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Herakleitos of Rhodiapolis: *Addenda et Corrigenda* to TAM II 911

Rhodiapolisli Herakleitos: TAM II 911 için Addenda ve Corrigenda

Ulaş YALVAÇ*

Abstract: The aim of this article is to revise and re-edit an inscription dating to the Roman Imperial Period found in the ancient city of Rhodiapolis, situated in the Kumluca district of Antalya province, Turkey. The inscription, which is a dedication by Herakleitos of Rhodiapolis, was found in the ancient city of Rhodiapolis, in the southeast of Teke Peninsula, Lycia in antiquity. Rhodiapolis, a site termed by locals “Gavuristan”, was a member of the ancient Lycian League. Herakleitos, who was a priest, doctor, poet as well as a philosopher, was a citizen of Rhodiapolis whose fame exceeded the boundaries of this small town. He was known and honoured in some of the most important cities of the empire. The inscription in question, which is now lost, is yet another dedication by Herakleitos himself, which states that he had built a temple and erected statues of gods and goddesses.

Keywords: Herakleitos, Rhodiapolis, Lycia, Inscription, TAM II 911

Öz: Bu makalenin amacı, Antalya ili Kumluca ilçesi sınırlarında yer alan Rhodiapolis antik kentinde bulunan ve Roma İmparatorluk Dönemi’ne tarihlendirilen bir yazıtı yeniden değerlendirmeye almaktır. Rhodiapolisli Herakleitos'un adağı olan yazıt, antikçağda Lykia olarak bilinen Teke Yarımadası'nın güneydoğusundaki Rhodiapolis antik kentinde bulunmuştur. Yerel halk tarafından “Gavuristan” olarak adlandırılan Rhodiapolis, antik Lykia Birliği'nin bir üyesiydi. Rahip, doktor, şair ve de filozof olan Herakleitos, ünü bu küçük kasabanın sınırlarını aşan ve imparatorluğun en önemli şehirlerinden bazılarında tanınan ve onurlandırılan bir Rhodiapolis vatandaşıydı. Şu anda kayıp olan söz konusu yazıt, Herakleitos'un bir tapınak inşa ettiğini, tanrı ve tanrıça heykelleri diktiğini belirten bir başka adamasıdır.

Anahtar sözcükler: Herakleitos, Rhodiapolis, Lykia, Yazıt, TAM II 911

This inscription was found in the 19th century by an expedition led by Otto Benndorf, a member of the Austrian Academy of Sciences. Ernst Kalinka, another member of this expedition worked on the inscriptions of Rhodiapolis and published them together with hundreds of other inscriptions from different cities of Lycia in his work *TAM II*. This wide ranging work published by Kalinka includes the inscription that is dealt with in this paper, published with catalogue number 911 in *TAM II*, which was reportedly inscribed on a square limestone block that was broken on both sides and adorned with ledges on the upper front and upper left-right sides. Dimensions: H: 0,35 m; W: lowermost 0,27 m, uppermost 0,30 m; LH: 0,03 m [*TAM II*].

During the excavations conducted by a team from Akdeniz University in the years 2008 and

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2009, the missing left part of another inscription from *TAM II* (nr. 906) was found, which afterwards was examined by B. İplikçioğlu in his detailed article¹ about Herakleitos, the aforementioned poet, doctor and philosopher from Rhodiapolis. In his article, B. İplikçioğlu concludes that *TAM II* 906 has been completely restored and gives a detailed account of the *addenda et corrigenda* process that has taken place². Eventually, this led us to re-examine *TAM II* 911. In light of this, another *addenda et corrigenda* has been proposed by us for *TAM II* 911. The suggested part is highlighted:

Before revision:

[- -]οῖς σωτήρσ[ιν - - -]

[- - - κα]τεσκεύασ[εν - - -]

[- - -] αὐτῷ κόσμ[ω - - -]

4 [Ῥοδιαπο]λείτης καὶ β[- - -].

After revision:

[Θε]οῖς σωτήρσ[ιν Ἀσκληπιῶ καὶ Ὑγείᾳ καὶ Σεβαστοῖς καὶ τῇ πατρίδι]

[κα]τεσκεύασ[ε τὸν νεῶ καὶ τὰ ἀγάλματα ἀνέθηκεν καὶ τὸν]

[έν] αὐτῷ κόσμ[ον ἐκ τῶν ἰδίων Ἡράκλειτος Ἡρακλείτου Ὀρείου]

4 [Ῥοδιαπο]λείτης καὶ Ῥόδιος φιλόπατρις, ὁ διὰ βίου ἱερεὺς.

Translation: *To saviour gods and goddesses Asklepios and Hygeia and to emperors and to homeland. Herakleitos son of Herakleitos son of Oreios, citizen of Rhodiapolis and Rhodos, lover of homeland and lifelong priest, built this temple and dedicated the statues and adorned the temple all out of his pocket.*

L. 1: *TAM II* 906 L. 1: **Θ[ε]οῖς σωτήρσιν Ἀσκληπιῶ καὶ Ὑγείᾳ καὶ Σεβαστοῖς καὶ τῇ πατρίδι** (the bold part was the part found during the excavations by Akdeniz University).

L. 2: *TAM II* 906 L. 2: τὸν νεῶ καὶ τὰ ἀγάλματα ἀνέθηκεν καὶ τὸν.

L. 3: İplikçioğlu 2014: 243: Ἡράκλειτος Ἡρακλείτου; *TAM II* 906 L. 3: Ἡράκλειτος Ἡρακλείτου Ὀρείου; *TAM II* 910 L. 4-5: Ἡράκλειτον | Ἡρακλείτου Ὀρείου.

L. 4: *TAM II* 911 brings forward two possible completions for the line [Ῥοδιαπο]λείτης καὶ β[- -], β[ουβωνεύς or β[αλβουρεύς. See *TAM II* 910 L. 4-6 Ἡράκλειτον | Ἡρακλείτου Ὀρείου τὸν πολειτην καὶ | Ῥόδιον. In *TAM II* 906, we see that Herakleitos has not yet obtained Rhodian citizenship. However, in *TAM II* 911 his Rhodian citizenship has been mentioned alongside the one that is of his hometown, and it may be suggested that *TAM II* 911 was put up after he had obtained Rhodian citizenship.

¹ İplikçioğlu 2014, 231-251.

² İplikçioğlu 2014, 242. *TAM II* 906 before revision:

[θεῶ ἐπηκόω Ἀσκληπιῶ καὶ Ὑγείᾳ καὶ τῇ πατρίδι

[τὸν ναὸν κατεσκεύασεν] καὶ τὰ ἀγάλματα ἀνέθηκεν καὶ τὸν

[βωμὸν ἵδρυσεν? ἐκ τῶν ἰδίων Ἡράκλειτος Ἡρακλείτου Ὀρείου Ῥοδια-

4 [πολειτης φιλόπ]ατρις, ὁ διὰ βίου ἱερεὺς.

After revision by İplikçioğlu 2014:

Θ[ε]οῖς σωτήρσιν Ἀσκληπιῶ καὶ Ὑγείᾳ καὶ Σεβαστοῖς καὶ τῇ πατρίδι

κ[α]τεσκεύασεν τὸν νεῶ καὶ τὰ ἀγάλματα ἀνέθηκεν καὶ τὸν

[έν] αὐτῷ κόσμον ἐκ τῶν ἰδίων Ἡράκλειτος Ἡρακλείτου Ὀρείου Ῥοδια-

4 **[πο]λείτης καὶ Ῥόδιος φιλόπατρις, ὁ διὰ βίου ἱερεὺς.**

According to the *addenda et corrigenda* that is proposed above, the inscription deals with the deeds of Herakleitos. He is mentioned in the inscription mainly for his duty as the lifelong priest of Asklepios and Hygeia. The inscription tells us that he dedicated the temple and the statues to emperors, his homeland and the gods and goddesses Asklepios and Hygeia. He covered the expenses of this himself. He is also referred to as a citizen of both Rhodiapolis and Rhodes. Among the inscriptions found in Rhodiapolis, there are several which either honor Herakleitos or are votives dedicated to the deities by him. Other dedications, along with TAM II 911, all include the construction of temples and statues to Asklepios and Hygeia.

Herakleitos' fame went far beyond the borders of ancient Lycia: he was honoured at Athens and Alexandria, called 'The Homer of Medical Poetry'³. He is known to have written over 60 books, the copies of which were sent to the libraries of the prominent cities of the empire. Copies or the original versions of these books were also in the library of his homeland, built by him. Herakleitos was also responsible as the *agonothetes* of the Asklepeia festival, a festival in honour of Asklepios⁴. Much of what we know comes from one inscription⁵, which tells us about his skills in poetry (although it is not clear whether he actually did write any poems or why he was given the epithet "The Homer of Medical Poetry"). We also know that he distributed food to the citizens of his homeland⁶. During the excavations, an asklepieion built by him was excavated, adjacent to the temple of Asklepios-Hygeia. He was revered by the *Areopagos* council at Athens and the Epicurean school of philosophers⁷.

Herakleitos did not charge any money for treatment from the citizens of Rhodiapolis, probably because of the wealth he earned through his treatment of patients in other cities of the time⁸. This and other acts of euergesia were so influential on the people of Rhodiapolis that an inscription in the form of an epigram dating to the IIIrd or IVth century shows that he was still remembered and greatly respected by the citizens of his hometown⁹.

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³ See Nutton 1998, 386 "[6] H. von Rhodiapolis".

⁴ İplikçioğlu 2014, 245.

⁵ R. K. Piettre (2005, 54) states that TAM II 910 inscription probably dates from Traianus' reign.

⁶ TAM II 910.

⁷ Samama 2003, 398.

⁸ İplikçioğlu 2014, 246.

⁹ İplikçioğlu 2014, 243-244.