# THE INSCRIPTION OF KING RĀMA GAMHĒN OF SUKHODAYA (1292 A.D.)

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by

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### Introduction

The late Professor George Coedès's edition and translation of Rāma Gamhèn's inscription¹ are so authoritative that any attempt to improve on them may seem futile, if not downright impertinent. But almost half a century has passed since they appeared. In the meantime a new generation of scholars, both Siamese and Western, have been able to study the inscription, either from the stone itself or from Coedès's photographs of rubbings; a number of Sukhodayan inscriptions which were unknown to Coedès have been discovered and edited, furnishing comparative material for the interpretation of obscure words and phrases; and much new information on Southeast Asian history and archeology has been gathered. As it is therefore possible to propose a few new readings or interpretations of difficult passages in Rāma Gaṃhèn's text, we have ventured to undertake a new translation, with copious explanatory notes.

The first reasonably satisfactory translation of Rāma Gamhèn's inscription into a western language is that of Cornelius Beach Bradley, Professor of Rhetoric at the University of California, which appeared in 1909. Professor Bradley's father, the American medical

<sup>1)</sup> Coedès, Recueil des inscriptions du Siam, Bangkok, 1924, p. 37 ff., with text in Romanized transcription, French translation, introduction, and notes; แผนกับบาณ คที่, ประชุมศึกาจรักสบาม ภาคที่ ๑, Bangkok, same date, p. 51 ff., text in modern Siamese characters, with translations of Coedès's introduction and notes, prepared by Luang Boribal Buribandh under the direction of Prince Damrong Rajanubhab; reprinted in ประชุมศึกาจเร็กสบาม ภาคที่ ๑, for distribution at the cremation of Lady Sin Bhaktinaraśreṣṭha, Bangkok, B.E. 2500, pp. 1 ff. Coedès's translation has been reprinted by the Siam Society, together with an English version by H.R.H. Prince Wan Waithyakon, in a pamphlet entitled L'inscription du roi Rāma Ganhèn de Sukhodaya, Bangkok, 1965.

missionary Dr Dan Beach Bradley, who lived in Siam from 1835 until his death in 1873, had edited and printed the Bangkok Calendar as well as numerous Siamese legal and historical texts, and written an authoritative Siamese Dictionary. Professor C.B. Bradley was born in Bangkok, spent his youth in Siam, went to Europe and America in the 1860's, later served as a missionary in Bangkok but retired because of ill health, and finally settled in California in the early 1870's. He was an authority on the Siamese language, and wrote several papers on Siamese grammar and phonology. In the course of a later visit to Bangkok he devoted long and painstaking study to Rāma Gaṃhèn's inscription, working directly from the stone.

Bradley begins his paper with an expression of thanks to Prince Damrong Rājanubhāb and several other scholars for their generous help in the decipherment and interpretation. Then he gives a bibliography, with some scornful remarks on the work of previous editors and translators. In a long and illuminating introduction, he discusses the stone and its history; the script and vocabulary of the text; the literary style, with its recurrent patterns, balanced and rhythmic phrasing, stereotyped expressions and rhyming jingles; and finally the author of the text, Rāma Gamhèn. Then come the translation itself, the text transliterated into modern Siamese characters, and twenty-fours pages of notes.

His translation is much better than any of the earlier attempts, but it is far from irreproachable. Quite apart from his style, which is rather incoherent in places, and in general too archaistic and Biblical to suit modern tastes, it is obvious that he mistook the sense of several passages.

Coedès, before undertaking his definitive edition of the inscription, wrote two preparatory studies, one of which he published in 1918 (JSS XII/1, pp. 1 ff.), the other in 1923 (JSS XVII/3, pp. 113 ff.). In the introduction to the first he writes:

'L'inscription de Rāma Khamheng est un document d'une si grande importance qu'on ne saurait négliger aucun détail susceptible de résoudre les nombreux problèmes qu'il pose. Le dernier éditeur de ce text difficile, Prof. C. B. Bradley, a corrigé la plupart des erreurs de ses devanciers, et est parvenu à élucider complètement le sens de quelques passages obscurs: il n'a laissé qu'à glaner après lui.'

In his preparatory studies, nevertheless, Coedès proposed a large number of amendments, either in reading or in interpretation, most of which he later incorporated in the definitive edition of 1924. His translation, no matter how much it owes to Bradley's, is a far better piece of work. Written in a clear and unpretentious style, it makes perfectly good sense throughout.

The stone and its discovery.—Rāma Gaṃhèn's inscription is engraved on a stout pillar of fine-grained stone with a rounded pyramidal top (Fig. 1). The pillar is 35 cm. square, and has a total height of 1.11 m. including the tenon. Faces I and II each have 35 lines of writing; Faces III and IV each 27 (Fig. 3 a, b, c, d).

This pillar, together with the one bearing Mahādharmarājā I's Khmer inscription, was discovered at Sukhodaya in 1833 by Prince Mahāmankuta, the future King Rāma IV, when he was still a monk. His attention was first attracted not by the inscriptions themselves, but by a flat slab of stone with designs carved in bas-relief on its edges (Fig. 2 b). As we now know, this slab was the seat of the throne set up in 1292 by Rāma Gaṃhèn. The memory of its potency had survived for more than 540 years, though Rāma Gaṃhèn's name had long been forgotten, and though Sukhodaya had ceased to be a capital in the 1420's and the site of the city, abandoned during the wars of the 18th century, was now occupied only by a few scattered villages.

Here is the story of Prince Mahāmankuṭa's discovery, as related in the History of Four Reigns<sup>2</sup>:

In the year of the serpent Culaśakarāja 1195 [1833 A.D.] he made a pilgrimage in the north country [i.e. the Sukhodaya region], stopping to worship at various cetiyas, and at last he came to the city of Sukhodaya. Here, as he wandered about, he found a stone throne-seat set in place beside the ruins of the old palace. It was an object of reverence and fear to all the villagers, for anyone who passed close to it without doing obeisance was sure to fall ill with fever. When the Prince saw it he walked straight up to the stone

<sup>2)</sup> Our translation of the extract from Prince Vajiraก็ลกูล's พระราชประวัติสมเด็จพระเจ้า แผ่นดิน ส รัชกาล given in ประชุมศิลาจาริกสยาม ภาคที่ ๑, 1924. Cf. Bradley's translation at JSS VI/1, p. 7.

and sat on it; but because of the power of his accumulated merits he suffered no harm whatever. On his return, he had the stone throne brought down [to Bangkok] and set up as a preaching-bench at Văt Rājādhivāsa. When he became King [in 1851 A.D.] he removed it to the Chapel Royal of the Emerald Buddha. In addition he obtained [Mahādharmarājā I's] stone inscription in Khmer and [Rāma Gaṃhèn's] inscription in Old Siamese, which he also placed in the Chapel Royal.

Without actually saying so, this account clearly implies that the Prince discovered the two inscriptions at the same time as the throne beside the ruins of the old palace (ริมเนินประสาทเท่าทักษัยยู่; note that the term เนินประสาท, 'palace mound', is the name still used for the huge brick platform, cleared a few years ago, which is all that now remains of the Royal Palace at Sukhodaya). In any case it stands to reason that Rāma Gaṃhèn's inscription was originally set up beside the stone throne, the erection and dedication of which it commemorates; and it was evidently still in situ when the Prince discovered it.

When the two inscriptions and the throne reached Bangkok, they were first installed at Văt Samo Rāy (now Văt Rājādhivāsa), where Prince Mahāmankuṭa was then residing. Three years later when he became Abbot of Văt Pavaranivesa he took the inscriptions with him, but left the throne behind. In 1911 his grandson Rāma VI had the throne removed to the throne-room named Brah Dī-nān Tusita Mahāprāsāda in the Royal Palace and fitted with lacquered and gilt supports of carved wood (Fig. 2 a). In 1924 the two inscriptions were placed in the Vajirañāṇa Library. Rāma Gaṃhèn's is now in the Bangkok National Museum, while Mahādharmarājā I's is in the Manuscript and Inscription Division of the National Library.

Early attempts to decipher and translate the inscription.—Prince Mahāmankuṭa can justly be called the founder of Siamese epigraphy. When he set about deciphering Rāma Gaṃhèn's text, there was no one in the world who had ever tried to read an inscription in Old Siamese.<sup>3</sup>

<sup>3)</sup> Or, for that matter, in Old Khmer, such as Mahādharmarājā I's, with which we shall not be concerned in this paper. The systematic study of Cambodian inscriptions, largely the work of European scholars, did not begin until 1879.

The first problem that had to be solved was the script. The consonants, based on a Khmer cursive, offered relatively little difficulty, as the Khmer alphabet which was in use at that time for Pali texts was of course well known to the monks; but the vowels gave trouble. trast to Khmer and to modern Siamese, such vowels as i and i, instead of being superscript, and  $\mathbf{u}$  and  $\mathbf{\bar{u}}$  instead of being subscript, are written before the initial consonant of the syllable, and enlarged to the same size as the consonants. The mai-han-akasa (") is completely lacking, the sound of a in a closed syllable being represented instead by reduplicating the final consonant—a usage that continued sporadically throughout the Sukhodaya period, though the mai-han-ākāśa came into occasional use before 1350. 'To the eye acquainted only with modern Siamese,' says Bradley (p. 10), 'this inscription seems at first quite as foreign as the Khmer inscription [of Mahādharmarājā I] which stands beside it ..... Closer scrutiny detects here and there a letter barely recognizable in its grotesque aldermanic breadth, And after the characters are all learned, their sequence is still a source of perplexity, being often quite different from that of modern Siamese.'

In 1836 the task of decipherment was turned over to a Commission of scholars under the direction of Prince Rksa, the learned monk who is best known by his later title Kram Brahyā Pavareśvariyalańkarana. He had perhaps already grasped the principles of the script; and after that it was possible to get the gist of the text, but not yet a full understanding of it.

The first published work to mention this inscription is *The Kingdom and people of Siam*, by Sir John Bowring (London, 1857), who visited Bangkok in 1855 as the British envoy to King Rāma IV. The King gave him two lithographic copies of the inscription, evidently reproduced from a pen-sketch or eye-copy prepared by the Commission, imitating the form of the letters in the inscription as closely as possible, but dividing the lines differently. A facsimile of the first page, containing fourteen lines of writing, appears in Bowring's book (see our Fig. 4). On it the King had added, in his own hand, the English equivalents of a few of the words. These additions, as far as they go, show that Rāma IV understood the principles of the script and the meaning of the opening

lines, but there is one unexpected difficulty. Rāma Gaṃhèn's father's namê, Śrī Indrāditya, is written 'an 'unan 'nou in the inscription, though in order to be consistent with the principles of the script it ought to have been 'an 'nunn 'nou. Observing that something was wrong, Rāma IV seems to have tried to find a plausible name that could be made out with the least possible amendment to what he could see on the stone, and hit upon 'Surindradity', i.e. Surendrāditya, which would be a suitable name for a member of the Solar Dynasty. The guess, though not right, was logical enough, and the reading could be explained on the assumption that the first 'was a mistake for .

In the accompanying letter, which Bowring prints, Rāma IV says that he is sending him 'two copies of the ancient Siamese letters first invented in the year of the Christian era 1282 [probably a misprint for 1283, for misprints abound in the book], which letters were copied out from a stone pillar on which they were transcribed.' He adds: 'I have commenced their translation in English for your Excellency, but I cannot fulfill it or do it complete on this occasion. I will send it to your Excellency on another occasion, when it is completely done.' While the King understood the statement at IV/9, his letter hints at unsolved difficulties elsewhere.

While Bowring gives only the first page of the lithographic copy, the Bibliothèque Nationale in Paris possesses a full set, containing six pages of text (Fig. 5 a, b, c, d, e, f), presented in 1856 to de Montigny, the French envoy, by Bishop Pallegoix's pro-vicar, Clémenceau. Inside the cover-page is the following note, written by hand in English: 'A copy of an Ancient Siamese inscription. The original is dated about the year 1193 of the Christian Era, and was discovered on a stone pillar in the city of Sukhodaya, the capital of Siam at that period. Printed at the Royal printing office, in the lithographic press. Bangkok.' The date, 'about

<sup>4)</sup> Bowring, The Kingdom and People of Siam, Vol. II, p. 444.

<sup>5)</sup> Written by hand on the cover is the following note: 'Offert par M. l'Abbé Clémenceau, Missionnaire Apostolique à Bangkok,' followed by the signature, 'C. de Montigny.' Cf. de Croizier, Notices des manuscrits siamois de la Bibliothèque Nationale, Paris, 1887, pp. 34, 61, 79; Coedès, Recueil, I, p. 37.

1193 of the Christian Era,' is evidently a slip for 1293; the right date is 1214 saka, equivalent to 1292 A.D.<sup>6</sup>

This document may be taken as a measure of the progress made by the Commission in deciphering the text by the beginning of Rāma IV's reign. It contains several dozen false readings which later scholars have been able to rectify—mostly mistakes resulting from making the wrong choice between two letters that look much alike in Rāma Gaṃhèn's script. When we remember the lack of comparative materials that would help to establish the context, we shall feel less inclined to blame the Commission for their mistakes than to praise them for their skill in accomplishing as much as they did at this early period. It is uncertain how much progress they had made in understanding the text, for deciphering it was only part of the problem. There were lots of other difficulties—archaic spelling, obsolete words, obscure turns of phrase, and ambiguous syntax—which could cause misunderstandings that would not show up in a transcript but would be all too evident in a translation into a Western language.

The first person to attempt such a translation was the German, Adolf Bastian, who visited Bangkok in 1863. 'The inscription,' he says, 'is written in an ancient kind of character, differing from the present one. The vowels are written in one line with the consonants, and the diacritical marks of the modern alphabet are mostly dispensed with [by 'diacritical marks, Bastian seems to mean, at least in part, the superscript and subscript vowels].... I was enabled by the help of some learned friends in Bangkok to extract the antiquated alphabet of the inscription, but have not brought it yet to the state of perfection which would be desirable for publication.' Bastian gives no facsimile of the text but, in order to furnish the reader a sample, cites the illustration in Bowring's book (our Fig. 4). 'Even the present translation which I offer here,' he

<sup>6)</sup> In the old Khmer and Siamese calendars, the year of course did not change on January 1 of the western calendar, but spread over parts of two successive years of the Christian Era; so when a year is given in śaka (mahāśakarājā) without the month being stated, it is never possible to know exactly which year of the Christian era it corresponds to. In such circumstances Coedès adds 78 to the year in śaka (e.g. Recueil, I, p. 38), which gives a better chance of making the right conversion. Bradley on the other hand adds 79 (see JSS VI/1, p. 57), and arrives at 1293 A,D. for the date of the inscription (JSS VI/1, p. 7).

adds, 'is still a very imperfect one, but whenever I was at a fault to make out a satisfactory explanation, I was sure to find the best informed Siamese in the same predicament.'

Just as we should expect, Bastian's translation contains quantities of small mistakes and several big ones (cf. Appendix). Bradley says it is 'really no translation, but a first sketch, in which the writer reports such impressions of the drift and import of the writing as he was able to get from Siamese sources.'8 Bastian, however, brings out most of the points on Faces I and IV that would be of interest to historians, e.g. that Rāma Gamhèn helped his father defeat the Chief of Chòt at Tāk; that after serving his father loyally, and then serving his elder brother in the same way, he became king upon the latter's death; and that he devised the letters of the Tai alphabet. Bastian seems to have understood the limits of the kingdom more or less correctly, though there are bad misprints in some of the names; and he not only read the dates 1205 and 1214 correctly, but also recognized the era as the mahāśakarāja.9 On the other hand he makes very little sense out of Rāma Gamhèn's moving account of the freedom, justice and prosperity that prevailed in the kingdom, his eloquent description of the capital city, or his statements about Buddhism; and the translation of the passage regarding 'the flat stone called Manang-sila' is a nightmare.

The next European to essay a translation was the French missionary Père Schmitt, who had lived in Siam for many years. He published it, together with a transcript of the text, in 1884 and again in 1885. This transcript, says Bradley, is neither a facsimile nor a tracing, nor a rendering of it by any method of accurate reproduction. What the author supposed to be found on the stone, and what he supplied from conjecture, are both set down alike in coarse black leiters apparently drawn with a brush. Words still plainly to be read on the stone reappear strangely, or

<sup>7)</sup> Bastian, On some Siamese Inscriptions, Journal of the Royal Asiatic Society of Bengal, XXXIV/1, p. 29 f.

<sup>8)</sup> JSS VI/1, p. 3.

<sup>9)</sup> Bastian, op. cit., p. 36; cf. Garnier, Voyage d'exploration en Indo-Chine, Paris, 1873, I, p. 136 f. Note that Bastian's transcriptions of names (where the printer has not mangled them) are mostly based on Pallegoix's system.

<sup>10)</sup> Excursions et reconnaissances (Saigon), VIII, No. 19, 1884; Deux anciennes inscriptions siamoises transcrites et traduites par M. Schmitt, Saigon, 1885.

even absurdly, transformed. The translation, naturally, repeats the errors of this transcript, with, of course, others of its own.'<sup>11</sup> Revised versions of Schmitt's work were published in *Le Siam ancien* in 1895, and in *Mission Pavie* in 1898, with photographic representations of the text (Fig. 6).<sup>12</sup> 'For the scholar,' says Bradley, 'the value of this text is very seriously diminished by the fact that it has everywhere been retouched, and that too, it would seem, without reference to the original, but to some inaccurate transcript—apparently the one twice published before. Similar changes of the text appear, and nearly all the lacunae are written in so as to appear as text. Transliteration and translation are, of course, no more authentic than the text on which they are based—if it be not rather sometimes the case that the interpretation has determined the text.'<sup>13</sup>

Yet Schmitt's translation, faulty as it is, marks a great advance over Bastian's in most respects, though occasionally he misunderstands a

- 11) JSS VI/1, p. 3.
- 12) Fournereau, Le Siam ancien, Vol. I, Paris, 1895, pp. 216-241; Mission Pavic, Indo-Chine 1879-1895, Vol. II, Paris, 1898, pp. 175 ff.
- 13) JSS VI/1, p. 4.—Schmitt's plates (Fig. 6) are certainly not made from photographs either of the inscription itself or of rubbings. The most conspicuous retouching appears to have been done by smearing white ink over certain groups of letters to indicate lacunae due to the flaking of the stone. If the photographs had been made from the stone or from rubbings, most of these letters would never have appeared at all. The actual damage to the stone is widespread and irregular, whereas the smears on the photographs would lead us to believe there were only three lacunae in the whole inscription, all of them surprisingly neat in shape. Apart from them, the photographs show a clear and unbroken text such as we might expect from a painted replica of the stone on which the lacunae had been conjecturally restored.

Aymonier tells us he saw just such a copy of it in 1884, when he was making rubbings of the inscription in the Chapel Royal: 'Les Siamois,' he writes, 'avaient essayé de reproduire exactement cette stèle sur une pièce de bois passée en couleur et placée sous un hangar à proximité' (Aymonier, Le Cambodge, II, Paris, 1901, p. 71). This copy has disappeared; but if, as seems likely, it was similar in format to the Commission's facsimile of Mahādharmarājā I's Khmer inscription, it was a black wooden pillar with the letters painted on it in yellow ink (see Coedès in BEFEO XVII/1, p. 2). Whether or not it is the source of Schmitt's plates can only be guessed.

passage that Bastian understood correctly.<sup>14</sup> Schmitt may be said to have taken two large steps forward, and a small step backward. The steps forward almost certainly reflect progress made by the Siamese editors between the 1850's and the 1890's toward a better understanding of the text. It is hard to account for the step backward, which certainly cannot be blamed on Schmitt's Siamese informants.<sup>15</sup>

The first publication of any part of the inscription prepared by the Siamese editors was in the Vajirañāṇa Magazine, Vol. VI, pp. 3574-3577, Bangkok, 1898. Bradley calls this work 'a short article embodying in a freely modernized version nearly the whole of the fourth face of the inscription, including the dates, the story of the origination of Siamese writing, and the boundaries of the realm.'16

In 1908 the Crown Prince Vajirāvudh, the future King Rāma VI, made a tour of the cities of the old kingdom of Sukhodaya, of which he has left us a valuable account.<sup>17</sup> In the same year a pamphlet of 22 pages was prepared and printed for him, entitled the same year a pamphlet of 22 pages was prepared and printed for him, entitled the same year a pamphlet of 22 pages was prepared and printed for him, entitled the same year a pamphlet of 22 pages was prepared and printed for him, entitled the same year a pamphlet of 22 pages was prepared and printed for him, entitled the same year a pamphlet of 22 pages was prepared and printed for him, entitled the same year a pamphlet of 22 pages was prepared and printed for him, entitled the same year a pamphlet of 22 pages was prepared and printed for him, entitled the same year a pamphlet of 22 pages was prepared and printed for him, entitled the same year a pamphlet of 22 pages was prepared and printed for him, entitled the same year a pamphlet of 22 pages was prepared and printed for him, entitled the same year a pamphlet of 22 pages was prepared and printed for him, entitled the same year a pamphlet of 22 pages was prepared and printed for him, entitled the same year a pamphlet of 22 pages was prepared and printed for him, entitled the same year a pamphlet of 22 pages was prepared and printed for him, entitled the same year a pamphlet of 22 pages was prepared and printed for him, entitled the same year a pamphlet of 22 pages was prepared and printed for him, entitled the same year a pamphlet of 22 pages was prepared and printed for him, entitled the same year a pamphlet of 22 pages was prepared and printed for him, entitled the same year a pamphlet of 22 pages was prepared and printed for him, entitled the same year a pamphlet of 22 pages was prepared and year a pamphlet of 22 pages was prepared and year a pamphlet of 22 pages was prepared and year a pamphlet of 22 pages was prepared and year a pamphlet of 22 pages was prepared and year a pamphlet of 22 pages was prepared

- 14) At I/1, for instance, Schmitt takes the name Pān Möan (Bân Müang) as representing two separate persons, though Bastian realized that only one was meant. Again at II/24 he takes brah atthāraśa to mean 'statuettes et bas-reliefs' (La Siam ancien, p. 236, note 4); but Bastian had got it right: 'a statue of Buddha, 18 cubits high'.
- 15) Every educated Siamese knew the Pali word atthärasa, 'eighteen', denoting a statue of the Buddha 18 cubits in height (about 9 m.).
- 16) ISS VI/I p. 4.
- 17) สมเด็จพระโอรสาธิวาชเข้าพ้ามหาวชิราวุธมกุฎราชกุมาร, เรื่องเที่ยวเมืองพระร่วง, รัคนโกสินทร์ศก ๑๒๒. During the course of this trip he collected at least two Sukhodayan inscriptions. One of them is Inscription No. VIII (Recueil, p. 123; cf. ibid., p. 6); for the other, see Griswold and Prasert in JSS LIX/1, pp. 157 ff.
- 18) Inscriptions 1 (Rāma Gaṃhèn's), III and IV (for III and IV, see Recueil, pp. 77 ff., 91 ff.). This pamphlet was reprinted in ประชุมพงศาวดาร ภาคที่ ๑, Bangkok, 1914; second edition, Bangkok, 1963.
- 19) JSS VI/1, p. 4.

Bradley's own article on the inscription, which appeared the following year, marks what we might call several large strides forward, but with a surprising step backward here and there. He possessed formidable qualifications for the task: he had a kind of dogged pertinacity, rare in Siam at that time, in searching out the exact meaning of every word and phrase, including those that might not seem very important; and few Westerners of his day could match his knowledge of Siamese syntax. The passage at I/6 f., ได้เดียงน้ำใสพ่ กรี หน, for instance, had generally been understood to mean that Rāma Gamhèn's father took flight; Bradley realized it was the father's followers who took flight, not the father himself. In many other places, where Bastian and Schmitt had been all at sea, Bradley got the sense right, or nearly so (cf. Appendix); but in one passage (III/10-27), the general sense of which Schmitt had gotten well enough, Bradley went seriously wrong. Schmitt knew that 'Manadinsīlāpātra' (though he did not read the word quite right) was the name of a throne; but Bradley thought it was the name of the inscription itself (cf. Appendix, pp. 225-7). As a result he completely overlooked the formal purpose of the text to which his paper is devoted.

Purpose of the inscription.—Southeast Asian inscriptions are never mere lyrical effusion, eulogy, or narrative. They may contain plenty of all these things, and others besides; but no matter how much supplementary information they may give, every one of them has a definite formal purpose. 'Not a single one of them was engraved except in connection with some particular event,' writes Coedès, who has probably studied more of them than anyone else in our time. 'In all the ancient epigraphy of Southeast Asia I do not think it possible to cite a single prasasti (eulogy) composed solely to perpetuate in stone the virtues or the high accomplishments of a monarch; and in fact all the known inscriptions in Thai commemorate some religious foundation or some particular ceremony.'20

The inscriptions of Sukhodaya, whatever their formal object, often give a lot of information on both political and religious affairs, the state of the kingdom at the time they were composed, the ancestry and biography of the ruler, and historical events. Sometimes, indeed, there is so much incidental matter that it takes a little searching to find the formal purpose;

<sup>20)</sup> JSS XII/1, p. 21 (our translation).

but, unless the statement has been broken off or obliterated, it is always there somewhere; and most often it is intimately connected with the exact place where the inscription stood. When the inscription commemorated a donation to religion, such as the consecration of a monastery, a monument or a statue, it was usually set up beside the building or engraved on the base of the image; when it recorded the consecration of a throne it would naturally be set up beside the throne itself.

Schmitt thought the purpose of Rāma Gaṃhèn's inscription was to record the administrative and religious Constitution of the kingdom. Rāma Gaṃhèn, he says, 'a fait graver sur cette pierre la loi qui régit son royaume, pour que le peuple en prît connaissance. Les usages civils et religieux indiqués sur cette inscription sont encore aujourd'hui mis en pratique, dans le pays de Siam, sans changement notable. Cette inscription est restée la base fondamentale de leur vie civile et religieuse.'21 In fact Schmitt was not wholly wrong; certainly a part of its purpose was more or less what he says; and while he failed to identify its formal purpose, he at least had the good sense to see that it had one.

Bradley will have none of this. 'The inscription,' he writes, 'has repeatedly been published, with transliterations, translations, and essays upon it... In spite of all these editors have done,—I am not sure but I should have said, in consequence of what they have done,—the real nature and intent of this perfectly direct and simple-hearted utterance seems at many points misapprehended. One editor finds in it—apparently for no other reason than that it is now the thing to do—a complete code of civil law. Another finds in it a complete ritual or religious observance and ceremony...'22 Bradley's own view of Rāma Gaṃhèñ's purpose seems to be as follows: 'The inscription commemorates his reign.... the things he deems most memorable in all his reign:—the invention of writing; the solemn reverence paid by him and his people to the sacred relics...; and the consecration and setting up of the inscribed stones which were to record in Siamese words the achievement of a united Siam.'23

<sup>21)</sup> Mission Pavie, II, p. 177.

<sup>22)</sup> JSS VI/1, pp. 5-6.

<sup>23)</sup> Abridged from JSS VI/1, pp. 22-24.

Coedès was the first Western scholar to bring out clearly the formal purpose of the inscription. 'II est à peu près certain,' he wrote in 1918, after adducing a mass of supporting evidence, 'qu'elle a pour objet de commémorer l'inauguration du Trône de pierre มนังผิดบนทุก auprès duquel... elle se trouvait placée (สถานกิวัลนี้).'24

Style; contents; dates.—Not all monarchs composed their own inscriptions; those who preferred a high-flown literary style would be likely to have them drafted by experts. But the style of Rāma Gaṃhèn's text is so completely personal that we cannot doubt he composed it himself with little or no help from anyone else; and if he did not write it out with his own hand, he almost certainly dictated it to his scribes to make a manuscript 'fair copy' for the stone engraver to follow.

His manner of expressing himself is justly famed for its simplicity and dignity, aptness of diction, and orderly succession of ideas: the qualities of the text mark it as the work of an alert and disciplined mind. The orderly succession of his ideas, however, is by no means apparent in Bastian's or Schmitt's translation; and even in Bradley's there are passages where it has to be taken on faith. Now that the meaning of almost the whole text is clear, we can be certain of Rāma Gaṃhèn's coherency; and if we still fail to see the connection of ideas in a few places, it may be because the engraver misplaced certain statements, or else because associations which were obvious to everyone in Rāma Gaṃhèn's time are much less obvious to us.

'The inscription,' says Coedès, 'is made up of three distinct parts. In the first part [I/1-18] the King, speaking in the first person, gives a brief biography of himself up to the time of his accession. The second part [I/18-IV/11] was executed by the same engraver, but speaks of the King in the third person: it sums up the customs of the country and gives a description of the city of Sukhodaya, ending with an account of the founding of the stone throne in M.S. 1214 (1292 A.D.), the installation of the relics at Śrī Sajjanālaya in M.S. 1207 (1285 A.D.), and the invention of the writing in M.S. 1205 (1283 A.D.). The third part [IV/11-27] is written in a different hand, with finer strokes, and the spelling has certain features that indicate a later date; it is composed of a eulogy of

<sup>24)</sup> JSS XII/1, p. 21.

the King and a statement of the limits of his kingdom. It can hardly be doubted that the author of the inscription, that is the person at whose command it was composed and engraved, is Rāma Gaṃhèn himself, and that its object is to commemorate the installation of the stone throne, "Manănsīlāpātra", in the Palm-Grove of the Royal Palace in that same year, 1292 A.D., which seems to have been a date of prime importance in Rāma Gaṃhèn's reign, for it was then that he established relations with the Court of China.'25

The sequence of these dates, as well as the designation of one of them, for a long time gave editors trouble; but all the problems concerning them were satisfactorily solved by Coedès in 1918. The reader will find the references to his solutions in our footnotes.

Each of the four faces of the stone has about the same amount of surface prepared for writing, i.e. enough to accommodate 35 lines comfortably. Faces I and II actually have 35 lines each, but Faces III and IV have only 27 lines each. Very likely Rāma Gaṃhèn, when he first began planning the inscription, gave instructions to prepare a good deal more space than would be necessary for the main body of the text because he intended to add one or more epilogues in the years following 1292.

The latter part of Face IV, beginning near the middle of line 11, has long been recognized as an epilogue. In fact it appears to us to be the second of two epilogues, the first of which runs from the beginning of Face IV to the beginning of the second epilogue. At the beginning of Face IV, before the words with unit (11) unit unit, in a space wide enough for a letter or two, there are traces of some kind of mark which is now largely obliterated, but which appears to have been a punctuation mark indicating the beginning of a new sentence; if not a whole new train of thought. None of the editors mentions this mark, though Schmitt translates as if one sentence ended at the end of Face III and a new one started at the beginning of Face IV. Bastian, Bradley and Coedès all take the sentence as running on to Face IV without a break. As it happens, this passage

<sup>25)</sup> Coedès, Recueil, pp. 37-38 (our translation); regarding the establishment of relations with China, Coedès adds a footnote referring to BEFEO IV, p. 242 [Pelliot, Deux itinéraires de Chine en Inde, quoting an extract from the Yüanshih; for a recent translation and comment, see Flood, Sukhothai-Mongol Relations, JSS LVII/2, p. 223].

makes equally good sense if read as one sentence or two. Coedès gives some persuasive arguments in favor of taking the whole passage, beginning with word at III/26, and ending with whom at IV/3-4, as one long complex sentence. But we can argue, in favor of splitting it into two, that Rāma Gaṃhèn's style avoids complex sentences; and the punctuation mark (for what else can it have been?) seems to be conclusive. For convenience (and without intending to prejudice the decision) we shall call the passage at IV/1-11 'Epilogue I', and that at IV/11-27 'Epilogue II.'

In several respects Epilogue II stands in marked contrast to all the rest of the inscription. It lists Rāma Gamhèn's territorial acquisitions first to the east, then to the south, then to the west, then to the north (IV) 17-26), whereas he himself uses a different order in describing the countryside around his capital—west, east, north, south (II/27-III/10).<sup>27</sup> The engraving was obviously done by a different hand. The word möan, which occurs constantly throughout the inscription, is written in Epilogue II, but elsewhere always ในอง. We find ใน่อง and ใสก in Epilogue II, but ใน่อง and tran elsewhere. When there is a choice to be made between a and I, Epilogue II regularly prefers v, e.g. avv, vov, von, wou, whereas Faces I, II and III usually prefer 1, e.g.  $la_{4}$  (I/2),  $la_{4}$  (II/7),  $la_{6}$  (II/13, 33; III/13), and Ĩuμ (II/15). But Face III also has σθι (III/25) and μθμ (III/1, 4), the latter occurring before the last appearance of Ian (III/13). Epilogue I also has vos (IV/3) and von (IV/3-4). 'Śrī' is written 'as in Faces I and II, 'as in Face III, 'us in Epilogue I, and 'st again in Epilogue II. 'Sukhodaya' is written unfolm in Face I, and oil in the first half of Face II, and aloin thereafter. We have "inuo in Face I but "inuo in Face III; "inuo in Faces I and II, but "wie in Face IV; and so on. A punctuation mark in the form of a small circle appears twice in Epilogue II (IV/24, 26), but it also appears at least once in the body of the inscription (III/22).

<sup>26)</sup> See JSS XII/1, p. 22 ff.; JSS XVII/3, p. 118 f.

<sup>27)</sup> In Inscription VIII, Mahādharmarājā I gives his frontiers first to the north, then to the south, then to the east, then (presumably, but there is a lacuna) to the west; see Recucil, p. 123 f. In the Asokārāma Inscription, Mahādharmarājā II's widow gives her husband's frontiers in the following order: east, southeast, south, southwest, west, northwest, north (northeast seems to have been omitted); see JSS LVII/1, pp. 41 f., 51.

The main body of the inscription, if we agree that it ends at the close of Face III, contains only one date, 1214 saka (1292 A.D.), the year the throne was installed. It seems certain that the whole of the first three faces was engraved in that year, in a single operation, probably requiring no more than a few days, soon after the inauguration ceremonies for the throne were concluded.<sup>28</sup> Whatever we may think of the Epilogues, therefore, the differences in spelling found in Faces I-III cannot be due to any 'evolution' in the art of writing. An 'evolution' in the ordinary sense would require a good many years, and we decline to believe the King would have had the engraver start work on the inscription before he himself decided what its formal purpose was to be.

Of course no one can guess which parts of it he actually composed first. He may have been turning certain statements over in his mind for years, filling them out with proverbial expressions which came naturally to him in daily life, then perfecting and memorizing them. he cannot have composed the passage at III/10-27 or organized the earlier portions as a whole until around 1292, and only then would he dictate the final draft to the scribes. We assume that Siamese scribes, then as now, were allowed to use any spelling they liked, and the engraver would have to try his best to follow their instructions. Some scribes in 1292 may have been more progressive in their spelling than others, or they may have pronounced certain words differently and based their spelling on their own pronunciation. The variations in spelling in the first three faces, as well as the similarity in handwriting, would be accounted for if the King dictated different parts of the text to different scribes, but had all the engraving done by one person. The work of the engraver, incidentally, is not above reproach: he made several mistakes, to which we shall call attention in our footnotes.

We are inclined to think that Epilogue I was added soon after 1292 by Rāma Gamhèn himself, perhaps within a year or so, using a new scribe but the same old engraver. It contains two dates, 1207 saka

<sup>28)</sup> We might suppose that an inscription was usually prepared before the ceremonies it was intended to commemorate, and the finishing touches put on at the time of the ceremony. In this case, however, the passage at III/13 ff. seems to describe the throne already consecrated and in use.

(1285 A.D.) and 1205 saka (1283 A.D.), both of which are retrospective. The counter-chronological order in which they are given seems less strange in an epilogue than it would have been in the main body of the inscription a few dozen lines after the date 1214 saka.

Epilogue I consists of three short sections, each dealing with a separate subject.

The first (IV/14) gives a list of vassal peoples who come to do homage to Rāma Gaṃhèn. This passage, while we do not take it to be part of the last sentence on Face III, seems to us to follow it by a natural sequence of ideas, as Rāma Gaṃhèn sat on the stone throne when receiving the homage of his vassals. The vassal peoples named here were all evidently of Tai race, some of them located between Sukhodaya and Luang Pra Bâng, some around Luang Pra Bâng and north of it along the Ū, and some along the Mè Kông. This is a very short list in comparison to that of the tributary states given in Epilogue II, which cover most of Siam as well as large parts of Lower Burma and Laos. If it is intended to be exhaustive, which may or may not be the case, Rāma Gaṃhèn's realm was still of modest size when Epilogue I was added, but later expanded enormously.

The second section of Epilogue I (IV/4-8) seems to be a sort of footnote to explain the reference at III/22 to an inscription erected beside the Śrī Ratanadhātu, or Temple of the Precious Relics, at Jalyan. In 1207 saka, as we learn at IV/5, Rāma Gaṃhèn dug up the holy relics, braḥ dhātu, evidently from this temple (see below, note 117), buried them in the middle of Śrī Sajjanālaya, and built a cetiya over them which was finished in six years; then, around the Braḥ Dhātu, which in this context must mean the temple at Jalyan, he built a 'wall of rock' which was finished in three years. In the traditional arithmetic, any part of a year counts as a whole one; so we must understand that the cetiya was finished in 1212 saka (1290 A.D.), and the wall of rock in 1214 saka (1292 A.D.). We conclude that the purpose of the inscription at Jalyan was to commemorate the inauguration of the wall.

The third section (IV/8-11) seems to be a commentary on the references to all three inscriptions at III/22-24. By giving an account of the invention of *Tai* writing, it explains how it was possible for these inscriptions to come into being.

Epilogue II was added at an unknown date, probably after Rāma Gaṃhèn's death. This time, it seems, both the scribe and the engraver were new. The scribe wrote had and hide instead of hide and hide, and her instead of hide and hide and hide and her instead of hide and hide and

## Text

#### ั้ง ด้านที่

- (๑) พู่ก็ช่ สรในทราไทตย แม่ ก็ช่ นาง แลอง ไพ่ ก็ช่ บาน แมอง
- (๒) ูต์พ่นอ่งท้องคยวหำ คนูผ่ชายสามูผ่ ืญงโสง ีพ่ ็ แผอ
- (๓) อูผ่อ๋ายตายจาก ีเผออ ตยม แฏ่ ญงงเลก ีเม่ออูก ื่ข่นให่ญได๋
- (๔) ถึงบ เก๋า เข๋า ุขนสามชนเจ๋า ็เมองฉอดมาท่ ๊ เมองตากพ่ ูกไปรบ
- (๕) ุขนสามชนหววซ๋ายุขนสามชนขบบมาหววขวาุขนสาม
- (๖) ชน ็เก่ลอน เข๋าไพ่รฝ่าหน้าใสพู่ก ีหนญญ่ายพายจแจ
- (๗) (นุก) บ์ "หนุก ขี่ชางเบกพลุกขบบเซ๋าก่อนพู่กูกฏ่
- (๘) (ช้า)งค๋วยุขนสามชนตน ูกูพ่งช้างุขนสามชนตวว ืช่
- (๙) มาส์เมองแพ่ ขนสามชนพ่าย หนพ่ ก็จ่ง ชื่น นี้ชุ่ก
- (๑๐) "ช่พระรามค์แหง" เพ่ออูกูพ่งช้างุขนสามชน์ เม่อ
- (๑๑) อช่ววพู่กูกบํเรอแก่พู่กูกบํเรอแก่แมู่กูกไค๋ตวว
- (๑๒) "ีเนื่ออดววปลา ูกเอามาแก่พู่ กู กได๋หมากสั๋หมากหวา
- (๑๓) นอนนใดใกนอร่อยใกน ีดูกเอามาแก่พู่กูกไป ัด
- (๑๔) หนงงวงงช้างได้กเอามาแก่พู่กูกไปท่บำนท่ำเม
- (๑๕) องได้ช้างได้งวงได้ป่ววได้นางได้ เงอนได้ทอง ูกเอา
- (๑๖) มาเวนแก่พู่กูพ่กูตายญงง ีพู่กูกพร้าบเรอแก่ ็พ่
- (๑๗) ูกฏ่งงบํเรอแก่พู่ก ีพู่กตาย ี่จ๋งได๋ ็เมองแกู่กทงง
- (๑๘) (๊ก)ลำ เม่ออช่ววพ่ ขนรามค์แหง เมอง ุษกโขไท นี่ คในน้ำ
- (๑๙) (รม) ปลาในนา ืมเข้าเจ๋า ็เมองบ่เอาจกอบในไพรู่ลทาง ็เพ่
- (๒๐) (อ) น ของวาวไปคำ ขี่มำไปขายใครจกกใคร่คำช้างคำใค (ร)

- (๒๑) จกกใคร่ค้าม่าคำใครจกกใค่รคำ เงอนคำทองคำไพ่รฝาหน้าใส
- (๒๒) ูลกเจ๋าูลกุซนูผ่ใดแล้ล์ตายหายก่วาอ๋ยาว ็เ(รอ)นพ่ ็เช๋ออ
- (๒๓) "็เส๋ออค้ำมนนช่างชาลูก ไมยย "ยยเข่าไพรฝ่าข่าไทบ่ำ
- (๒๔) หมาก บ่า ูพลพ่ ็เชื่ออมนนไว้แก่ ูลกมนน ็ส๋นไพ่รฝ่า
- (๒๕) ูลกเจ๋าูลกุขน ี่ผ่แล๋ ผิดแผกแสกว้างกนนสวนูต
- (๒๖) แท๋แล๋ จึงแล่งความ(แ)ก่ขาด๋วย ซึ่บ่เซ๋า ูผ่ลกกมกก
- (๒๗) ูผ่ซ่อนเหนเข้าท่านบ่ใค่ร พนเหน สนท่านบ่ใค่ร ้ีเดอ
- (๒๘) คคนใด ขี่ช่างมาหาพา เมองมา ศ่ช่อย "เหนออ "เพื่อ
- (๒๙) อูก๋มนนบ่ามช่างบ่ามมำบ่ามป่ววบ่ามนางบ่าม่าเง(อ)
- (๓๐) น้ำ มีทองให้แก่มนนช่อยมนนตวงเปนบ้านเปน ็เมอ
- (๓๑) งได๋ข่า ็เ(ส)อกข่า ืีเสออหวว พ่งหววรบก่ ืีคบ่ ข่าบ่ ืีตใน
- (๓๒) ปาก ูปตามกาคง ออน ใน่งแข้วนไว๋ห๋นนไพร่ฝ่าห๋นา
- (๓๔) (ช๋)องใจมนน จกกก่ลาว ็เถงเจ๋า ็เถง ฺชนบ่ไร๋ไปลนน ก
- (๓๕) จึดงอ(น)นท่านแขวนไว๋พ่ ขนรามค์แหงเจ๋า ็เมองได๋

#### ุ้ง จ่ ดานที่ ๒

- (๑) ีญนรย(ก็เ)มออถามสวนความแก่มนนด๋วย ีซ่ไพ่รใน
- (๒) ("เม)องุสกโขไท ใน่ จึงชำสางบ่าหมากบ่า พลท่วว "เมอ
- (๓) ง นี่ ุทกแห่งบ่าพราวก่หลายใน แมอง นี่บ่าลาง
- (๔) ก่หลายใน ็เมอง ีน๋หมากม่วงก่หลายใน ็เมอง ีน๋
- (๕) ห(มา)กขามก่หลายใน ใเมอง นี่ใครสำงได้ไว้แก่มนน
- (๖) กลาง ืเมอง ุสกโขไท ี่นี้มน้ำตรพงงโพย ีสใสโกน ีค

- (๗) ...(ฏ่)งง ิกนน้ำโขง "เม่ออแล้งรอบ "เมอง ุสกโชไท "น้ "คร
- (๘) ูบ(ร)ได๋สามพนน ี้ศรอ๋ยวาคนใน ็เมองุสกโขไท ี่น่
- (๙) มก(ก)ทาน มกกทรง ีสลมกกโอยทานพุ่ ขนรามค์แหง
- (๑๐) เจ๋า ็เมองุสกโขไท ็น๋ทงงชาวแม่ชาวเจ๋าท่วยป่ววท่วยนา
- (๑๑) งูล(ก)เจ๋าูลกุขนทงง์ ซ่นทงงหลายทงงูผ๋ช่ายูผ่ ื่ญง
- (๑๒) ูฝ่ง(ท่)วย ีมสรธาในพระ ุพทธสาสนทรง ีสล ีเม่ออพรน
- (๑๓) ษา ุทกคน เมื่ออโอกพรนษากรานก ิถน เดอน ็ณ่ง ี่จ่
- (๑๔) งแล้ว ็เม่ออกรานก ็ถน ้มพน้ำบ๋ยย ้มพน้หมาก ื่ม
- (๑๕) พน๊คอกไม่ ีมหมอนณ่งงหมอนโนนบ รพารก ีถนโอ
- (๑๖) ยทานแล่ ็ปแล่ โญบล่านไป ูสคญคคก โถน ้เถงอ
- (๑๗) ไร ิญกุพน์ เม่ออจกกเข้ามาวยงรยงกนนแฏ่อไร
- (๑๘) ิญก(ูพ่)นเท๋าหววลานค์บงค์กลอยค๋วยสยงพาคสยง ืพ
- (๑๙) นสยง ีเล๋อนสยงขบบใครจกกมกกเห๋ลนเห๋ลนใครจ
- (๒๐) กกมก(ก)หววหววใครจกกมกก เลื่อน เลื่อน เมื่องุส
- (๒๑) กโขไท ็น้ มี คี่ปาก(ปุ ) ฅหลวงท์ยนญอมคนสยศกนน
- (๒๒) เข้า ูฅท่านเผาทย(น)ท่านเห๋ลนไฟ ็เมอง ุสโขไท ็น่
- (๒๔) พระ ุพทธุรบทอง มพระอฏฐารศ มพระ ุทธุรบ
- (๒๕) "มพระ ุพทธ ูรบอนนให่ญ มพระ ุพทธรูปอนน
- (๒๖) รามไม่ไพหารอนนให่ญามใพหารอนนรามไมูป่ (๒๗) ูคราน่สไ...คามเ(ถรา)มมหาเถราเบ๋องควนนคก
- (๒๘) "เมอง ุสโ(ชไท) ่ำน่ามอ(ไรา) ญญกพ่าขนรามค์แหงกทำ
- (๒๙) โอยทานแก่มหาเถรส(งงฆ)ราชปราชญรยนจบ ิบคกไตร

- หลวกกกว่า ูบู่ครใน เมอง น้ำทกคนุลกแฎ่ "เมอง สรธ
- (๓๑) รมมราชมาใ(นก)ลางอร ญญก ไม่ พหารอนน ็ณ่งมน
- (๓๒) ให่ญูสงงามแกก้ไมพระอฏฐารศอนน์ใณ่งุลกื้อย
- (๓๓) น้ำเบ๋องตวน(น)โอก้ำเมอ(ง)ุส(โ)ขไท้ำน้ำมาพหารามุบุ่คร

- (๑) (ง)..."เบ๋อง "คนนอน" เมอง ุสโชไท "นี้ มตลาคป
- (๒) (สา)น มพระอจน มปราสาท มบ่ำหมากพราวบ่ำหมาก
- (๓) ลางามไร่ามนาวมาถ่นถ้านามบ้านให่ญบ้านเลก เบ๋
- (๔) องหววนอน ็เมองุสโขไท ็น ้มูก ็ด ็พหารุบุ่คร
- ู้อย่าม สรคภงสามบ่าพราวปาลาง ามป**า**ม่วงปาซาม
- ้มน้ำโคก ีมพระ ขพง ีผเทพดาในเขาอนนน้นน เปนให่ญก่วา ุทก ีผใน ีเมอง ีน ุขน ูผู้ใด ืถ ืเมอง
- (๘) สโขไท ีน์แล้ไห๋ว ีค ีพลูถก ีเมอง ีน์ทย่ง ีเมอง
- (๙) นี้นี้ครื่ผู้ให้วบ่าครีพลบู่ถกรีผในเขาอนนบู่ครมบ่
- (๑๐) เกรง ็เมอง ีน์หาย ๑๒๑๔ สก ีปมโรงพุ่ ฃนรามคํ
- (๑๑) แหงเจ๋า ็เมอง ีศรสชชนนาไล ุสโขไท ็น ูปลกไม๋ตา
- (๑๒) น นี่นั้ได้ สืบ โค่เข้า จึงให้ช่างฟนนขดาร ใหนฎ้งงห่วาง
- (๑๓) กลางไม่ตาน นิ่วนนี้เดอนคบบ เดอนโอกแปดวนนวน
- (๑๔) น เดอนเตม เดอนบางแปควนนูฝง ูบู่ครเถรมหาเถ
- (๑๕) รีข่นณ่งง ีเหนอขคาร ีหนูสคธรมมแก่ อบาสกูฝ

- (๑๖) งท่วยจำ ืสล ืผ่ใช่วนนุสคธรมมพุ่ขนรามค์แหง
- (๑๗) เจ๋า ็เมอง ์ศรสชชนนาไล ุสโขไท ็ข๋นณ่งง ้เหนอขดา
- (๑๘) ร ใหนให่ ูฝงทว่ย ูลกเจ๋า ูลกุขนูฝงทว่ย ็ถบ๋าน ็ถ
- (๑๙) "เมองกนนวนน"เคอนคบบ เคอนเตมท่านแฏ่งช้าง"เผ
- (๒๐) (อ)กกรพคคลยางท์ยนญ่อมทองงา...ขวา ืช ูรจา ืศร
- (๒๑) (พ่) ุขนรามค์แหง ืขน ืข่ไปนบพระ(ะ)...อร ิญญกแล้
- (๒๒) (วเข้)ามา จา รกอนน ื่นเ่ง มใน ืเมองชลยงสถาบกไว้
- (๒๓) (ค๋ว)ยพระ ีศรรคนธาคุจา ิรกอนน ื่นเ่ง ไมในถ้ำ ื่ชถ้ำ
- (๒๔) (พ)ระราม อ่ยฝั่งงน้ำส์พายจา รกอนน ็ณ่ง ็มในถ้ำ
- (๒๕) (รค)นธารในกลวงบ่ำตาน น้ำมษาลาสองอนนอนน ็ณ่ง ชื่
- (๒๖) (ษา)ลาพระมาสอนน ื่นไ่ง ื่ช ุพทธษาลา(ข)คาร ีหน ็น้ ื่ช่ม
- (๒๗) นงง ีษลาบาตรสถาบกไว้ ให้น (จ๋ง) ทงงหลายเหน

## ุ๋ง ด้านที่ ๔

- (๑) พุ่ขนพระ(รา)มค์แหงูลกพุ่ขนีษรในทราไทตยเป
- (๒) (นุ)ขน(ใ)น้ำเมอง ี่ษรสชชน(นาไ)ลุสโขไททงงมากาวลาว
- (๓) (แ)ล์ไท ็เมองใต้หล้าพ้ำฏ...ไทชาว ูอชาวของมาออ
- (๔) ก๑๒๐๗สก ็ปุกรให่ ขด(เอา)พระธาุดออกทงงหลาย
- (๕) เหนกทำ ูบชาบเรอแก่พระธาุดได้ เดอนหกวนนี้จ่
- (๖) งเอาลงฝงงในกลาง (เมอ)ง ีษรสชชนาไลก่พระเจ
- (๘) หาธาุดสามเข้า จึงแล้ว ็เมื่อก่อนลาย์ สไท ็น๋บ่

- (๑๐) ในใจแล่ใค่ลาย ็สไท ็น่ลาย ็สไท ็น่ จึ่ง ็ม ้เพ่
- (๑๑) อุขนุผ่น่นนใส่ไว้พุ่ขนพระรามค์แหงน่นนหา
- (๑๒) เปนท้าวเปนพรญาแก่ไททงงหลายหาเปน
- (๑๓) ูครอาจารยสงงสอนไททงงหลายให้ ูร่
- (๑๔) ุบนุร์ธรมมแทแต่คนอนนามใน ในองไทคว๋ย
- (๑๕) ูร่คว๋ยหลวกกคว๋ยแก๋ลวคว๋ยหานคว๋ยแคะ
- (๑๖) คว๋ยแรงหาคนจกกเสมอ ีม่ได๋อาจปราบูฝงข้า
- (๑๘) อกรอคสรลวงสองแควุลํบาจายสคาเท๋าฝงงขอ
- (๑๙) ง เถงวยงจนนวยงคำเปน ๆ กแล้ว เบ๋องหวว
- (๒๐) นอนรอคคน ีทพระบางแพรกุสพรณณูภ
- (๒๑) มราชูบีร เพชู(บี)ร ีศรธรมมราชฝงงทเล
- (๒๒) สุมทรเปน ็ท(แล้ ี)เบ๋องตวนนตกรอด ีเมอ
- (๒๓) งฉอก เมอง...นหงศาพ ิกสุมทรหาเป
- (๒๔) นแคน ู้เบ๋อง( ีคน)นอนรอด ีเมองแพล ีเม
- (๒๕) องม่าน ีเมองน.. ีเมองพลววพ๋นฟงงของ
- (๒๖) "เมองชวาเป(น"ท)แล้ว ูปลกลย๋งูฝงูลกบ๋า
- (๒๗) นูลก ีเมอง(นน๋)นชอบคว๋ยธรมมุทกคน

#### Translation

- [I/1-3.] My father was named Srī Īndrāditya<sup>1</sup>, my mother was named Lady Söan, my elder brother was named Pān Möan<sup>2</sup>. There were five of us<sup>3</sup> born from the same womb: three boys and two girls. My<sup>4</sup> eldest brother died<sup>5</sup> when he was still<sup>6</sup> a child.
- [I/3-10.] When I was nineteen years old, Lord Sam Jan, the ruler of Möan Chòt, came to attack Möan Tak. My father went to fight Lord
- โกรา ในทรา ใหลย, modern ศรีอินทราทิตย์, Śrī Indrāditya. For the spelling, cf. Bradley, JSS VI, p. 37 f.
- 2) บาน ในอง, modern บาลเมือง, 'guardian of the kingdom'.
- 3) n is an obsolete pronoun of the first person plural, referring to the speaker and others, but excluding those whom he is addressing. See Coedes, JSS XVII/3, p. 113.
- 4) \*inno, says Bradley (JSS VI, p. 39), 'is the well-known sentimental first personal pronoun of the romances.'
- 5) Literally 'died from me'.
- คบมแก่ (I/3), for เดิบมแต่, equivalent to ตั้งแต่, 'since', 'when'. Prajum I glosses คบมแก่ as ตั้งแต่.
- 7) n'(I/4), i.e. no, 'to hit', 'to strike'.
- 8) Möan (เมือง), originally 'a community', means either a town or else a province, principality, realm or kingdom; when followed by a proper name, it can mean either the town of that name or the larger territorial unit of which it is the capital. In general we shall translate it according to the context, but sometimes when it precedes a place-name we may omit it. Sometimes however we shall use the word 'Möan' untranslated, for example when it has two different meanings in the same sentence. At I/4 Moan Chot is the principality of Chot, whose capital was at or near Mè Sôt, in the present province of Tak, near the Siam-Burma border; while Moan Tak is the old town of Tak, now Pan Tak (บ้านตาก), on the right bank of the Ping some 25 km. upstream from the present town of Tak. Each Möan was ruled by a viv. The word vi, which we shall translate as 'prince' or 'ruler', is often followed directly by the word Möan, with or without the addition of a toponym. For example Lord Sam Jan is called เจ้าเมืองถอด (1/4), 'ruler of Moau Chot', 'ruler of the principality of Chot'; Rama Gamben is called เจ้าเมืองสุกโซไทนี้ (II/10), 'ruler of this kingdom of Sukhodai', or เจ้าเมืองศรี-สขบนนาใกล้ไขใหน่ (III/11, III/16), 'ruler of this kingdom of Śrī Sajjannalai Sukhodai', or simply เจ้าเมือง (I/19, I/35): 'ruler of the kingdom'. Ordinarily the ruler of a principality seems to have had the title qu, 'lord', prefixed to his name, though we have only one instance in this inscription: אומים (1/4): 'Lord Sam Jan', the ruler of Chot. The word nu is sometimes used absolutely; for example ขุนผู้ใดถือเมืองสุโขใหนี (III/7-8): 'whatever lord may rule this kingdom of Sukhodai'; and, in reference to Rama Gamben, เปนทุนในเมืองบริสชชน(าไ)ลสุโซโท (IV/1-2), 'who is lord of the kingdom of Śrī Sajjannālai Sukhodai'. Note that mu, unlike wi, is not followed directly by the word Möan, but is separated from it by lu, which in this case means 'of'. The usual pattern seems to have been 'Lord X (ซุน . . . .), the ruler of Y (เข้าเมือง . . . . . .)'. At I/34, เข้า and ซุน, coupled together, are used

Sām Jan on the left; Lord Sām Jan drove forward on the right. Lord Sām Jan attacked in force<sup>9</sup>; my father's men<sup>10</sup> fled in confusion<sup>11</sup>. I did not flee. I mounted my elephant, opened [a way through] the soldiers<sup>12</sup>, and pushed him ahead in front of my father. I fought an elephant duel<sup>13</sup> with Lord Sām Jan. I fought! Lord Sām Jan's elephant, Mās Möan<sup>15</sup> by name, and beat him. Lord Sām Jan fled. Then my father named me Braḥ Rāma Gaṃhèn<sup>16</sup> because I fought Sām Jan's elephant.

[I/10-18.] In my father's lifetime I served my father and I served my mother. When I caught any game or fish I brought them to my father. When I picked any acid or sweet fruits that were delicious and good to eat, I brought them to my father. When I went hunting elephants, either by lasso or by [driving them into] a corral, <sup>17</sup> I brought them to my father. When I raided a town or village and captured elephants <sup>18</sup>,

- 9) เกลือน, literally, 'very many.'
- 10) ให่รหักหน้าใส (I/6) is a conventional expression meaning commoners of a certain category. ไพร่ means a commoner who owed a certain amount of service (corvée) to his lord or his king, but who was not a slave; พัก means 'sky'; หน้าใส means 'bright face'. Probably พัก is an abbreviation of เจ้าทั้ง, the ruler. Cf. ไพร่พัก ข้าแผ่นดิน, 'the inhabitants of the kingdom'. In this inscription ใหร่ฝึกหน้าใส seems to mean commoners who owe service to the Crown only. Cf. below, note 32.
- 11) ใหมญญ่ายพายจแจ(น) (I/6-7), i.e. หนีข่ายข่ายพายแจ้นแจ้น. The expression can be dissected as หนึ่, 'to flee'; ข่าย 'broken' (Pallegoix); พาย 'to disappear' (Khmer: bāy, 'to disappear'); แจ้น, 'quickly' (cf. modern วิ่งแจ้น, 'to run away fast').
- 12) เบกพล (I/7); เบก for เบิก 'to open'; พล 'soldiers', 'army'. Coedes reads เบกพล, Nekabala, which he takes to be the name of the elephant (for Skt. Anekabala, 'much power'). But the reading เบกพล seems more satisfactory.
- 13) มีข้าง (I/7-8), i.e. ต่อข้าง
- 14) "www, equivalent to sum to fight'.
- 15) 'The country's gold.'
- 16) ค็แหง; modern คำแหง, gamhen, 'bold'.
- 17) จึกหน่งงางงช้าง (I/13-14); as Bradley explains, ดีหนัง is to lay up the rawhide ropes for lassoes; วังช้าง is the place where the elephant herd was assembled (JSS VI, p. 45). Lassoing wild elephants requires much more dexterity and courage than rounding them up in a corral.
- 18) Literally 'elephants and trunks', a conventional expression for elephants.

in an absolute sense: กลาว เกงเข้า เกงซุน, 'make known to this ruler and lord' (i.e. Rāma Gamhen). In most cases, perhaps all, a ซุน was also a เข้าเมือง; but we have no proof that a เข้า was always a ruler; at II/10, for instance, เข้า seems to mean 'princes', perhaps members of the royal family, whether or not they had apanages to rule.

young men or women of rank<sup>19</sup>, silver or gold, I turned them over to my father. When my father died, my elder brother was still alive, and I served him steadfastly as I had served my father. When my elder brother died, I got the whole kingdom for myself.

[1/18-35; II/1-8.] In the time of King<sup>20</sup> Rāma Gamhèn this land of Sukhodai is thriving. There is fish in the water and rice in the fields.

- 19) Conjectural translation. The word 1/20 occurs three times in this inscription, each time coupled with un: in the present passage (I/15); at I/29, when a person who has neither in nor un, and no wealth of any sort, seeks refuge with Rama Gamben; and at II/10, where up and un are included among the various categories of persons at Sukhodaya who profess the Buddhist religion. The Royal Institute's Dictionary (พจนานุกรมราชบัณฑิตยสถาน พ ศ. ๒๔๔๓) glosses ปั่ว as พลเมือง, 'population', or ผู้ชาย, 'man'; but in this inscription the word may have a more specific meaning. Bradley translates it twice as 'slaves' (JSS VI, pp. 25. 26), and once as 'servants' (ibid.; 27). At JSS XII, p. 6, Coedès says that in this inscription in seems to be the word for slaves; but later he must have changed his mind, at least to some extent, for in Recueil (pp. 44, 45) he translates it as 'garçons' at I/15, 'serviteurs' at I/29, and 'hommes' at II/10. The question is worth pursuing further. As มีวว is coupled with un, 'woman' or 'lady' in all three of these passages, we are entitled to take it as the masculine counterpart of une. At I/1 un certainly means 'Lady', not merely 'woman', for it is the title of Rama Gamhen's own mother. Guignard's Dictionnaire laotienfrançais (Hongkong, 1912) glosses Nang as 'dame', 'demoiselle', and adds that the word is a 'titre des femmes ou des filles nobles'. Esquirol and Williatte's dictionary of Dioi, the language of the Tai peoples of Kwangsi and Kweichow (Essai de dictionnaire dioi-français, Hongkong, 1908), glosses Nang as 'demoiselle', calls the word an 'appellation donnée aux filles des seigneurs' and refers the reader to the word Kouang for further information: Kouang, says the same dictionary, is an 'appellation honorifique donnée aux fils des seigneurs, de 15 à 30 ans.' Because of these various equivalences, there seems a good chance that 1/27 and 1/29 in our inscription mean the same thing as Kouang and Nang in the Dioi language. On the other hand Professor Gedney, in his article A Comparative Sketch of White, Black and Red Tai (Social Science Review, Special Issue, December 1964, p. 47) suggests that 322 and 432 at 1/29 mean 'king' and 'queen', i.e. the petitioner 'has no king, has no queen (to depend on)'. His suggestion is plausible enough for the passage he cites; but as it cannot be made to fit the context of I/15 or II/10 we prefer an interpretation that would be reasonably applicable to all three occurrences.
- 20) พ. ทุน (I/18), i.e. พ่อทุน, 'father lord', corresponds to พาญา ('King') at IV/12 and in the later inscriptions. In the present inscription พ ทุน does not occur absolutely, but is always followed by a proper name, e.g. พ. ทุนานทักษ (I/18 et passim, seven times in all), 'King Rāma Gamhèn'; พ. ทุน นา นา นทาทิศษ (IV/1), 'King Ṣrī Indrāditya'. Cf. Coedes, Les peuples de la Peninsule indochinoise, Paris, 1962, p. 137: 'De même qu'au sommet de l'édifice social des Mongols se trouve la "famille d'or", dont le chef est le grand Khan, et dont les princes sont les fils du grand Khan, de même Rāma K'amhèng se donne dans son inscription le titre de p'o khun, "père khun", tandis que les princes et hauts dignitaires sont les luk khun, "fils khun".

The lord of the realm does not levy toll<sup>21</sup> on his subjects<sup>22</sup> for traveling the roads; they<sup>23</sup> lead<sup>24</sup> their cattle to trade or ride their horses to sell; whoever wants to trade in elephants, does so; whoever wants to trade in horses, does so; whoever wants to trade in silver or gold, does so<sup>25</sup>. When any commoner or man of rank<sup>26</sup> dies<sup>27</sup>, his estate<sup>28</sup> – his<sup>29</sup>

21) whou (I/19), 'taxes', from Old Khmer ckap, 'to bind'. See Coedes, JSS XIV/2, p. 36 n. 1, and JSS XII/3, p. 114.

22) ไพร่ (I/19).

23) Iwou (1/19,20), 'friends', here used as a pronoun of the third person plural. In Tai Yuan, iwou is still used as a pronoun of the first and third person.

24) , 994 (1/20), for 94, 'to lead'.

25) The meaning seems to be that there were no road-tolls, and that there were no royal monopolies or taxes on trade in cattle, horses, elephants, silver or gold. Contrast the accepted practice in medieval India, summarized from pertinent passages in the **Sukraniti**: 'Without the permission of the king the following things are not to be done by the subjects: gambling, drinking, hunting, use of arms, sales and purchases of cows, elephants, horses, camels, buffaloes, men, immovable property, silver, gold . . . . '; see D. Mackenzie Brown, The White Umbrella, Indian Political Thought from Manu to Gandhi, University of California Press, Berkeley and Los Angeles, 1964, p. 71). Cf. B. Walker, The Hindu World, An Encyclopedic Survey of Hinduism, London, 1968, s.v. Taxation.

26) ถูกกล้า สกุลน (1/22). The expression ถูกเข้าถูกขุน probably means officials, who, according to the custom of the time, would usually be princes. It may be, however, that there is a distinction between ถูกเข้า and ถูกขุน. If so, ถูกขุน would be the rulers of cities or provinces and their relatives, while ถูกเข้า, occurring between ใหม่ฝ่าหน้าใส 'commoners', and ถูกขน, would be a rank intermediate

between the two.

27) ถึกเขกเขกา (I/22); the whole expression means 'to die'. ถื is for ลับ, which now usually means to fall down or to fall sick; but cf. ข้างลับ, 'the elephant is dead'. As Coedès observes (JSS XII, p. 4), กว่า is here equivalent to เสีย, a sense in which it is now obsolete in Siamese, but still current in Dioi (tê kvoa leve. 'he is dead'). In Shan the meaning of กว่า is 'to go'. Cf. modern ลับกายทางาก, 'to die'.

- 28) อีบาร โรยนพ์ ใช้ออ ใส่ออคำมาเน (I/22-23), for เหย้าเรื่อนพ่อเชื้อเลือคำมัน. In this context เหย้าเรื่อน seems to mean house and property, i.e. the decedent's whole estate. We take the expression พ่อเชื้อเลือคำมัน as a possessive; พ่อเชื้อ, 'the father of the family'; เลือคำ, 'the deceased' (เสือ, 'a deceased person', cf. ผีเสือ; คำ, perhaps a euphonic filler, or else for ค้ำ, 'support', 'mainstay'); มัน, 'himself', in apposition to 'the deceased father of the family'. In English this whole expression is redundant, since 'the deceased father of the family' is the same person who has just been mentioned, namely any commoner or man of rank who dies; so, instead of 'the estate of the deceased father of himself', we translate simply: 'his estate'. On the other hand Coedes may be right in interpreting เหย้าเรื่อนพ่อเชื้อ (I/22-23) as 'la maison de ses ancêtres', and น้ำหมากน้ำพลุพ่อเชื้อมัน (I/23-24) as 'les plantations d'arec et de bétel de ses ancêtres' (Recueil des inscriptions du Siam, I, pp. 44, 45; cf. discussion at JSS XII, pp. 5, 6). Instead of 'เสืออคำ Coedès reads 'เชื้ออคำ, i.e. เสือคำ, which he translates as 'vêtements' (explained at JSS XII, p. 5).
- 29) ฟ ให้ของมน (1/24), literally '(of) the father himself'; we translate it as 'his' (of. above, note 28) and, as it seems to modify all the items on the list, we put it before the first one.

elephants<sup>30</sup>, wives, children, granaries<sup>31</sup>, rice, retainers<sup>32</sup> and groves of areca and betel—is left in its entirety<sup>33</sup> to his son. When commoners or men of rank differ and disagree<sup>34</sup>, [the King] examines the case to get at the truth<sup>35</sup> and then settles<sup>36</sup> it justly for them<sup>37</sup>. He does not connive with thieves or favor concealers [of stolen goods]. When he sees someone's rice he does not covet<sup>38</sup> it, when he sees someone's wealth he does not get angry. If anyone riding an elephant comes to see him to put his own country under his protection<sup>39</sup>, he helps<sup>40</sup> him, treats him generously<sup>41</sup>, and takes care of him<sup>42</sup>; if [someone comes to him] with no elephants<sup>43</sup>, no horses, no young men or women of rank<sup>44</sup>, no silver or

- 31) 'vu (I/23), i.e. wu, 'granary'; obsolete in Siamese, but still current in Tai Yuan.
- 32) ให่ที่มีข้าให; for ใหม่ที่1, see above, note 10. As Coedes says (JSS XII, pp. 5, 6), if we knew more about the social organization of the Tai of Sukhodaya, we should doubtless be able to make a clear distinction between ใหม่พื้นกับ and ใหม่พื้นกับ and ใหม่พื้นกับ We may add that the present passage suggests that the condition of the ใหม่พื้นกับ was inferior to that of the ใหม่พื้นกับใส, since the former seem to figure among the dependents that the latter can bequeath to his son.
- 33) "สับ (1/24), cf. ทั้งสัน, 'all', 'entire', 'whole'. The statement seems to mean that there is no inheritance tax, and perhaps also that the King will protect rightful heirs from being dispossessed by more powerful neighbors.
- 34) ใหกแผกแสกว่างกนน (I/25); ผิด, 'to differ', 'to err'; แผก, 'to differ', 'to be separated'; แสก 'to part'; ว้าง 'wide', 'widely', or else equivalent to บ้าง, 'to tear'; กัน, 'from each other'.
- 35) สวน ดแท้ (I/25-26); สวน, 'to examine'; อ, 'to look', 'to consider'; แท้, 'truly'.
- 36) แล่ง (1/26), literally 'to split', 'to divide'.
- 37) w (1/26) is here used as a pronoun of the third person plural.
- 38) ใคร่ พน (I/27); ใคร่, 'to desire', 'to covet'; พื้น, cf. the modern vulgarism พื้นเสีย, 'to be very angry'.
- 39) พา ในของมาศ์ (I/28); พา—มา 'to bring'; เมือง, '(his own) country'; สู 'to stay with', i.e. to become Rama Gamhèn's vassal.
- 40) ช่อย regularly used in the Sukhodayan inscriptions for ช่วย, 'to help'.
- 41) "เหนอง ให่ออ (I/28-29) is an archaic or dialectical form of เอี้ยเพื่อ 'to support', 'to be generous to', 'to be hospitable to', 'to be solicitous of' (see Coedes at JSS XII, p. 7).
- 42) no (1/28), no means 'to raise up', 'to restore' in modern Siamese; but in Dioi the same word means 'to take care of' (Coedès, ibid.; Esquirol and Williatte, s.v. Kou).
- 43) In contrast to the wealthy ruler who came riding an elephant in order to become the King's vassal, this petitioner is a dispossessed ruler who asks to take refuge with him.
- 44) i.e. the dispossessed prince escaped without being able to bring any of his family or followers with him; for the meaning of 1/22 and 1/10 (1/29), see above, note 19,

<sup>30)</sup> ช่างซ (1/23), i.e. ช้างขอ, literally 'elephants and elephant-goads', appears to be a ready-made expression signifying domesticated elephants.

gold, he gives him some, and helps him until<sup>45</sup> he can establish a state [of his own]46. When he captures enemy warriors47, he does not kill them or beat them. He has hung a bell in the opening of the gate over there<sup>48</sup>: if any commoner<sup>49</sup> in the land has a grievance<sup>50</sup> which sickens his belly and gripes his heart, and which he wants to make known to his ruler and lord, it is easy<sup>51</sup>; he goes and strikes the bell which the King has hung there; King Rāma Gamhèn, the ruler of the kingdom, hears the call; he goes and questions the man, examines the case, and decides it justly for him<sup>52</sup>. So the people of this Möan of Sukkhodai praise him. They plant areca groves and betel groves all over this Möan; cocoanut groves and jackfruit<sup>53</sup> groves are planted in abundance in this Möan, mango groves and tamarind groves are planted in abundance in this Möan. Anyone who plants them gets them for himself and keeps them<sup>54</sup>. Inside this city there is a marvelous<sup>55</sup> pond<sup>56</sup> of water which

45) 973, an obsolete word meaning 'until'. Cf. JSS LVII/1, p. 123 (II/4) and p. 139.

46) Conjectural translation, based on the assumption that the normal way for the King to help a refugee ruler would be to give him an apanage. Coedès translates this passage differently. At JSS XII, p. 8: 'il l'aide et le considère comme du pays'. At Recueil, I, p. 45: 'l'aide à se considérer comme dans son propre pays'.

47) ช้ำ โสอกข้ำ โสออหวา พ่งหววงบ (I/31). ข้ำศึก, 'enemy'; ข้ำเสือ, as Bradley says (JSS VI/1, p. 50), is only an alliterative pendant; หววพูงหววาม, 'fighters'. The whole expression probably means no more than 'enemy warriors', though those desig-

nated as no are of higher rank than those designated as no.

48) ที่นน (1/32). ทัน is still used in Tai Yuan to mean 'over there'. As the inscription was set up in the palace grounds, 'the gate over there' is the palace gate.

- 49) ให่งี่ฝ่าหน้าปก (1/32-33), 'a commoner with face covered'. It is uncertain whether the expression refers to a different category of persons from the 'commoners with bright faces', or whether this particular person, whose face would normally be 'bright', now has his face 'covered' (overcast?) because of his distress.
- 50) ใม่ก่อย ใมความ; cf. modern Siamese ก้อยความ, 'lawsuit'.
- 51) บ่ใร่ (1/34), equivalent to ไม่ยากใร้, 'it is not difficult'.
- 52) Note the parallel with the passage at I/25 f.: สวนดู (I/25), กามสวน (II/1); แล้ง ความแก่งาด้วย ง (I/26); (แล่ง) ความแก่มนนด้วย ง (II/1).
- 53) For any, 'jackfruit' or 'breadfruit'; see Coedes at JSS XVII, p. 115.
- 54) ใต้ไว้แก่มนน (II/5). The King was presumably the owner of all the land in the kingdom, but he might grant unused land to persons who wished to grow fruit, with the understanding that it would not be taken away from them as long as they cultivated it properly.
- 55) โพย (II/6), 'marvelous' (glossed as อัศจรรย์, etc., at ประชุมพงสาวดาร, Vol. X, p. 205). See Coedès, JSS XVII, p, 115.
- 56) Or perhaps the plural is intended. Inside the walled city of Sukhodaya there are the remains of at least four large ponds (now known as myswinds, myswish, ตระพังศระกวน, and ตระพังสอ respectively). Of course we do not know which of them were in existence in Rama Gamhen's time,

is as clear and as good to drink as the water of the Khon<sup>57</sup> in the dry season. The triple rampart<sup>58</sup> surrounding this city of Sukhodai measures three thousand four hundred fathoms.<sup>59</sup>

[II/8-23.] The people of this city of Sukhodai like to observe the precepts and bestow alms<sup>60</sup>. King Rāma Gamhèn, the ruler of this city of Sukhodai, as well as the princes and princesses, the young men and women of rank<sup>61</sup>, and all the noblefolk<sup>62</sup> without exception, both male and female, all have faith in the religion of the Buddha, and all observe the precepts during the rainy season.<sup>63</sup> At the close of the rainy season they celebrate the Kathina ceremonies<sup>64</sup>, which last a month, with heaps of cowries, with heaps of areca nuts, with heaps of flowers, with cushions and pillows: the gifts they present [to the monks] as accessories to the Kathina [amount to] two million<sup>65</sup> each year. Everyone goes to the

- 59) The three earthen ramparts can still be seen. At the north and south the innermost of the three (the principal rampart) measures 1800 m., at the east and west, 1360 m., making the length of its perimeter 6320 m.; so the value of the fathom (wa) must have been about 1.86 m. at the time. See Griswold, Towards a History of Sukhodaya Art, p. 8.
- 60) As it stands, the sentence at II/8-9 reads คนใน ในองุสกโซโท นี่มกกทานมกกทาง สลมกก โอยทาน 'The people of this city of Sukhodai like almsgiving, they like to observe the precepts, they like to bestow alms.' As there seems to be no good reason for the double reference to alms (ทาน-Pali däna), we assume that the sentence was intended to read คนใน ในองุสกโซโท นี่มกกทาง สิสมกกโอยทาน, but the engraver first inadvertently wrote ทาน instead of ทาง, and then, having discovered his mistake, wrote the passage correctly.
- 61) ท่วยบัววท่วยนาง (II/10-11); cf. above, notes 19 and 44.
- 62) ูลกเจ้าลูลกุขน (II/11); cf. above, note 26.
- 63) พบนษา (II/16-17), modern พบบนา (Skt. varṣā, Pali vassā). The monks go into retreat during the rainy season.
- 64) The annual presentation of robes to the monks in October or November. For descriptions of the ceremony, see Kenneth Wells, Thai Buddhism, its Rites and Activities, Bangkok, 1939, pp. 99-104; Quaritch Wales, Siamese State Ceremonies, London, 1931, pp. 200-210.
- 65) For quain (II/16), 'two million', see Coedes at JSS XII, p. 9 f. Probably two million cowries, representing the total value of the accessory gifts. The sum is small in comparison to the distribution made by Rāma Gamhen's grandson in a single great ceremony in 1361, which included large quantities of gold and silver, ten million cowries, ten million areca nuts, four hundred sets of robes, four hundred almsbowls, four hundred cushions and four hundred pillows (see Inscription V, III/14 ff.); but the Kathina was performed every year. Besides the value of the cowrie may have been greater in Rāma Gamhen's time,

<sup>57)</sup> The Mè Khon (Më Kong).

<sup>58) &</sup>quot;ครูบร (II/7-8), 'triple rampart'; see Coedes, JSS XVII, p. 115.

Araññika<sup>66</sup> over there for the recitation of the Kathina<sup>67</sup>. When they are ready to return to the city they walk together, forming a line all the way from the Araññika to the parade-ground.<sup>68</sup> They repeatedly do homage together<sup>69</sup>, accompanied by the music of instruments<sup>70</sup> and singing<sup>71</sup>. Whoever wants to make merry, does so; whoever wants to

- 66) i.e. the place now called วัดสะพานทิน, 'Monastery of the Stone Causeway', about two kilometers west of the walled city; see Griswold, Towards a History of Sukhodaya Art, p. 9. In Rama Gamhèn's time it was the monastery of the Araññikas or Forest-Dwelling Monks. In our translation we have regularized the spelling of the name, which is written araiñika (ชาว พุท) at II/16-17 and again at II/17-18 (though it is correctly written, อา พุทก araññika, at II/31 and III/21). For the irregular spelling, see Bradley, JSS VI, pp. 52-53.
- 67) ฐตญตตก ิกม (II/16). ชุด is for สวด, 'to recite', 'to chant'; ญตด, Pali ñatti, 'announcement', 'declaration'; กลิน, 'kathina'. (For ñatti, see Bradley at JSS VI, p. 52, and Coedès at JSS XIII/3, p. 22.) The expression of course refers to the whole ceremony, though the 'declaration' was only part of it (cf. Wells, Thai Buddhism, p. 102).
- 68) หววลาน (II/18), for หัวลาน, modern สนามหลวง, the chief parade-ground or esplanade of a city; cf. ลานพระบามรูปกางน้ำ, 'royal plaza', 'esplanade for royalty to ride horses'. Probably, like the สนามหลวง in Bangkok, it was also used for various public purposes. We take it to be equivalent to the 'Maidān' of Indian towns (the word 'maidān' is Indo-Persian; see Yule and Burnell, Hobson-Jobson, being a Glossary of Anglo-Indian Colloquial Words and Phrases, London, 1888, p. 464, s.v. Mydan, Meidaun). Pernaps the หัวลาน a II/18 should be identified with 'the old esplanade' (สหมามเกา = สนามเกา), west of Văt Sarasakti, mentioned in Inscription XLIX (I/19-20) in 1417; see Griswold and Prasert na Nagara, JSS LVI/2, p. 238.
- 69) ดับงค์กลอย (II/18); ดี is equivalent to ระดม, 'repeatedly'; บงค์ is probably for บังคม, 'to do homage'; กลอย, 'together'. Instead of กลอย, Mr. Prasara Punpraon reads กลอง; and takes บงค์ to be equivalent to ประโทม. If that is right, we should translate: 'repeatedly beat drums in unison.' Note that the word กลอย is inserted below the line.
- 70) สบงพากสบง พน (II/18-19), 'the sounds of vadya [xylophone] and vina [Indian lute]', a conventional expression for musical instruments of various sorts, perhaps more particularly percussion instruments and plucked string instruments. Cf. Dhanit Yupho, Thai Musical Instruments, Bangkok, 1960, Chapters I, III.
- 71) สบง เลื่อนสบงบบบ (II/19). As Bradley observes (JSS VI, p. 53 f.), the word เลื่อน is unknown in any sense that could be applicable here; but as บับ means 'to sing', or perhaps to sing some particular kind of song, the parallel with the preceding phrase, with its two sorts of musical instruments, shows that เลื่อน (which reappears twice at I/20), is also some sort of singing.

laugh, does so; whoever wants to sing, does so. As this city of Sukkhodai has four very big gates, and as the people always<sup>72</sup> crowd together<sup>73</sup> to come in and watch the King lighting candles and setting off fireworks, the city is filled to the bursting point.<sup>74</sup>

[II/23-27] Inside this city of Sukhodai, there are vihāras, there are golden statues of the Buddha, there are statues eighteen cubits in height<sup>75</sup>; there are big statues of the Buddha<sup>76</sup> and medium-sized ones, there are big vihāras and medium-sized ones; there are monks, Nissayamuttas, Theras and Mahātheras.<sup>77</sup>

- 73) สบคกนน (II/21); เสียคกัน or เบียคกัน means tightly packed or squeezed together.
- 74) ใม่ผู้งงจกกแตก (II/23), 'has [so many people in it] that it is about to burst'. Cf. Bradley, JSS VI, p. 54.
- 75) Perhaps the singular is intended: 'there is a big vihāra, there is a golden statue of the Buddha, there is a statue eighteen cubits in height'. 'Golden' need not be taken literally; the statues were more likely made of gilded bronze. Statues eighteen cubits in height (a little less than 9 m.) were estcemed because that is supposed to have been the Buddha Gotama's actual height. While it is of course possible that the passage at II/23-37 is supposed to be a description of the city in general, Coedès gives good reasons to believe it is more particularly a description of Văt Mahādhātu, which stands near the geographical center of the city (Coedès, Les premières capitales du Siam aux XIIIe-XIVe siècles, Arts asiatiques, III/4, p. 247 f.; discussion in Griswold, Towards a History of Sukhodaya Art, p. 8 f.). The precinct contains the ruins of a huge vihāra (over 50 m. in length) and several smaller ones, as well as two eighteen-cubit statues made of stucco. At one time it must have contained a large quantity of Buddha images of various sizes and materials.
- 76) At the end of II/24, the scribe first wrote "มพระ ุทธุรป and then, discovering his error, repeated "มพระ พทธุรบ correctly at the beginning of the next line.
- 77) ใม ปู่ครในสใ.... ค ในกรในมหากร (II/26-27). The term Pū Garū (ปู่ครู), literally 'senior teacher', is apparently an honorific which was applied to all monks. It reappears at II/30, II/33, III/4, and III/14). For the restoration of ในสใ.... ด (I/27) as ในสใสบุบค (Pali: nissayamutta), see Mahā Chām at Prajum I, 1957, p.

<sup>72)</sup> ที่ขนญอน (II/21); probably เพียว in the sense of 'just like', 'according to', and ข่อน 'normally', 'usually'. Hence the meaning should be 'according to custom', 'as a rule', 'often', 'always', 'constantly', 'naturally', etc. In the Sukhodayan inscriptions ญ่อน alone seems to be used with the same sense. (In translating, it often seems best to omit it.) According to Coedès (JSS XVII/1, p. 117), ที่ขนญอน is an expression indicating a superlative, and is always placed before the expression to which it applies.

[II/27-33.] West of this city of Sukhodai is the Araññika, built by King Rāma Gamhèn as a gift to the Mahāthera Sangharāja<sup>78</sup>, the sage who has studied the scriptures<sup>79</sup> from beginning to end, who is wiser<sup>80</sup> than any other monk<sup>81</sup> in the kingdom, and who has come<sup>82</sup> here from Moan Srī Dharmmarāja<sup>83</sup>. Inside the Araññika there is a large rectangular<sup>84</sup> vihāra, tall and exceedingly beautiful, and an eighteen-cubit statue of the Buddha standing up.<sup>85</sup>

- According to Maha Cham (ibid.), a Nissayamutta ('one who is set free 4 n. 1. from reliance on supports') is a monk who has been ordained for at least five years. In the Sukhodayan Sangha, as we gather from Mulasasana, a monk had to have been ordained for ten years to receive the rank of Thera, and to attain a certain level of learning to receive the title of Maha. In the present passage the four grades are given in the order of increasing seniority, beginning with ordinary monks. (The ปทานกรมทำรากระทรวงธรรมการ, Bangkok, 1927, is certainly wrong in glossing the term that as a rank in the Sukhodayan monkhood lower than sangharaja but higher than thera and mahathera, a gloss which appears to be based on a false reading of the very passage we have been discussing, restored by early editors as มีปูลามิสงงพราชมีเถามีมหาเถร. No matter how ปูลรู is to be defined, this reading would put the other three terms in an incoherent order of seniority (sangharaja-thera-mahāthera), which is quite out of key with Rāma Gamhèn's orderly method of expressing himself. If pu garu meant a monk who was senior to mahathera but junior to sangharaja, the proposed order 'pu garu-sangharajathera-mahathera' would be even more incoherent.)
- 78) It is not clear whether this Sangharaja was the head of the whole Sukhodayan monkhood or only of the sect of Forest-Dwellers.
- 79) Junnin, pitakatrai (II/29), i.e. Traipitaka (Pali: Tipitaka).
- 80) For หลวาก (II/30), 'wise', 'learned', see Coedès at JSS XII, pp. 10-11; cf. Tai Yuan หลวัก, 'clever', 'brilliant', also Siamese หลักแหลม, 'skilful', 'intelligent', 'export', 'wise'.
- 81) Pū Garū (see note 77).
- 83) Nagara Śrī Dharmarāja.
- 84) Conjectural translation of MM (II/31). At present MM means 'round', which is of course impossible in this context. Pallegoix, however, glosses MM as 'angulatus, non rotundus'. 'Rectangular' is an accurate description of the vihāra, the ruins of which are still visible, but since all vihāras in Siam are rectangular we may well ask the reason for the redundancy. Bradley takes MM to be a mistake for MMM, 'it' (the engraver, he says, 'had not room for the second MM at the end of the line, and forgot to put it in when he began the next one'; JSS VI/1, p. 55). Alternatively we might perhaps guess that MM means 'big'.
- 85) ุลก ือยน (II/32-33), i.e. ลุกอยืน (modern: ยืน).

[II/33-35.] East of this city of Sukhodai there are vihāras and monks<sup>86</sup>, there is the large lake, there are groves of areca and betel, upland and lowland farms, homesteads, large and small villages, groves of mango and tamarind. [They] are as beautiful to look at as if they were made for that purpose.<sup>87</sup>

[III/1-3.] North<sup>88</sup> of this city of Sukhodai there is the bazaar<sup>89</sup>, there is the Acan statue<sup>90</sup>, there are the prāsādas<sup>91</sup>, there are groves of cocoanut and jackfruit, upland and lowland farms, homesteads, large and small villages.<sup>92</sup>

[III/3-10.] South<sup>93</sup> of this city of Sukhodai there are kuțīs with vihāras and resident monks, there is the dam<sup>94</sup>, there are groves of

<sup>86)</sup> เป็กร (II/33); see note 77.

<sup>87)</sup> แก้ลง (II/35-III/1); แกลัง, 'deliberately', 'on purpose' (Pallegoix): cf. Bradley, JSS VI, p. 56.

<sup>88) &</sup>quot;เบื้อง ดนนอน, 'in the direction of a man's feet when he is sleeping'. According to tradition a man should sleep on his right side, facing the east. Cf. Bradley JSS VI, p. 56.

<sup>89)</sup> พลาดปสาน (II/1-2). พลาด means a market; ปสาน is a phonetic spelling of the Siamese pronunciation of the Persian word  $b\bar{a}z\bar{a}r$ , a covered market. This word was widely used at an early date in the Far East to designate a permanent market with shops, in contrast to temporary open-air markets (see Coedès, Arts asiatiques, III/4, p. 252). A lot of roof-tiles, which may have belonged to this bazaar, have been discovered near the Pra Ruang Hightway a little north of the north gate of the city; see Griswold, Towards a History of Sukhodaya Art, p. 9.

<sup>90)</sup> Generally identified with the colossal statue of the Buddha in the mandapa of Văt Śrī Jum. See Coedès, ibid., 252-3; Griswold, Towards a History of Sukhodaya Art, p. 9. The name acan (ออน) probably represents the Sukhodayan pronunciation of Pali acala, 'steadfast', 'immovable' (Pali Text Society Dict., p. 94; see Coedès, loc. cit., p. 252), which seems a very appropriate name for this enormous statue. Mahā Chām Dòngām varna proposes an alternative explanation, that it represents Pali acanā, 'honor', 'veneration' (Prajum Šilācārik,) I, BE 2500, p. 4 note 3).

<sup>91)</sup> The triad of towers at the temple of Brah Bay Hlvan (พระพายหลวง, Pra Pâi Luang). See Coedes, op. cit., 254 f.; Griswold, op. cit. pp. 2 and 9.

<sup>92)</sup> Near the end of the 13th century a group of potters were settled in this area; see Griswold, op. cit., p. 13.

<sup>93)</sup> ในข้องหาวานอน (III/3-4), 'in the direction of a man's head when he is sleeping'; cf. above, note 88).

<sup>94)</sup> See Griswold, op. cit., p. 9 and note 28.

cocoanut and jackfruit, groves of mango and tamarind, there are mountain streams and there is Braḥ Khabuṅ<sup>95</sup>. The divine sprite of that mountain is more powerful than any other sprite in this kingdom. Whatever lord may rule this kingdom of Sukhodai, if he makes obeisance to him properly, with the right offerings, this kingdom will endure<sup>96</sup>, this kingdom will thrive; but if obeisance is not made properly or the offerings are not right, the sprite of the hill will no longer protect it<sup>97</sup> and the kingdom will be lost.

[III/10-27.] In 1214 saka, a year of the dragon 98, King Rāma Gaṃhèn, lord of this kingdom of Śrī Sajjannālai and Sukhodai, who had planted these sugar-palm trees fourteen years before 99, commanded his craftsmen to carve a slab of stone 100 and place it in the midst of these sugar-palm trees. On the day of the new moon, the eighth day of the waxing moon, the day of the full moon, and the eighth day of the waning moon 101, [one of] the monks, theras or mahātheras goes up and sits on the stone slab to preach the Dharma to the throng of lay-people who observe the precepts. When it is not 102 a day for preaching the Dharma, King Rāma Gaṃhèn, lord of the kingdom of Śrī Sajjannālai and Sukhodai, goes up, sits on the stone slab, and lets the officials, lords and princes discuss affairs of state with him. On the day of the new moon and the day of the full moon, when the white elephant named Rūcaśrī 103 has been decked out with

<sup>95)</sup> The name is apparently a variant of Khmer brah khbah, 'holy and exalted'. Brah Khbah is generally taken to be the name of the sprite, but the syntax here shows that it is the name of the mountain. In an inscription of 1514 A.D. Silpākara, VIII/5, p. 59) it is again used as the name of a mountain, เขาพระพพง พลวง (line 34). However it is the name of the sprite in Inscription XLV, I/50; see JSS LVII/1, p. 75 and p. 83. For a discussion of this sprite, see Coedes, Arts asiatiques, III/4, p. 264 f.

<sup>96)</sup> neis (III/8); cf. inusun, 'permanent'.

<sup>97)</sup> ปฏิทัมปเกรง (III/9-10); the verb คุ้มเกรง means 'to protect'.

<sup>98) 1292</sup> A.D.

<sup>99)</sup> It has been suggested that he planted them at the time of his accession, the date of which is otherwise unknown.

<sup>100)</sup> The stone throne whose installation the inscription commemorates.

<sup>101)</sup> i.e. the four uposatha-days in each lunar month; see Coedès in JSS XII, pp. 11-12.

<sup>102)</sup> ใช่ (III/16); in the Sukhodayan inscriptions this word usually has a negative sense, equivalent to modern ไม่ใช่.

<sup>103)</sup> Skt. rucāśi, 'radiant fortune'.

howdah and tasseled head cloth<sup>104</sup>, and always<sup>105</sup> with gold on both tusks,<sup>106</sup> King Rāma Gamhèn mounts him, rides away to the Arañnika to pay homage to the Sangharāja<sup>107</sup>, and then returns. There is an inscription in the city of Jalyan, erected beside the Śrī Ratanadhātu<sup>108</sup>; there is an inscription in the cave called Brah Rāma's Cave, which is located on the bank of the River Sambāy; and there is an inscription in the Ratanadhāra Cave.<sup>109</sup> In<sup>110</sup> this Sugar-palm Grove there are two

- 104) กาพดดลบาง (III/20). The word การะพัด now means 'howdah fastenings', but here certainly means the howdah as well; ลบาง is for ระบาง, 'tasseled headcloth' (Bradley, JSS VI/1, p. 58), or for Khmer layam, 'fringes', 'tassels'.
- 105) For ที่ขนญ่อม, 'always' or 'according to custom', see above, note 72; cf. the same expression in the **Traibhūmikathā**, มีเครื่องประดับนี้ด้วย เทียวย่อมแล้วไปด้วยเงินแลทอง ของแล้ว, '[The preta] also has ornaments which are always made entirely of silver and gold and jewels'.
- 106) We follow the Siamese editors in taking ทองงา to mean gold tusk ornaments (Bradley and Coedes understand ทองงา as meaning 'gold and ivory'). Obviously the partly illegible expression that follows must have been ซ้ายขวา, 'left and right', i.e. both tusks.
- 107) Or else the eighteen-cubit statue (the word was could refer to either). Bradley conjecturally restores the lacuna at III/21 as lu but the missing word must have been longer (very likely 130).
- 108) Prince Damrong identified this monument with the temple now known as Vat Brah Prāng Jalian (Wat Pra Brang Chalieng, วัดพระปรางก์ชะเลียง), which stands on the point of land formed by the elbow-turn of the river about 2 km. east of the walled city of Sajjanalaya; see Griswold, Towards a History of Sukhodaya Art, Map III, No. 15. The present temple there was built in the last quarter of the 15th century, probably encasing a stupa built by Rāma Gamhèn which in turn was built on the ruins of a Khmer temple; ibid., pp. 11 (and note 31), 57. The inscription at Jalian probably commemorated the dedication of the 'wall of rock' (วบผม) which was completed in 1292, the same year as the present inscription was engraved; see below, note 120.
- 109) For these two caves, see Prince Vajiravudh, เรื่องเทียวเมืองพระร่วง Ch. X, p. 115. As Coedes says (JSS XII, p. 16) the mention of the three inscriptions at this particular point in the text is rather puzzling, and he adds: 'Peut-être avaientelles avec le banc de pierre un rapport qui nous échappe aujourd'hui mais qui était suffisamment clair pour le rédacteur de l'inscription de Rama Khamheng. Elles avaient pu par exemple être burinées á l'occasion de l'inauguration du siège royal et pour annoncer cet évènement, tout de même qu'en 889 A.D. le roi Khmer Yaçovarman proclamait à grand renfort d'inscriptions digraphiques la fondation du Çivāçrama. Ou bien encore donnaient-elles sur ces assemblées quotidiennes, auxquelles présidait le roi, des détails que notre texte n'a pas le loisir de donner et pour lesquels il renvoie à ces autres stèles'. But if either of these explanations is right, why should Rama Gamhèn put two of the inscriptions in caves? We have already suggested another explanation for the one at Jalian (supra, note 108); and it seems more likely that the two inscriptions in caves commemorated the founding of Buddha images or other objects of worship. In any case they were not necessarily engraved in the same year as the present one (1292); they could have been made any time after 1283, when Rama Gamhen invented the Siamese script (see below, IV/4 f.), and before the present inscription.
- 110) nava (II/25), according to Coedès (JSS XII/1, p. 12), is equivalent to Lao nava, 'inside of'. Cf. Khmer kumlun, kamlun, which have the same meaning.

pavilions, one named Ṣālā Braḥ Māsa, one named Buddhaṣālā.<sup>111</sup> This slab of stone is named Manaṅnsīlāpātra.<sup>112</sup> It is installed here for everyone to see.

 $[1V/1-4.]^{113}$  All the Mā, the Kāv, the Lāv, the Dai of the lands under the vault of heaven and the Dai who live along the  $\overline{U}$  and the Khòn come<sup>114</sup> to do obeisance to King Ṣrī Indrādiṭya's son King Rāma Gaṃhèn, who is lord of the kingdom of Srī Sajjanālai and Sukhodai.<sup>115</sup>

- 111) If each of these buildings was named for the principal statue it contained, which seems likely, the names should be translated as 'Pavilion of the Golden Image' and 'Pavilion of the Buddha Image'. It is not clear why they should be mentioned at this juncture. Perhaps the stone throne was located between them; or perhaps, though the text does not say so, they contained inscriptions.
- 112) For two alternative explanations of the name of the stone throne, see Coedes, JSS XII, pp. 17-18 and JSS XVII, p. 118.
- 113) The opening words of IV/1 seem to have been preceded by a punctuation mark, now largely obliterated, which indicated the beginning of a new sentence. See above, p. 15.
- 114) We use the present tense on the assumption that Epilogue I was added during Rāma Gamhen's lifetime.
- 115) Coedès takes this passage to be part of the preceding sentence (see JSS XVII, p. 119 f.). In his view the skeleton of the sentence should be understood as follows: 'This slab of stone (etc.) has been placed here so that everyone may see King Rama Gamhen (etc.) together with the Ma, the Kav, the Lav, the Dai (etc.) coming to do obeisance', i.e. it has been placed here so that everyone may see the King sitting upon it to receive his vassals when they come to do obeisance. Coedès adds : 'Le trône de pierre était bien fait pour que les gens vissent le roi, mais au lieu d'une sortie ou d'une audience banale, il s'agissait d'une audience solennelle donnée aux peuplades tributaires. On comprend mieux ainsi pourquoi la construction de ce trône eut les honneurs d'une inscription commémorative.' Cf. above, note 113; the punctuation mark seems to make Coedes's interpretation impossible. The vassal peoples listed, here, unlike the vassal cities listed in the second epilogue, all seem to be of Tai race. The Ma have not been identified, but it may be guessed they were located somewhere between Sukhodaya and Nan, perhaps around Pre; the Kav (Gâo) were the people of the Upper Nan Valley; the Lav were the Lao of Luang Pra Bang and elsewhere in Laos; the 'Dai of the lands under the vault of heaven' would be the non-Lao Tai of Laos; the 'Dai who live along the U' were the Tai of the  $\overline{U}$  Valley north of Luang Pra Bang; and the 'Dai who live along the Khôn' were the Tai who lived along the Me Kong,

- [IV/4-8.] In 1207 saka, a year of the boar<sup>116</sup>, he caused the holy relics<sup>117</sup> to be dug up so that everyone could see them. They were worshiped for a month and six days<sup>118</sup>, then they were buried in the middle of Srī Sajjanālai, and a cetiya was built on top of them which was finished in six years<sup>119</sup>. A wall of rock enclosing the Brah Dhātu<sup>120</sup> was built which was finished in three years<sup>121</sup>.
- [IV/8-11.] Formerly these Dai [Tai] letters did not exist. In 1205 saka, a year of the goat<sup>122</sup>, King Rāma Gamhèn set his mind and his heart<sup>123</sup> on devising<sup>124</sup> these Dai letters. So these Dai letters exist because that lord devised them<sup>125</sup>.
- 116) Mahāsakarāja 1207 was a year of the cock, not a year of the boar. The discrepancy was almost certainly caused by the engraver misreading the text he had been given. Usually such a mistake is more likely to occur in the numeral than in the name of the animal; but in Rāma Gaṃbēn's script the numbers 7 and 9 are very different, while and (cock) could easily be mistaken for an (boar). See Coedēs in JSS XII, p. 19 f. We follow Coedēs in assuming that M.S. 1207 (=1285 A.D.) is intended.
- 117) Brah dhātu (IV/2); probably from the foundation deposit of the principal Khmer temple at Jalyan (Chalieng). See Griswold, Towards a History of Sukhodaya Art, p. 10.
- 118) Perhaps the interval of time elapsing between the auspicious day calculated by the astrologers for digging up the relics and that for enshrining them.
- 119) Almost certainly the stupa now called Jan Lom (Châng Lòm, ท้างล้อม), which is in the geographical center of the city of Sajjanalaya. See Griswold, ibid.
- 120) The 'wall of rock' (วบงผา, IV/7) is probably the laterite wall surrounding the Brah Prang Jalian. For further details about these works, and their importance, see Griswold, op. cit, pp. 10, 11, 65, 66.
- 121) In the traditional arithmetic part of a year counts as a whole one, so 1207 saka plus 'six' years would be 1212 saka, and 1212 plus 'three' years would be 1214 saka. The cetiya must have been completed in 1212 saka (1290 A.D.), and the 'wall of rock' in 1214 saka (1292 A.D.), the same year the throne was installed and the present inscription engraved. See Coedes, JSS XII, p. 20 f.
- 122) 1283 A.D.
- 123) ใคร่ใจในใจ (IV/9-10); ใคร่ใจ, 'to have one's heart set on something'; ในใจ, 'in one's mind'.
- 124) lef (IV/10), modern lef. We assume from the context that the word here means 'to devise', though we can cite no authority for its use in that sense.
- 125) For Rama Gamhen's invention of the Siamese alphabet, see Bradley, JSS VI, p. 9 ff.

[IV/11-27.] King Rāma Gaṃhèn was¹²⁶ sovereign¹²⁷ over all the Dai. He was the teacher who taught all the Dai to understand merit and the Dharma rightly. Among men who live in the lands of the Dai, there is no one to equal him in knowledge and wisdom, in bravery and courage, in strength and energy. He was able to subdue a throng of enemies who possessed broad kingdoms and many elephants. The places whose submission he received on the east include¹²² Sralvan, Sòn @vè, Luṃ Pā Cāy, Sagā, the banks of the Khòn, and Vyan Cann Vyan Gāṃ which is the farthest place¹²²; on the south [they include] Gandī, Braḥ Pān, Brèk,

126) We use the past tense on the assumption that the second Epilogue was added after his death; it is possible, however, that it was added near the end of his reign, and if so, the present tense should be substituted. The word mat 1V/11, and again at 1V/12, IV/16 and IV/23, does not mean 'to seek'; it is merely an affirmative particle, which can best be omitted in translation.

127) เป็นที่วเป็นพริญา (IV/12). This expression, which reappears frequently in later Sukhodayan inscriptions, does not occur in the main text of this one, but only

in the second Epilogue.

128) ปากา เก๋องตามนออกาจต (IV/17-18): literally 'He subdued, on the east, as far as'. Of course the word ปากา at IV/17 means 'subdued', just as it does at IV/16 where we translated it literally. Here we have preferred a paraphrase, for we need not conclude that all the places on the list that follows were subjugated by force of arms. Though we have no details, it seems likely that, while many of them were forced to submit as a result of defeat in battle, the rulers of others, aware of Rāma Gaṃhēn's military prowess and the good treatment he provided his vassals, sought his protection and submitted voluntarily. The word รอด at IV/18, 20, 22 and 24, 'up to', 'as far as', has an inclusive sense: 'up to and including'; so have เก๋า at IV/18 and 'เก๋ at IV/19. While the geographical order in which the places are given is based on the location of the capitals, we should not forget that in each case the whole principality is included.

Son Gve, which means a confluence of two rivers, is the old name of Bisnuloka.

Sralvan (מזמח), according to the general opinion, stands for Srah Hlvan (מזמחס), 'Great Lake'; but it is hard to see how that can be right because the word hlvan (מזמחס) is never spelt without the initial m in the inscriptions of Sukhodaya. The real meaning of the name Sralvan is obscure, but it looks like an expanded form of srvan (מזמח), 'heaven', 'high', or 'to sacrifice to the spirits', perhaps srarvan (מזמחס), which has the same meanings (the Sukhodaya inscriptions provide several examples of la replacing ra). Alternatively the name might stand for Srah Lun (מזמחס), 'artificial lake' (cf. Khmer lun, 'to dig', 'to excavate'). There is no justification for the generally accepted view which locates Sralvan near Bicitra (พิทิท), which is well to the south of Bisnuloka. As Sralvan is listed just before Son Gve, it must have been somewhere between Sukhodaya and Bisnuloka.

Lum Pā Cāy, or Lam Pā Cāy, must have been at or near Hlam Kau (หล่มเก่า), on the Pā Sāk River north of Hlam Sāk (หล่มสัก) in Bejrapūrņa

Province.

Sūbarnnabhūm, Rājapurī, Bejapurī, Šrī Dharmarāja, and the seacoast, which is the farthest place<sup>130</sup>; on the west, [they include] Möan Chòt, Möan..n, and Hansābati, the seas being their limit;<sup>131</sup> on the north, they include Möan Blè, Möan Mān, Möan N.. Möan Blyva and, beyond the

Sagā (สกา), mentioned between Lum Pā Cāy and the banks of the Mē Khon, also appears in a list in Inscription VIII (IV/12-13), where it is mentioned between Möan Rāt (near Uttaratittha?) and Lam Pā Cāy: the combination suggests that it was in the Pā Sāk Valley north of Lum Pā Cāy. เท่า ฝงงของ (IV/18-19) means 'up to and including the bank of the Khon' (modern Mè Khon, แม่โขง, Mē Kong).

ใกงวยงจนนวยงทำ (IV/19) means 'up to and including Vyan Cann Vyan Gam' (the old name of Vieng Jan or Vientiane); in other words the principality of Vieng Jan was the most distant of Rama Gamhèn's tributaries to the east.

130) Gandi was on the river *Ping* about 25 km. southeast of the present town of Gampeng Pet (Kāmben Bejra).

Brah Pan (Pra Bang) is the old name of Nagara Svarga.

Brek is Old Jayanada, at Pak Glon Brek Śrīrājā (ปกกลองแพรกศรีราชา) in the Sargapurī District (อ. สราคบุรี) of the province of Jayanada (Chainat); see Poraņavatthusthana, p. 25.

Sübarnnabhüm is Subarnapurī ( $Sup\~anbur\^i$ ), whose exact location in the late 13th century is not known, though it was probably not very far away from the present city of Subarnapurī, founded in the 15th. The place now called  $\^{U}$  Tong had been abandoned in the 11th.

Rājapuri, Bejapuri and Nagara Śrī Dharmarāja were at or near the present towns of the same name (ราชบุรี, เพชบบุรี, นกรศรีธรรมบารี). The passage implies that the whole Malay Peninsula was subject to Rāma Gamhēn, including the principalities mentioned and several smaller ones.

131) Moan Chot is Me Sot, in Tak Province in the mountains along the Burma border.

'Möań..n' is surely Bann (Păn), i.e. Martaban, the capital of the kingdom of Rāmaññadesa in Lower Burma. Rāmaññadesa was ruled from 1287 to 1306 by Cau Fā-Rua (Waréru), a son-in-law and vassal of Rāma Gaṃhèń; see Griswold, Towards a History of Sukhodaya Art, pp. 6, 15 f., 35, 36.

Hansabati is Pegu, N.-N.E. of Rangoon; part of the kingdom of Ramannadesa, and later its capital.

The seas referred to would be the Andaman Sea on the south and the Bay of Bengal on the west.

banks of the Khôn, Möan Java, which is the farthest place.<sup>132</sup> All the people who live in these lands have been reared by him in accordance with the Dharma, every one of them.

<sup>132)</sup> Moan Ble is Bre (Pre, uws).

<sup>&#</sup>x27;Möan N.. Möan Blvva' should almost certainly be restored as 'Möan Nān Möan Blvva', 'the kingdom of Nān and Blua'; Blua (modern ( $\mathring{\upsilon}_2$ ), at the upper reaches of the Nān River, near the watershed which separates it from the Mè Khon, was the first capital of the kings of Nān.

Bradley (JSS VI, p. 60) says he was assured that Mán (ม่น) is found in old writings for น่าน (Nān); but if we are right in restoring the next place-name as Nān, Mān must be something else. Should it be coupled with Möan Blè, in the same way as Möan Nān is coupled with Möan Blvva? And has the name Mān anything to do with the Mā whom we have discussed in note 115?

Möan Java is the old name of Luang Pra Bang; cf. above, note 115.

#### APPENDIX

# Samples of Four Translations Compared

Here are a few passages from the inscription, chosen more or less at random, as translated by Bastian, Schmitt, Bradley and Coedès. It will be observed that our own translation generally follows that of Coedès, though in a few places we have ventured to depart from it.

## I/10 ff.

Bastian: I set out against the savages, the tribes provided with elephants, to obtain slaves for my father. I fall on their villages, on their towns. I get elephants, get tusks; I get males and females; I get silver; I get gold; I bring it all up with me and deliver it over to my father. Then my father dies. There is still an elder brother. I give support to my elder brother, in the way, as I had supported my father. My elder brother dies. Now the towns come to me, all the four towns.

Schmitt: Quand, battant les marais, je rapportais des trompes d'éléphants, je les présentais à mon père. Faisant la guerre aux villes et aux villages, quand j'enlevais des éléphants, des trompes d'éléphants, des garçons, des filles, de l'or, j'en faisais une part pour mon père. Mon père mort, il me resta mon frère plus âgé. Pleurant mon père, je continuai à mon frère la sollicitude que j'avais témoignée à mon père.

Bradley: If I went to hunt elephants and got them, I brought them to my father. If I went to hamlets or towns, and got elephants, got elephants' trunks, got slaves, got damsels, got silver, got gold, I brought and left them with my father. My father died. I continued to be support and stay unto my brother just as I had been unto my father. My brother died. So I got the realm entire to myself.

Coedès: Si j'allais à la chasse aux éléphants et que j'en prisse, je les apportais à mon père. Si j'allais attaquer un village ou une ville et que j'en ramenasse des éléphants, des garçons, des filles, de l'argent, de l'or, je les confiais à mon père. Mon père mort, il me resta mon frère ainé. Je continuai à servir mon frère, comme j'avais servi mon père. Mon frère ainé mort, le royaume m'échut tout entier.

#### I/28 ff.

Bastian: Whenever traders to buy or sell come in companies to visit the town, let them come. Such as wait for me at the northern frontier, requiring my assistance, shall have it. If they are in want of horses, or of elephants, or of slaves, or of money, it will be given to them. After the goods have been stapled up in the town and stored, there will be made an election of slaves and a rejection of slaves. Such as are clever in spearing, clever in fighting, shall not be killed, neither shall they be beaten.

Schmitt [in Le Siam ancien]: Si, sous prétexte de faire le commerce, quelque étranger arrive dans mon royaume, et que, contre mon gré, il devienne mon gendre; s'il n'a ni éléphants, ni chevaux, ni esclaves hommes ou femmes, ni argent ni or à donner, qu'il s'établisse à part et indépendant. Dans les condamnations à mort, qu'on fasse choix des chefs de bande, qui sont de vrais tigres; ne pas les tuer serait un mal.

Schmitt [in Mission Pavie]: Dans le cas ou des marchands étrangers, passant la frontière, opprimeraient mes sujets à mon insu et qu'ils n'auraient ni éléphants ni chevaux, ni esclaves hommes ou femmes, ni or ni argent, on les déclarera, eux et leurs marchandises, bien du royaume. Dans les condamnations à mort, qu'on fasse choix des chefs de bande, qui sont de vrais tigres; ne pas les tuer serait un mal.

Bradley: Whoever comes riding his elephant to visit the city, comes to the moat and waits beside it for me. Has he no elephants, no horses, no slaves, no damsels, no silver, no gold, I give it to him. Has he wealth to found towns and cities to be foes and enemies, to be strongholds for war and fighting, I smite not nor kill him.

Coedès: A quiconque vient à éléphant pour le trouver et mettre son propre pays sous sa protection, il accorde aide et assistance; si (le visiteur) n' a ni éléphants, ni chevaux, ni serviteurs, ni femmes, ni argent, ni or, il lui en donne et l' aide à se considérer comme dans son propre pays. S' il capture des guerriers ou des combattants ennemis, il ne les tue ni ne les frappe.

## II/20 ff.

Bastian: In this town of Sukhotay there are excellent singers with melodious voices. At the height of the festival the people use to come in crowds, jostling each other and eager to look on, how they light up the fireworks and let them off. This town of Sukhotay contains a gong, split in halves. This town of Sukhotay possesses a temple; possesses a statue of Buddha, 18 cubits high; possesses a large image of Buddha....

Schmitt: La ville de Sukhôdaya est munie de quatre portes mouvantes et très grandes par lesquelles le peuple se presse pour venir assister à la fete des illuminations et s'amuser (à courir à travers le feu). La ville de Sukhôdaya est immense, c'est à s'y perdre: au milieu de la ville de Sukhôdaya il y a des vihâras; il y a des statues du Buddha, des statues en relief; il y a des statues du Buddha qui sont grandes et fort belles....

Bradley: This city of Sukhothai has four gates exceeding great. The people throng and press each other fearfully there, when they come in to see him (the Prince) burn candles, to see him play with fire within this city of Sukhothai. In the midst of this city of Sukhothai there are temple-buildings, there are bronze images of Buddha; there is one eighteen cubits high. There are images of Buddha that are great, there are images that are beautiful....

Comment: Bradley had trouble with the passage homographic in it is sometimen (II/20-21), so he omitted the second half from his translation and tacked the first half on to the preceding sentence. Bastian's translation, 'This town of Sukhotai contains a gong, split in halves,' is of course nonsense; but Schmitt's translation, 'La ville de Sukhôdaya est immense, c' est à s' y perdre'—though not accurate, gives approximately the right sense. Bradley calls Schmitt's rendering 'wild'. He adds, in the same footnote: 'Our Siamese scholars are quite as much at a loss. A solution seemed as hopeless as ever, when a Lao friend recognized in it a slangy colloquialism still current in the North, used in speaking of great numbers, amounts, and the like—comparable perhaps to such western slang as "fit to bust", "till you can't rest", etc.'

Coedès: Ce Mo'an Sukhodai possède quatre portes: une foule immense s'y presse pour entrer et voir le roi allumer les cierges et jouer

avec le feu, et ce Mo'an Sukhodai est plein de peuple à en éclater. Au milieu de ce Mo'an Sukhodai, il y a des sanctuaires, il y a des statues en or du Buddha, il y a une statue du Buddha qui mesure dix-huit coudées, il y a des statue du Buddha qui sont grandes et il y en a de moyennes...

## III/10 ff.

Bastian: When the era was dated 1214, in the year of the dragon, the father-benefactor Ramkhamheng, the sovereign of this country (town) of Sisatxanalai-Sukhotay planted a palm tree, and after nineteen rice crops had gone by, he ordered the workmen to prepare the smooth surface of a stone, which was fastened and secured in the middle of the trunk of the palm tree. In the days of the dark moon, at the beginning and at the end, for eight days, and on the days of the full moon and the quarters, the assembly of the aged teachers and the priests ascend the surface of the stone to rest; and the whole circle of pious laymen accomplish the holy law in remembering and observing the victorious precepts. The father-benefactor Ramkhamhaeng, the sovereign of the country of Sisatxanalai-Sukhotay, ascending to the surface of the stone, sat down; and the host of the lords and the sons of the nobles, the whole multitude, paid homage to him for their villages, paid homage for their towns. the first and the last day of the dark moon, on the extinguished moon, and at the full moon, the white elephant was adorned in its trappings of costly gold, as it has always been the custom to do. Its name is Ruchasi. The father-benefactor Ramkhamheng, having mounted on its back, pro ceeds to worship the image of Phra-Phuth in the jungle. He has brought forth the engravings from the town of Xolajong, to place them in the foundation, together with the glorious relics, the jewels holy and splendid from the cave on the source of the waters, the cave on the river's bank, from the precious fountain in the middle of the palm forest. the two halls, the one is called the golden, the other the strength of the protecting Buddha. The flat stone, called Manang-sila, in the form of an alms-bowl, is placed (as Dagob) above the relics, to close the foundation formed by the stone.

Schmitt: En çaka 1214, année cyclique du grand dragon, le prince Rāma-Khomhëng roi de Çri Sajjanâlaya-Sukhôdaya fit placer par son architecte un trône en pierre, à l'ombre d'un groupe de palmiers que

Sa Majesté avait elle-même plantés, il y a quatorze ans passés. Le huit de la lune décroissante, le huit de la lune croissante, le jour de la pleine lune, le jour de la nouvelle lune, en foule, les gurus, les theras, les mahâ theras, montent s'asseoir sur ce trône de pierre et récitent le dharma aux laïques; tous observent les préceptes. Cette lecture du dharma ne se fait pas le jour ou le prince Rāma-Khomhëng, roi de Çrī Sajjanâlaya-Sukhôdaya, assis sur ce trône de pierre, réunit le peuple, les mandarins et les juges pour leur faire jurer fidélité au gouvernement. jour de la lune décroissante, puis le jour de la pleine lune sont des jours de mérites pour l'éléphant blanc appelé Rupa Cri; on lui met un panier doré richement orné et entouré de rideaux. Le roi Rāma-khomhëng y monte, va faire ses dévotions au vihâra des Aryyikas, puis s'en revient. Il y a une inscription dans la ville de Jalieng-Sagâbok qui indique des reliques précieuses. Une autre inscription se trouve dans la caverne, dite caverne de Phra: Rāma, située sur la rive de la rivière Somphâi. Une autre inscription est conservée dans la caverne dite Ratana-Dhâr. Il y a ici, dans le parc des palmiers, deux sâlâs dont l'un est appelé Phra: Mâsa, l'autre Buddha-bâla. La pierre qui sert ici de trône est appelée Mananga-Cilâ mâtra.

Bradley: In 1214 of the era, year of the Great Dragon, Prince Khun Ram Khamhaeng, lord of this realm of Si Sachanalai-Sukhothai, [having] planted this grove of palm trees fourteen rice-harvests [before], caused workmen to hew slabs of stone and to set them up in the open space in the center of this palm grove. From the day when the moon was quenched and reappeared, for eight days, and from the day when the moon filled out her orb, for eight days [more], the Arch-priest went up and sat above the slabs of stone, intoning the Law unto the laity and to the multitude of people who were observing the precepts. If it were not a day for reciting the Law, Prince Khun Ram Khamhaeng, lord of this realm of Si Săchănalăi-Sükhothăi, went up and sat above the slabs of stone, and had the mass of lords, of nobles and of soldiers pledge themselves together unto home and realm. On the days of new and of full moon, he had the white elephant named Ruchasi arrayed with trappings and housings all of gold and ivory .... right ..... and Prince Khun Ram Khämhaeng mounted and rode forth to worship the Buddha sin the forest-] monastery, and came again. One inscription is in Müäng Chäliäng, built into the (pagoda) Phrä Sri Rătănăthat. One inscription is in a cave called the cave of [Phra r]am, situate on the bank of the stream Sämphai. One inscription is in the cave [Rătănă] than (Sparkling Brook). In the midst of this palm grove are two Salas; one called Sala Phrä Mat (of the Golden Buddha), one called Phuttha B.... This stone slab [is] named Mănăng Sĭla Batră (Thought lodged in stone).

En 1214, année du dragon, le Prince Rāma Gamhèn, Coedès: souverain de ce Mo'an Sukhodai, qui avait fait planter ces palmiers à sucre depuis quatorze ans déjà, ordonna à des ouvriers de tailler cette dalle de pierre et de la placer au centre de cette palmeraie. Le jour de la nouvelle lune, le huitième jour de la lune croissante, le jour de la pleine lune, le huitième jour de la lune décroissante, le chapitre des moines, des theras et des mahātheras monte s'asseoir sur cette dalle de pierre et y récite la Loi aux laïcs et à l'assemblée des fidèles observant les préceptes. En dehors des jours de récitation de la Loi, le Prince Rāma Gamhèn, souverain des Mo'an Çrī Sajjanālai et Sukhodai, monte s'asseoir sur cette dalle de pierre, et, présidant l'assemblée des nobles et des dignitaires, traite avec eux des affaires du pays. Les jours de la nouvelle lune et de la pleine lune, le roi fait caparaçonner l'éléphant blanc nommé Rucacri, avec la selle tout ornée d'or et d'ivoire à droite (et à gauche): le roi y monte et va faire ses dévotions au vénérable chef des Araññikas, puis s'en revient. Il y a une inscription dans le Mo'an Jalvan, érigée et placée près de la relique Çrī Ratanadhātu. inscription dans la grotte appelée Grotte de Brah Rāma et située au bord de la rivière Sambāy. Il y a une inscription dans la Grotte Ratanadhāra. Dans une clairière de cette palmeraie, se trouvent deux pavillons: l'un s'appelle le Pavillon du Buddha d'or, l'autre le Pavillon du Buddha. Cette dalle de pierre se nomme Manănsīlāpātra.

Comment. Apart from minor errors, Schmitt gets this important passage very nearly right, while Bradley misses the meaning altogether. Schmitt recognized that the 'stone slab', "" (III/12, III/15, III/17, III/26), is the Manansilāpātra throne. Bradley takes a very different view: 'Having sketched his early life, his prosperous reign, the splendor of his capital and its surroundings, Prince Khtin Ram Khămhaeng turns

to note.... the preparation, consecration, and installation of four inscribed monuments of stone, of which we understand that our own was one' (JSS VI/1, p. 57, note to line 80). 'The reader will notice,' he continues (ibid., p. 58), 'that the text nowhere distinctly says that the four inscriptions so abruptly spoken of here [i.e. the three mentioned at III/-22 f., plus the one now being studied were engraved on the "stone slabs" mentioned in line 82 [i.e. III/12]. Yet unless we connect the writing with the slabs, there seems to be not the slightest reason for saying anything about either. But absolutely convincing on this point seem to be words in line 96 [III/26]: ขดบริทินนี้ —which can mean nothing else than the very stone and the very inscription we are now studying.... Schmitt for a moment had a glimpse of the truth, and wrote [in 1884]: "Cette pierre-ci (la pierre de cette inscription même), nous appelons Manga (sic) -sila." But later, when he came to edit [the inscription for Mission Paviel, he renounced it all; for he had committed himself to the theory that there was but one stone, and it was "un trône en pierre". So he says here "la pierre qui ici sert de trône est appelée Mananga-Çila mâtra". This stone with its pyramid top would make a "trône" less comfortable even than some we hear of now-a-days' (JSS VI/1, p. 58, note to line 92). Since Bradley took all these slabs to be inscriptions, it would hardly do to have the venerable teachers sometimes, and Rama Gamhèn sometimes, sit on them; so instead of translating ญ่งง ใหนอบคารหิน (III/85, III/87) as 'sat on the stone slab(s)' he translated it as 'sat above the slabs of stone'. In 1918 Coedès produced irrefutable arguments showing that Bradley was wrong in his interpretation of this passage, and Schmitt very nearly right (JSS XII/1, pp. 16-25).

### IV/26 f.

**Bastian:** There are eatables cultivated in this territory, that the multitude of villagers and citizens may be provided with food, as it is right and just, according to the laws of line men.

Schmitt: Après (la conquête) il se sont livrés à l'agriculture pour nourrir les nombreux habitants des villages et des villes: tout le monde observe le dharma.

**Bradley:** He planted and nurtured a host of sons of this city and realm to be in accord with righteousness every one.

Coedes: Il a placé et nourri tous les habitants de ces pays dans l'observance de la Loi, sans exception.

#### Abbreviations

BEFEO. Bulletin de l'Ecole Française d'Extreme-Orient.

JSS. Journal of the Siam Society.

Poranavatthusthana. โบราณวัตถุสถานทั่วพระราชอาณาจักร, ชิน อยู่ดี เรียบเรียง, Bangkok, 1957.

Prajum I. แผนกโบราณคดี, ประชุมศิลาจารึกสบาม ภาคที่ ๑, Bangkok, 1924; second edition, ประชุมศิลาจารึก ภาคที่ ๑ Bangkok, 1957.

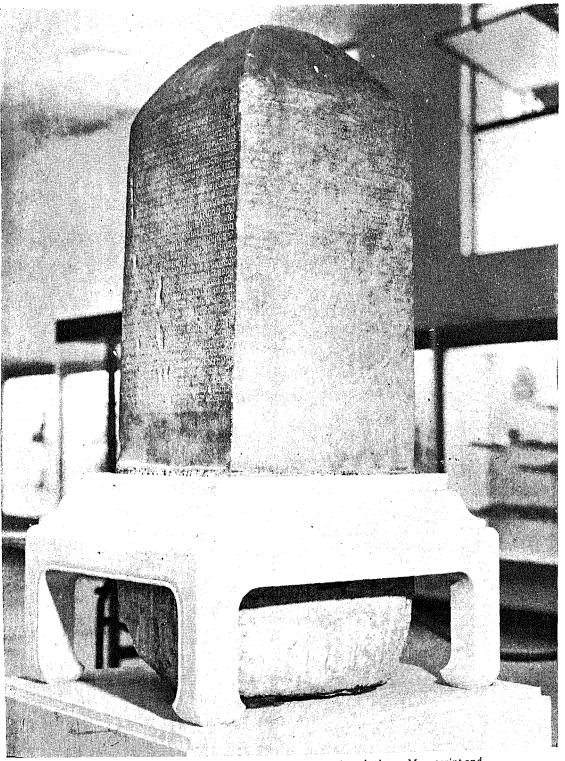


Fig. 1. The stone pillar bearing Rāma Gaṃheň's inscription. Manuscript and Inscription Division, National Library, Bangkok.

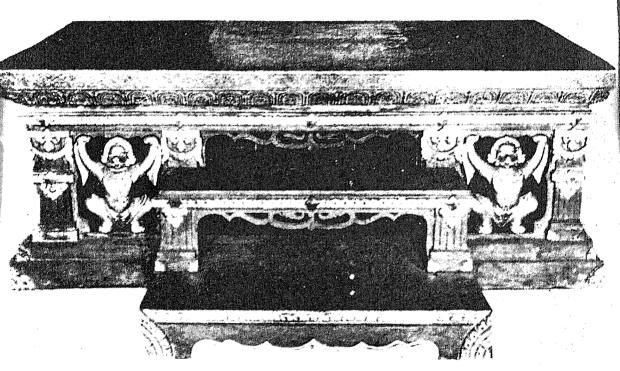
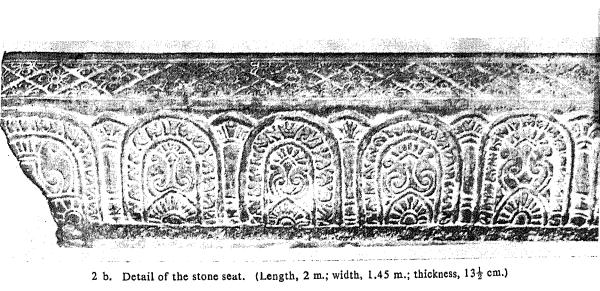


Fig. 2. The Manansilāpātra Throne. Royal Place, Bangkok.
2 a. With modern fitings.



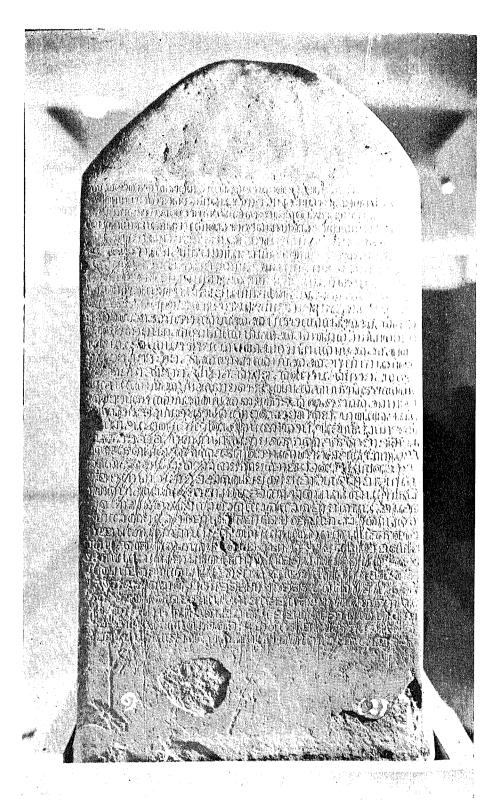
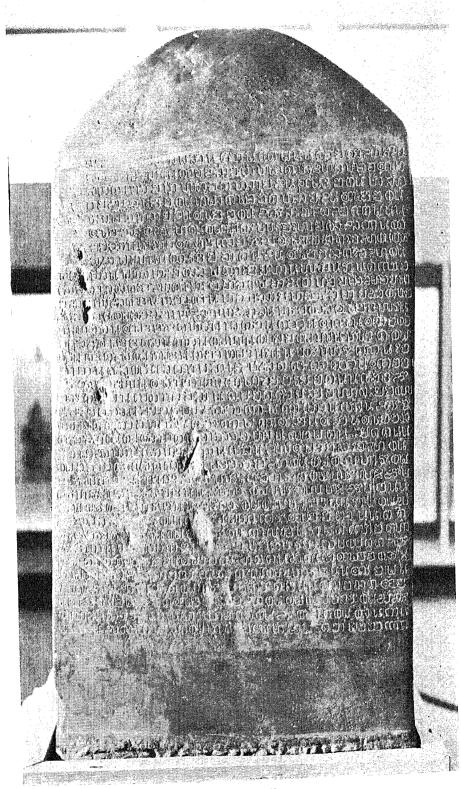
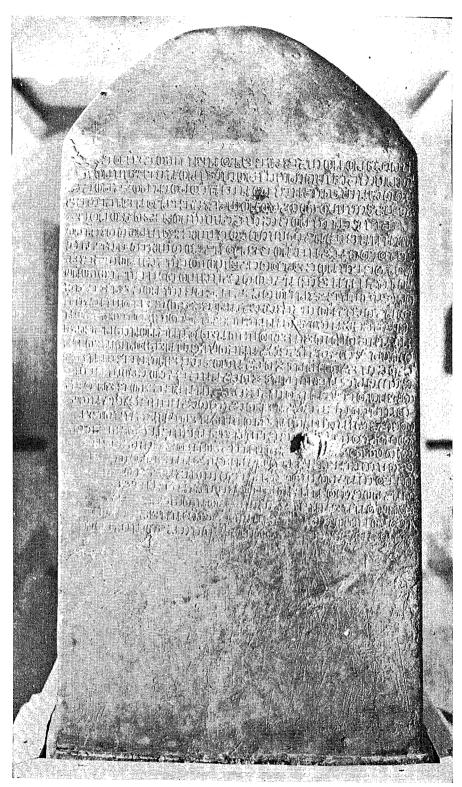


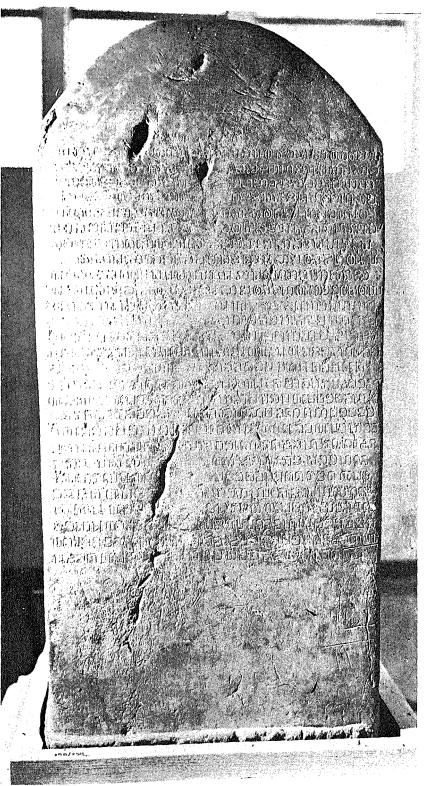
Fig. 3. Rāma Gamhen's inscription:
3 a. Face I.



3 b. Face II.



3 c. Face III.



3 d. Face IV.

**៤៤៩១៩១០ហ្**វាជុំ៩១ហ្គឺ៩១៩៦ឃ្នាំ ១១ ១០ហ**ឈជខខ೭ជំ**ខាំមពាម**ភាពឈជខ**ខ១**ម**ឃ រេសថ្ងាននេះមានរដ្ឋារ នេះ ម្នេច ម្នេច នេះ មានការ នេះ មានេះ មានការ នេះ មានារាធិបាន នេះ មានការ នេះ មាន MU CARECUNE OR TO THE CONTROL OF THE ອບບູບາຫອອອອາເອນສາບອນດູດລ່ອນເອົ້າຂຸທົ່ງໃຫ້ຫນ້າຂາເທັ ឧ៣០មារលេហ៍មេឃាម៦ ( ចំរខេលប០មារខេល្ង១ខ្មែ១ រូប្បូលបាន hearthean is said and a said a m romantaloggeograms: singe enemistriansking enemarkant in the contraction of t centroots as a since of the control of the control

Fig. 4. First page of lithographed copy of transcript prepared by the Commission, with glosses in King Rama IV's hand, presented to Sir John Bowring in 1855.

(After Bowring, The Kingdom and People of Siam, I, facing p. 278.)

ົບທ່າວພອງກາ**ນອະນຸຂອງເຄດທ່ານ**້ອງທ້ອງຄອງໜ້າ ຄນເພື່ອງຢ រោលល្ខខ្លួន ៤០០១ មាន មាន ស្រុក សព្ទ ស្រុក ຜາທວນຄວອກຄຸທາຍດອນຊາກອນສາເສນເກລາສາຄາສາເສນສາເສນ **ອ**ບມູບາຫອອອອາງອຸບຸສາພອບອຸດລ່ອນເອ້າຂທ່າວຝ່າຫນ້າຂລ່ານ ນ e្នាប់ ពេលប្រជាជា ខេត្ត ខេត ຂດລບບເ<u>ຈົ້</u>າດ່ອນທ່າຂດຂດຄ່ອ<del>ອ້</del>າວຄ້ອຍເສ**ນກພອນຄນ**ຂດ ະທ່ຽງສ້ຳງາສຸດສາດສຸດພາຍ ຄວາມສາດສຸດ ຄວາມ ຄວາມສຸດ ຄວາມສຸດ ຄວາມສຸດ ຄວາມສຸດ ຄວາມສຸດ ຄວາມສຸດ ຄວາມສຸດ ຄວາມສຸດ ຄວາມສຸດ ໜ້າຍຫານໜໍະດວຸກ່ວອຊ້ນອຊະດອຊ່ານສະການຄໍເເຫວແໜ້ ະທະທາສ້າວາາແກນອນວະບົນຍອ່ວນທ່າວດະດານີ້ ເສຍ ເທົ່າກັ ខណ្ឌលប្រទេស លែ លេខលខណ្ឌ គឺតា១៦៤ ជំនួនតា១៦**៨ភាខ្**ណ្យ នោ**បា** ល្រែល់ខណ្ឌនាត្តិបាយាធារាយាធារាយខណ្ឌនាល់ ប្រជាធិប្បនិទ្ធិ

Fig. 5. (a, b, c, d. e, f). Lithographed copy of the transcript prepared by the Commission, presented to the French envoy in 1856. Bibliothèque nationale, Paris.

ະທຸເສາພາເເດທາະທະດວນທ່ານການທອນຮວວລ໌ຈ້າວວຸຄວາວວັ ຂຸ້ວກຸ່ງ ສະຊຸກຸການ ຂຸ້ວ ຄຸການ ຄຸ ស់ខេត់សាមលា១១០ស់ខេត្តខណ្ឌសារិវេទ្ធ ផ្ដែលសំខេត្ត១១បំទេខ ເໝ່ນປະຊາດທ່າຂຄວາຍວຸຄົວຂ**ຸ້ວວ**ະບຸຊວ ເຜີເຄົດກາວ ວິດວ**ະບຸຊ ສ**ອວທ່າງລູແກບຄໍເຫາງແພຽງ*າສະ*ຊວບຍອບ້ອດຂຸນທີ່ ហ១១ជិនាន្តព្រះស្នាស្នេះ ស្នេះ ស្ ະລຸເທວ**ອ**ເທ່າອຸນະຄອອອອຣຸນີທົ່າອຸລຸເກົອນອາຍຂອ**ະ**ຄວຸດຄ ឧតវត៌ាយ៉ាត៌ា ខេត្ត១៣ឧតវត៌ា ១១១៥ មក្សា ១១គាំ ឧហវង្គាំ ហណ៌ឧភពម៉ោខភពរខ្មែរឧស្ដិនតយើងសាមហាមព្រះថានទាំង ០មួយនេះ ១០ ខេត្ត ១០ ខេត្ **ິ ຜຸດ ແພດ ແ**ລ່ດ້ອງ ວຸດ**ມນ**ສ່ອນຂຸດ ແ<u>ທ້</u> ແລ້ວຈ່ອ ແລ່ ອຸຄອາຟ លៅទាំតិ១៩០១ប់ទោំឧតិភព៣បញ្ជូនឧតិទំឧបយោបទ្យោហាប ປ່ຂຄ\$ດທບເຫນ໐ສບທ່ານປ່**ຂຄ**່ຽວເດຍຄຄນຂຄດອ້ສາຢ ພາທາຍເພຍວພາຂຄລ້ອຍແຫນອຍແໜ່ອຍຂໍດ້ພນນນໍ งนร้ายบ่อนบ้าบ่อนปัลลบ่อนเกยบ่อน ecesuvou ທ**ອງ**ຂທ້າເດ່**ບ**ແນລອວພແນຄ໌ວວເປັນທ້ານເປັ**ນອ**ເພອອ ឧត៌ទាំយានពេធាយាននយាកក្នុង ហេដ្ឋា บ์บดละนุบ้าดปรอบของอาธนนอการเลอนสล้งขันข ខហរ់ដាំហូរ ខេង្គបង្គានប្រារាធានា ១០៤៩១០៤៧ ខែមួយ តាខាយ សេបានខានសហរបស់ពេលជាខាយសាខា សេច សេខា នេះ

ប់ឧទីឧឋន់របប្រាប្បទេខបរហ់ខេង្ករខេង្កហ់រុខរទាសត៌ เพาะเข้าดเนยบรอด้0ยน0รยกดเน่ยธณนรอนตอาน <u>ពេលវាពល្ម ១៩០៦ ទី១០១៦ ខេលាខាង ខេត្ត ១៩០១៦១៦</u> *ភិ១ម៉ា*២សាត្តមានស្រុក មានស្រុក ស្រុក ស្តិស ស្រុក ស្ត ឃុំទាំ៦តុំមានាស្ថិតិស្ថិតិស្ថិតិស្ថិតិស្ថិតិស្ថិតិស្ថិតិស្ថិស្ថិតិស្ថិតិស្ថិតិស្ថិតិស្ថិតិស្ថិតិស្ថិតិស្ថិតិស **០**ជំពាហាលប់៦១តំពាភា មុខជ**េ**បខ១**០**ជំពាបរាតខាបត់ ຫລາຍຂນອນອອດນ້ອຄສລ້າຍຂຄ້າຂໍ້ອາເທີ່ພນນທຸລາຍ and elemic contration in the contraction of the con ឌ៣៩០៥០០១ ខេបៈឧហ្គឺ នាសហ**រេវេល់ ន**ិទ្ធស្វា ១ រាមក្នុង ខេប្ប មនារាធាសេដ្ឋមានសាធាសាសាធាស្រី មាន នេះ នេះ ណកសុរ**ទកខាកម្មាន ស្ដេច ខេត្ត ខេត្ត ខេត្ត ខេត្ត ខេត្ត** ស្ដេច ស្ដេច ខេត្ត ស្ដេច ខេត្ត ស្ដេច ខេត្ត ស្ដេច ខេត្ត ស្ដេច ខេត្ត **ភា**៦ (ប៉េរ**ភា**៦ ស៊ើ ហ់ ៦ មហ័ ៦ ហ់ ៦ មហេ ១ ខុ ភព ស៊ើ ខុ ភព ១ ខ្ ហ១១០ន់ឃ្មា១១ឃាតាមហ្គ១១៩ជំនាំម៩ស៊ី០ល២៩ដ្ឋ១ហ៊ុ**១មា**៤ ន្ទាស់ មានការបាន នាងក្នុង សមាន ក្នុង ក្នុង ក្នុង ក្នុង ក្នុង ក្នុង ក្រុង ក្រុង ក្រុង ក្រុង ក្រុង ក្រុង ក្រុង ក្ **อะเคลอะเอบ การากลบากบบ บาก อะเคลากบบ บาก เล่น อะเคลา** ดรานดอกนอนท์นอบัยยอนท์นาทษาดอนท์นอยดลน้อน บาพธนณ์ออบาพธนรนนบารงบารถวดนรอองกน และชังเลองช สานอย่ะสดงขอดถวกหลายของเพละทั้งนองน้อยขอดเร้านา ສຍວ**ຣ**ຍວຸດແບ ແລ່ອ**ຣວດໝາ**ຍທັນ ເທົ່າຫລອສາ ບຸລົນວ**ໍ**ຄຸດ້ອວດ້ອຍ 

ឌ៣៩០ជួ០ភ្នំជុំ១១៦២២ លេ**០២**ឃា១៤៣៩១**:២៩១**បែបក្នុកក ០៣សារថ្មាស់ស្ទុះរហារងទេវាមាខ១៤៤៣2:ខ១សូខេង្សានឲ្យការ: រហលានទខ្សានព័កនាយុសិសិលាខ្លះរលាលនទខ្សានព័កខ្សាកសាលិស្សាខ្លះ ០ឃុំឃានខ្ពប់ខ្ពស់២៤ឃនះ០ឃុំហានខ្ពប់ប្រាស្នា**៤០៤៤**ឃាពេន CEIMONOCS SUOROS DE SECESUS ORONGES SU *ទាឃត្តិ* យោ១៣ហិទ្ធនិទ្ធហារ (រប់ឃហា ភេឌជ១១ **អ**នានិបិនា**វ**ស \*ម្ដាប្រពាលប្រាសាធនាសាធានាធាលា មាន ស្រួលប្រាសាធិន នេះ ប្រាសាធិន សាធានាធាន សាធានាធាន សាធានាធាន សាធានាធាន សាធានា រហាលាលរាជាស ដោយបាន១០ជាវាង៩០៤វាមេហាខាររាជា១៩១០៧ លារៈខេងក្នុងជាជាគ្នានៅក្នុងជាគ្នានៅក្នុងជាមានក្នុងជាមានក្នុងជាក្រុង រុះខេត្តបានឲ្យប្រកាសលាខេត្តក្រុម ខេត្តក្រុម ខេត្តក្រាជា ខេត្តក្រុម ខេត្តក្រាជា ខេត្តក្រុម ខេត្តក្រាជា ខេត្តក្រុម ខេត្តក្រស ឋាបាលជាខ្លួយដូចបាននុំ**០៤**ជា០៥០០ជួយ**ជួ**០៤ឆ្នាំរបស់ប្រាប់ ເລດອພຽກເພ່ວບອບປຸກອາພະຄວາພລ່ວບເດລ້ວແນ້ຍບວອນແຍນ *๛*เผยองระยอบขอน้อนกากที่สานอนเทระยอนอนปัจ ភាហឲមថា មាសាត្រហ្ម ទីខេត្ត មាសា្រស្គាន ១០៤៩ ទី០៤ ជា១៤០តំណើរ ០សហ័រខេញកំហ័រ រោលឈើខ១ហា៦៦រេខបេខសេខ១១៨៖៦២៧៤៤ **ឲ**្យរស្សាលល្បារ នេះ ប្រទេស ខេត្ត ខេត ឋាភា១**០៤**ឋាសង្គ១ដានាស្ន**សស្ថារពេលសហរនះនរល**១០៨ហេល ຫຂຸນເຊາອນ**ນ**ບ້ນນເປັນຂຸກຄ່າຄວາງທຸດອພຂຸນອັບອອບຂ້າອນຂໍຜູ້ ຂອວດແຜຍສະເຂລອນສອນ ເເລອຫລົອອອນ**ສະເ**ດຍແຜຍ

onn as served of the management of the serve of the servent of the ល្បីសន្ទេ១ហ៍រខ្មានមាស់តំយោ១ ប៉ោ **ស**សន្ទេ១០ រន្ទរន្ទនយា ខ្មានរន្ទ ອກ**ະ**ວຸການ ລ່ວຍ ຫວ່າ ວຸດລາວ ຂ**ໍບໍ່ຄາລຸດທ້ວນ ແຂວ ຄະນຸດ ນຸບ** ແດຍuren ເປັດວ**ະນວນນອນເຫຍອນເຫຍອດ**ອນກ້ວງເນັດ อนหรหอรถรองและพุทเกร ออันถ่ววจะทหรอดรวทห ะสดะรับบาเดอยบาสดอนัวบาลย์กิดสลดผ<del>อร์</del>อนนะสด **ວທຍ**ອອນດ່າວວອະຫາມຄອກຮວຫນອຫ້ອນວທ່ອຍຂາດເຈົ້າ erons a such respondence de la compansión de la compansió ឧតនយោមហាងយោបនាំ១៩ខេត្តពិធីស្វារាមានរួមរបស់ខុស ทธาวานการสายอาดฮะรชาดศรากรอนราบดิเพารอริน Φຂ່ອປັນບານຈະການຂອງດາດໝາຍຊື່ເຄົາພາຄາ**ອຽດເອນແອ**ໄປ**ອອນ** ០៤៩៤៤៤៤១៩ភម្មាន់៣០០៩ភ្នំស្ថិតមហេស:០៩១០០៥១០០២ ทอรถธนนอล่วงแลนกิดศรรถนะกระนดวยวิทิศวิจน์ **อนส**ามสอบ อนนอนนอดบอดฮ์สามางระเทสอนนอดบอดฮ์ រហហាខហាងខាតាទ០២៧០ជំ១៩៤៧១១០ឯងាយា០១៦៣២៣៩៦០៧៧ ០៦១ មាន១២ នា មសារវេហារខណ្ឌ ប្រេក្តិ ប្រេក្ខខណ្ឌ បាន១០៧ មាន។ Ondathransnangaeugasasangaesangaes ឃាលាគ្នា តព្រឹក្សា **ខ្លួន ខ្លួន ខ្លួន បា**ភាហិវា ក្នុន្ត ប្រភព្គម ខ្លួន បាន ខ្លួន ប្រការ ខ្លួន ប្រការ ខ្លួន បាន ខ្លួន ប្រការ ខ្លួន ប្រក្សា ខ្លួន ប្រការ ខ្លួន ប្រសារ ខ្លួន ប្រការ ខ្លួន ប្រការ ខ្លួន ប្រការ ខ្លួន ប្រការ ខ្លួន ប្រ

ষ্ঠាតនិនិងហេខិនិយ 🕠 🗢 ជាល្បីរលិនជារង្គិលខោហនេះ ឌារល ល្ខាន់ក្នុងស្គាន់ក្រស្គាន់ក្រុងស្គាន់ក្រុងស្គាន់ក្រុងស្គាន់ក្រុងស្គាន់ក្រុងស្គាន់ក្រស្គាន់ក្រុងស្គាន់ក្រុងស្គាន់ក្រុងស្គាន់ក្រុងស្គាន់ក្រុងស្គាន់ក្រស្គាន់ក្រុងស្គាន់ក្រុងស្គាន់ក្រុងស្គាន់ក្រុងស្គាន់ក្រុងស្គាន់ក្រស្គាន់ក្រុងស្គាន់ក្រុងស្គាន់ក្រុងស្គាន់ក្រុងស្គាន់ក្រុងស្គាន់ក្រសាន្តិស្គាន់ក្រុងស្គាន់ក្រុងស្គាន់ក្រុងស្គាន់ក្រុងស្គាន់ក្រង្គាន្តិស្គាន់ក្រងងស្គាន់ក្រងង្គាន់ក្រង្គាន់ក្រង្គាន្ង **ານະ**ເປ**ັດດວ**ຸຕາມອຸກຸດເ<u>ຮົາວ</u>ປ່ວເເລື້ອ*ດ*້ວວອຍອຸເກລ້ອຜທະ: ພຫາສາງຄາປາເອົາອຸກິ່ວເເລື້ອແບ່ຮູຮທ່ອນລາຍອຸສຸລຸທຸດນັ້ນ່ອພ ະສາ**ຍອ**າະທຸດແກຍອາະທຸດກ່ອງວຽວພວນທີ່ ຄະສຸດ ເຄີ່ມ ແລະ ຄຸ ខ្ទុំហ់រុខបន្ទាស់ ពេលប្រជាជា ប្រាស់ ខេត្ត ប្រសេច ប្រាស់ ខេត្ត ប្រសាស់ ខេត្ត ប្រាស់ ឋាភាមនោ បើរេខពុនខាមានម្នង់១១৯ខុរខហហ១១មាភាមឧម៉ាខ្ទែរបរ ខ្ទុំនេះ ស្រប់ ល្ងេច ប្រការ ស្រាស់ ស្ **លើ**ឯ៦ស៊ី**១**៩ហារស៊ី១៩លើះត៌១៩លើ១ហាត់រប់ពេលដែលខ្លួលដេត៍ ខាប់វិទាប់ ដើរទាំលង៣០៤៤៤១១០ ទាំងទាំង មានាមឋិទាប់លំខា อกของของนนองอดำเงินอง่า เลือองข้องขาออนุธนรองคน บศะรณนราชนิวอบเลสานบรเบีนอบเเลือ ๑ เบียยตอนน oursockes proceeds and wood and continued our continued ou egrandine grande in 1 centa or earth and earth and earth พวอองทันผู้ขององเพียงสอบกันแบทแล้วสถุวงสุด **ន**ាយស្អារ នេះ មាន និង មាន និង មាន និង មាន និង មាន និង មាន និង មាន ខេត្ត មាន ខេត្ត មាន ខេត្ត មាន ខេត្ត មាន ខេត្

्राष्ट्रकारे १ स्थाप १ स्थाप हो स्थाप स മുന്നു പ്രദേശിയ പ്രവേശിക്കാന് പ്രവേശിക്കാര് പ്രവേശിക് പ്രവേശിക്കാര് പ്രവേശിക് പ്രവേശിക്കാര് പ്രവേശിക് പ്രവേശിക്കാര് പ്രവേശിക്കാര് പ്രവേശിക്കാര് പ്രവേശിക്കാര് പ്രവര് പ്രവേശിക്കാര് പ്രവര് പ്രവര विश्वविद्यार्थित के विश्वविद्यार्थित के कार्य के कार्य विश्वविद्या के munical composition of the property of the composition of the composit BUERCUMMENEMENTARIER മുത്തിന് പുരുത്തില് പുരുത്തിന്റെ പുരുത്താന് പുരുത്തില് പുരുത്ത്തില് പുരുത്തില് പുരുത്തില ed han et receconsus names บดบรณที่สดดเลยกกระของ າທະຍອດຂອ บงลงกา na wan aran bila a s ന് സ് പ്രദേശം സ് അക്ക **apply the all all and the areas are all areas areas** ടൗലാറുക്കു സ്വാധിക്കാല വാലത്തായ പ്രോഗ്രസ്ത്ര വാധിക്കു ND OF ESPECIEND CAN SUCCESSOR SECOND REPORTED OF THE URVERIED COURSE EXECUTED IN THE COURT OF જારાક વીદ્યાળ અને ગુવાન સમકળા હોયર પ્રસામક રાજ્યના છે. saving constructions and march sales in the construction of the co BANATAB A A SYU OPRA RATIONAL BANK (A) NN MOLEGING SYN M BEE BON SINSK ធ ប៉ោះមានការបានប្រជាជាធានក្នុង ក្រុម ខេត្ត ராக்கு நாக்கு நேர்க்காக கைக்கு நேருக்கு நாக்கு ยนเทนเอาเทนบัสรัสตเกนแทนดิวิหน and and the series are and are are a series are the massin n centhamine and marse and ARE MADEMENTATE DA COL Han Colours Ram Mentable care care number 1977 តែឯងក្រក្សក្រក្សា នេះក្រុម នេះក្រុម នេះក្រុម ក្រុម នេះក្រុម នេះក្រុម នេះក្រុម នេះក្រុម នេះក្រុម នេះក្រុម នេះក្ opeuumuae upė in euro in in perumuseo

Fig. 6. (a, b, c, d). Père Schmitt's plates of the inscription. (After Le Siam Ancien, I, Pls. LXIV-LXVII.)

Taka no no ne se e eno non non cano c ្រាង បារាលាន ខេត្ត បារាលា បារាលា បារាលា បាន ខេត្ត បាន ខេត្ត បាន ខេត្ត បាន បាន ខេត្ត បាន បាន ខេត្ត បាន ខេត្ត បាន បាន ខេត្ត បាន ខ या न जा संकार पा का का पा का का मान का का THE USE TO THE STATE STATE OF THE STATE OF T ere on own of the sum ពារក្រុងពី នេះ មាន នេះ MASAN EN MOUNTAIN CONTROLL OF THE CONTROL OF came en moe arondros and medeta in incres णे पा वंडणे पात्र वे त्वा भुरत्य पान्य प्राचित्र पात्र प्राचित्र प्र musacus vo uses as sas sama el su a con reference mental properties and the contraction of national and the state of the s mus a ware apply and other interpolations with ag h madanta an Lour 308 Linusa N 9091 complete in the socurrence of the contraction of th CESIME CON USE USES AND SEGUND COMO ENHUMBIN BOND WEED LINGUES REPORTED TO THE STATE OF THE S GEBBUR SOUR FUEL SEED MENSER TO BE SEED IN SOUR TO เถ็ว กางกา คนายสาขาดง วงกรทณายายภาษารัฐ ED WING MO C NO R A B R COR RANGE TWO CHOOL OF บทระบายการเการ์งเการ์งเการ์เหารับการเการ์ EDURANTANTACER, UKERONDON WALLERONZES NO RENDES TEON CONTROL CONTROL CONTRACTOR C ngstarteeneconnoces and as source not the second

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