

CUMHUR TANRIVER – MEHMET YILMAZ

A DEDICATION TO AUGUSTUS

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The inscription presented here was found and copied in the village Karanfilli located north of Alabanda in Caria and is now preserved in the Aydın Museum. The text is engraved on a marble quadrangular altar with mouldings at top and bottom. Height 0.475, width 0.29, thickness 0.27; letter-height 0.017.



Ἡ κώμη ἡ Ο-
 λυνδων-
 δρέων (?) Αὐ-
 4 τοκράτορι
 Καίσαρι θε-
 οῦ υἱῷ θεῶ
 Σεβαστῶ.

“The village of Olyndondra (? dedicated this) to the god *Imperator Caesar Divi f. Augustus*.”

The village, which seems to have been situated in the territory of Alabanda, has not yet been attested. From the genitive plural Ολυνδωνδρεων one could derive the nominative of an ethnicon Ολυνδωνδρεύς from a toponym Ολυνδωνδρα.¹ The existence of the name Ωνδρα (Ωνδρεύς)² in Caria leads one to speculate that Ολυνδωνδρα could be a combination of two toponyms: Ολυνδ-³ and Ωνδρα. However, the possibility that the village had two names, i.e., Ολυνδων Δρεων, cannot be ruled out.

The inscription is to be dated between 27 B.C., the year when Octavianus received the title Augustus,⁴ and 14 A.D.

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¹ Cf. Εύλανδρα in Phrygia (Ch. Schuler, *Ländliche Siedlungen und Gemeinden im hellenistischen und römischen Kleinasien*, 1998, 304: Εύλα[νδρέων/δρηγῶν] δήμος with earlier bibliography).

² See W. Blümel, *EA* 30, 1998, 182 with two instances both from Lagina. One of them (*I.v.Stratonikeia* II,1, 614), however, can also be restored as [Ολυνδ]ωνδρεύς in the light of our inscription.

³ Probably Ολυνδ/α/ (for attestations of Carian toponyms with the widespread element -νδ- see W. Blümel, *op. cit.*, 183).

⁴ See D. Kienast, *Römische Kaisertabelle*, 1996², 63.