

Padmakar Draft Translation (in progress)
(Busch, Pinch, Purohit, 2011)

Chhappay.

The Diggaj join in the crescendo of howling howling.
The enemy flees in shame abandoning horses, elephants, wives, and sons.
Stooping and cowering, crying in terror, they wail in anguish.
Terrified every step (of the way), the warriors¹ high-tail it for the mountains.
Because at that moment, Padmakar – the best of poets – says, King Anupgiri approaches.
Then all at once the entire artillery lets off a massive salute. 61

Harigitika.

All at once the artillery salute was fired, all the cannons cracked.
The cluster of forts was demolished, the desperate enemy was put to flight.
Like Prithu, (who) always bestowed much wealth and won the world, his fame spread.
The *virdevali* of King Himmat Bahadur is described (herein).² 62

Bhujanyaprayaat chhand.

The crack and throb of the guns is great
like the lightning flashes of the apocalypse.
The harsh clashing pounded the hearts of the enemy,
(who) escape into the churning ocean. 63

The shots whizz by so fast
as though a swarm of bees is buzzing.
They rise into the sky and (caused) a shadow,
(forcing) the sun to shine as though through a cloud. 64

They [the cannonballs] fall to earth with widespread impact,
as though black hail roared down.
(The warriors) fire off the ‘ramachangi’³ which rattles the earth,
(and) hearing the sound of it gives the strong (enemy) army a fright. 65

The expert braves firing the ‘tamanche’ guns,
kneeling and bracing, they let fly at the targets.
Without missing a beat they discharge the ‘janjale’ cannon,
(and) as soon as they light the fuse the camel guns explode. 66

1 Mishra PG translates Padmakar’s ‘gavvi’ as ‘ghamandi’, cows. But it seems clear that ‘warriors’ is meant. PG also gives ‘pabbayan’ as ‘parvat’, mountains.

2 These last two lines are a repeat of verses 2 and 46.

3 A kind of cannon, according to Bhagvandin.

The 'ganali' cannon that roared like thunder
 makes the eavesdropping thunderclouds feel ashamed.
 The 'mungeri' cannon fires off (and sends shot) high in the sky,
 like an enormous demon piercing the heavens. 67

Suddenly all at once there is a huge blast,
 as though Indra's mace has fallen to earth.
 Or perhaps it is really (loose) wheels (falling) from a convoy of celestial chariots,
 or the beautiful broken trunks of elephants.⁴ 68

Suddenly the great rockets⁵ are launched,
 which fly like an angry swarm of serpents.
 Their burning embers (even in flight) will not cool down,
 they burn everything all over the distant horizon. 69

Then the 'chadare' guns are fired with a great reverberation,
 SMASH CRASH QUAKE SHAKE.
 The green warriors flee the firing of the 'serbacche' muskets
 They abandon their families and are thoroughly beaten. 70

The discharge of the 'sippe' guns (causes) wide carnage,
 the enemy all hides, there is no sign of them anywhere.
 The 'karavin'⁶ are fired off and braves are hit,
 the elephants' backs⁷ are broken and they rise up in a stampede. 71

The firing of the cannons awakens 'dhaa, dhaa, dhadhaa, dhaai' [booming noises]
 'dharadhar, dharadhar, dhara' begins [rapidfire cannon noises].
 The strapping braves are firing away,
 And are raising a 'bharabhar bharabhar bhara' ruckus.⁸ 72

All the 'arabo' cannon are fired off at once,
 or perhaps Indra angrily casts down a great thunderbolt.
 Or perhaps the seven oceans are churning,
 or perhaps the doomsday clouds are rumbling tumbling. 73

4 Is this in reference to the 'Diggaj', whose grip on the horizon was dislodged in v. 60?

5 'mahabanvali', a kind of massive fireworks rocket.

6 Mishra PG defines this as a small gun

7 'kandh' (shoulders) is here translated as 'backs'.

8 The repeated words in this verse are all onomatopoeia sounds connoting explosions, shaking and quaking, and the cracking of artillery fire.

Hearing these noises all the enemy takes flight,
they can't even hold onto their self respect.
They don't even care for their sons and wives,
(they are) falling and stumbling in their pell mell escape. 74

They are falling all over themselves (to flee),
(their) ocean of sorrow knows no bounds.
(Their) beautiful women are driven into caves,
where they are devoured by lions and tigers. 75

Chhappay.

The horizon is adorned with the beautiful royal umbrellas (of Anupgiri).⁹
In every direction even the seasoned warriors are stuttering.
The enemy host in unison leaves off fighting and gazes upon your feet for mercy.
The cavalry and infantry cross the ocean of happiness (in your presence).
(The enemy's) valor has been scattered helter skelter and the way to victory is blocked.
(All this occurs) when Lord-King Anupgiri appears and his forces bellow a war cry. 76

⁹ The impression being given here is that Anupgiri himself is arriving on the scene, and the enemy is cowed as a result.