The Five Apabhramsa Verses Composed by Munja, the Paramara King of Malava

H. C. Bhayani

Gujarat University, Ahmedabad.

As an instance of the Samkīrņa type of the Catuṣpadī Dhruvā used in the Apabhramsa Samdhibandha, Hemacandra has cited under Ghandonusāsana¹ 6, 22 the following verse that illustrates an admixture of two different varieties of Catuṣpadī.

Cūdullau bāhoha-jalu mayaṇā kamcua visamathaṇa ia Muńsjim raiā uūhaḍā pamca vi kāmahu pamca sara

'cūdullau, bāhoha-jalu, nayaṇā, kamcua and viṣama-thaṇa these five Dohās, like the five arrows of the Love-god, were composed by Muñja'.

This verse has a unique historical importance in that it records the suthorship of some Dohā verses composed by Vākpati Munja, the famous Paramāra king of Mālava, who flourished during 975-995 A. D. He enjoyed great fame in legend and history for his romance, heroism, literary talent and patronage to literature. The laudatory verse gives five Pratikas or characteristic words one from each of the five verses of Munja which had become famous among the literary circles due to their poetic excellence. It was a traditional device to record in a fool-proof manner the authorship of some isolated Muktaka-like verses. Now the problem is that of identifying the five Apabhramśa verses credited to Munja. Fortunately for us Hemacandra seems to have preserved them for the posterity. The cūdullau-and the bāhoha-jalu verse are given in the chandonuśāsana at the same place as the commemorative stanza noted above, i. e. under 6, 22.

The cūdullan verse occurs also in the Siddhahema under 8, 4, 395 with slight slight variation in the third Pāda. The text according to the Chandonuśāsana is as follows:

Cūdullau cuṇṇīhoisai muddhi kaoli nihittau

९० : अगरचन्द नाहटा अभिनन्दन-ग्रन्थ

^{1.} Velankar's edition, Singhi Jaina Series No: 49, 1961, Pp, 209.

^{2.} See e. g. Prabandhacintāmani of Merututunga (ed Muni Jinavijaya 1933); P.11, where verses no. 10 and 19 give the pratikas or characteristic words of some famous Gāthās of Sātavāhana which have been given under verses no. 11 to 18.

niddaddhan sāsāndaliņa bāha-salila-samsittan

The Siddhahema has kavoli for kaoli and sāsānala-jālajhalakkiau for the third Pāda.

The verse can be translated as follows:

'O simple girl, your bracelet, positioned as it is under your cheek will be reduced to powder, having been (first heated by fiery sighs and then sprinkled with water of your tears'.

The second i. e, the bahoha-jalu verse is as follows:

tain tettiu bāhaha-jalu sihiņamtari vi na pattu chimichimivi chimivi gamdatthalili simisimivi simivi samattu

Translation: Even though it was a flood of tears, it interspace her breasts it boiled up just on the cheeks sounding chimi chimi and so disappeared sounding simi-simi'.

The remaining three verses are to be identified from among citations given in the Apabhramsa section of the Siddhahema. There is some uncertainty about the identification of the third i. e. the nayanā-verse. Probably it is the same as the one cited under 8, 4. S14 to illustrate the use of praīva. It is as follows:

amsu-jalē prāIva goriahē sahi uvvattā nayaņsara tem sampesiā demti tiricchī ghatta para

Translation: 'It seems that the arrows of glances of the fair damsel are deflected due to the stream of tears-hence, even though charged straight, they strike sideways'.

The fourth verse, i. e. the kamcua-verse is the same as the one cited under Siddhahema 8, 4, 431. It is as follows:

pahiā diṭṭhī goradī diṭṭhī maggu niamta amsūsāsēhī kamcuā timtuvvāna karamta

'O wayfarer, did you meet my fair lady?' 'Oh yes, I saw her gazing at the road (of your return), and drenching and drying her blouse in turn with her tears and sighs'.

Lastly, the visama-thana verse is the same as the one cited under Siddhahema 8, 4, 350 (as also under 362). It is as follows:

इतिहास और पुरातत्त्व: ९१

phoḍeṃti jē hiadaū appaṇaū tāhā parāī kavaṇa ghṛṇ rakkhējjahu lovahō appaṇā bālalē jāyā visama thaṇa

Translation: 'Those who burst open their own heart—what compassion can they have for others? Men, be on your guards-the breasts of the young girls have become terrific.'

Apart from the evidence from the Chandonus asana, some further evidence, although indirect, is now available in support of Munjs authorship of the abovequoted verses. The Apabhramsa poem Jambusamcariya was composed by Vira in V. S. 1076 (= 1020 A. D.) Vira was connected with the places called Simdhuvarisi and Gulakheda in the Malava country, which was ruled by King Bhoja from 1010 to 1055 A, D. Bhoja was preceded by Sindhuraja (995-1010 A. D.) and the latter by Muñja (975-995 A, D.) The Jamūsāmicariya was composed some twetyfive years after the death of Muñja. Now from this work of Vira it can be seen quite clearly that not only he was familiar with important literary works of his times including the Apabhramsa works of Puspadanta (C. 930-980) and Svayambhū (end of the ninth century), but he was also intimately influenced by them. Jambūsāmicariya reveals numerous borrowings in ideas and words, from earlier well-known Apabhramsa, Prakrit and Sanskrit works. Thus Vira cannot but be familiar with the Apabhramsa compositions of the royal poet Mañja, who was famous also for his literary patronage—so much so that later on it was extolled in such terms as 'gate Muñje yasah puñje nirālambā sarasvatī',2 i. e. 'with the departure of the glorious Munja, the Goddesss of Learning has become a homeless wanderer. And from one passage of the Jambūsāmicariya we get an actual indication of the influence of Muñja's Apabhramsa poems. Describing the love-lorn condition of the ladies of Rajagrha at the sight of Jambusvamin, the poet says:

kāhi vi virahāṇal saṃpalittu aṃsujalohaliñ kavolĕ!khittu pallaṭṭai hatthu karaṃtu suṇṇu daṃtimu cūḍullau cuṇṇu euṇṇu kahi vl harsyanṃdaṇarasu ramei laggaṃtu aṅglĕ chamachamachamei (Jambūsāmcariya, 4, 11, 1-3).

Translation: 'In the case of some lady the fire of separtion so flared up that it reduced to powder the ivory bracelet that was drenched with tears due to

९२: अगरचन्द नाहटा अभिनन्दन-ग्रन्थ

^{1.} Edited by V. P. Jain, Bharatīya Jñānapitha, Varanasi, 1968.

^{2.} Prabandhacintāmaņi, P. 25, line 2.

^{3.} In this connection it is also significant that Vira has stated that he was closely associated with the state business. See Jambūsāmicariya, Prašasti, V. 5.

its contact with the cheek, thus rendering the hand bare. The sandal paste applied to the body of some other lady emitted sizzling sounds'.

These lines clearly echo the ideas and the wording of the Cūdullau-verse and the bāhoha-jalu-verse of Muñja quoted above. Especially Cūdullau and Chamachamachamai in the Jambūsāmicariya passage are tell-tale words, and the sequence of the two poetic images here is the same as given in the commemorative verse recorded in the Chandonusāsana. It means that to both of these authorities the two Muñja stanzas were known from a source where they appeared in this very order.¹

The evidence from the Jambūsāmicariya confirms the Chandonuśāsana stanza about Muñja's authorship of particular Apabhraṃśa verses, and it also establishes the fact that the Cūdullau-verse and the bāhajalu-verse were closely associated and along with some other verses of Muñja they formed a close group.

इतिहास और पुरातत्त्व: ९३

^{1.} It should be noted that the Gāthā-Dhavala no. 6 (kasarekkacakkaoete.) at the Jamtusāni cariya very closely resembles the Dohā-Dhavala under Siddhahema 4, 5, 350 (dhanaln bisūrai Dāmiaho etc.). they also must have a common source.