

consists of four letters, the first of which is either *ca* or *va* and the second is certainly *n* with some subscript mark or letter; the third and fourth letters clearly read *devyām*. It is, therefore, highly probable that her name was Candradevī, known from some seals to have been the name of the queen of Pūrugupta. Hiranand Shastri takes the relevant legend to be 'Śrīvainya-devyām'¹²² but regards the correct reading to be *Candra* in place of *Vainya*.¹²³

No. 47 mentions Candradevī as the name of the mother of Narasimhagupta.

In No. 53 Candradevī is mentioned as the mother of Budhagupta and wife of Pūrugupta.

The name Candradevī is based on the god Candra (Moon).

6. Śrīva (*tsa*) devī¹²⁴ (No. 49, L. 6; No. 50, L. 6) :

'Śrīva' is clearly legible but the terminal '*tsa*' can only faintly be seen.

She is mentioned as the wife of Pūrugupta and mother of Narasimhagupta. 'Śrīvatsa' is the name of Viṣṇu, which literally means 'beloved or favourite of Śrī' (Lakṣmī).¹²⁵ It is also a symbol or mark of Viṣṇu.¹²⁶

7. Mitradevī (No. 49, LL. 7-8; No. 50, L. 7) :

No. 49 mentions *mahādevī* Sumatidevī as the wife of Narasimhagupta and mother of Kumāragupta III. Fleet read the name as Mahālakṣmīdevī¹²⁷ and Hoernle as 'Śrīmatidevī'.¹²⁸ But in No. 50 the reading is clearly 'Mitradevī'.¹²⁹ Mitra is one of the several names of the Solar deity.

REFERENCES

1. Allahabad Pillar Inscription of Samudragupta, (DX)¹, L. 29, p. 28.
 2. (DX)¹, p. 258, L. 1
 3. Sarnath Buddhist Stone Image Inscription of Budha Gupta, G.Y. 157, C.J. 1914-15, pp. 124-125. L.I., Sarnath Buddhist Stone Inscription of Kumāragupta II, G.Y. 154, C.J. 1914-15.
 4. Cf. Allahabad Pillar Inscription of Samudragupta, (DX)¹, LL. 28-29, p. 8
 5. It may be noted that here also the epithet Śrī indicates that the founder's name was 'Gupta'.
- Cf. D.C. Sircar, JJ. XIX, p. 19 : "The first known king of the Gupta dynasty was Gupta whose son was Ghaṭoṭkaca; but when the latter's son Candragupta I founded an empire, his descendants always stuck to the