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THREE NEW INSCRIPTIONS FROM TRIPOLIS

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### THREE NEW INSCRIPTIONS FROM TRIPOLIS\*

The inscriptions presented below are some of the epigraphic finds which have been unearthed during the excavations at Yenice, the site of Tripolis. Little is known about this city which is situated between the limits of Lydia, Caria and Phrygia<sup>1</sup>. It bore the names Apollonia, Antonionopolis and Tripolis<sup>2</sup>. Pliny (*Naturalis Historia* 5.111) and Hierocles (669) attribute the city to Lydia while according to Ptolemy (5.15) it belonged to Caria. However, an epigram from Yenice defines the city as “Maionian” (Μαιονίη Τρίπολις)<sup>3</sup>, the fact that leads one to assume that its population was of Lydian origin. It is hoped that the excavations at Yenice will shed more light on the history of the city.

#### 1. *Post mortem* Public Honours to a *stephanephoros*

Marble statue-base unearthed during the 2007 campaign. At a later period it was reused in a wall. Height 1.53, width 0.59, thickness 0.46 (min.), letter height 0.03 to 0.038 m.

Date: a few years before 134–5 A.D.

ή βουλὴ καὶ ὁ δ[ῆ]-  
μος ἐτείμησεν  
Δημήτριον Κώ- leaf  
4 κου Ἴνδρωνά ἡ-  
ρωα τὸν δι' αἰῶνος  
στεφανηφόρον  
ἀλείφοντα τὸ ιβ'  
8 ἐπὶ ἀρχόντων leaf  
τῶν περὶ Τι. Κλ. Του-  
ενδιανὸν Μάγνον  
Χαρίδημον· ἐπιμε-  
12 ληθέντος τῆς κα-  
τασκευῆς τοῦ ἀν-  
δριάντος καὶ τῆς  
ἀναστάσεως Στα-  
16 τελίου Παπίου β'  
τοῦ Ἰδράστου Ἰρμο-  
γενιανοῦ γυμνασι-  
άρχου.

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<sup>1</sup> For the location of Tripolis see J. Keil – A. v. Premerstein, *Bericht über eine dritte Reise in Lydien und den angrenzenden Gebieten Ioniens* (1914) 51–2.

<sup>2</sup> On the history and the names of the city see Ch. Habicht, *JHS* 65, 1975, 83–4; G. M. Cohen, *The Hellenistic Settlements in Europe, the Islands, and Asia Minor* (1995), 199–201 and P. J. Thonemann, *EA* 36, 2003, 100–2.

<sup>3</sup> R. Merkelbach – J. Stauber, *Steinepigramme aus dem griechischen Osten I* (1998), 257 no. 02/10/01.



No. 1



No. 2

5 On the name Κῶκος see L. Robert, *Noms ind.*, 312ff., cf. also *TAM V*, 2, 1104 (Thyateira).

6 For another *stephanephoros* in Tripolis/Apollonia see R. Sherk, *ZPE* 93, 1992, 252, no. 191.

*“In the term of the archons around Ti. Cl. Tuendianus Magnus Charidemos, the Council and the People honoured Demetrios Andron, son of Kokos, the hero, perpetual stephanephoros, who supplied oil (for the gymnasium) twelve times. The project and the erection of the statue were*

*superintended by Statilius Hermogenianos, son of Papias, grandson of Papias, great-grandson of Adrastos, the gymnasiarch.”*

Ti(berius) Cl(audius) Tuendianus Charidemos, the eponymous archon, is probably the same person as the man who appears as the chief priest of the province of Asia in an inscription from Ephesos dating from 134–5 A.D.<sup>4</sup> The new inscription supplies the additional information that he was a native of the city of Tripolis and that he served as the first archon before his promotion to the chief priesthood.

## 2. Base for the Statue of a Boxer

Marble statue base unearthed during the campaign of 2007. Height 1.01, width 0.47, thickness 0.435, letter height 0.019 to 0.024 m. Kept in the Denizli Museum. Inv. No. E. 4621.

Date: towards the end of the 2<sup>nd</sup> century A.D. (Marci Aurelii)

M. Αὐρ. Μέναν-  
 δρος Μενάν-  
 δρου τοῦ Φι-  
 4 λάνορος νει-  
 κήσας πυγμῆν  
 τὸν πρώτως πα-  
 ρ' ἡμεῖν ἀχθέν-  
 8 τα ἀγῶνα τῶν  
 μεγάλων Ἄτ-  
 ταλιανείων Ὀ-  
 λυμπίων, πρώ-  
 12 του ἀθλοθέτου  
 καὶ ἀγωνοθέτου  
 διὰ βίου Μ. Αὐρ.  
 Ἄτταλιανοῦ  
 16 πανκρατιαστοῦ  
 παραδόξου.

*“M. Aur. Menandros, son of Menandros, grandson of Philanor, who won in the boxing discipline in the contest of the Great Attalianeia Olympia, which was first held in our city, when M. Aur. Attalianos was the first prize giver and agonothes for life, the distinguished pankratiast.”*

The base (probably with a statue) was erected by the city of Tripolis (παρ' ἡμεῖν) to honour the athlete M. Aur. Menandros as the victor in the boxing contest of the *Great Attalianeia Olympia* which are otherwise unknown (see also the following inscription). The name *Attalianeia* should probably be interpreted as taking its name from M. Aur. Attalianos, a distinguished (παρά-

<sup>4</sup> See *Die Inschriften von Ephesos* II, 279: ἐργεπιστατήσαντος Τιβερίου Κλαυδίου Τουενδιανοῦ Μάγνου Χαριδήμου φιλοσεβάστου καὶ ἀρχιερέως τῆς Ἀσίας ναοῦ τοῦ ἐν Ἐφέσῳ, cf. also M. D. Campanile, *I sacerdoti del koinòn d'Asia (I sec. a.C.–III sec. d.C.). Contributo allo studio della romanizzazione delle élites provinciali nell'Oriente greco* (Pisa 1994), 83–84, no. 70.

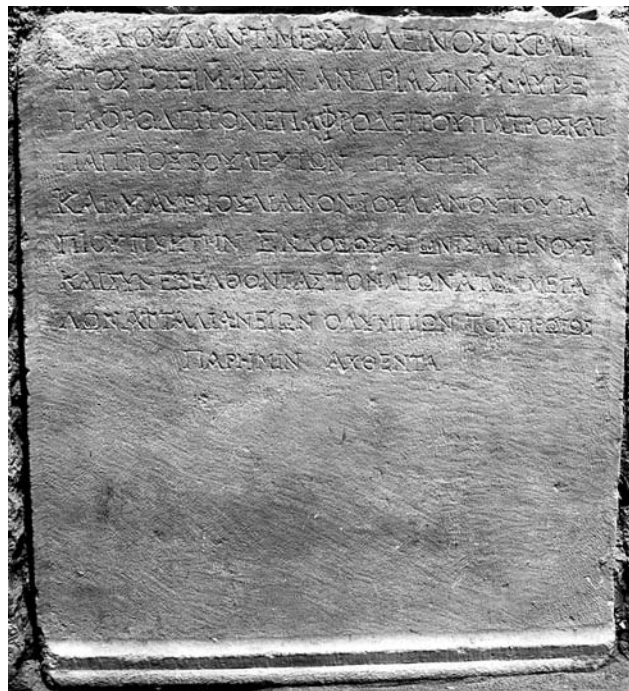
δοξος<sup>5</sup>) pankratiast, who was the first person who awarded and financed the prizes for the victors and became life director of the games<sup>6</sup>.

The qualification of such a local contest as *Olympia* is notable. This title refers either to Zeus (Olympios) or to an isolympic contest<sup>7</sup>. As it is hard to believe that such a local ἀγών of Tripolis would have the isolympic status, the title *Olympia* should be connected with Zeus.

### 3. Private Honours to Two Boxers

Marble *basis* which was unearthed during the campaign of 2009. In a later period it was reused in a wall. Height 0.89, width 0.80, thickness ?, letter-height 0.017 to 0.025 m.

Date: towards the end of the 2<sup>nd</sup> century A.D. (Marci Aurelii).



- [Μ. Αἴ]λ. Οὐλ. Ἄντ. Μεσσαλεῖνος ὁ κράτι-  
 στος ἐτείμησεν ἀνδριάσιν Μ. Αὐρ. Ἐ-  
 παφρόδειτον Ἐπαφροδείτου, πατρός καὶ  
 4 πάππου βουλευτῶν, πύκτην  
 καὶ Μ. Αὐρ. Ἰουλιανὸν Ἰουλιανοῦ τοῦ Πα-  
 πίου, πύκτην, ἐνδόξως ἀγωνισαμένους  
 καὶ συνεξεληθόντας τὸν ἀγῶνα τῶν μεγά-  
 8 λων Ἀτταλιανείων Ὀλυμπίων τὸν πρῶτως  
 παρ' ἡμῶν ἀχθέντα.

<sup>5</sup> For the term see recently G. Petzl, *TAM* V, 3, 1511, commentary on lines 7–8 (“über alle Erwartung hinaus”).

<sup>6</sup> For such private foundations of games cf. for instance *Adrasteia* and *Callicrateia* (Aphrodisias), *Marianeia* (Ephesos), *Demostheneia* (Oinoanda), *Meleagria* (Balbura), *Artemidoreia* (Knidos) etc.

<sup>7</sup> See for instance J.-Y. Strasser (*EA* 37, 2004, 140) who points out that the qualification as *Olympia* does not necessarily point to an isolympic rank.

1 It is not possible to know the full name of Messalinus. Before *lambda* there is a space of three letters for the abbreviations of his *praenomen* and *nomen* (e.g. [Π. Αῖ]λ. or [Μ. Αῖ]λ. or [Τι. Κ]λ. ?). Likewise it is hard to resolve the abbreviations Οὔλ. and Ἀντ. (*cognomina* or *gentilicia* ?) with certainty.

“[...]. Ulp. Ant. Messalinus, the most excellent man (*vir egregius* ?), honoured with statues M. Aurelius Epaphrodeitos, son of Epaphrodeitos, father and grandfather of councillors, a boxer, and M. Aur. Iulianus, son of Iulianus and grandson of Papias, a boxer, the men who contended gloriously and left (the ring) together (after a drawn fight) in the contest of the Great Attalaneia Olympia, which was first held in our city.”

Messalinus honours two boxers who fought ἐνδόξως against each other in a boxing match at the first Great Attalaneia Olympia (probably they were two of the opponents of M. Aur. Menandros, the victor in the boxing discipline honoured in the preceding inscription). Epaphrodeitos and Iulianus, the boxers of this inscription, had waived the fighting by agreeing to a draw and left the ring together (συνεξελεθῆν). In an agonistic inscription from Magnesia ad Maeandrum a pankratiast is praised as μήτε ἱερὰν ποτε ποιήσας μήτε συνεξελεθῶν<sup>8</sup>. According to L. Moretti the term συνεξελεθῆν in this context means to leave the ring together after a joint decision of the competitors, while ἱερὰν ποιεῖν signifies a draw as the decision of judges who relinquish the victory to the divinity<sup>9</sup>.

### Özet

Makalede, Lydia, Phrygia ve Karia Bölgeleri'nin sınırlarının birleştiği bölgede, Buldan'ın doğusundaki Yenice yakınlarında yer alan Tripolis'te ele geçen üç heykel kaidesi tanıtılmaktadır. Hakkında çok bilgi bulunmayan Tripolis, Plinius (*Naturalis Historia* 5.111) ve Hierokles (669) tarafından bir Lydia yerleşimi olarak tanımlanırken, Ptolemaios (5.15) kenti Karia'ya yerleştirir. Yenice'de kopyalanan bir mezar şiiirinde ise Tripolis'in bir Maionia yerleşimi olduğu kaydedilmiştir.

Tripolis'te yürütülen kazılarda 2007 ve 2009 yıllarında, Roma İmparatorluk Devri'ne tarihlenen cadde üzerindeki bir duvarda tekrar kullanılmış durumda ele geçen ve burada tanıtılan üç yazıt, kent hakkındaki bilgilerimize hayli katkı sağlamaktadır. İ.S. 134-5 yılından hemen önceye tarihlenen ilk yazıt, bir *stephanephoros* olan Demetrios Andron adlı kişinin, ölümünden sonra meclis ve halk tarafından onurlandırılmasını kaydetmektedir. Bu onurlandırmanın yapıldığı dönemde görevli bulunan *arkhon*'ların lideri olarak adı geçen Ti(berius) Cl(audius) Tuendianus Kharidemos'un, Ephesos'da bulunmuş olan bir yazıttan Asia eyaletindeki İmparatorluk kültürünün başrahibi olduğu bilinmekteydi. Anlaşılan, Tripolis vatandaşı olan Kharidemos, kenti için ifa ettiği görevlerden sonra Asia başrahipliğine kadar yükselmişti. İ.S. 2. yüzyılın sonlarına tarihlenen diğer iki yazıt ise, kentte düzenlenen ve bugüne kadar hakkında herhangi bir bilgi sahibi olmadığımız Büyük Attalaneia Olympia oyunlarına katılan sporcuların onurlandırılmasını kaydetmektedir. Olympia olarak adlandırılmasına karşın yerel bir sportif yarışma olması kuvvetle muhtemel olan bu oyunlar, adını ikinci yazıtta adı geçen “ünlü pankreas güreşçisi” M(arcus)

<sup>8</sup> O. Kern, *Die Inschriften von Magnesia am Maeander*, no. 180.15-16.

<sup>9</sup> L. Moretti, *Iscrizioni agonistiche greche* (Rome 1953), no. 71 (= O. Kern, *op. cit.*, no. 180.15-16.), cf. also *LSJ Suppl.* s.v. συνεξέρχομαι, “step out of the ring together after a drawn fight” quoting the same inscription and *LSJ*, s.v. ἱερός, IV.7 with some other instances of ἱερὰν ποιεῖν.

Aur(elius) Attalios'dan almaktaydı ve bu oyunlar ilk defa Tripolis kenti tarafından düzenlenmişti.

Yazıtların çevirisi şöyledir:

1- *“Ti. Cl. Touendianus Magnus Kharidemos’un arkhonlar’ın başkanlığını yaptığı dönemde, Meclis ve Halk, ebedi stephanephoros olan ve (gymnasion’a) on iki kez zeytinyağı bağışlamış olan Kokos oğlu kahraman (merhum) Demetrios Andron’u onurlandırdı. Heykelin yaptırılıp dikilmesi işini, Adrastos’un torunun oğlu, Papias’ın torunu ve Papias’ın oğlu olan gymnasion başkanı Statilius Hermogenianos üstlendi”.*

2- *“Ünlü pankreas güreşçisi M. Aur. Attalios’un ilk olarak ödüllerin finansını sağladığı ve yarışmaların ömür boyu başkanı olduğu sırada, ilk defa şehrimiz tarafından organize edilmiş olan Büyük Attalioaneia Olympia yarışmalarında boks karşılaşmasını kazanan, Philanor’un torunu, Menandros’un oğlu M. Aur. Menandros”.*

3- *“[...] Ulp. Ant. Messalinus, ilk defa şehrimiz tarafından organize edilen Büyük Attalioaneia Olympia yarışmalarında muhteşem bir şekilde mücadele eden ve berabere kalan, meclis üyelerinin babası ve dedesi olan Epaphrodeitos’un oğlu boksör M. Aurelius Epaphrodeitos’u ve Papias’ın torunu, Ioulios’un oğlu boksör M. Aurelius Ioulios’u heykellerle onurlandırdı”.*