plates figuring 172 in this second volume. I also wish to compliment Thiru.R.Balasubramanian, Curator, Archaeology, Government Museum, Chennai and Thiru. R.Sivanandam, Epigraphist, Department of Archaeology who have assisted me in the preparation of this catalogue. My compliments to Mrs.S.Thara for providing secretarial assistance and to Thiru G.Ramesh for the photographs. I am sure this volume will be found useful by all levels of students of archaeology, history and epigraphy.

CATALOGUE OF COPPER PLATE

GRANTS FROM

1918-2010

ARAVIDU

Acc.No. 167/82

One set of nine (9) plates of copper plate grant in Nandi Nagari script and in Sanskrit language. It records the grant of a village by name Kurapura (Karapura) renamed as Madanagopalapuram to a number of Vaishnava Brahmanas by Venkatapati I of Aravidu. It has a seal with figure of a boar etc., on a ring.

BANA

Acc.No. 28/21

A set of five copper plates strung on a ring which is broken now with a seal bearing bull. They record the renewal of a grant of the village of Viprapitha to certain Brahmins by the Bana King Vikramaditya.

BHANJA FAMILY

Acc.No. 7a/19

A set of three plates strung on a ring with a seal bearing a lion facing the proper left and the legend "Sri Netribhanja Devasya". They record that Netribhanja Deva, a chief of the Bhanja Family, gave the village of Ratanga to several Brahmanas. Datable to the 10-13th Century CE.

(Epigraphia Indica Vol. XVIII, Part VII pp-293 as H.Ganjam plates of Netribhanja Deva.)

B

A set of three plates strung on a ring with an indistinct impression of a lion. They record that the chief of the Bhanja Family gave the village of Machchhada to a Brahman.

(Epigraphia Indica Vol. XVIII, Part VII, pp 294-295 as I. Ganjam plates of Netribhanja Deva with damaged seal.)

C

A set of three plates strung on a ring bearing an indistinct impression of a lion. They record that Vidyadhara Bhanja a chief of the Bhanja dynasty gave the village of Mala Machchhada to a brahmain.

(Epigraphia Indica Vol. XVIII, Part VII, P.296 as J. Ganjam plates of Vidyadhara Bhanjadeva.)

CHERA

Acc.No. 152/65

A set of two copper plates record the gift of land. The first plate contains inscriptions on both sides, while the second plate contains inscriptions only on one side. The first side of the first plate consist of 11 lines; the second side consists of 10 lines. The second plate consists of 10 lines only. The scripts used are Vatteluttu, Grantha and Tamil. On the grounds of Palaeography this may be dated to 11th -12th Century. King: Chera Ko Ravi Kodai.

CHIKURA

Acc.No. 34/22

A set of three copper plates strung on a ring , the ends of which are secured by means of a small mass of copper on which is impressed the figure of a conch.

Gift: They record that the Lord of Chikura gave the village of Pulaka to a Brahman named Harisarman in the 6th year of his reign.

(E.I.Vol.XIII)

CHOLA

Chola 1

Acc.No. 22

A set of three plates strung on a ring with a seal bearing in relief a standing lion, was found by a man while digging foundations for the mutt at Malipadu, Cuddappah District and was presented to the Museum. It records that Chola Chief Punya Kumara who was ruling over the country now comprising the districts of Cuddappah and a portion of Nellore gave a plot of land in the village of Biraparu to a Brahman on the full moon day in the month of Kartika in the 5th year of his reign. About the end of 8th Century CE.

Chola 2

Acc.No. 24/20

A set of 31 plates (highest on record) strung on a massive ring the ends of which are secured by means of a seal bearing in relief the emblem of a tiger, two fish, a bow, two lamps, two ankusas, two spears, two flagstaves, two chamaras, a drum, a Varaha, a swastika and tripod, a parasol and a legend in Sanskrit which has been translated "Hail! Prosperity! This is Parakesarivarman Rajendra Chola's edict to be borne on the glittering jewels of the row of royal diadems". They record that in his sixth regnal year the King granted the village of Palaiyanur to the Siva temple at Tiruvelangadu. The first ten plates are in Sanskrit and give valuable information about Chola geneology and the history of different Chola Kings. The next 21 plates are in Tamil and register the order of the Kings and specify the boundaries of the village at the time of the grant i.e., 1016-1017 CE. This is a very important and valuable acquisition. Found in an underground chamber within the temple of Tiruvelangadu, Chittoor District. Acquired under the Indian Treasure Trove Act.

Chola 3

Acc.No. 40/23

A set of five copper plates strung on a ring, the ends of which soldered to the bottom of a seal which bears the legend

" Sri Tribhuvanankusa" along with the emblems of sun, moon, a star, two parasols, the chola tiger, an ankusa, a lotus, a swastika, the chalukyan Boar, chakra, sandals, drum, double conch, lamp stands and some other indistinct symbols. Gift: Rajendra Choda, the Velnadu Chief gave the village of Inamgaru in Saka 1091 in the 23rd year of his reign (CE. 1169). These plates are important as they give an account of the later Chalukyan Kings who held sway in the Vengi country down to the boundary of Rajaraja II and of their subordinates, the Velnadu Chiefs down to Rajendra Choda. Some plates are missing both at the beginning and at the end.

(Annual report of Govt. Epigraphist for 1917.)

Chola 4

Acc.No. 171/95

One set of 57 copper plates with two seals intact.

These plates are reported to have been unearthed in a field in the village of Puttur in Papanasam taluk in Thanjavur District. The Karandai Tamil Sangam having learnt about the existence of these plates, secured them through the good offices of the local Firka Development Officer.

The first section of the charter comprising of three plates serially numbered contains the Sanskrit Text.

The second section of twenty-two plates independently numbered contains the details of the grant proper in Tamil.

The third set of thirty-two plates also independently numbered contains the list of all the Brahmana donees, the temples and other services- all that received shares of the granted land.

THE Seal: the ends of the ring are secured at the base of a 16 petalled lotus (eight full-blown and eight partly visible) supported on the thickened segment of the ring. The circular royal seal raising high from the base of the ring rests on the expanded lotus mentioned above. In the centre

of the seal is the Chola tiger with its mouth open, seated facing the proper right on its hind legs with its forelegs raised and claws drawn out and with tail drawn through and reaching to very near its mouth. On its front are two fish, the Pandyan crest. Behind the tiger are a lampstand, a flag, a dagger in scabbard pointed downwards and a goad. A lampstand, a flag and a goad are represented behind the fish. Over the fish and the tiger is a parasol (chatra) with a fly-whisk (Chauri) on either side of it. Underneath the right a drum, a low chair standing perhaps for a simhasana, a boar is facing proper right and a svastika. All these symbols are figured in relief on a counter-sunken surface. Outside the surface bordered by a circle, the following legend in Sanskrit verse is found in embossed characters of the Grantha alphabet, starting just above the parasol and running round the margin of the seal in a clockwise direction: "Rajad-rajanya makuta sreni ratnesu sasanam/ etad Rajendra cholasya Parakesarivarmana://"

"This (is) Parakesarivarman Rajendrachola's edict (to be borne) on the glittering jewels of the row of royal diadems (i.e., to be respected by them)."

Karandai Tamil Sangam, Thanjavur. Purchased through Government Order.

Chola 5

Acc.No. 172/2010

One set of 85 Copper plates with seal and ring intact

It was during temple renovation work in May 2010 at Sri Kailasanatha temple, at Kazhukkanimuttam, a hamlet of Tiruindalur village near Mayiladuthurai that this remarkable chance discovery was made by the temple trustees. The hoard consisted of 12 bronze idols as well as 8 musical instruments and puja utensils. But the jewel in the crown of the hoard was the copper plate of Rajadhi Raja I.

Actually the charter totally contains 85 plates with seal and ring intact but the first plate was missing. "This charter contains 86 plates" is mentioned in the ring in Tamil script. The seal bears the figure of Tiger in

sitting posture, two standing fishes, bow, umbrella, chamaras and standing lamps on both sides. The shloka reads "Dharma Etat Rajendra Devasya Parakesari Varmanaha Srimach Chasanam Urvi sa Sirobhiha Sekari" engraved on the seal. The seal of the copper plates makes it clear that it is a grant issued by Rajendra Chola –II. But the grant originally was ordered by Rajadhi Raja-I in his 35th regnal year (1053 CE).

The grant is in two parts, the first part is in Sanskrit while the other is in Tamil. The scripts employed are Grantha and Tamil respectively.

It records the forming of two chaturvedimangalam in the name of Rajendra chola and Solakula narayana, and gifted to 130 brahmins and also to other supporting communities at the instance of Vikrama Chola-Pandya. Rajendra Chola Chaturvedi mangalam has been formed by unifying eight villages namely Tattamangalam, Kuttanur, Panchavan Nallur, Karambaikkudi, Melnagakkudi, Kilnagakkudi, Korransallur and Periyangudi.

These copper plates give a list of the genealogy of the Rajendra Chola –II beginning with mythical ancestors. An interesting historical field is revealed as the elder brother (Rajathiraja -I) is killed in the battle field at Kuppam and the younger brother Rajendra Chola –II assumes control and is crowned in the battle field itself.

EASTERN CHALUKYA

Eastern Chalukya 1

Acc.No.2/18

A set of four copper plates (without ring and seal) recording the grant of Tandikonda and other three villages to a Siva temple at Vijayavata (Bezwada) by Chalukya King Amma Raja II. Datable to the 10th Dec 958 CE.

Eastern Chalukya 2

Acc.No5/18

A grant composed of five copper plates strung on a ring, with a seal bearing in relief the legend "Sri Vijayasiddhi" with a crescent between two daggers. The plates record that the Eastern Chalukyan King Sarvalokasraya gave the village of Chendarura to six Brahmanas on the occasion of an eclipse of the moon. Datable to the 6th May 673 CE.

(P.237 of E.I. Vol. VIII)

Eastern Chalukya 3

Acc.No.6/18

A grant composed of three copper plates strung on a ring with a seal bearing the legend "Sri Sarvasiddhi". They record that the King Jayasimha vallabha or Jayasimha gave the village of Kombaru to a scholar named Somasarman. The King Jayasimha vallabha or Jayasimha ruled from 633 to 663 CE. Datable to the 7th Century CE.

Eastern Chalukya 4

Acc.No.11

Collector of Godavari sent to Government Museum, a set of five copper plates strung on a ring with a seal bearing in relief the legend " Sri Tribhuvanamkusa" and the emblems of boar, two chauries, a crescent, an elephant goad, the sun, a conch, a drum, a four petelled flower, a flower bud and a throne, found by a ryot in the village of Teki, Godavari District while working in the field. They record that the King Chodaganga Deva surnamed Rajaraja conferred certain privileges on the descendents of the Teliki family in 17th year of reign of the Chola king Kulotunga I. Datable to the 1086- 1087 CE.

Eastern Chalukya 5

Acc.No. 16

A set of three plates strung on a ring with a seal bearing the legend "Sri Anivarita" and a boar was found while dug up by a ryot of Munjeru in a pattah land adjoining his house and found secured in a pot. . They record that the King Kokilavarma Maharaja gave the village of Bodderi to a Brahman of Munjeru on the day of a lunar eclipse.

Eastern Chalukya 6

Acc.No. 19

A set of three plates strung on a ring with a seal bearing indistinctly the legend "Vijayasiddhi" found along with Grant No. 16. They record that the King Kokali Vikramaditya Bhattaraka gave the village of Munjeru to the residents of Depudi on the occasion when he was sorely afflicted, perhaps on his death bed.

Eastern Chalukyias 7

Acc.No. 20/

An incomplete set of four loose plates with indistinct impressions unearthed by a ryot of Kasimkota while ploughing in his field. They record that the King Bhima I gave the village in Elamanchi, Kalingdesa, to certain persons. He is stated to have crushed the army of Krishnaraja.

Eastern Chalukya 8

Acc.No. 35/22

A set of five copper plates strung on a ring, the ends secured by a seal which bears in relief the emblems of a boar, a chauri and some indistinct emblems.

Gift: E.Chalukya King Rajaraja II, son of Kulottunga Chola I gave 12 villages to his friend and Subordinata, Manndi Bhima as governorship in respect of

1000 villages comprising the Vengipuravishaya on the 27th July 1076 CE. These plates give the date of the coronation of the King. Purchased from Mr. Boyapati Bulleyya, Singarajupalem, Kistna Dt. ,

(Epigraphy Report for 1921-22, Pt.II.)

Eastern Chalukya 9

Acc.No.38/23

A set of five copper plates strung on a ring, the ends of which are secured by means of a seal bearing on the surface the legend, "Tyagadhenu" between the crescents and lotus record that the E.Chalykyan King Indravarman, gave the village of Kondanangaru to a brahman named Chandi Sarman. The discovery of these plates has proved beyond doubt that the King Indravarman, did actually rule, a point not definitely settled before.

Eastern Chalukya 10

Acc.No.45/24

A set of three copper plates, registers the grant of the village of Penakaparu to Sri Yena Drona Sarman on the Jyeshta Sankranthi day by the Eastern Chalukyan King Sri Jaya simha Vallabha Maharaja who ruled in the latter part of the 7th Century CE.

Eastern Chalukya 11

Acc.No. 49/26

A set of five copper plates strung on a ring, the ends of which are soldered to the bottom of a seal, bearing the legend, "Sri Tribhuvanamkusa" and the emblems of the Sun, moon, parasol, two chamaras, ankusa, drum, double conch, a Chalukyan Boar, lotus and Howdah?

Gift: The Eastern Chalukyan King, Vishnuvardhana Vijayaditya VII gave the village of Mavinderu to a Vedic Scholar, Pampanarya Bhattopadhyaya of the Parasara Gotra for his scholarship, in the Uttarayana of the 12th year of his reign. The geneology of the E.Chalukyan Kings down to the donor is given as also that of the receiptent whose ancestors are much praised for their learning.

Eastern Chalukya 12

Acc.No. 50/26

Record the gift by the same king of the village of Krumdru to a Vedic Scholar Pampanarya of the Parasara Gotra, of a resident of the village of Pasudeva. Here also the E.Chalukyan geneology down to the donor is given and the receiptents scholarship praised.

Eastern Chalukya 13

Acc.No. 51/26

A set of three plates strung on a ring. Records the grant by E.Chalukyan King Vishnu Vardhana Maharaja III of two nivartanas of land in the village of Ariyeru and of a house in the same village to Nurisarman, S/o Nammi Sarman and grandson of Nurisarman of the Patanjala gotra and a resident of Padminy agrahara on the occasion of the solar eclipse (dated about 710 CE.)

Eastern Chalukya 14

Acc.No. 58/29

A grant composed of three plates strung on a ring with a seal, much worn-out. They record that the E. Chalukyan King, Sri Prithivi Jaysimha Vallaba Maharaja gave the village of "Pulimbura" which lies in Guddavadi-vishaya to a Brahmin, named Rudrasarman who dwelt in Asanapura. Rudrasarman was the son of Sivasarman and the grandson of Damasarman. (Jayasimha I ruled from about 633 to 663 CE.)

Eastern Chalukya 15

Acc.No. 62/31

A set of five copper plates strung on ring, the ends of which are soldered to the bottom of a circular seal bearing in relief a boar facing the right with the disc of the moon above and the legend "Arikesari" below. It records the grant of the village of Balmogarn in Rammudu-Vishaya by a Chalukyan King called Arikesari to a Saivite teacher of Kalamukha sect named Mugdha Sivacharya, who lived at Elesvaram to the north of Srisailam.

It appears to be dated in the Kali era equivalent to 1020 CE. But we do not hear of a Chalukya of this name in about this year.

The language is Sanskrit and the script Telugu-Kannada.

Remarks:- An important grant because;- 1. It is the only copper plate of Arikesari discovered till now. 2. This King is not connected either with the Chalukyas of Badami or the Chalukyas of Vengi. Thus the grant brings to light a new line of the Chalukyan dynasty. Excavated in Kollipara, Guntur District.

Eastern Chalukya 16

Acc.No. 63/30

A broken piece of Copper plate. (the broken part missing), with writing on both the sides recording the grant of something, probably of land, to some Brahman or brahmanas, by the Eastern Chalukyan King Gunaka Vijayaditya, son of Kali Vishnuvardhana. The King is said to have made the gift and issued the C.P.Grant from his Court-hall (Āsthānamaṇḍapa) while the heir apparent was by his side.

The language is Sanskrit and the script Telugu-Kannada. Nothing is found in this piece about the date of the grant. We know however that the King ruled from 848-892 CE. T.T. Appalapatnaikunipeta village, Palakonda Taluk, Vizagapatnam District. Found as Treasure Trove buried in a field in

Applaptnaikaunipeta village, Palakonda Taluk, Vizagapatnam District & sent by the Collector of Vizagapatnam.

Eastern Chalukya 17

Acc.No. 76/35

Date of the grant is not given, A set of seven copper plates strung on a ring, the ends of which are soldered to the bottom of a circular seal on the surface of which are seen in relief the figures of an wild boar, elephant goad, sun, moon, a lotus and the legend — Sri Tribhuvanankusa. On the back of the seal where the ends of the ring are secured are in high relief the figures of Ganesa and Lakshmi.

The plates record that the Eastern Chalukyan King Vijayaditya III made a grant of the village of Santagrama situated in the district (Vishaya) of Gudrahara (Modern Gudivada) divided into vrittis to a hundred Brahmans (Of whom seventy nine only are mentioned) of different gotras belonging to the villages of Vangipurro Krovasai, Karamicheda, Upputura, Karrora Vengipurra, Kranja etc., of the 100 donees 20 bear the title Bhatta, 30 are said to have studied the four Vedas, 30 the three Vedas. The plates furnish us with a geneology of the Eastern Chalukya line from Kubja Vishnuvardhana in a chronological order and the exploits of the respective Kings. The dates given in this inscription for the earlier kings of the line differ from those given in the other copper plates. From this grant it is clear that Vijayaditya had routed the Rashtrakutas. The plates are interesting for the reason that this set mentions Vishnuvardhana IV as having been ruling over Vengimandala 12000 while such a description is not given of the Kingdom of his father Vijayaditya I.

The executor of the grant was Panduranga, the grandson of Bhattakala. The scribe is said to be one Lekhaditya and described as having built a ghantasala.

The Language is Sanskrit and the script being Old Telugu.
Length—25.5 cm

Breadth—10.3 cm

Diameter of the seal 7cm. Discovered in the village of Satalur, Krishna District, while digging for pati earth.

(Bharati Vol I, No.1, Pp.91-110 and J of Andhra Hist. Research Society, Vol.V, No.pp.101-116.)

Eastern Chalukya 18

Acc.No. 81/36

A set of three copper plates with high rims mostly broken in a bad state of preservation. The ring and the seal are missing. Parts of the plates are broken and missing. Some broken pieces are however preserved with the plates.

The plates record the gift of land to five Brahmanas of Gautama, Kasyapa, Kausika, Harita, Atreya gotras. One or more plates appear to be missing after plate II b. The plates recount the Eastern Chalukyan Kings in succession. The name of the King who made the gift and the date are missing on account of the one or two plates which are wanting.

The language used is Sanskrit and the script Chalukyan.

See p. 84 Annual report on Epigraphy for 1911-12.

Length –21.5 cm

Breadth – 7.5 cm.

Eastern Chalukya 19

Acc.No. 88/38

A set of three copper plates strung on a ring with the seal missing. The grant is of the time of Vishnuvardhana, the grandson of Vishnuvardhana and son of Vijayaditya. It records the grant of Vasundruru grama to deciples of a Saivite Brahma Sivāchārya.

Eastern Chalukya 20

Acc.No. 89/38

A set of three copper plates strung on a ring the seal of which is broken and come off separate. One of the plates is broken. The grant is of the time of Vishnuvardhana, the grandson of Vishnuvardhana and is of the same time as the other grant. It records the gift of the land in Vassundruru grama to the disciples of a Saivite guru for paying the Nātyāchārya, the musicians and the temple dancing girls and for the temple repairs.

Eastern Chalukya 21

Acc.No. 97/41

Five copper plates strung on a ring with seal showing Varaha, sun, moon and goad and legend "Sri Tribhuvanamkusa" records in letters of the Telugu-Canarese. It speaks of the grant of a village named Kattapana to a Brahmin named Rajadita on the occasion of a solar eclipse. The donees parentage and his distinguished military services under the king are mentioned. His great grandfather Kumaramurti last of Katri and vayalm left in his place owing to the bad treatment of the Tondaima (Pallava) King and came and settled in hundi in the Vengi country.

Eastern Chalukya 22

Acc.No. 100/44

Five plates strung on a ring with a circular seal showing the Chalukyan Emblem boar, chauries on either side of it, sun, moon, and umbrella above, conch, goad and drum, legend in Canarese-Telugu letters "Sri Tribhuvanamkusa" with legged ---flower and lily below. Of the copper plates all of which are weathered the last is only a fragment, most of it being broken and lost. It records the grant of village Kalidingi alias Madhurantakanallur for a temple Rajarajesvara and two other to provide for music, repairs, offerings and worship, Sastric lectures, sacrifice or other expenses. The boundaries of the area given neat. The inscription gives the line of the Eastern Chalukyan mythical and historical to the time of Rajaraja. The temples were raised to commemorate certain Chola generals that were sent to him and distinguished themselves in battle when it cost their life. (Published in Bharati March-April -May 1943.)

Eastern Chalukya 23

Acc.No. 139/49

Three loose copper plates without the ring, the centre one bearing inscribed on both the sides and the other two inscribed on one side only. The grantor is Vishnuvardhana Maharaja III, son of Vijayaditya Maharaja and the grandson of Vishnuvardhana Maharaja. The donee is Sarvasarman, son of Madi Sarman and the grandson of Vasisarman of Atreya Gotra, Apasthamba Sutra and a native of Karacheru. The language is Sanskrit, the script being Chalukyan. He is spoken of as a Taittiriya Brahmacharin. The grant records the gift of 12 khandikas of wet lands in the village of Lula in the Gudavadi Vishaya. The gift was made on the occasion of a solar eclipse. The grant is undated.

Length - 7"; Breadth - 25/8"

Weight 41 tolas.

EASTERN GANGAS

Eastern Ganga 1

Acc.No.1/1918

A grant composed of three copper plates strung on a ring with a seal bearing an indistinct device. They record the grant by Samantavarman, ruler of Svetka, of the village of Vatagrama to a Brahman named Govinda Sarman. These plates are important both historically and palaeographically. Datable to about the 8th Century CE.

Eastern Ganga 2

Acc.No. 21/19

A set of five plates strung on a ring with a seal surmounted by a high recumbent bull and the emblems of a conch, an elephant goad, a trisula, a battle axe, a crescent, a mace, a noose and a drum, received from the Narasapatam taluk of the Vizagapatam district. They record that the King Vajrahasta III gave the district of Gorasatta together with 35 villages to one of his relatives on the 9th day in the month of Mina in Saka 967, corresponding to CE 1045. This is believed to be the oldest known grant of Vajrahasta.

(Epigraphia Indica Vol. XI page 147.)

Eastern Ganga 3

Acc.No.31/22

A set of three copper plates strung on a ring with a seal bearing an indistinct figure of a bull and a crescent. They record that the King Indra Varma Deva gave some lands to a Brahman in the village of Amarasinga named Sami Sarman.

Eastern Ganga 4

Acc.No.41/23

A set of three copper plates strung on a ring, the ends of which are fastened to a seal, the impressions on which are much worn. The plates record the gift of the E.Ganga King, Indravarman. The King gave the village of Bhukkukurachcheda to a Brahman on the full moon day in the month of Kartika in the 149th year of reign of the Ganga line of Kings.

Eastern Ganga 5

Acc.No.52/26

The Collector of Ganjam acquired these following copperplate grants which were found in Khorni village, Chicacole Taluk, Ganjam District. A set of five copper plates strung on a ring, the ends of which are soldered to the bottom of a circular seal showing the bull couchant in the centre and bearing the emblems of conch, discus, chamara, umbrella, moon, sun and some unknown symbols. It records the grant of the village of Khomi by the E.Ganga King Anantavaraman Chodagangdeva to 300 brahmanas. The grant is dated Saka 1003, Mina, Krishna pancami, Sunday (probably CE.1081, March 1, Monday.). The language is Sanskrit and alphabet is Nagari.

Eastern Ganga 6

Acc.No. 53/26

A set of five copper plates strung on a ring, the ends soldered to the bottom of a circular Seal showing the reclining bull in the centre and the

following emblems:- Conch, moon, Sun, umbrella, Chamara, lamp and drum.

It records the grant of 88 vritis of land in the village of Tulupu by the Eastern Ganga King, Anatavarman Choda Ganga deva to the Brahmans as compensation for joining subsequently with the village of Gara Mundaparu which was originally granted to the Brahmans along with the village of Khonna by the King's Grand father, Vajrahasta in Saka 1034.

The grant is dated Uttarayana, Saka 1034 (1112-13 CE.). The language is Sanskrit and the script Telugu.

Eastern Ganga 7

Acc.No.75/35

A set of three copper plates strung on a ring, the ends of which are soldered to the bottom of a circular seal showing indistinctly a couchant bull facing the right was discovered in a field in the village of Narasingapalli, Chicacole Taluk, Ganjam District.

The plates record that the Eastern Ganga King Hastivarman gave the land to the extent of 6 plough shares with 4 houses in the village of Rohanaki in the Varabavartini vishaya to God Narayana for the performance of bali, charu and Satra and for the repair and renovation on the auspicious day of dvadasi in the bright half of the Jyeshtha month in the 79th year of G.E. The grant was issued from Kaluyanajana. The scribe was Vinayachandra, son of Bhanuchandra. The King was reminded to make the gift by a resident of Buddhamanachi. Note: Rohanaki is probably modern Ronauki, hamlet of Singapura, Chicacole Taluk. Language –Sanskrit, Script-Telugu-Kannada or Vengi lipi.

(Bharati,7th September 1934, PP.461-67.)

Eastern Ganga 8

Acc.No.79/36

A set of copper plates deposited in the Museum for a long time. A set of copper plates strung on a ring, the ends of which are soldered to the bottom of a seal which is more oval than circular and encrusted with a grey layer. Nothing can be made out of the seal. The plates record the gift of a village known as Kettatagrama to a Brahmin named Dhruvasarma by the King Indravarman of the Eastern Ganga dynasty.

The language is Sanskrit and script being Ganga.

Eastern Ganga 9

Acc.No.84/36

A set of five copper plates sent to the Supt. For Epigraphy for examination by Mr. A. Appa Rao, Karnam of Iruvada, Palakonda Taluk, Vizag Dist., through the Tashildar which were deposited in the Government Museum. A set of five copper plates (four plates inscribed and one plain) of the Eastern Ganga King Ananta Varma Choda Ganga strung on a broken ring with a seal showing Couchant bull and other emblems of the Eastern Gangas. It records a grant in Dakshinayana Punyakala of the village Palangada in Samba Vishaya to a family coming from the village Murattur. Ananta Varma Choda Ganga ruled in Saka 1040 corresponding to 1118 CE.

Eastern Ganga 10

Acc.No. 141/52

An incomplete set of two copper plates with inscription in old Telugu characters and in Sanskrit, without a ring. There must be one more plate which is lacking and the second plate is inscribed on its both sides while the third plate is inscribed fully on one side and the other side having two lines of writing only. It is record of a land-grant by King Indravarman of the Ganga Dynasty of the 6th Century CE to some Brahmana. Ajnapti was one Ravichandraswami and the scribe was the son of Vinayachandra. Date

should be in the missing plate. Near Urajam Village. Found by the excavation party of the Collector of Srikakulam Sri. N. Bhagavandass, I. A. S., about June 1952. Anthropological finds were also found by the party.

Eastern Ganga 11

Acc.No. 147/59

A set of five copper plates with a ring and seal relating to the grant of some villages to Bengali Brahmins for vedic studies. The script employed is old Northern Nagari. King Anantavarma Chodagangadeva who ruled the Kalinga in saka 1017 is the author of the grant.

GAJAPATIS

Gajapatis 1

Acc.No. 98/42

Five copper plates without ring or seal, two of which appear distinct from other three. The three plates are in Telugu letters and contain Sanskrit verses. The grant boundaries etc., being in Telugu. It records the grant of Civarolu village to a congregation of Brahmins by Haraviradeva, son of Kapilesvara Gajapati. The name of the donees are given also at the end after the boundary limits are stated. It belongs to the fifteenth Century CE.

(Published in Bharati Nov.1941 Vol 15- no.11)

Gajapatis 2

Acc.No. 144/56

A set of three copper plates strung on a ring with a miniature elephant in the round attached to it. Discovered near Bellary on the border of Hospet Taluk. King: Virarudra, of Saka 1422.

GUPTAS

Acc.No. 83/36

A single copper plate grant of Maharaja Hastin of the Parivrajaka Maharaja Dynasty feudatory Kings under the Guptas. This plate is one of a set of two plates strung on a ring with a seal. They were all lost long ago and even now the whereabouts of the other plate, the ring and seal are not known. Dr.Fleet who edited this grant says that the other one is reported to have been found in the Lucknow Museum.

This plate records the gift of land by Hastin Maharaja to a Brahmana, of Kautsasagotra of Vajasaneya Madhyandina Sakha, named Gopaswami, to Bhavaswami Sandyaputtraduvaskaradatta, Bhaskaradatta and Aryadatta in the village of Sungarashandigrama in the year Vaisakha, the month of Kartika, Suklapaksha on the third day of the Paksha Corresponding to 476 CE., for obtaining religious merit by such a gift.

KAKATIYA

Acc.No. 39/

A set of three plates strung on a ring , ends of which are soldered to the bottom of a circular seal bearing the figures of a boar and a cow with a dagger in front and surmounted by the emblems of sun and moon. They record that Tikku Chammpati, one of the sons of the Minister of the Kakatiya King Ganapati gave the village of granapadu to 50 Brahmans on a solar eclipse day in the month of Chaitra in the year Raudri, Saka 1182. (CE.1260).

(E.I. XVIII, P.346)

KALINGA

Kalinga 1

Acc.No.68/34

Discovered at Sringavarapukota, Vizagapatnam District, and obtained from a cultivator there by Dr.C.Narayana Rao from whom they were secured by Mr.Manda Narsimhan. A set of three copper plates, one half of the last plate broken and missing, strung on a ring, the ends of which are soldered to a circular seal bearing in relief the figures of a conch shell with some indistinct emblem inside it. The plates record the following particulars about the gift of a village made by the Kalinga King Anantavarma son of Prabhanjanavarma and grandson of Gunavarma of the Vasishtha kula who issued the grant from his royal camp at Pishtapura probably in token of some victory- The King gave the village of Kindoppa in the Tellavalli Vishaya to a Brahmin named Matrisarma of Kausika gotra and Taittiriya Sakha and of Achanta village on Trayodasi tithi of the Uttarayana. The portion which should have recorded the year and other details of the date is broken and missing. The language is Sanskrit and script being Telugu-Kannada. It is doubtful if the seal belongs to the set. About 6th Century CE.

(Journal of Andhra Historical Research Society, Vol. VIII, parts 2 and 3 (October, 1933, and January 1934), pp. 153-160)

Kalinga 2

Acc.No.32/22

A set of 4 copper plates with holes to enable them to be strung on a ring. They record that Saktivarman, the Lord of Kalinga gave the village of Rakalure to a Brahman named Kumarasarman on the full moon day in the month of Vaisakha in the 13th year of the reign.

(E.I. Vol. XII, No. 1.)

Kalinga 3

Acc.No.33/22

A set of three copper plates strung on a ring , the ends of which are secured by means of a seal bearing on the countersunk surface a legend, much worn, of which the last line has been read as "Ra(jo)riavarmasya"- Gift- They record that Umavarmān, the Lord of Kalinga, gave the village of Brihatpūṣṭa to a Brahman Haridatta in the 30th Year of his Reign.

(E.I. Vol. XII, 2)

Kalinga 4

Acc.No.56/28

A set of three plates about 8 ¼" x 3 ¼" strung on ring, the ends of which are soldered to the bottom of a circular seal showing the moon above and an ankusa (elephant goad) below and between them the Kadamba lanchana, fish. It records the grant of a village, "Revengi" by name, divided into two halves, one half to Narayana, son of Revana Nayaka and the other to "Aytaya Somayadu Ijanaka" (?) by the Kadamba King Udayaditya, son of Sri Dharmakhedi, who was a vassel of the Ganga King, Sri Devendra Varman, whose capital was Kalinga-Nagara. The grant is dated Saka 1103 (Sahasramekadasatrayadhika)?=1181 CE. The language is Sanskrit and the script Nagari.

This inscription, contrary to most of the other grants of the Ganga Dynasty, bears the seal of the Kadambas. About the time of the grant (i.e., 1103 saka.) we do not find any Devendravarman in the Kalings- Ganga geneology proper. This must be another Devendra Varman who is not connected to the direct line of Eastern Gangas.

(Bharati (Telugu)1927)

Kalinga 5

Acc.No.64/33

A set of two copper plates strung on a ring, the ends of which are soldered to the bottom of an oval seal much worn out and with emblems consequently too indistinct to be made out. The grant is that of the Kalinga King Anantavarman son of Prabhavarman who can be assigned to the 6th Century CE. The plates record the following particulars about the gift made by the King, who was ruling at Devapur.

The village given was already an agrahara in the enjoyment of certain Brahmins of the Atreya Gotra, which together with Kharapuri and Madamba, perhaps hamlets, had founded one unit, and was paying taxes to the King. Now the King takes away Kharapuri and Madamba from it, frees it from its revenue dues to the Capital city and from all other taxes and after making it an agrahara gives it on a full moon day, in the month of Magha of the year Mahasvayya to the same Brahmins so that they can hold it in 8 anisas. The agrahara was probably Tontapura, whose residents are addressed by the King.

Length-17 1/2"; Breadth-6 1/2". Found while excavating earth in the village of Siripuram (Sipuram) about 7 or 8 miles from Chicacole (Srikakula), Ganjam District.

(Telugu Bharati Prajotpatti (1931), Bhadrpada Masa, Vol.8 No.9 (7th September 1931 Pp 451-458.)

Kalinga 6

Acc.No.67/34

A set of three copper plates without a ring or seal with inscriptions in Sanskrit recording the following particulars about a gift made by the Kalinga King Ananta Sakti varman of the Mathavakula while camping at Singhapura in token of a victory. The king granted the village of Avipavisva in Varahavartani Vishaya to two Brahmin brothers, Nagasarma and Durgasarma of the Katyayana Gotra and Taitriya sakha on Dasami tithi of the bright half of the month of the year Mahaphalguna (The year is named

after the month of Mahaphalguna named after the month of Garudayaswana). The dutas are two people who are Kumaramatsyas and magistrates of the province of Mahachala and their names are given as Sivabhajaka and Vasudatta. The scribe is one Arjunadatta who was placed in charge of the record office of the District.

Length—16.5cm

Breadth—6.7 cm

Kalinga 7

Acc.No. 74/35

A set of five copper plates strung on a ring, the ends of which are soldered to the bottom of a circular seal bearing a couchant Nandi, a drum, conch, two chamaras, two flag staffs, umbrella, lamp-stand, Sun and Moon, recording the gift of the village of Navagrama in Varahavarttani Vishaya by the Eastern Ganga King Anatavarman Vajrahasta Deva V, son of Madhukamarnava VI, to Gokana Nayaka son of Bhimanna Nayaka, and Prolovva and Grandson of Mallappa Nayaka of the vaisya caste on Monday, the seventh tithi of the first half of the month of Asadha in Saka 991(= 9th June 1068 CE.). Language – Sanskrit, script being old Nagari of the Northern type.

Length – 20.8 cm

Breadth – 10 cm.

KAPAYA NAYAKA

Acc.No. 85/37

A set of two copper plates (with the ring and seal missing) recording the grant of a village called Prolavaram to Peddi Bhatta by King Kapa of Ekasilanagari in Saka 1267 (1346 CE.)

(Journal of the Brihat Orissa Research Society Vol. XX, P. 260)

MUHAMMADAN RULERS OF GOLKONDA

Acc.No. 54/27

A single copper plate. Plate 11.6" x 5.6" recording a private grant, viz., the grant of some privileges and perquisites by the Sirkar (Divanam-varu) to Panchanam-varu, the representatives of the five classes of masons including the goldsmith, blacksmith, carpenter, etc., in recognition of the services rendered by them to the Sirkar. The plate begins with praising their mythical founders, Manu, Maya, Tvasta, Silpi and Daivagmya and giving their respective gotras and pravaras. The grant is dated, Thursday, Bahudanya, Saka 1216 (1294 CE.) in the time of Malikhuram (Malik-Ibrahim), a Muhammadan ruler of Golkonda and a patron of Telugu literature. The language and script are both Telugu. The plate is spurious as Malik-Ibrahim Kutbu Shah ruled between 1550- 1580 CE.

NANDAPURA

Acc.No. 37/22

A small copper plate in Oriya Characters recording the grant of a plot of land to a Brahman by King Ramachandra in Saka 1723.

(J.A.H.R.S. Vol III, Pt.I, July 1928.)

NAYAKAS OF TANJORE

Nayakas of Tanjore 1

Acc.No. 36/22

A set of three big copper plates recording that VijaRaghava, one of the Nayak Kings of Tanjore, gave the village of Alamelumangapuram as agrahara to Vaishnava Brahmanas who were well versed in the Vedas. It is dated Mina Purnima in the year Manmatha, Saka 1578 (CE. 1656).

(Epigraphy report for 1921-22.)

Nayakas of Tanjore 2

Acc.No. 101/45

Single copper plate recording the grant of land to different learned men of different gotras and sutras and belonging to Mangamarutasamga. The gift is by the queen of Chokkanatha Nayaka named Mangamma. It was made in the month of Makha suddha dvadasi in the year Bhava 1616 of Salivahana Saka. The record is in Telugu characters. The last portion with the invocation verses in Sanskrit, the rest of the grant being in Telugu. Received from the Govt. Epigraphist for India for deposit in the Museum.

Nayakas of Tanjore 3

Acc.No. 102/45

Single copper plate recording the grant of land to the Mutts Tiruvadudura Adhinam Namasivaya Pandarasannidhi Isanadeva Panndarachannidhi. The gift is by Muddurabba Nayak at the instance of his paternal uncle's son Rajasri Jananathiyappa Nayak. It was made in the month of Makha Krishna trayodasi in the year Pingala 1539 of Salivahana Saka. The record is in Telugu letters except the last invocatory verses the rest is in Telugu.

Nayakas of Tanjore 4

Acc.No. 115/47

A single copper plate in Tamil, states that the King Achchyuta; Raghunatha vijayaraghava Nayaka granted the villages Nadiyam, Turaiyur and Udainadu in Pattukkottai Sirmai for feeding (pilgrims), at the chaultry constructed on the way to Setu at Salavanayakkarpattanam.

Nayakas of Tanjore 5

Acc.No. 116/ 47

A single copper plate in Tamil, records the sale of his half share of the village Saluvaruppettai by Namassivaya-Udaiyan for 350 Rajagopalachakram to Chidambarattudaiyan, who owned the other half share.

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Nayakas of Tanjore 6

Acc.No. 117/47

A single copper plate in Tamil, records the sale of the village Karungudi in Tiruvaiyaru sirmai and Rajagiri Maganam for 430 Rajagopalachakrams by Venkitapati Ayyan of the Bharadvaja Gotra to Papanasanambi Ayyan residing at Papanasam situated to the south of the river Kaveri – Mudikondan, in Gangaondasolavalanadu.

Nayakas of Tanjore 7

Acc.No. 118/47

A single copper plate in Tamil, records the construction of a matha in the north street at Tiruvidaimarudur by Nandagopala Boyindas, etc., and its right to collect a levy on important occasions from families residing between the Himalayas and Setu.

Nayakas of Tanjore 8

Acc.No. 119/ 47

A single copper plate in Tamil, records an agreement made by the Mahajanas of the (Tanjore) rajya, to give for the merit of Rajasri Shahji Maharaja, a specified quantity of grain from their Kudivaram income for meeting the expenses of abhisheka, worships, offerings etc., in the shrines of Traga (Thyaga) rajaswamin, Vannikesvarasvami, Kamalalayamman, and Alliyankodaiyamman at Tiruvarur and of feeding Brahmins and other pilgrims. Arunachala- pandaram is said to have been entrusted with the arrangement in connection with the feeding of persons. At the top of the plate, in two rows, on the obverse, are engraved the figures of a) Ganapati, Vyagrapada, Somaskanda, Patanjali, Subrahmanya.

b) Raja Shahji with two follows behind, greeting Arunachala pandaram and his disciple. -

PALLAVA

Pallava 1

Acc.No.4/18

A grant composed of five copper plates strung on a ring with a seal bearing an indistinct device and legend. The plates record the grant by the King Kumara Vishnu II of a field in the village of Chandratura to a Brahman in the second year of his reign. Datable to the beginning of 4th Century CE.

(P.233 of E.I. Vol VIII.)

Pallava 2

Acc.No.12/19

An incomplete set of 14 plates strung on a ring with a seal bearing an indistinct legend and a bull, found with many images while digging a foundation at the premises of a Siva temple in Thandanthottam village, Tanjore District some hundred years ago. Some plates from the beginning, middle and end are missing. The existing plate's show that in the 58th year of the Pallava King in the village of Dagamukhamangalam was distributed among 308 Brahmans at the instance of the Chief Dayamukha, also that Nandivarman took away from the Ganga King a valuable necklace and the mad elephant called "Pattavardhana". In the Premises of a Siva temple in Thandanthottam village, Tanjore Dt., Acquired by the Epigraphist for the Government of India.

(South Indian Inscriptions, Vol. II page 517.)

Returned to Mr. T.S.Narayanaswamy Iyer on 2-6-36

Pallava 3

Acc.No.14/1919

A set of four plates strung on a ring with a seal bearing some indistinct legend. They record the grant made by the King of the village of Omgodu to a Brahmin on the 3rd trayodasi tithi in the 33rd year of his reign.

Pallava 4

Acc.No.15/1919

A set of five plates strung on a ring without a seal. They record the grant made by the King of the village of Omgodu to a Brahman on the occasion of an eclipse. The plates were subsequently engraved by the order of the King Simhavarma II on the 5th tithi in the bright fortnight in the month of Vaishaka. About 506 CE.

Pallava 5

Acc.No.29/21

A set of eleven copper plates strung on a ring with a seal bearing the figure of a bull. They record that the King Nandivarman gave the village of Ekadharamangalam to a Brahman in the 22nd year of his reign. Found in the village of Kadikudi. About 8th Century CE.

Pallava 6

Acc.No.65/34

A set of five copper plates strung on a ring were discovered in the Nellore District. A set of five copper plates strung on a ring with a circular seal bearing in relief a couchant bull facing the right and some other indistinct emblems. They record the grant of the village of Vilavatti to a Brahman, called Vishnu Sarman by the Pallava King Simhavarman, son of Yuvamaharaja Vishnugopa on panchami tithi of the bright half of the month of Sravana in the 10th year of his victorious reign. The scribe of the grant is one Achyuta. The grant was issued from a place called Paddukkara, probably in token of some victory that the King had gained. The Script is Pallava-Grantha, and the language classical Sanskrit. The grant is assigned to the 6th Century CE.

Pallava 7

Acc.No. 43/24

A set of five plates strung on a ring the ends of which are secured by a seal, the impressions on which are much worn. They record that in the 61st year of the reign of the Pallava King Ko Vijaya Nandivikrama Varman. 16 veli of land situated in the village of Nalgur were constituted into a new village Pattattalmangalam by name and were given to a number of Brahmanas.

(E.I.XXIV P.296.)

Pallava 8

Acc.No.96/41

Five copper plates strung on a ring without seal with inscription in Sanskrit in early Telugu-Canarese letters just getting formed from Brahmi recording the grant of portion of land marking up the village of Nedungaraya in Mundarashtra to Nalippithisake Doddaswami, Kandasami, Conelly Kaunaswami and Nandiswami. The grant is in the twelfth year of Simharama, in Jyeshtha masa, krishnapaksha, trayodasi. King: Vishnugopa Yuvamaharaja.

Fourth Century CE.

PANDYAS

Pandya 1

Acc.No. 107/47

A single copper plate grant in Tamil states that Tribhuvanachakravarti Mahipan 'who witnessed the elephant hunt' gilded the central shrine and effected repairs to the subsidiary shrines, gopuras etc., in the temple of Vaidhyanathaswami and that he endowed the village Marudattur for special worship and offerings to the deities Vaidhyanathaswami, Taiyyalnayaki amman, Sattanathaswami and Arjunesvara at Maruvattur, making provisions for burning lamps with ghee(in the temple) on special occasions. Among the figures represented in relief at the top of the plate are a trident, Linga on a pedestal and a swan, while on the reverse are carved the Pandyan emblem of two fish represented by an ankusa.

Sundara Pandya Deva 13th Year Rudhirodhkari, Kartigai, Suddha dvadasi, Mrgasirsa.

Sent by the District Judge of Tanjore to the Government Epigraphist for India. Sent by the Government Epigraphist for India for deposit.

Pandya 2

Acc.No. 108/47

A single copper plate grant in Tamil states that Kayarogana Pillai, the guard of the temple of Tirukkayaroganathaswami at Tirunagappattinam was charged with the theft of some temple utensils with the result that he had to migrate and settle at Tiruvannamalai and that , on coming to know his innocence, the temple authorities summoned him back and reinstated him in his old post and allotting him lands in the village of Palaiyur belonging to the temple and also providing him with rice food daily for his maintenance. Sundarapandiyadeva

Saka 1244 Dundubhi, Vaigasi 4

Pandya 3

Acc.No. 109/47

A single copper plate in Tamil records the grant of Kaniyatchi right over the lands at Vallam to certain persons by the Karukutta Vellalar. Saka 1255 Sukla Arpisi 11th.

Pandya 4

Acc.No. 110/47

A single copper plate records in Tamil, the construction of a matha called Tirunilakanthamatha in the North street at Tiruchchenkattankudi and its right to collect a small levy from each family on occasions like marriage, simanta etc., The history of the Village Tiruchchenkattankudi and of saint Tirunilakantha is treated in the preamble of the record. Also gives without any chronological order a fantastic account of the rulers of the country. At the top of the plate, on the obverse, are found the following figures in a row with a writing below excepting no.2- explaining their identity as 1) Pullaiyar Ganapati, 2) sun, moon, linga and devotee) 3) Tirunilakanthar 4) Uttarapatisurar 5) Siruttondar 6) Vengattumangai and 7) Santananangai. Sundarapandya Deva Saka 1335 Chittirai 15, Monday, Pusam, Panchami.

Pandya 5

Acc.No. 111/47

A single copper plate in Tamil records that Kaniyatchi rights over lands in Nagaramangalam to four classes of Tantrimar by the Karukatta vellalar. Saka 1400 Vijaya Arpisi 10th.

Pandya 6

Acc.No. 112/47

A single copper plate records in Tamil a gift of land with other perquisites by the authorities of the temple of Vedaranyanathar evidently at Vedaranyam to Peria Somali Apper, son of Saiva sikhamani Gurukkal of Nangapuram, who has been appointed priest of the temple. Saka 14(2)8 Krodhi, Vrischika, Su 10, Revati, Monday.

Pandya 7

Acc.No. 113/47

A single copper plate in Tamil records an assignment of land among a number of Tantrimar by the Karukkattu Vellalar Vanadarayar. Saka 14(34) Angirasa, Masi 9.

Pandya 8

Acc.No. 145/56

A single copper plate with inscription on both sides in Tamil Characters of about the 9th or 10th Centuries CE. It belongs to a C.P. Grant of which the other plates are missing. The characters are of the Chola type but from the fact that the plate comes from near Madura the originally the grant might have been made by a Pandya King. The extent portion of the inscription relates to the assignment of pieces of lands and measures of paddy in various proportions to a variety of persons residing in a particular Cheri.

Pandya 9

Acc.No. 148/60

A set of five copper plates, recording the grant of a land. The grant is complete, but there is no ring or seal. The fourth plate is in two pieces while the fifth is in four pieces. A small bit is missing from the fifth plate. The grant is in two parts, the first portion is in Sanskrit while the other is in Tamil. The scripts employed are Grantha and Vatteluthu respectively. The grant was made in the third regnal year of Sri Virapandya, the son of Manabharana, to Bhatta Pithambhara of Asvalayana Sutra. Three Velis of land together with a place called Vazakode in Muthumila worth ten mashas, were donated for residential purposes. The following officers of the King were also present. Brahmasri Tungaraja, a Brahmin was the viñapti while Tennavan was āñapti. Dramila Maharaja was the officer of the King. Tennavan Uttarapallava was the leader of elephants while Tiruchirappalli (a person) was at Karenu Bhramana (circling of the elephant). The following accountants of the village were also present. 1) Pulla 2) Vilayachillai 3) Pattalaku 4) Chanadu Kizhava. This was under the possession of Oraganti Kanakayya Naidus family for the past four generations.

Pandya 10

Acc.No. 169/82

One set of copper plate (Five sheets) with a ring (cut). The front side of first two plates contains the figures of Tr.Tr. from Sundarapandipuram Srivilliputtur Tk., Ramanathapuram Dt.,

REDDY

Acc.No. 44/24

A set of six copper plates recording the grant of the Village of Drujjavaram surnamed Annavemapura to a Brahman named Apparaya and his three brothers by the Reddi king Annavema on Saturday, the Makara Samkramana day in Saka 1293. (27th December 1371CE,)

SAILODBHAVA

Sailodbhava 1

Acc.No. 30/21

A set of three copper plates strung on a ring with a seal bearing the emblems of a crescent, a bull and a legend much worn out. They record that the King Dharmaraja Deva gave half the village of Kondodda to a Brahman Gonadevaswami in 744 CE.

Sailodbhava 2

Acc.No. 60/29

A set of three copper plates, strung on a ring, the ends of which are soldered to the bottom of the circular seal bearing in relief, the crescent at the top, a couchant bull facing the right and a legend below the bull which reads as — Sri Ma(nabhita) sya||. It records the grant of King Dharmaraja Deva, son of Madhyamaraja Deva of the Sailodbhava family of the village of Nivina in the Vishaya or district of Khidingahara to a Brahmin Sav(b)arideva Dikshida Bhatta by name, who belonged to the Vaccha (Vatsa) Gotra in ? Samvat, Prathama Paksha Dvitiya).

Language is Sanskrit, the script being an early type of the northern variety of Nagari. Found as Tr.Tr. in Nimmaina Village, Khallikote Estate, Kundala Taluk,

Ganjam District. Acquired for the Govt.Museum, Madras by the Collector of Ganjam District.

SALANKAYANA

Salankayana1

Acc.No. 47/26

A set of four plates strung on a ring, the ends of which are soldered to the bottom of a circular seal bearing a much worn legend and the emblem

of a bull. Gift: The Salankayana King , Maharaja Sri Vijaya Skandavarman gave the village of Chintapura in ———ma to Sivaaryya of the Maudgalya Gotra , a resident of the village of Lekumari on the full moon day in the month of a Vaisakha.

Salankayana 2

Acc.No. 48/26

A set of four plates, the ends of which soldered to a seal bearing the emblem of a bull. Gift: The Salankayana King , Maharaja Sri Nandivarman gave on a full moon day fifty one nivartanas of land in the village of Kuravata to a Brahman named Swamichandra of the Maudgalya Gotra.

SETUPATIS

Setupatis 1

Acc.No. 93/40

A single copper plate in Tamil with the words "Sri Ramanathaswami Sahayam" in large Telugu letters in the middle on one side. The copper plate is of the Setupati King Mutturamalinga Vijaya Raghunatha Setupati Kattadeva and record the donation of land to Subrahmanya ayyar, son of Ramaswami, teacher of Yajus, and an apasthambi, bharadwaja gotra in 1781 CE.

Received from the Judge, Ramnad Sent by the Superintendent for Epigraphy for deposit in the Museum.

Setupati 2

Acc.No. 120/47

A single copper plate in Tamil, records a royal gift of the village Maravanivayal in Rayangam- Vattam belonging to Pon Amaravatinadu for worship, offerings etc., in the temple of SivakamaNayaki Chidambarisvarasvami at Chidambaram and for the Maintenance of a

matha, (a feeding home and a flower garden attached to it.) The gift is stated to have been entrusted to Aghora Pandaram Saravanai Tambiran. Among the figures represented at the top of the obverse are those of Ganesa, Patanjali, Vyagrapada, Nataraja dancing, Goddess and Subrahmanya. The grant was issued by Hiranyagarbhayaji alias Isanakalamedutta Raghunatha Setupati Kattadevar, Son of Hiranyagarbhayaji alias Raghunatha Setupati Kattadevar in Saka 1619 Isvara Kartigai, Su. 7 Wednesday, Avittam.

Setupatis 3

Acc.No. 121/47

single copper plate in Tamil, records the decision arrived at by the Panchalattar comprising five castes, of Senji, Madura, Tanjore, Kumbakonam etc., to collect per family a specified levy on important occasions for the maintenance of a matha and other charities in the hamlet Olagamangalam, situated opposite the West gopura of the temple Masilamanisvara at Tarangambadi. The management of the gift is stated to have to have been entrusted to one Kumarapandaram on the reverse of the plate are cut in relief figures of Subrahmanya, Ganesa etc., in five panels. The grant was issued in Saka 1627 Kali 4806 Partiva, Tai, Su. 13, Monday.

Setupatis 4

Acc.No. 122/47

A single copper plate in Tamil, records the constructions of a matha in the south street PULLIRUKKAM Velur by the Reddis of four desas with provision for its maintenance by a levy among them, while Ambalavanaswami Tambiran was managing the affairs of the temple of Vaidyanathaswami during the regime of Ekoji Maharaja. At the top of the plate, on the obverse, are engraved in panels in two rows the figures of A) 1. Sita, 2,3. Rama & Lakshmana, 4. Linga, 5. GARUDA, 6. Hanuman, 7. Ganapati. B) 1. Pond with steps, 2) Gopura, 3. Subrahmanya with Consorts, 4. Gopura and 5. Brindavan.

The grant was issued in Saka 1635 Kali 4814, Vija(ya) Tai 26, Monday, Pusam.

Setupati 5

Acc.No. 125/47

A single copper plate, in Tamil, records the royal gift of the Village of Annavasal to the temple of Thyagarajasvami at Tituvapur by Mutturanga Raghunatha Setupati Kattadevar, S/O Hiranyagrbbhayaji Raghunatha Setupati in Saka 1645, Krodhi, Chitra purnami,.

Setupati. 6

Acc.No. 129/47

A single copper plate, in Tamil, records the gift of the village of Andavayal and Paronavayal in Tirpoginadu, Pandidesam, by the Arasunilayitta MudduVadukkai periya Udaiyarttevar S/o Arasunilayitta Vijaya Raghunatha Sasivarnaperiya Udaiyarttevar to the temple of Tyagarajasvami at Tiruvapur. The document is said to have written by rayasam Sankaranarayanan. Among the deities engraved on the reverse of the plate is the figure of Tyagaraja being worshipped by Vyagrapada and Patanjali. The grant was issued in Kali 4851 Saka 1678 (wrong for 1671) Pramoduta, Chittirai 1, Friday, Chaturdasi Rohini.

TANJORE MAHARATTAS

Acc.No. 114/47

A single copper plate in Sanskrit (in Grantha Characters) and Tamil, states that Ekoji Maharaja Sahebu repaired the mandapam, gopura. Prakara etc., of the temple of Vaidhyanathaswami, constructed of stone the shrine of the goddess Balambikai Amman, performed the Kumbabhisheka and that he presented lands and gold for special festivals, worship, offerings, etc., in the temple. At the top of the plate, on the obverse are found embossed in relief, among the others, the figures of a trisuls, linga on a pedestal and a Hamsa. The grant was issued in Saka 1515 Kali 4694, Raudri (Wrong), Tai, Tuesday, Su.13, Punarpusam.

TONDAIMAN CHIEFS

Tondaiman 1

Acc.No. 123/47

A single copper plate in Tamil, records a gift by the Chief of the village Enadi alias Arunachala samudram (with its hamlet) on the Nemmeli situated on the way to Setu, to the Vidvan-Mahajana.

The grant was issued by Arunachala Vanangamudi Tondaiman, S/o Raghunatha Avudait Tondaiman, Chief of Aranthangi. Saka 1638 Durmukhi, Chitra 14, Wednesday, Asvati, Solar Eclipse.

Tondaiman 2

Acc.No. 124/47

A single copper plate, in Tamil, records the construction of a matha to the South of Vinaiyarutta Pillaiyar Temple in the East street at Pullirukkum-velur, for their community, by the Karaikattar of the north and south provinces making provisions for its maintenance and for a flower garland attached to it, by a levy among the members residing in Choladesa. The matha is stated to have been entrusted to Meykanda Muttupandaram of the lineage of the Saiva Acharya Meykanda. At the top of the plate, on the obverse, are found in two rows the figures of Linga, Subrahmanya (with consorts), goddess, Ganesa and worshippers. The grant was issued in Saka 1646 (wrong for Saka 1639) Kali 4819, Hevilambi, Tai (first) Tuesday Su.11 Tiruvonam.

Tondaiman 3

Acc.No. 126/47

A single copper plate, in Tamil, records gift, by the Chief, of the Village Nattani in Alattur māngāṇam, to the same temple. Among the figures represented at the top, is one of Thyagaraja with the goddess being worshipped by Patanjali and Vyagrapada. The grant was issued by Muttuvanaga immadi Tondaiman S/o Chidambaranatha Vanangarmudi Tondaiman, the Chief of Aranthangi. Saka 1662 Raudri Purattasi 16, Su.17 Friday, Rohini.

Tondaiman 4

Acc.No. 127/47

A single copper plate, in Mahrathi (in Modi characters), seems to record a sarvamanya gift to Acahe Saib Hukartamiya by Mahammad Hazarat Phamagan Saib in Saka 1663 Durmati.

Tondaiman 5

Acc.No. 130/47

A single copper plate, in Tamil, records the sale of the villages Pannaivayal and Puvanam in Viraivalanadu for 2,000 Madiraichechakkarampon by the Chief Arunachala Vanagamudi Tondaiman S/o Andavaraya Vanagamudi Tondaiman. The grant was issued to Antonimuttu Tevar, son of Rayappa Tevar of Kalangadankottai in Vaigainadu. Saka 1681, Kali 4860, Pramadi, Arpisi 14, Friday, Pancami, Puradam.

Tondaiman 6

Acc.No. 131/47

A single copper plate, in Tamil, records the assignment of certain incomes on lands from 30 villages for providing worship, offerings etc., in the temple of Vaidynathasvami at Pullirukku-velur, by the nattamaikkar and others who assembled before the Central shrine of this temple. The inscription is very badly engraved. On the obverse, at the top of the plate are found among others, the figures of Ganapati, Rama and Lakshmana, Subrahmanya with his consorts and a tree. The grant was issued in Saka 1709, Kali 4888, Plavanga Chittirai 11, Friday, Karttigai.

Tondaiman 7

Acc.No. 132/47

A single copper plate, in Tamil, records an agreement given by four persons namely, Murugappadevar, Narayanadevar, Subbadevar and Vairappadevar regarding the maintenance of a maṭha in the South street at Tiruvarur and burning a ghee lamp in the central shrine of the temple in the

Tondaiman 8

Acc.No. 133/47

A single copper plate, in Telugu, records the gift of land by Prasanna Venkatachala Reddi, s/o Kumara Venkatachala Reddy and grandson of Ballavol Venkatachala Reddi of the Chaturtha-Gotra for maintaining a Vignesvara temple built on the site where his brother Muddu Venkatachala Reddi of Settikulam was cremated. The grant was issued in Saka 1731 (wrong for 1753) Kali, 4932, Khara, Bhadrpada 12, Bhanuvaram, Makha.

Tondaiman 9

Acc.No. 134/47

A single copper plate, in Tamil, records the gift of land by Vanangamudi Tondaiman and Periyatambi Kalingarayar Pandarattar to two persons who came to see them on their visit to Sangapattanam and a similar gift and the enjoyment of certain privileges to two other persons on this occasion. The grant was issued in Yuva, Tai 16.

Tondaiman 10

Acc.No. 135/47

A single copper plate, in Tamil, states that the weavers of Kadiramangalam in Kumbakonam Taluk of Tanjavur Simai had new images cast for the temple of Draupati including that of Dharmaputra in the village and that they agreed to a payment of 1/8 Rupee per loom per year for their worship. The grant was issued in Kali 4968, Saka 1789, Akshaya Adi, 7.

Tondaiman 11

Acc.No. 136/47

A single copper plate, in Tamil, records the mortgage of 12 Velis of land at Agani for 100 varagan by the Ariyanayaka- Mudali of the village, to a Kaikkola residing at Chintadripet. The grant was issued in Visvavasu Adi, 8.

Tondaiman 12

Acc.No. 137/47

A single copper plate, in Tamil, records the assignment of the levy on merchandise to shrine of Mariamman at Vijayapuram by the merchants of Tiruvarur. The grant was issued in Tarana Arpisi, 21.

VIJAYANAGARA

Vijayanagara 1

Acc.No.8/19

An incomplete set of copper plates received from the Deputy Collector of Atmakur, Nellore District. The second and last plate of a set of copper plates without a ring alone received. They record that the King Krishnadeva Maharaya gave the village of Konda-vasali to a number of Brahmins on the full moon day of Vaisaka, Vyaya Saka 1448 (1526CE).

(Epigraphy for 1918-19 No 12 of Appendix A)

Vijayanagara 2

Acc.No.10/19

Tahsildar of Madakasira, Anantapur District, deposited a single copper plate records that during the reign of Prandhadevarayalu Bukkaraya of Vijayanagara the Reddinikam (Chief Office) of four villages was conferred on a person named Amcherla Nallappa Nayudu. Dated in the Saka 1429 (1507 CE) Returned on 13-9-22.

Vijayanagara 3

Acc.No.13/19

A set of three plates strung on a ring. They record that the Raja Venkatapathy Nayaka conferred the right of the gandaship over five villages, the Rayadurg territory on a certain person on the 15th day in the bright fortnight in the month of Jyeshta in the year Plava – Saka 1583 (1661CE).

Returned on 13-9-22

Vijayanagara 4

Acc.No.23

A set of five plates strung on a ring. They record that the crown prince who was ruling over Malvay, one of the main divisions of the Vijayanagara Empire, founded a village Kriyasaktipura and gave it to Krishna Pandita. He in turn divided it into several divisions and distributed them among several learned brahmanas. This is the first grant of this prince to be acquired for the Museum. 1410 CE.

Vijayanagara 5

Acc.No.42/23

A set of five plates strung on a ring, the ends of which are attached to the bottom of a seal which bears the emblems of a boar, dagger, the sun and the moon. They record that the Vijayanagara King Venkatapati Devaraya gave the village of Murugamangalam alias Gopalasamudra to Sri Ramakrishna Josyar on the 7th tithi in the bright fortnight in the month of Magha in the year Paridhavi, Saka 1534. (CE 1612).

Vijayanagara 6

Acc.No.57/28

A set of five plates strung on ring, the ends of which are attached to the bottom of a seal which bear the emblems of a boar, dagger, the sun, and the moon. The plates record that the Vijayanagara King Sri Rangaraya II gave the village of Ammanaambakkam alias Parankusapura to Vaishnavite Brahman, Ammalacharya by name on the occasion of SriJayanti, in the dark fortnight of the month of Bhadrapada in the Year Tarana, Saka 1506 (Thursday, 17th September, 1584 CE.). The language of the grant is Sanskrit and script Nandi-Nagari.

Vijayanagara 7

Acc.No.61/29

A set of five plates strung on a ring which is cut and the seal missing. The plates record that the Vijayanagara King Sri Venkatapati Devaraya gave the village of Puthuru to a Brahmin named Gopala (bhakta) Bhatta, who belonged to the Bharadvaja family and was a follower of the Drahyayana sutra and the sama sakha, on the sukla dvadasi day of Asadha in the year Vikriti, Saka 1512 (Saturday the 4th July, 1590 CE.). The language is Sanskrit; the script Nandi-Nagari. Found as Tr.Tr. in Kilputhur village of Wandiwash Taluk, North Arcot District while repairing a Vishnu Temple. Acquired for the Govt.Museum, by the Collector of North Arcot.

Vijayanagara 8

Acc.No.66/34

A single copper plate (the third in a set of probably four) with inscriptions in Nandi-Nagari on both sides, the language being Sanskrit, recording some gift by King Sadasiva Raya on Monday, Amavasya tithi in the month of Margasirsha of the cyclic year Nala, corresponding to Saka 1478. (2nd November 1556 CE.)

Found by Bonigala Veerayya of Itheru Village, Bapatla Taluk in the land of one Karumudi Ammayya of Mulsapadu hamlet of Bhartipudi near Appikatla Village, Bapatla Taluk, about 1923. When the said Veerayya was digging earth in 1923 it is said that he found four such copper plates, but sold off three of them to the goldsmith, and that they were subsequently melted up. The 4th plate was handed over by Gedde David of Kommur Village to Rev.L.A. Gotwald, W.L.C.Mission, Chirala, who presented it to the Museum.

Vijayanagara 9

Acc.No.70/34

A single copper plate was received from The District Judge,Cuddalore on the recommendations of the Superintendent of Epigraphy, Madras, recording a grant of rights and perquisites during the reign of Achyutadeva Maharaya, by the 74 Vaishnava Pontiffical acharyas

to a Sathani Ramanuja Dāsari of the family that was entrusted with the management of the annadana maṭha and that was employed as body guards to the deity from the time of Sri Ramanuja in recognition of his selfless services in the company of other ekangins for the upkeep of many a shrine that had fallen into neglect. The right granted are :- to serve as body guard to the deities in the various shrines, to bear the Ānjaneya mask, to receive tīrtha-prasādas in the various shrines, to have maṭhas, to be the chief Sishya of all the Vaishnava Acharyas, to preserve peace, punish and prevent mal use of Sishyas by the acharyas, to wear kavi(Monk's robe) and turban and to arrange for pancha samskaras for the four castes; figures of Gaja-lakshmi, Lakshmi, Balakrishna, Nammalvar, Ramanuja, Madhurakavi, Ranganatha, Vishnu, Sri Devi, Bhu Devi and Dvarapalas are engraved on the one side and nāmam, conch and discus are engraved on the other side.

Language- Tamil.

Script : Tamil with an admixture of Grantha.

Saka 1460, Vilambi, Mina, Purvapaksha, dasami, punarvasu, corresponding to the 27th Feb 1539 CE.

Vijayanagara 10

Acc.No.71/34

A brass plate with rings at the edges and with four rows of scenes on the obverse relating to the worship of Siva, Parvati, Subrahmanya, Ganesa, Kali &c. On the reverse is the following record written in modern Tamil and issued in the time of Venkatapati I. In the presence of the Madura Nayak Mutthukrishnappanayaka, the mudali community of the 56 provinces such as Kanchipuram &C the pandaram called Jnanaprakasa and 10 high class mudalis from places like Viranarayanam, Amudavaludalampatti, Sāvadi, Pattanachimai, Naravanasur, came together and entered into an agreement to make certain offerings to the God Kandiya Deva at Vriddhachalam. Saka 1518, Hevilambi, Mithuna, Purvapaksha, Panchami, Chitra Nakshatra. Monday 13th June 1597. Tithi given does not tally. L.D.Swamikannu Pillai gives Ashtami-Navami.

Vijayanagara 11

Acc. No.72/34

A copper plate bearing on obverse the engraving of Umasahita in the centre with Ganesa and bull on one side, and a Linga and a saint under a tree on the other, and on its reverse the following emblems of the Vannikula Kshatriyar-bow and arrow, the multicoloured flag, incense kalasa, tiger flag, parasol, banner, Chamaras, torch and sword. The inscription is on one side only and consists of two records in modern Tamil, details of which are as follows:- 1. Gift of grounds in Vriddhachala to Annamalai Gurukkal of Sendamangalam for the merit of the Vanniya Verappa nattar by the Vanniya Community. 2. Grant to the Vanniya mutt at Vriddhachalam of appurtenances and dues from conveyance taxes, fees, marital rents, fines, ceremonies auspicious and otherwise &c by the Vanniya community including Nallappa Kataka Tholanar and Malavaraya Nayinar and the Pandarams of the temple. Both the grants were issued in the time of Venkatapati Deva, who is said to belong to Anegondi and are dated Saka 1017, Yibha? Tai, 22nd Monday, Pusam, Purvapaksha to the date cannot go possibly in the reigns any of the Venkatapati's of the Vijayanagara dynasty. The record can be considered as spurious.

Vijayanagara 12

Acc.No.73/34

A single copper plate with the figure of Kamakshi on the top and with a record in Modern Tamil below containing a deed of agreement between the five classes of artisans (Visvabrahmanas) headed by five acharis and the 74 Aganattars (perhaps agents) at Chidambaram for the administration of Charities relating to muth, temples, gardens, topes, tanks etc., at Chidambaram from the monies accruing from individual taxes, marital dues, shop rents, fines etc., due regard being paid to the worship in the local temples, salaries to mammals, annuities to dancing girls, roles etc., The agreement was drawn in the 1000 pillared hall of the Chidambaram Temple while Virupakshadeva Venkatapatideva, Mallikarjunadeva and Proudhadivaraya were ruling the country. Virupaksha Venkatapati Mallikarjuna Proudhadiveva Saka 1447, Ananda, Panguni, 13th Ultra nakshatra, purva paksha, Dasami, Sunday. Details of date do not tally with L.D.S.'s ephemeris; hence grant spurious.

Vijayanagara 13

Acc.No.78a/35

A single copper plate measuring 20.5cmX 7.7 cm., records the gift of a village called Gundala to Kandamila Kesavacharya, of Achyuta Gotra, Apasthamba sutra, Yajussakha, for Somakainkarya made by Ramaraja Tirumalaraja of Atrya Gotra, Apasthamba Sutra Saka 1460. Probably Vaisakha Suddha 10. The script used is Telugu. The script is so modern and the date given is so early that this might be either spurious or the copy of an older grant.

Vijayanagara 14

Acc.No.78b/35

A single copper plate measuring 19.4cmX 8cm, records the gift of two villages to Gundala Chennakisvaraswami made by Ramaraja Tirumalaraja about the time of the Car festival, one for defraying the cost decorations and the other for temple feeding ritual.

The script used is Telugu and the plate is similar to the previous one.

Vijayanagara 15

Acc.No.87/37

A set of three copper plates strung on a ring of which the seal is missing. It records the gift of the village Polupadu by Krishnadevaraya to a Brahman named Chandramauli about the time of Makarasamkramana in 1432 Saka, Pramoda Samvatsara, Pushya bahula Trayodasi. (1510 CE.)

(BharatiTelugu Journal. 1936.)

Vijayanagara 16

Acc.No.91/39

Three copper plates with holes at the top but without ring or seal with the inscription incised in Nandinagari. The plates record the gift of land to many Brahmanas of various gotras etc., on Saka 1383. Padarada rajya,

Kalambhkourota, Madhurantachaturvedimangalam, Ammanusakkaragrahara, Achharappakkam. The gift is given on Kartika masa, Sukla paksha Uttama dvadasi.

Amanampakkam, Chingleput Dt., T.T. Purchased and sent by the Collector of Chingleput Dt.,

Vijayanagara 17

Acc.No.94/40

A single copper plate in Sanskrit recording the gift of land to a great scholar Haribhateyapa of Kaundinyagotra, apasthamba sutra, Krishna Yajursutra, a great performer, a great teacher, proficient in Sastras, Vedas and Puranas. The grant is of the time of Achyuta Raya and is dated in Saka 1458, Kartika Masa, dvadasi ie. 1536 CE.

Vijayanagar 18

Acc.no.142/55

The Collector of Tanjore district sent these copper plates to Museum which was acquired from Puliamcheri Village, Nannilam Taluk. Three copper plates of the usual Vijayanagra type strung together to a ring which is attached a seal showing a boar which is worn out. There are writing, on the second side of the first plate, the second plate and the first side of the third plate in the Nandi-nagari script with the last line Sri Virupaksha in Telugu, the language being Sanskrit. The inscriptions records the grant of the village Puliyacheri together with Kadhuvantanallur renamed as Sri Narasimhendrapuram in Kulottungacholavalanadu in Arur chavadi to the Brahmana Hastagiri, son of Bhaskara, son of Bhaskarabhatta of Samkriti Gotra, and Bodhayana Sutra, by King Krishnadevaraya of Vijayanagara. The date mentioned is Saka 1417, Nala, Pushya, Makara, Pritiyoga Saptami, Hasta and Wednesday. The donee in turn apportioned the land granted to him among several brahmanas of various gotras and sutras.

Vijayanagar 19

Acc.No.143/55

Three copper plates of the usual type as above, with inscription in Nandi –Nāgari and Sanskrit record the grant of the village Sadarimangalam in Kulottungachola Valanadu in Arur Chavadi to the brahmana Hastagiri Dikshita of Samkriti Gotra, Bodhayana Sutra and Yajussakha. The village was renamed as Vira Sri Narasimhendrapuram. The record dated in Saka 1430 Vibhava, Phalguna, Su,7. The donee is stated to have apportioned the giftland to several brahmanas of various gotras and sutras. The plates are strung together to a ring with a seal which is worn out.

Vijayanagara 20

Acc.No.68/82

One set of copper plate grant (Three sheets) in Nandi Nāgari script in Sanskrit language with a seal and a ring (cut). The seal bears the figure of a boar, sun and moon.

Vijayanagra 21

Acc.No.170/84

One set of copper plate grant (Containing three plates) with ring and seal intact. Krisnadevaraya in 1525 CE.

Vijayanagar 22

Acc.No. 138/49

Three copper plates strung on a ring with a seal bearing figures of an animal probably boar, and of crescent. The centre plate only is inscribed on its both sides, while the other two plates are inscribed on one side only. The inscription is not very good state of preservation as in many places it is worn out. The script of the inscription is Nandinagari and the language is Sanskrit. But at the end of the record is engraved in Telugu characters the name of the god Sri Virupaksha. These plates record the grant of a village by King Virupaksha after naming it as Virupakshapuri to several brahmins

belonging to different gotras and Sakhas, on the holy occasion of Mahalaya. An invocation to the boar incarnation of Vishnu and the geneology of the King are found at the beginning.

Length of each plate: 10 1/2"; Breadth 7 1/4" Weight 305 Tolas.

Nandyal Town, Kurnool Dt., Found by Veravati Bala Subbiah of Nandyal on 23-6-46 in his garden at the place. This grant was issued in Saka 1388 Vyaya, Bhadrapada bahula, 6, Kanya Sankranti (CE 1466, August, 31, Sunday).

Vijayanagar 23

Acc.No. 140/51

A set of five copper plates strung on a ring, to which is attached a seal bearing in relief the figure of a boar and ankusa. The inscription is in Nandināgarī script and the language is Sanskrit. Records the sarvamanya gift, by Venkatapatirāya in Saka 15(30) 1608CE., of the village Krishnapura in the Perimbedusima, a subdivision of Tondivamandala of the Padavidu raja, to Tupil Narayanacharya, son of Appayyacharya of the Kausika gotra, Apasthamba Sutra, and Yajussakha. The composer of the grant was Chidambara Kavi, Nephew of Sivasurya Kavindra, and its engraver was Kamayacharya, son of Ganapaya and brother of Vima.

Length—9" Breadth—6 3/4

(Annual Report on S.Indian Epigraphy for 1931-32, pp.5 & 67)

Vijayanagar 24

Acc.No. 149/64

A single copper plate grant of Vijayanagar from Pudukkottai area, contains inscriptions in both sides. The script and language are in Tamil. It is dated as Saka 1406; the last letter in this has been tampered with. The grant deals with the right of —Kaniachi to certain people in Ponnamaravati taluk. Pudukkottai Taluk & DT

Vijayanagar 25

Acc.No. 155/70

One set of three plates, connected by a ring which inturn goes into a seal. The ring is cut. One plate contains inscription on both the sides, while the second one has only on one page, and the third also on one page (half). Nanganallur, Vandavasi Tk, N.Arcot Dt. Sent by Collector of North Arcot Dt., as Tr.Tr.

Vijayanagar 26

Acc.No. 156/71

Three plates with a ring (ring was cut). The first and second plates contain inscriptions, while the third one has inscription on one page only. In the first page at the right top the inscriptions are most clear, while the second page, in many places, the letters are worn out. In the third page it is again not clear in first side while the other side it is clear. In the last page at the top and bottom, the letters are not clear:

The script being Nandi Nāgari, the inscription is in Kannada language.

Vijayanagar 27

Acc.No. 168/82

One set of copper plate grant (Three sheets) in Nandi Nāgari script in Sanskrit language with a seal and a ring (cut). The seal bears the figure of a boar, sun and moon.

VISHNUKUNDIN

Vishnukundin 1

Acc.No. 25/21

A set of three copper plates strung on a ring the ends of which are secured by means of a seal bearing the legend "Sri Madhava" and other

indistinct symbols. They record that the Maharaja gave the village of Muronukaliki to two Brahmans. (Registered as no 11 and 12 of Appendix A of the Annual Report for 1920 of the Asst. Supt. For Epigraphy.)

Vishnukundin 2

Acc.No. 26/21

A set of three plates strung on a ring provided with a seal bearing the Legend "Sri Madhavavarma" and a peculiar figure having two lamps on either side. They record that the Maharaja gave the village of Vilembuli to a Brahman named Agni Sarma on the 15th day in the seventh fortnight of the summer season in the 37th year old his reign.

Vishnukundin 3

Acc.No. 27/21

A set of five copper plates strung on a ring with a seal much worn out. They record that the Maharaja gave the village of Kongara to certain Brahmans on the Sukla Trayodasi in the month of Kartika in the second year of his reign.

(Annual Report on Epigraphy for 1919-20)

Vishnukundin 4

Acc.No. 59/29

A grant composed of four plates (received in corroded condition but since cleaned) strung on a ring with a seal (worn out and broken). They record that the Vishnukundin King Madhava Varman II gave in the 21st year of his reign, the village of "Pulimburu" to a Brahmin Sivasarman by name, son of Damasarman and the grandson of Rudrasarman. The language is Sanskrit and script is Chalukyan.

WESTERN CHALUKYA

Western Chalukyan 1

Acc.No.3/18

A grant composed of three Copper plates strung on a ring, with a seal bearing in relief the Chalukyan Boar. The plates record that the Western Chalukyan King Vinayaditya Satyasraya Narendra Deva restored certain grants resumed by previous Kings. Datable to 15th Dec. 590 CE.

Western Chalukyan 2

Acc.No.55/27

A set of three copper plates about 9"x 4" with the seal of the ring connecting them bearing the emblem of a boar. It records the grant of lands, villages and privileges to some Brahmanas by the W.Chalukyan King, Vinayaditya at the request of his son, Vijayaditya. It is dated Saka 613 (691 CE.) in the 13th year of Vinayaditya's reign. The grant was made to celebrate some victory that the King was first gained, and was written by the King's Peace and War Minister, Ramapunya Vallabha. The language is Sanskrit and the script W.Chalukyan.

(Indian Antiquary Vol. VI, 1877, p.88-91 XXX Dr.Fleet.)

Western Chalukyan 3

Acc.No. 82/36

A set of three copper plates strung on a ring with a circular seal on which is worked in relief the figure of boar. The plates record the gift of land in Alikunda grama to Trivikrama sarma, son of Haridatta Sarma and the grandson of Svastisarma, of Bhargavasagotra. Trivikrama and his ancestors are all praised as wellversed in Vedas and Vedangas. The plates are corroded in some places. The script used is Chalukyan and the language is Sanskrit. Issued by Vinayaditya Saka 614 (692 CE.)

PRIVATE GRANTS

Private Grant 1

Acc.No. 9/19

A single brass plate in two pieces, received from Collector of Coimbatore, Hurdis, a servant of East India Coy, which belonged to a convict in the Coimbatore Central Jail. It records the arrangement made by the Gavundans of Narananuram to restore the worship in the Angala Parameswari temple, which was disturbed by the outbreak of an epidemic in Saka 1722 (1800 CE). It states that was issued by the administration of Hurdis, a servant of the Hon'ble the East India Company.

Private Grant 2

Acc.No. 46/24

single copper plate found in the possession of wandering Thotha Naicks who were concerned in case of security for good behaviour. It records that a defalcation of Rs.1,50,000/- was made by one Ram Singh from the Treasury of the King at Kanchi. At the request five Visvakula Asaris paid the amount and got him excused. In order to get a living for Ram Singh they made an arrangement that every Visvakula family should pay him a certain amount as tax on marriage and funeral occasions. The plate is dated Kaliyuga year 4024. (922 CE). Evidently this is a forgery. Acquired by Sub-divisional Magistrate. Sankari. Salem.

Private Grant 3

Acc.No. 69/34

A single copper plate recording the following grant by Samardhi Gengi Setti, Puduchcheri executed on the occasion of a lunar eclipse, on the bank of the Sivaganga tank at Chidambaram in favour of Dodda Rangayya, who was in charge of the former's chaultries:-Dodda Rangayya is authorised to receive the dues accruing from prior gifts of lands (Nanjai, Punjai) of gardens, made by Gengu Setti's ancestors and also payments that he himself would make, both for the maintenance of Chaultries on the way sides at Tiruvendapuram, Tukkudi, Kudikadu, and

Chidambaram that his ancestors had been maintaining. The witnesses cited are:- Panchangam Ramayya, Kudikadu Muthayya Padayachi, Karnam Pu(Bhu) natha Pillai. The signatures of the two latter are in Tamil, while the rest is in modern Telugu. Length – 25.5cm Breadth – 20.5 cm. Saka 1672, Kali 4851, Pramoditha, Jyeshtha suddha 6th of Vaiyasi, according to Sauramana, lunar eclipse= 8th June, 1750 CE. Date corresponds to Friday, 8th June, 1750 CE.

Private Grant 4

Acc.No. 80/36

A set of eight copper plates strung on a ring the ends of which are soldered to a circular seal on which there are worked in relief a trident, a bow, a crescent moon and a rough triangular shape; and on the margin there is a Sanskrit legend in characters which differ from those employed on the plates. The first plate is partly broken and is detached from the ring; the first side of this plate is much corroded and cannot be read easily. The plates record the gift of Pantura village to eight Brahmanas by Maharaja Jayavarman, who belonged to the gotra of Brihasphalayana and was a worshipper of Mahesvara. The grant was made from his camp in Kodura. The language employed is Prakrit. Length – 18 cm; Breadth – 8.5cm. Kondamudi (Deposited in the Museum for a long time.) Donor- Government Epigraphist.

(Epigraphia Indica Vol.VI. Pp 315-319)

Private Grant 5

Acc.No. 90/38

Single inscribed copper plate shaped like a tray. At the top are inscribed seven figures of deities, the first being Ganesa. There are two swans at the top at either end. It registers an agreement among several members of the Kongu Vellala and Kongu Mannadiyar Communities and belonging to the Porulandaikulam, living in Kilkarai Pundurairadu, granting lands and perquisites to Ponnallippulandran of Darumapuram. Received by the Superintendent for Epigraphy from the Collector of Salem. Sent by the Superintendent for Epigraphy for deposit in the Museum. Rudrodgari, Ani 5, Thursday.

Private Grant 6
Acc.No. 92/40

A single copper plate without a hole or ring or rim with inscription in Tamil recording charities to a temple made by a family of acharis for the conduct of worship once a day to amman and certain annual functions. The properties to be looked after by the family as a trust. The donors include Palamadanachari, son of Vellayanachari. The grant was inscribed by Balaraman Kavirayar. 19th Masi of andu 1025 corresponding to 28th February 1850 CE. Sent for deposit in the Museum by the District Judge, Tinnevely, as advised by the Government Epigraphist for India.

UNKNOWN

Unknown 1

Acc.No. 77/35

Five Tulu copper plates each measuring 30.5cmX 13.5 cm and provided with holes to be secured together by a ring (missing). The plates record the following:- (Details were not recorded in the register)

(Deposited in the Museum from a very long time).

Unknown 2

Acc.No. 86/37

Incomplete copper plate grant of Prithvi Maharaja of Pishtapura of an unknown early dynasty. The set consists of three copper plates. The ---- plate containing the usual Vyasa slokas, the seal and ring are missing. This records the gift of a village to a Vedic scholar named Bhavasarmān.

Unknown 3

Acc.No. 95/41

Prolaya nayaka of the Musanam family Fourteenth Century. About 1313-1325 Seven copper plates without ring or seal in Telugu-Canarese letters registering the grant of the village of Vilasa as an agrahara to a

learned Brahman. The grant is made by Prolayanayaka of the Musanan family, born in the Chatrutha kula (sudra). It gives in Sanskrit verse description of Muhammadan invasion of Uanyal, states that Prataparudra was taken captive to Delhi after his defeat, how he died on the way. Also describes the state of the Telugu country after the fall of Warangal and how Prolaya nayaka defeated the Muhammadans and re-established independence.

Unknown 4

Acc.No. 106/46

Single copper plate grant in Telugu by a number of people beginning with Addangi Narasappagaru recording their grant of lands to some temples Nagaresvara, Vignesvara etc., in the place Addangi. It also mentions that the property should be utilised properly for the performances of daily pujas in those temples. In this connection probably the names of some Archakas are also introduced. One of them is Dakshinamurti Ayyagaru. Received from the District Judge of Guntur. Sent by the Government Epigraphist for safe deposit in the Museum. Salivahana Saka 1641 Magha suddha dasami, Vilambi Samvatsara.

Unknown 5

Acc.No. 146/57

Fifteen copper plates with Tamil inscription on all of them except on one plate. The inscription is written in two halves on each face of the plate. The writing is not continuous but each letter is made of dots. There is difference in measurements of the plates. On this ground the plates grouped into three:

- a) With seven plates, one of them broken into two (each plate of 11. 1/2" X 1.1/2")
- b) With six plates, one of them broken into two (each plate of 11" X 11/4")
- c) With two plates one of them uninscribed. (each plates of 10" X 1.1/8").

All the plates have a hole at the centre of the left hand margin for keeping them strung together. The purport of the inscription seems to be land grant to a number of Brahmins. But these sets appear to be incomplete, and hence the continuity of the passages is lost. These were found buried in the compound of one Siva Sangu Nadar S/O Satirlampu Nadar of Pandavarmangalam Village, Koilpatti Taluk, Tirunelveli Dt.,

Unknown 6

Acc.No. 150/64

A single copper plate grant. The name of the King is not given. It is dated saka 1480. The script and language is Tamil. The grant deals with the right of "Kaniachi" granted to certain people in Ponnamaravati region. It contains inscription on both sides.

Unknown 7

Acc.No. 151/64

A single copper plate grant in Tamil. It is dated in Saka 1480. The date is tampered with in its second letter (). This is also deals with the right "Kariachi" to the certain people of Ponnamaravati region. The plate is broken at two places in the right side of one plate and left side.

Unknown 8

Acc.No. 157/72

Five plates with ring and seal.

Unknown 9

Acc.No. 158/72

Five plates without ring and seal.

Unknown 10

Acc.No. 159/72

A single copper plate without ring and seal.

Unknown 11

Acc.No. 160/72

Two plates without ring and seal.

Unknown 12

Acc.No. 161/72

A single copper plate without ring and seal.

Unknown 13

Acc.No. 162/72

A single lead plate without ring and seal.

Unknown 14

Acc.No. 163/72

Two plates palm leaf like without ring and seal.

Unknown 15

Acc.No. 164/72

A single plate without ring and seal.

Unknown 16

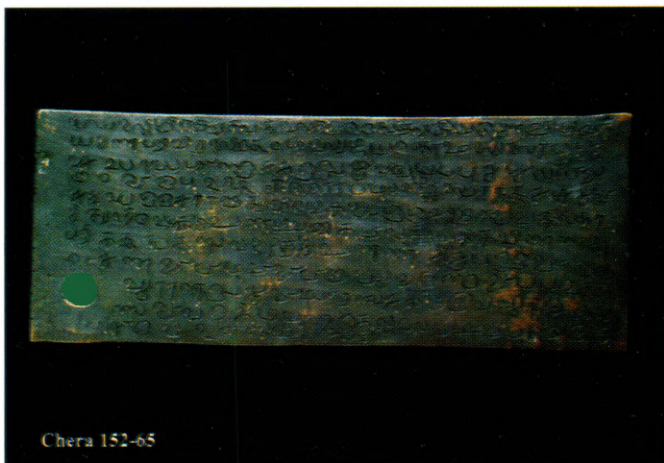
Acc.No. 165/72

Only ring and seal of a grant. Plates are missing.

Unknown 17

Acc.No. 166/72

Only seal of a grant. Plates and ring are missing.



Chera Copper Plates



Karandai Tamil Sangam Copper Plates



Royal emblem of Cholas



Tiruvalangadu Copper plates



Royal emblem of Cholas

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Royal emblem of Cholas