

FUNDA ERTUĞRUL

SOME NEW INSCRIPTIONS FROM TRALLEIS AND APHRODISIAS

aus: *Epigraphica Anatolica* 41 (2008) 87–90

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## SOME NEW INSCRIPTIONS FROM TRALLEIS AND APHRODISIAS\*

### 1 Honour to a Priest of Dionysos Bakchios



Upper piece of a rounded base of marble, subsequently pierced to be used as a curbstone for a well. On top, the hole is surrounded by another inscription in modern Greek engraved in 1885–1886. Found in Aydın (Tralleis) and kept in the Aydın Museum. Diam. 1.01; height 0.24; letter-height 0.02 m.

Date: Late Hellenistic or early imperial period.

ὁ δῆμος Παγκρατίδην Βρίτωνος  
τὸν ἱερέα τοῦ Διονύσου τοῦ Βακχίου  
ἀρετῆς ἔνεκεν καὶ εὐνοίας τῆς εἰς ἑαυτόν.

*“The people (honoured) Pankratides, son of Briton, priest of Dionysos Bakchios, on account of his excellence and goodwill towards them”.*

The existence a temple of Dionysos Bakchios in Tralleis is known from the well-known Roman copy of a mid-fourth century B.C. *asylia*-inscription<sup>1</sup>. The new inscription now eliminates all doubts about its attribution to Tralleis<sup>2</sup>.

The rare name Βρίθων, which belongs to the names formed with Βριθου- (from βριθός “heavy”)<sup>3</sup>, is attested in *IvTralleis*, 153 and on a cistophor minted by the Trallians<sup>4</sup>.

### 2 Building-inscription

Left part of an architectural block (an architrave ?) with decoration found in Aydın (Tralleis) and kept in the Aydın museum. Height 0.37; width 1.40; thickness 0.39; letter-height 0.045 m.

Date: Roman imperial period.

-]εν ὁ ἀσιάρχης Κύδωρος ὑπὲρ στεφανη[φορίας

\* I would like to thank H. Malay for his help during my work on this article.

<sup>1</sup> *IvTralleis*, 3, cf. also 5 and 13.

<sup>2</sup> See K. J. Rigsby, *Territorial Inviolability in the Hellenistic World* (1996), 416–7.

<sup>3</sup> See F. Bechtel, *Die historischen Personennamen des Griechischen bis zur Kaiserzeit*, 101.

<sup>4</sup> F. Imhoof-Blumer, *Kleinasiatische Münzen* (1974), 186, no. 1 (cf. L. Robert, *Étud. épigr. phil.*, 197 [*non vidi*]).



Kydoros, the asiarch, paid for a construction as *summa honoraria* for the office of *stephanephoria*. The preserved letters -]εν should be the end of a verb like ἀνέθηκεν or κατεσκεύασεν which may have been preceded by a term referring to the building itself.

The asiarch Kydoros is otherwise unknown (for other asiarchs appearing in the inscriptions of this city see *IvTralleis*, 67, 69, 73 and 141)<sup>5</sup>. The name Κύδωρος has not yet been attested in Tralleis. For its two appearances in Caria see W. Blümel, *EA* 16, 1990, 32 (= *IvMylasa*, 12) and *IvRhod. Peraia*, 701.

### 3 Funerary Inscription for Stasimenes



Part of a marble sarcophagus with garlands and bucrania. It has been found in Aydın (Tralleis). Height 0.70; width 2.10; thickness 0.87; letter-height 0.05 m.

Date: Roman imperial period.

ἡ σορὸς Στασιμένους

The name Στασιμένης is rare and it belongs to the group formed with Στησι- (from στῆσαι); see F. Bechtel, *op. cit.*, 406, cf. also *IvPriene*, 313.401.

### 4 Dedication of an Eagle to Zeus

Marble image of an eagle. The head and some parts of the wings are missing. The inscription is engraved on its base. The relief was brought from the village Dedeler located 16 kms NW of Aphrodisias (for another eagle found in the same village together with this one see the following *lemma*). It is now in the Aydın Museum. Height 0.55; width 0.25; letter-height 0.02 m.

Date: Roman imperial period.

θεῷ Διὶ  
Ἄδραστος ἀνέθη-  
κε.

<sup>5</sup> On asiarchs see M. Rossner, *Studia Clasice* XVI, 1974, 101–142.



Both the form θεῶ Δί and the sculptural work remind one of the dedication of two eagles seen in İzmir but supposedly originating from Aydın: Διογένης Ὀρθι[-]/ος θεῶ Διὶ εὐχα/ριστῶν τούτους / δὺ' ἀετοὺς ἀνέ/θηκε<sup>6</sup>. The formula θεῶ Δί has been interpreted as a Latinism corresponding to *deo Iovi*<sup>7</sup>.

For some other dedications of eagles see G. Petzl, *IvSmyrna* II, 1, no. 753.17 (mention of a marble altar of Zeus with an eagle on it: βωμὸς μαρμάρινος ἔχων ἀετὸν ἐν ἑαυτῷ Διός) and II, 2, no. XL with bibliography (cf. also the following *lemma*).

#### 5 Dedication of an Eagle to Zeus

Marble image of an eagle. The head and the upper parts of the wings are missing. The inscription is engraved on its base. It was found together with the eagle of the preceding *lemma* at the same village and transferred to the Aydın Museum on the same occasion. Height 0.34; width 0.28; letter-height 0.02 m.

Date: Roman imperial period.

Μελτίνη Διεὶ  
εὐχὴν.

<sup>6</sup> See *IvTralleis*, 4 (with a drawing by Pappakonstantinu) with earlier bibliography.

<sup>7</sup> See A. B. Cook, *Zeus. A Study in Ancient Religion*, 958.



### Özet

Makalede, Aydın Arkeoloji Müzesi'nde yer alan 5 adet Grekçe yazıt ele alınmaktadır. Bunlardan ilk üçü Aydın merkezinde (Tralleis), diğer ikisi ise Aphrodisias'ın kuzeybatısındaki Dedeler köyünde bulunmuştur.

1- Sonraki devirlerde kuyu bileziği olarak kullanılmış olan bu kaide parçası üzerinde geç Hellenistik ya da erken imparatorluk dönemlerine tarihlenebilecek olan şu yazıt yer almaktadır: “*Halk, Dionysos Bakkhios’un rahibi olan, Briton oğlu Pankratides’i erdemli ve kendine karşı olan iyi niyetli olması nedeniyle (onurlandırdı)*”. Aydın’da, İ.Ö. IV. yüzyıl ortalarına ait olan ve kentteki Dionysos Bakkhios tapınağının *asylia* (dokunulmazlık) alanını belirleyen bir yazıtın bir Roma devri kopyası bulunmuş olmakla birlikte, bu yazıtın Tralleis’e ait olup olmadığı konusunda kuşklar bulunmaktaydı. Ancak yazıtımız bu kuşkları ortadan kaldırmaktadır.

2- Bezemeli bir yapı elemanı (arşitrav ?) üzerinde yer alan ve Roma imparatorluk dönemine ait olan bu yazıttan, Kydoros adındaki bir imparatorluk kültü rahibinin *stephanephoros* olabilmek için bağış olarak (*summa honoraria*) Tralleis’de bir bina yaptırdığı anlaşılmaktadır.

3- Girlandlı bir lahit parçası üzerindeki bu Roma imparatorluk devri yazıtından, lahdin Stasi-menes adındaki bir erkeğe ait olduğu anlaşılmaktadır.

4- Kuşkusuz Aphrodisias sınırları içinde kalan Dedeler köyünde ele geçen ve her ikisi de Roma imparatorluk dönemine ait olan Zeus kartallarından biri üzerinde şunlar yazılıdır: “*Adrastos bu heykeli Tanrı Zeus için yaptırdı*”.

5- Bir kadın tarafından yaptırılan diğer kartalın kaidesinde ise şunlar okunmaktadır: “*Meltine (bu heykeli) Zeus’a adak olarak (sundu)*”.