

5. CHRONOLOGY OF THE KUṢĀN DYNASTY OF NORTHERN INDIA.

Cheltenham.

December 16, 1901.

MY DEAR PROFESSOR RHYS DAVIDS,—I shall be obliged if you can spare a little space in the January number of the *Journal* for the announcement that I believe myself to be so fortunate as to have solved the long-debated problem of the Kuṣān chronology.

The known dates are :—

Kaniṣka, from	5	to	28.
Huviṣka, „	29	„	60.
Vāsudeva, „	74	„	98.

These dates are, I think, expressed in the *Laukika* or *Saptarshi* Era of *Kaśmīr*, the millenniums and centuries being omitted in accordance with the practice of the *Rājatarāṅginī*.

The corresponding dates are :—

<i>King.</i>	<i>Laukika.</i>	<i>Kālī Yuga.</i>	A.D. ¹
Kaniṣka ..	[32]05 + 25	= 3230	= 129-130
„ ..	[32]28 „	= 3253	= 154-155 ²
Huviṣka ..	[32]29 „	= 3254	= 155-156 ²
„ ..	[32]60 „	= 3285	= 184-185
Vāsudeva ..	[32]74 „	= 3299	= 198-199
„ ..	[32]98 „	= 3323	= 222-223

I have worked out this result in detail, after consideration of all the principal writings on this subject, including the recent essays of Messrs. Bhandarkar, Boyer, Sylvain Lévi, and Specht.

I hope on another occasion, in due course, to convince others, as I have convinced myself, that my solution is in conformity with the Chinese, epigraphic, numismatic, and monumental evidence—or, in other words, that it satisfies all the conditions of the problem.—Yours sincerely,

VINCENT A. SMITH.

¹ “ *Book of Indian Eras*,” Table xvii.

² The table gives the figures as stated, but I should have expected 152-153 and 153-154.