

MURAT AYDAŞ

TWO NEW INSCRIPTIONS FROM STRATONIKEIA IN CARIA

aus: *Epigraphica Anatolica* 40 (2007) 33–34

© Dr. Rudolf Habelt GmbH, Bonn



## TWO NEW INSCRIPTIONS FROM STRATONIKEIA IN CARIA



1. Marble, pedimental stele in two joining pieces. It has been unearthed during the excavation of a tomb in 2006 at Hankuyu *Mevkii* in the territory of Yeniköy, NE of Stratonikeia. Height 1.05; width 0.43; thickness 0.10; letter-height 0.025 m.

Date: third century B.C.? (letter-forms).

Ἐνθάδε κεῖ-  
ται ἱερεὺς  
Δήμητρος·  
4 ὃς ἂν ἀδική-  
σει, ἐπικατά-  
ρατος ἔστω  
8 ἀπὸ τῆς Δήμ-  
ητρος καὶ θε-  
ῶν.

“Here lies a priest of Demeter. Anyone who does wrong against (the stele?), let him be accursed by Demeter and (the other) gods.”

It is interesting to note that the name of the deceased is not recorded. Because of his service as her priest, in the imprecation Demeter’s name has particularly been distinguished from the group of the gods<sup>1</sup>.

The adjective ἐπικατάρατος<sup>2</sup> is relatively rare in funerary maledictions: cf. J. Strubbe, *Arai Epitymbioi. Imprecations against Desecrators of the Grave in the Greek Epitaphs of Asia Minor. A Catalogue*, I.K. 52, 1997, 32 (... γενήσεται παρὰ θεοῖς καὶ ἀνθρώποις ἐπικατάρατος ... [Teos; 2<sup>nd</sup>–3<sup>rd</sup> cent. A.D.]), 76 (... ἦτω ἐπικατάρατος ταῖς προγεγραμμέναις ἀραῖς ... [Halikarnassos; 2<sup>nd</sup>–3<sup>rd</sup> cent. A.D.]), 141 (... ἦτω ἐπικατάρατος μετὰ τῶν συνελθέντων [Nikomedeia; after 212 A.D.]) with discussion whether the term was in favour with Christians and Jews<sup>3</sup> and 228 (... ἔσται δὲ ἐπικατάρατος τούτου ... [Ayvacık in Phrygia; 2<sup>nd</sup>–3<sup>rd</sup> cent. A.D.]).

2. Lower part of a marble stele which was found at Börtükçü (Koliorga) in 2004. Height 0.37; width 0.35; thickness 0.05; letter-height 0.015 to 0.020 m.

Date: early imperial period (letter-forms).

\* It is a pleasure to thank Prof. A. Tırpan and Dr. B. Söğüt for their kind permission to publish these inscriptions.

<sup>1</sup> On the cult of Demeter in Stratonikeia see *IvStratonikeia*, 283, 543, 545, 1124, cf. also note on 1317.

<sup>2</sup> For the term see L. Robert, *Hellenica* VII, 66–7 and *CRAI* 1978, 247ff. [= *OMS* V, 703ff.], cf. also ὑποκατάρατος attested only at Prynnessos (J. Strubbe, *Arai Epitymbioi*, nos. 247–8 and 261).

<sup>3</sup> Cf. L. Robert, *loc. cit.* and G. H. R. Horsley, *New Documents Illustrating Early Christianity* I, 1981, p. 101.



[ ἄνδρα]  
[ἀγ]αθὸ[ν γενόμε]-  
νον καὶ στρατη-  
γήσαντα ἐπάν-  
4 δρος καὶ ταμιεύ-  
σαντα καὶ πρυτα-  
νεύσαντα ἴσως  
καὶ δικαίως, ζήσαν-  
8 τα σωφρόνως.

“... a good man, who served as *strategos* bravely<sup>4</sup>, as *tamias* and *prytanis* fairly and justly and lived temperately<sup>5</sup>”.

The honorand is praised both for his services as *strategos*, *tamias*, *prytanis* and for his temperateness during his lifetime (all these three offices are already attested in Stratonikeia). The inscription must have started with something like ὁ δῆμος ἔθαψεν τὸν δεῖνα, the wording which is common in such *post mortem* honorific inscriptions found in or around the city of Stratonikeia<sup>6</sup>.

### Özet

Makalede, Karia'nın Stratonikeia kenti arazisinde bulunmuş olan iki grekçe yazıt incelenmektedir:

1- Bunlardan ilki bir Demeter rahibine ait bir mezar stelidir. İ.Ö. III. (?) yüzyıla ait olduğu düşünülen yazıtta, ölen rahibin adının verilmemesi ve lanetleme formülü dikkat çekicidir. Yazıtın çevirisi şöyledir: “Burada bir Demeter rahibi yatıyor. Her kim bu stele (?) zarar verirse, (tanrıça) Demeter ve diğer tanrıların gazabına uğrayacaktır”.

2- Erken imparatorluk dönemine ait olması gereken diğer yazıt ise bir stelin alt parçası üzerinde yer almakta ve burada, Stratonikeia'da üst düzey görevlerde (komutan, hazine görevlisi ve yönetici) bulunmuş bir kişi ölümünden sonra (*post mortem*) onurlandırılmaktadır. Yazıtın korunan kısmında şu ifadeler yer almaktadır: “... iyi bir adam olan ve cesurca komutanlık eden ve hazine ve kent yöneticiliği görevlerini dürüst ve adil bir şekilde yerine getiren ve onurlu bir yaşam süren ...”.

Aydın

Murat Aydaş

<sup>4</sup> For the qualification of ἐπάνδρος cf. TAM V, 2, 582 (ἐν τοῖς πολέμοις ἐπάνδρος ἀγωνισάμενον); *IvArykanda* ([πρ]υτανεύσαντα καθα[ρῶς καὶ] ἐπάνδρος) and SEG 45, 1825, Patara (ἡγησάμενον ἐπάνδρος).

<sup>5</sup> For the moral terms σόφρων, σωφρονέω and σωφροσύνη see M. Wörle, *Chiron* 20, 1990, 49.

<sup>6</sup> See e.g. *IvStratonikeia*, 1205 (ὁ δῆμος καὶ ἡ βουλὴ καὶ ἡ γερουσία ἐστεφάνωσεν καὶ ἔθαψεν), 1206 ([ὁ] δῆμος ἔθαψεν), 1208 (ὁ δῆμος [καὶ ἡ βουλὴ] καὶ ἡ ἱερά [γερουσία] ... ἔθαψεν), 1209 (ἡ βουλὴ καὶ ὁ δῆμος καὶ αἱ ἱεραὶ γερουσίαι ἐτίμησαν καὶ ἔθαψαν), 1329–1333 (ὁ δῆμος ἔθαψεν).