

Études du corpus des inscriptions du Campā, XI
La stèle d'installation de Śrī Pūrvāmaravāsini (C. 260) :
une nouvelle inscription sanskrite du Campā
trouvée à Hà Trung

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Abstract

This article presents an epigraphic and historical study of an inscribed stele (C. 260) discovered in 2000 at the site of Hà Trung, in the province of Quảng Trị (Central Vietnam). Already explored at the end of the 19th century by Camille Paris, then at the beginning of the 20th century by Henri Parmentier, the site had revealed important architectural remains associated with Campā. The paper begins with a diachronic analysis of the site, marked by several phases of occupation. It draws on archaeological and Cam epigraphic data, before looking at the changes that took place in the 17th and 18th centuries, as evidenced in particular by a Vietnamese stele in Chinese characters. The study then focuses on the inscription C. 260, engraved on a large sandstone stele, and consisting of nine Sanskrit stanzas in an ornate variety of Cam script. With its devotional content centred on Śiva as Bhadreśvara, its palaeographic characteristics and its textual form marked by paronomasia and intentional deviations from grammatical rules, it clearly belongs to the corpus of inscriptions from the Indrapura dynasty (9th–10th centuries). The inscription features Queen Śrī Svargadevī, the stele's donor and mother of a king probably identifiable with Jaya Sinhavarman. Its reading sheds light on the dynastic history of this period, while highlighting the importance of the role of women in royal religious foundations from the 9th century onwards. Drawing on this new epigraphic evidence as well as on an examination of the remains found at Hà Trung over the long term, the article contributes to the reappraisal of a major site, as yet little studied, in the history of Campā and Vietnam, as well as to the understanding of the political history of the Indrapura dynasty.

Keywords: Indrapura dynasty; Nguyễn dynasty; Jaya Sinhavarman; genealogy; Svargadevī; Trần Kinh Ân.