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New Suggestions for Personal Names on a Group of 'Western Asia Minor' Balance Weights from the Roman Imperial Period at the Pera Museum

Pera Müzesi'ndeki Roma İmparatorluk Dönemi'ne Ait bir Grup 'Batı Küçük Asya' Terazisi Ağırlığı Üzerindeki Kişi Adları için Yeni Öneriler

Hüseyin Sami ÖZTÜRK* Yavuz Selim GÜLER**

Abstract: This article presents twelve lead balance weights from the Roman Imperial period at the Suna and İnan Kıraç Foundation Pera Museum. Oğuz Tekin previously published these weights in the catalog as part of the *Corpus Ponderum Antiquorum et Islamicorum* (CPAI) project, which documents the balance weights in museum collections in Türkiye. In the catalog, Tekin left the epigraphic autopsy and possible solutions for the marketplace officials mentioned on the weights for further research. For this reason, this article focuses on the epigraphy of some of these balance weights. This article reviews these inscriptions and provides *addenda* and *corrigenda* to them. The findings presented here significantly improve our comprehension of the names of the marketplace officials on the balance weights originating from 'Western Asia Minor'. The names of these new marketplace officials are as follows: 1) P. Aelius Marcellus (*corrigendum*), 2) M. Aurelius Metrodoros, 3) M. Aurelius Neratius Philometor (*corrigendum*), 4) Flavius Aristion (*corrigendum et addendum*), 5) Tib. Flavius Meliton (*corrigendum et addendum*), 6) Iulius Claudius Modestus (*corrigendum*), 7) Iulius Hermolaos and Claudius Genesis (*corrigendum*), 8) Tatianus (*corrigendum*), 9) Apollonios, Varus, Hermippos, 10) P. Aelius Hermippos (*corrigendum et addendum*), 11) Apollonios (*corrigendum*), 12) Tib. Claudius Varus (*corrigendum*).

Keywords: Ionia, Ephesos, Onomastic, *Agoranomos*, Litra/Libra, Uncia

Öz: Bu makalede Suna ve İnan Kıraç Vakfı Pera Müzesi'nde bulunan Roma İmparatorluk Dönemi'ne ait on iki kurşun terazi ağırlığı tanıtılmaktadır. Bu ağırlıkları daha önce Oğuz Tekin *Corpus Ponderum et Antiquorum et Islamicorum* (CPAI) projesi için hazırlamış olduğu, Türkiye'deki müze koleksiyonlarında yer alan terazi ağırlıklarının belgeleyen katalogta yayımlamıştır. Tekin, katalogta epigrafik otopsi ve ağırlıklarda geçen pazar yeri sorumluları için olası çözümleri daha ileride yapılacak araştırmalara bırakmıştır. Bu nedenden ötürü, bu makale bazı terazi ağırlıklarının epigrafisine odaklanmaktadır. Bu makale yazıtları yeniden gözden geçirmiştir ve bunlara *addenda* ve *corrigenda* yapmıştır. Burada sunulan bulgular, Batı Asya Minor kökenli terazi ağırlıklarının üzerinde bulunan pazar yeri sorumlularının isimlerini anlamamızı önemli ölçüde geliştirmektedir. Bu yeni 'pazar yeri sorumlularının adları şöyledir: 1) P. Aelius Marcellus (*corrigendum*), 2) M. Aurelius Metrodoros, 3) M. Aurelius Neratius Philometor (*corrigendum*), 4) Flavius Aristion (*corrigendum et addendum*), 5) Tib. Flavius Meliton (*corrigendum et addendum*), 6) Iulius Claudius Modestus (*corrigendum*), 7) Iulius Hermolaos ve Claudius Genesis (*corrigendum*), 8) Tatianus (*corrigendum*), 9) Apollonios, Varus, Hermippos, 10) P. Aelius Hermippos (*corrigendum et addendum*), 11) Apollonios (*corrigendum*), 12) Tib. Claudius Varus (*corrigendum*).

Anahtar sözcükler: Ionia, Ephesos, Onomastik, *Agoranomos*, Litra/Libra, Uncia

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Introduction

The Suna and İnan Kıraç Foundation Pera Museum Anatolian Weights and Measures Collection houses a significant number of balance weights from ‘Western Asia Minor.’ Minted in the Roman Imperial period, these weights share similar physical characteristics. They are mostly square or rectangular with a handle on the top. Typically, inscriptions are found on both sides: the obverse displays unit marks, while the reverse features the personal names of marketplace officials. The obverse with unit marks follows a uniform style. The reverse, however, exhibits a unique characteristic. Since the same reverse mold was used to produce various denominations, the personal names sometimes appear in fragments. These fragmentary inscriptions can often be completed with the aid of control stamps found on the obverse of the weights¹.

However, analyzing personal names with epigraphic corpora to find matches in inscriptions requires a delicate and lengthy process. In some instances, linking names to specific cities is facilitated by the presence of parasema on the weights, even in the absence of information about the find spot. Additionally, there are cases where the marketplace officials’ names appear in full, making it easier to associate them with known officials from inscriptions. Nonetheless, researchers often end up with only probable solutions rather than definitive answers for these personal names.

This article examines twelve lead balance weights from the Roman Imperial period at the Suna and İnan Kıraç Foundation Pera Museum. These weights were previously introduced in the catalog prepared by Oğuz Tekin for the *Corpus Ponderum et Antiquorum et Islamicorum* (CPAI) project documenting the balance weights in the museum collections in Türkiye. O. Tekin’s study on typologies and metrological assessment provided a comprehensive reference for studying balance weights in Türkiye and abroad. In the catalog entries, however, Tekin did not elaborate on the epigraphy and possible solutions for the market officials mentioned on the weights. Instead, he left the epigraphic autopsy for further research. For this reason, this article focuses on the epigraphy of these balance weights. The weights were deliberately examined over two years of research², which aimed to document the inscriptions on balance weights at the Pera

We would like to express our gratitude to M. Özalp Birol, the general manager of the Suna and İnan Kıraç Foundation Culture and Arts Enterprises, who gave us permission for the project, and Gülrü Tanman, the manager of the Suna and İnan Kıraç Foundation Istanbul Research Institute, who supported us in the study.

¹ For the discussion about the balance weights from ‘Western Asia Minor’, see Weiß 2005, 428-430; Haensch & Weiß 2005.

² The quest for the epigraphy of the balance weights began as a side project of an epigraphy project supervised by the Suna and İnan Kıraç Foundation Istanbul Research Institute. The initial effort for documenting the inscribed balance weights was titled *Pera Müzesi Yazıtlı Ağırlıklar Corpus’u* (The Corpus of the Pera Museum’s Inscribed Weights), proposed in 2011 by Hüseyin Sami Öztürk and Filiz Dönmez-Öztürk. However, it was halted due to the declining health of co-coordinator Filiz Dönmez-Öztürk, who sadly passed away in 2014. Meanwhile, Oğuz Tekin published two comprehensive catalogs on the Greek-Roman (2013) and Byzantine weights (2015) in the collection within the scope of *Corpus Ponderum Antiquorum et Islamicorum* (CPAI) project, emphasizing typologies, metrology, and offering brief epigraphic descriptions for further study. The project was resumed under the coordinators of the project, Hüseyin Sami Öztürk and Ezgi Demirhan-Öztürk, in 2019. They re-evaluated twenty-eight inscribed balance weights for an article in the new exhibition catalog titled *The Art of Weights and Measures* in the Pera Museum, but the global pandemic in early 2020 interrupted the work and the article was not included in the exhibition catalog published in 2022. Yavuz Selim Güler, the new collection supervisor, relaunched the project in January 2022. Coordinators of the project, Hüseyin Sami Öztürk and Yavuz Selim Güler, reviewed weights previously examined within the scope of the project, as well as those documented in CPAI and unpublished weights from the collection. The project was completed in November 2023. The entire collection of the three thousand seven hundred and fifty-four weights from the Hellenistic to Byzantine periods was re-examined during this research. Four hundred sixty-four weights with substantial epigraphic data were studied in detail; their previous unrecorded letter heights were documented. This catalog will be published by the Pera Museum in 2024.

Museum. This article presents a group of balance weights that have been epigraphically analyzed during the research, introducing some results that enhance our understanding of the names of the marketplace officials on the balance weights from 'Western Asia Minor'.

In the article, physical characteristics are re-defined, and the dimensions are re-measured with an addition of the letter heights for the sake of the epigraphic autopsy. For the metrology of the balance weights, new mass values are provided. Each object was weighed twice, and the average value was calculated. Latin personal names are written in Latin form, and the Greek personal names are written in transliterated Greek form.

This article provides several additions to the description of the weights introduced in CPAI. Instead of the broader 'Eastern Mediterranean/Aegean' definition in CPAI, this article suggests specific locations where the weights were minted, mainly in Western Asia Minor, especially linking them to the market officials in Ephesos with epigraphic autopsy. Furthermore, after conducting a comparative study of the epigraphic corpora, the chronology of these artifacts is now more narrowly defined as between the IInd and IIIrd centuries CE, specifically during the reigns of subsequent emperors, rather than the broader 'Roman Imperial period' classification. The dating of these items relies on relative chronology, except in cases where specific dates are supported by dated inscriptions discovered in other locations.

In terms of metrology, all the weights closely align with the Roman libra, except for those in catalog nos. 5 and 7. These are based on an earlier Greek weight standard that was utilized during the Roman Imperial period as *leitra agoraia*³.

In the epigraphic autopsy section, the weights share a more or less similar formula in their inscriptions. They feature unit marks on the obverse (side A). The weights with multiples of an uncia abbreviate these by using only the Greek numeral. In contrast, unit marks for multiples of a libra are written in their complete form. On the reverse (side B), the praenomen and nomen are typically abbreviated, while the cognomen is usually written in full. Most of these are fragmentary, a consequence of the Roman practice of using a single mold for casting weights of different sizes with the same reverse mold, resulting in fragmentary personal names. For epigraphic autopsy, countermarks are helpful in some instances⁴. However, the missing parts are often filled with probable solutions. Additionally, determining whether the inscription is in the nominative or genitive can sometimes be challenging due to missing letters.

The first section 'A Group of Lead Weights with the Personal Names of the Marketplace Officials, most probably from Ephesos' examines the balance weights, which are related to the Ephesian marketplace officials during the Roman Imperial period supported with inscriptions found in the city. Additionally, the second section of this article, titled 'A Special Group from Ephesos,' investigates a special set of balance weights that may have been produced by successive *agoranomoi*. The balance weight featuring the names Hermippos, Apollonios, and Varus in catalog no. 9 indicates that at a certain time, these three individuals jointly held the office of *agoranomos* in Ephesos. The weights bearing the individual names Hermippos in catalog no. 10, Apollonios in catalog no. 11, and Varus in catalog no. 12 may suggest that these officials either concurrently occupied the position of *agoranomos* or divided the duties, allowing each one to serve a four-month term within the year⁵.

³ For a discussion on the heavier libra used during the Roman Imperial Period, see Tekin 2015, 124-125.

⁴ For a discussion on countermarks, see Weiß 2017.

⁵ For a discussion on sharing the office of *agoranomos* in Ephesos, see Theodorou 2023, 267.

A Group of Lead Weights with the Personal Names of the Marketplace Officials, most probably from Ephesos

1) P. Aelius Marcellus (*corrigendum*)

Description: Rectangular in form with raised and beveled edges and a broken tab; worn and corroded.

(A): Letter 'A' as a unit mark rotated 90° counterclockwise overstruck with a circular stamp.

(B): Inscription in two lines.

(Stamp): A stag at the center and a star to the right surrounded with an inscription.

Inscription technique: Relief; Material: Lead.

Inv. No: PMA 3839; Date of Acquisition: 2007; Findspot: Unknown.

City: Ephesos; Region: Ionia.

Dimensions: 29 × 35 × 5 mm; LH: (A): ca. 10 mm; (B): 10 mm; (Stamp): 3 mm.

Weight: 27.01 g; 27.00 g [CPAI III 1].

Metrology: One-Uncia.

Edition: CPAI III 1, cat. no. 509.

Date: After 117 CE or IIIrd century CE.



(A)

A

(Οὐνκία) α'.

(B)

ΠΑ[---]

[---].ΛΛ[---]

Π(ουβλίου) Α[ιλίου] | [Μαρκ]έλλ[ου ἀγορανόμου].

(Stamp)

ΠΑ[---]ΚΕΛΛΟΝΑΓ

Π(ουβλίου) Α[ιλίου Μαρ]κέλλου ἀγ(ορανόμου).

Apparatus Criticus

(A-B): [ΜΑΡ]ΚΕΛΛΟΥ ΑΓΠΑ / Π Α [CPAI III 1].

(B): ἴτα(λική) [<https://pondera.uclouvain.be/artifact/2494/>].

Translation

(A): One (Uncia).

(B): (During the tenure) of *agoranomos* Publius Aelius Marcellus.

(Stamp): (During the tenure) of *agoranomos* Publius Aelius Marcellus.

Commentary

The stag as a parasemon on the stamp suggests that the balance weight was minted in Ephesos⁶. The inscription surrounding the stag in one row is fragmentary. In light of the 'ΠΑ' in line 1 on side B, 'ΠΑ' on the left of the parasemon should be the beginning of the personal name and the abbreviation of the praenomen 'Publius' and the nomen gentile 'Aelius'. The fragmentary part of the cognomen is '[- -]ΚΕΛΛΟΥ' which can be solved as Marcellus in the genitive. The title '*agoranomos*' following the personal name was abbreviated with 'ΑΓ'. Publius Aelius Marcellus, who has been documented for the first time, served as an *agoranomos* in Ephesos. Although Marcellus is a common cognomen found frequently throughout the Roman Empire and Asia Minor, the nomen gentile Aelius was granted to his parents, probably during or after the reign of emperor Hadrianus. Therefore, this one-uncia weight should have been minted after 117 CE and a relative chronology between from the first quarter of the IInd-IIIrd centuries CE can be given.

2) M. Aurelius Metrodoros

Description: Thick arrow in form with beveled edges; herringbone pattern on the profile; worn and corroded.

(A): Inscription in three lines with circular stamp on the tab.

(B): Blank.

(Stamp): Circular stamp of an inscription in three lines within dotted border.

Inscription technique: Relief; Material: Lead.

Inv. No: PMA 3539; Date of Acquisition: 2007; Findspot: Unknown.

City: Ephesos (?); Region: Ionia (?).

Dimensions: 46 × 79 × 18 mm; LH: (A): 12 mm; (Stamp): 3 mm.

Weight: 320.07 g; 320.10 g [CPAI III 1].

Metrology: One-Libra.

Edition: CPAI III 1, cat. no. 410.

Date: 161-180 or after 212 CE.

⁶ For more examples of stag as a parasemon of Ephesos, see Killen 2017 235-236; for examples of balance weights with a stag parasemon, see Tekin 2015, 104-108.



(A)

ΛΞ

ΤΡ

Α

ΛΞ<ί>ΤΡΑ.

(Stamp)

ΜΗ

ΤΡΟΔ

ΩΡΟΥ

Μητροδώρου.

Apparatus Criticus

(Stamp): ΜΗ/ΤΡΟΔ/ΩΡΟΥ [CPAI III 1].

Translation

(A): (One) Libra.

(B): (During the tenure) of Metrodoros.

Commentary

The cognomen of the marketplace official appears on the stamp struck on side A. This inscription in three-lines refers to Metrodoros in the genitive. A certain Marcus Aurelius Metrodoros, identified through an inscription found in Ephesos, served as *grammateus* of *demos*, *argyrotamios*, *eirenakhes*, *strategos* and *agoranomos*⁷. The personal name on this one-libra weight and Marcus Aurelius Metrodoros are most probably referring to the same person.

3) M. Aurelius Neratius Philometor (corrigendum)

Description: Square in form with raised and beveled edges and a tab; worn and corroded.

(A): Letter 'A' as a unit mark rotated 90° counterclockwise.

(B): Inscription in three lines.

Inscription technique: Relief; Material: Lead.

Inv. No: PMA 2100; Date of Acquisition: 2007; Findspot: Unknown.

City: Ephesos; Region: Ionia.

⁷ I.Ephesos 991.

Dimensions: 41 × 27 × 6 mm; LH: (A): 9 mm; (B): 9 mm.

Weight: 28.12 g; 28.10 g [CPAI III 1].

Metrology: One-Uncia.

Edition: CPAI III 1, cat. no. 528.

Date: 161-180 or after 212 CE.



(A)

Α

(Οὐνκία) α'.

(B)

Μ·Α.

ΕΡΑ

ΥΦΙ

Μ(άρκου)· Αὐ[ρ(ηλίου)] | [Ν]ερα[τίου] | Φι[λομήτορος].

Apparatus Criticus

(B): Μ.Α / ΕΡΑ / ΥΦ[.] [CPAI III 1].

Translation

(A): One (Uncia).

(B): (During the tenure) of Marcus Aurelius Neratius Philometor.

Commentary

The personal name is inscribed on side B of the one-uncia balance weight, but it is fragmentary. The line 1, 'ΜΑ' divided by an interpunct, is the abbreviated version of Marcus Aurelius. 'ΕΡΑ' in line 2 is a fragment of a personal name, while the ending 'Υ' in line 3 indicates that it is in the genitive. Therefore, 'ΦΙ' should be the beginning of another name. In light of this analysis, Marcus Aurelius Neratius Philometor, an *epimeletes* in Ephesos⁸, can be suggested as the possible personal name inscribed on this balance weight. If they are indeed the same person, then this one-uncia weight indicates that M. Aurelius Neratius Philometor also held the position of *agoranomos*.

⁸ *I.Ephesos* 911.

4) Flavius Aristion (corrigendum et addendum)

Description: Square in form with raised and beveled edges and a broken tab; worn and corroded.

(A): Letter 'S' as a unit mark rotated 180° counterclockwise.

(B): Inscription in three lines.

Inscription technique: Relief.

Material: Lead.

Inv. No: PMA 2313; Date of Acquisition: 2007; Findspot: Selçuk.

City: Ephesos (?); Region: Ionia (?).

Dimensions: 25 × 24.5 × 3 mm; LH: (A): 11 mm; (B): 13 mm.

Weight: 13.64 g; 13.65 g [CPAI III 1].

Metrology: Half-Uncia.

Edition: CPAI III 1, cat. no. 583.

Date: IInd-IIIrd centuries CE.



(A)

Σ

Σ(emis).

(B)

·ΦΑΡ[

ΤΙΩ

ΝΟ.

Φ(λαβίου) Ἀρ[ισ]τίωνος.

Apparatus Criticus

(B): ΦΑ[Ν] / ΤΙΩ / [...] [CPAI III 1]

Translation

(A): Half (Uncia).

(B): (During the tenure) of Flavius Aristion.

Commentary

The personal name appears on side B, and the presence of an interpunct at the beginning of the line clearly indicates that an abbreviated praenomen is missing in line 1. Additionally, the letter 'Φ' in the same line likely denotes an abbreviated nomen, while the cognomen, spanning between line 1 and line 3, can be completed as 'Aristion' in the genitive. Titus Flavius Aristion on an honorary inscription found in Ephesos⁹ and the person on this half-uncia weight might be the same person.

5) Tib. Flavius Meliton (corrigendum et addendum)

Description: Square in form with raised and beveled edges and a tab; missing parts on the body; worn and corroded.

(A): Letter 'S' as a unit mark rotated 180° counterclockwise and a circular stamp.

(B): Inscription in three lines.

(Stamp): Circular stamp of an inscription in three lines.

Inscription technique: Relief; Material: Lead.

Inv. No: PMA 4028; Date of Acquisition: 2007; Findspot: Unknown.

City: Ephesos (?); Region: Ionia (?).

Dimensions: 28.5 × 31 × 6 mm; LH: (A): 11 mm; (B): 6 mm; (Stamp): 3.5 mm.

Weight: 17.11 g; 17.10 g [CPAI III 1].

Metrology: Half-Uncia (Heavy).

Edition: CPAI III 1, cat. no. 563.

Date: 192-211 CE.



(A)

§

S(emis).

(B)

M[ca. 2]I

T[1]NO

□ vacat

⁹ *I.Ephesos 669 = AÉ 1972, 590.*

Μ[ελ]ί[τ]ω[ς].^{vacat}

(Stamp)

ΤΙ·ΦΛ

ΜΕΛΙΤ

ΩΝΟ

Τι(βερίου)·Φλ(αβίου) | Μελί[τ]ω[ς].

Apparatus Criticus

(Stamp): [..]/ΜΕΛΙ./ΝΟ [CPAI III 1].

Translation

(A): Half Uncia.

(B): (During the tenure) of Meliton.

(Stamp): (During the tenure) Tiberius Flavius Meliton.

Commentary

On this half-uncia balance weight, the stamp on side A complements the inscription on side B, with the abbreviations ‘ΤΙ’ and ‘ΦΛ’ in line 1 likely representing ‘Tiberius Flavius’ when completed. The personal name between line 2 and line 3, and the name on the stamp, is the genitive of ‘Meliton’. Therefore, the market official on this weight might be Tiberius Flavius Meliton. ‘Tiberius [Claudius] Meliton’ has already been known from an honorary inscription dated to the reign of emperor Septimius Severus and his sons in Ephesos. This honorary inscription, however, is partly broken, and the editors of this inscription added ‘Claudius’ as the nomen gentile to the broken field¹⁰. If the name Tiberius Flavius Meliton on this weight is identical to the person in the honorary inscription, the honorary inscription needs correction. In this case, the full name of the person mentioned in the honorary inscription in Ephesos can be completed as ‘Tiberius Flavius Meliton’.

6) Iulius Claudius Modestus (corrigendum)

Description: Square in form with raised and beveled edges; herringbone pattern on the sides; pierced; almost a quarter is missing; worn and corroded.

(A): Inscription in three lines

(B): Inscription in three lines.

Inscription technique: Relief; Material: Lead.

Inv. No: PMA 3559; Date of Acquisition: 2007; Findspot: Unknown.

City: Ephesos (?); Region: Ionia (?).

Dimensions: 54 × 60 × 10 mm; 60 × 50 × 10 [CPAI III 1]; LH: (A): 9 mm; (B): 11 mm.

Weight: 94.06 g; 94.10 g [CPAI III 1].

Metrology: Half-Libra.

Edition: CPAI III 1, cat. no. 449.

Date: IInd-IIIrd centuries CE.

¹⁰ *I.Ephesos 523. Μένων* has been corrected to *Μελίτων* by editors of *PHI* (PH248507).



(A)

HM[-]

ΛΕ[-]

ΤΡ[-]

Ἡμ[ί]λλε[ι]τρ[ον].

(B)

I · K.

[-]ΟΔΕ

[-]ΤΟΥ

Ἰ(ουλίου) · Κλ(αυδίου) | [M]οδέλλ[σ]του.

Apparatus Criticus

(B): [.] · K / ΟΔΕ[...] / [.]ΤΟΥ [CPAI III 1].

Translation

(A): Half Libra.

(B): (During the tenure) of Iulius Claudius Modestus.

Commentary

An interpunct on side B in line 1 divides the abbreviated version of Tiberius Claudius. Although the beginning of the personal name between lines 2 and 3 is not preserved, it should have been the genitive of Modestus. An edict that deals with the riots caused by an association of bakers in Ephesos mentioned a certain Claudius Modestus, who served as *prytanis*¹¹. Iulius Claudius Modestus on this half-libra balance weight might be identical to the person in this edict.

7) Iulius Hermolaos and Claudius Genesisios (corrigendum)

Description: Rectangular in form with raised and beveled edges and a tab; worn and corroded.

(A): Inscription in two lines.

¹¹ *I.Ephesos* 215.

(B): Inscription in five lines.

Inscription technique: Relief; Material: Lead.

Inv. No: PMA 1552; Date of Acquisition: 2006; Findspot: Unknown.

City: Ephesos; Region: Ionia.

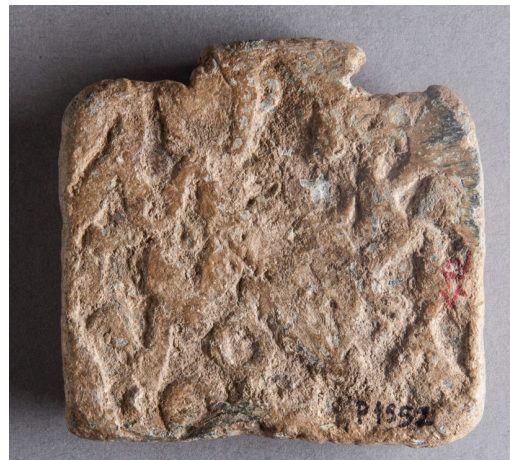
Dimensions: 68 × 66 × 16 mm; 64 × 67 × 14 mm [CPAI III 1]; LH: (A): 11-13 mm; (B): 10-14 mm.

Weight: 412.48 g; 412.60 g [CPAI III 1].

Metrology: One-Libra (Heavy).

Edition: CPAI III 1, cat. no. 420.

Date: 180-192 CE (?).



(A)

ΛΕΙ

ΤΡΑ

Λείτρα.

(B)

ΙΕΡΜΟ

ΛΑΟΚΚΛ

ΓΕΝ[-]CΙΟ

ΑΓΟΡΑ

ΝΟΜΟ[Ι]

Ἰ(ούλιος)· Ἑρ^νμόλλαος Κλ(αύδιος) | Γεν[έ]σιος[ς], II^τ ἀγορανόμο[ι].

Apparatus Criticus

(B): AYP [.....] ΛΛ [....] ΚΑ Γ[...C[.] ΑΓΟ[P]Α ΝΟΜΟ[.] [CPAI III 1].

(B): AYP [.....] | ΛΛ [....] ΚΑ | Γ[...C[.] | ἀγο[ρ]αινόμο[υ][<https://pondera.uclouvain.be/artifact/2402/>].

Translation

(A): (One) Libra.

(B): *Agoranomoi* Iulius Hermolaos and Genesisios.

Commentary

Although side B provides the complete personal names of the *agoranomoi*, the surface is heavily corroded. On side B, line 1 begins with the letter 'I,' the abbreviated form of Iulius, and continues with the name Hermolaos, extending until line 2. Notably, there is no conjunction 'καί', and the second personal name commences with 'ΚΛ' — the abbreviated version of Claudius — followed by the personal name 'Genesios' in the nominative. Both individuals served as *agoranomos* together, as indicated by the title in line 4. Gaius Iulius Hermolaos, known from a list of *prytaneis* donations for the *gerousia* and *kouretes* in Ephesos¹², may be the same individual as the Iulius Hermolaos mentioned on this heavy one-libra weight. Meanwhile, Claudius Genesios appears to be attested for the first time in Ephesos.

8) Tatianus (*corrigendum*)

Description: Square in form with raised and beveled edges and a tab; pierced from two sides; worn and corroded.

(A): Letter 'B' as a unit mark.

(B): Inscription in three lines.

Inscription technique: Relief; Material: Lead.

Inv. No: PMA 2156; Date of Acquisition: 2007; Findspot: Unknown.

City: Ephesos (?); Region: Ionia (?).

Dimensions: 43 × 49 × 6 mm; LH: (A): 18 mm; (B): 10 mm.

Weight: 55.36 g; 55.40 g [CPAI III 1].

Metrology: Two-Unciae.

Edition: CPAI III 1, cat. no. 481.

Date: IInd-IIIrd centuries CE.



(A)
B

(Οὐνκία) β'.

(B)
ΑΤΙΑΝ
ΥΟΚΕΒ
ΓΕΝΕΣΙΟΥ

¹² I.Ephesos 47.

YCEBḤ

ΙΑΝΟΥ

[T]ατιαν[ο]ῦ Σεβη[ρ]ιανοῦ.

Apparatus Criticus

(B): ATIA / YCEB / [...] [CPAI III 1].

Translation

(A): Two (Unciae).

(B): (During the tenure) of Tatianus, son of Severianus.

Commentary

The personal name appears on side B of the balance weight. Although the letters ‘T’ in line 1 and ‘O’ in line 2 are missing, the name begins with ‘Tatianus’ in the genitive, and a Tatianus, son of Severianus, is known from an honorary inscription in Ephesos¹³, where he is recorded as having served as the *agoranomos* and performed his duties with integrity. The Tatianus mentioned on this two-uncia weight must be the same individual as the one in the honorary inscription.

II. A Special Group from Ephesos**9) Apollonios, Varus, Hermippos**

Description: Square in form with raised and beveled edges and a broken tab; cracks on the body; worn and corroded.

(A): Traces of letter ‘S’ as a unit mark overstruck with a circular stamp.

(B): Inscription in one line.

(Stamp): A bee at the center surrounded by an inscription within border of dots.

Inscription technique: Relief; Material: Lead.

Inv. No: PMA 4030; Date of Acquisition: 2007; Findspot: Unknown.

City: Ephesos; Region: Ionia.

Dimensions: 26 × 32 × 4 mm; LH: (A): -; (B): ca. 8 mm; (Stamp): 2-4 mm.

Weight: 13.04 g; 13.05 g [CPAI III 1].

Metrology: Half-Uncia.

Edition: CPAI III 1, cat. no. 567; Weiß 2017, 314-315.

Date: IInd-IIIrd centuries CE.

¹³ I.Ephesos 916.



(A)

§

S(emis).

(B)

ΕΡ

Ἑρ(μίππου).

(Stamp)

ΑΠΟΛΛΩΝΙΟΥ
 ΒΑΡΟΥ
 ΕΡΜΙΠΠΟΥ

Ἀπολλωνίου, | Βάρου, | Ἑρμίππου.

Apparatus Criticus

(Stamp): ΑΠΟΛΛΩΝΙΟΥ / ΒΑΡΟΥ ΕΡΜΙΠΠΟΥ [CRAI III 1].

Translation

(A): Half (Uncia).

(B): (During the tenure) of Hermippos.

(Stamp): (During the tenure) of Apollonios, Hermippos (and) Varus.

Commentary

The bee at the center of the stamp on side A is the parasemon of Ephesos¹⁴. The inscription around the bee is divided by slashes (/), indicating that there are three personal names in the genitive on this stamp. The cognomen of the first person, ‘Apollonios,’ is written across two lines. The second cognomen, ‘Varus,’ is given in a single line of inscription. The last cognomen, ‘Hermippos,’ spans two lines. The beginning of this cognomen is preserved on side B as ‘ΕΡ’. In summary, this half-uncia weight mentions three marketplace officials: ‘Apollonios’, ‘Varus’, and ‘Hermippos’. These officials might have served at the same time or shared the office of *agoranomos* among themselves in such a way that each of them could serve for four months in a year¹⁵.

¹⁴ For more examples of bee as a parasemon of Ephesos, see Killen 2017, 234-235; for examples of balance weights with a bee parasemon, see Tekin 2015, 104-108.

¹⁵ For a discussion on sharing the office of *agoranomos* in Ephesos, see Theodorou 2023, 267.

10) P. Aelius Hermippos (*corrigendum et addendum*)

Description: Square in form with raised and beveled edges and tab; worn and corroded.

(A): Letter 'S' as a unit mark and a circular stamp within border of dots on the tab.

(B): Inscription in two lines within lines.

Inscription technique: Relief; Material: Lead.

Inv. No: PMA 2310; Date of Acquisition: 2007; Findspot: Unknown.

City: Ephesos (?); Region: Ionia.

Dimensions: 26 × 33 × 4 mm; LH: (A): 9 mm; (B): ca. 12 mm; (C): 12 mm.

Weight: 13.95 g; 13.95 g [CPAI III 1].

Metrology: Half-Uncia.

Edition: CPAI III 1, cat. no. 580.

Date: After 117 CE or IIIrd century CE.



(A)

· S ·

S(emis).

(B)

]Q · A[

]Q · [

[Π]Q(ύβλιος) A[ί(λιος)] or [Π]Q(υβλίου) A[i(λίου)].

(Stamp)

ΑΙ

ΠΙΜΡΕ

υ VO υ

Αί(λίου) Ἑρμίπ<π>ου.

Apparatus Criticus

(B): Φ or P or O [CPAI III 1]; (Stamp): On the tab, stamp with illegible inscription [CPAI III 1].

(B): O · A | Q [<https://pondera.uclouvain.be/artifact/2565/>].

Translation

(A): Half (Uncia).

(B): Publius Aelius.

(Stamp): (During the tenure) of Aelius Hermippos.

Commentary

The inscription on the stamp on side A was written in retrograde. The 'AI' in line 1 is likely the nomen gentile 'Aelius,' and the letter 'A' following the interpunct in line 1 on side B supports this interpretation. The cognomen 'Hermippos' is given between lines 2 and 3, and the letter 'O' in line 2 on side B is probably part of this cognomen. The praenomen is not preserved on the stamp, but the letter 'O' on side B might be part of the abbreviation 'ΠΟ,' indicating the name Publius. Thus, the personal name on this half-uncia weight could be Publius Aelius Hermippos. Hermippos has been previously documented on two balance weights from Ephesos¹⁶. Consequently, this individual might be the same Hermippos who shared the *agoranomos* office with Varus and Apollonios in Ephesos.

11) Apollonios (*corrigendum*)

Description: Square in form with raised and beveled edges and a broken tab; worn and corroded.

(A): Letter 'B' as a unit mark.

(B): Inscription in three lines within lines.

Inscription technique: Relief; Material: Lead.

Inv. No: PMA 4022; Date of Acquisition: 2007; Findspot: Unknown.

City: Ephesos (?); Region: Ionia.

Dimensions: 42 × 46 × 7 mm; LH: (A): 16 mm; (B): 7-12 mm.

Weight: 52.82 g; 52.80 g [CPAI III 1].

Metrology: Two-Unciae.

Edition: CPAI III 1, cat. no. 484.

Date: IInd-IIIrd centuries CE.



¹⁶ See catalog no. 9 [= PMA 4030] and Perk 2022, 137, no. 4.5.

(A)

B

(Οὐνκία) β'.

(B)

ΑΠΟΛ

ΛΩΝ[-]

ᵛ Ο ᵛΥ ᵛ

Ἀπολλων[ί] ᵛ Ο ᵛ Υ ᵛ

Apparatus Criticus

(B): ΑΠΟΛ / ΛΩΝ/ΟΥ [CPAI III 1] | Ἀπολλωνίου [<https://pondera.uclouvain.be/artifact/2468/>].

Translation

(A): Two (Unciae).

(B): (During the tenure) of Apollonios.

Commentary

The personal name Apollonios on this two-unciae balance weight is almost entirely present, except for the missing 'I' in line 3 on side B. This Apollonios might be the same individual who served alongside Varus and Hermippos in the office of *agoranomos* in Ephesos¹⁷.

12) Tib. Claudius Varus (corrigendum)

Description: Square in form with raised and beveled edges and a broken tab; worn and corroded.

(A): Letter 'B' as a unit mark.

(B): Inscription in three lines within a rectangular border.

Inscription technique: Relief; Material: Lead.

Inv. No: PMA 2159; Date of Acquisition: 2007; Findspot: Selçuk.

City: Ephesos (?); Region: Ionia.

Dimensions: 37 × 34 × 8 mm; LH: (A): 13 mm; (B): 7 mm.

Weight: 47.31 g; 47.35 g [CPAI III 1].

Metrology: Two-Unciae.

Edition: CPAI III 1, cat. no. 492.

Date: IInd-IIIrd centuries CE.

¹⁷ See catalog no. 9 [= PMA 4030].



(A)

B

(Οὐνκία) β'.

(B)

ΤΙ·ΚΛ

B·A

ΡΟΥ

Τι(βερίου) | Κλ(αυδίου) | Βάρου.

Apparatus Criticus

(B): ΠΙΚΑ / [B] A / ΡΟΥ [CPAI III 1].

Translation

(A): Two (Unciae).

(B): (During the tenure) of Tiberius Claudius Varus.

Commentary

On side B in line 1, the personal name is enclosed within a square frame. The abbreviations for the praenomen and nomen gentile are separated by an interpunct, which has slightly slipped into line 2 during the mold-making process of this balance weight. 'ΤΙ' denotes the praenomen Tiberius, and 'ΚΛ' indicates the nomen gentile Claudius. Therefore, the full personal name in the genitive is Tiberius Claudius Varus. This name, associated with a market official, is documented for the first time on this two-unciae balance weight. However, an honorary inscription in Ephesos¹⁸ mentions a 'Publius Claudius Varus' who served as *hierokeryx* and *agoranomos*. There is a possibility that Tiberius Claudius Varus might be related to this individual. If the cognomen is referring to the same 'Varus' mentioned above¹⁹, Tiberius Claudius Varus would have served as one of the marketplace officials in Ephesos alongside Hermippos and Apollonios.

¹⁸ *I.Ephesos* 911.

¹⁹ See catalog no. 9 [= PMA 4030].

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