

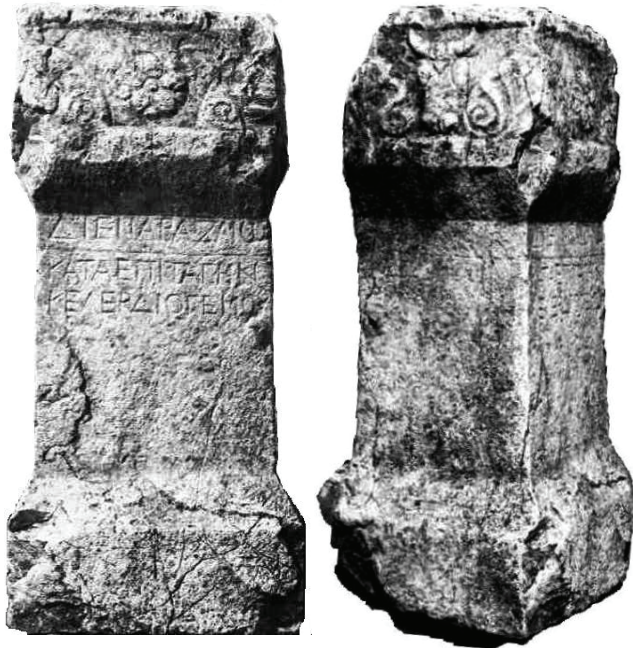
Ebru N. AKDOĞU ARCA*

New Inscriptions From Bithynia

Abstract: In this article one unpublished Greek dedication inscription from Beyyayla dated to the third century A.D. and eight unpublished funerary Greek inscriptions from Bithynia dated to the Roman Imperial Period are presented. Four funerary inscriptions are of the doorstone type. Six funerary inscriptions are from Nikaia – the curve of the middle Sangarios (Göynük, Gölpaazarı, Taraklı and Geyve) –, one is from Prusa ad Olympum and one is from Claudiopolis. Copies and photographs of the inscriptions were taken by Prof. Dr. Sencer Şahin in the 1980's while he was surveying in Bithynia. Information concerning those inscriptions was obtained from the notes which were taken by him at that time. The inscriptions are as follows.

1) A dedication to Zeus (H?)iarazaios from Beyyayla¹

White limestone altar. Found in Arpalık, ca. 500 m south west of Beyyayla, in front of the house of Ali Şahin. Dimensions: H. 0.68 m, W. 0.26 m, D. 0.22 m, L. 0.021 m.



All corners of the stone are damaged and some of them are broken. Due to this, only small fragments of the *acroteria* are preserved. There is a rosette motif carved in the middle and nearly upon the profile. On the right and left side, in the middle of the *acroteria* is carved a *boukephalos*. There are tendrils on the both side of the *boukephalos*. The inscription begins fairly under the profile and consists of three lines. The inscription is complete and well-preserved. The letters such as *delta*, *alpha*, *zeta*, *kappa*, *omega*, have been cut widely and deeply.

* Dr. Ebru N. Akdoğu Arca, Akdeniz Üniversitesi, Fen-Edebiyat Fakültesi, Eskiçağ Dilleri ve Kültürleri Bölümü, Kampus TR - 07058 Antalya (ebruakdogu@akdeniz.edu.tr).

¹ For Beyyayla see the map of S. Şahin, Katalog der antiken Inschriften des Museums von İznik (Nikaia). İznik Müzesi Antik Yazıtlar Kataloğu (I.K. 9-10, 1-3) Bonn 1979-1987: This site lies in a straight line approximately 90 km. southeast of İznik.



2 Διὲ Ἰαραζαίῳ
κατὰ ἐπιταγὴν
Κέλερ Διογένου.

For Zeus Iarazaios in accordance with the divine command, Celer, son of Diogenes.

L.1: Διὲ Ἰαραζαίῳ does not seem to be attested elsewhere. The *epitheton* is written in Dorian dialect and might be originated from a toponym beginning with *hiera* (*kome* etc.). In Beyyayla not far from Arpalık Zeus Sarnendenos was worshipped.²

L.2: The god should have been seen by Celer in a dream.

Date: Probably 3rd century A.D. , because of the wide *omega*.

2) Grave monument for Eia

Limestone gable doorstele.³ Found in Kilciler / Göynük, near the mosque. It has been brought from the foundation of the old mosque when the new one was being constructed.

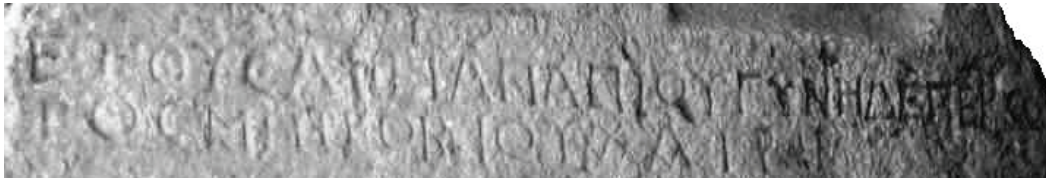


Dimensions: H. 1.96 m, W. 0.72–0.98 m, D. 0.27–0.40 m.
L. 0.02–0.025 m.

The left and right corner *acroterion* are broken. The left corner *acroterion* is with a palmette. Between the *acroteria* there are decorated tendrils. There is no motif carved in the gable. The stele consists of double panels and the upper small panel begins just below the gable. In the upper half of this panel two *boukrania* are carved in relief and there is a shield between them. In the lower half of this panel there are double wreaths and a basket between them. At the bottom there are two separate niches in a large panel. There is a schematized door ring?, a writing tablet?, a pruning hook and a chisel in the left niche, a double folding mirror?, a comb, a mirror and a basket in the right niche. Between two panels there is an inscription which consists of two lines. It is complete and well-preserved.

² S. Şahin, *op. cit.*, no. 1128.

³ The doorstones functioned as gravestones in the Roman Imperial Period. They were predominantly employed in Phrygia. But it is known that they were used on the boundaries of Phrygia-Bithynia and Phrygia-Galatia. (For the use of doorstones in and out of Phrygia see, M. Waelkens, *Die kleinasiatischen Türsteine: typologische und epigraphische Untersuchungen der kleinasiatischen Grabreliefs mit Scheintür*. Mainz am Rhein 1986; T. Lochman, *Studien zu kaiserzeitlichen Grab- und Votivreliefs aus Phrygien*, Basel 2003, 147ff. cf. also; MAMA IX–X).



2 ἔτους αἰ'· Εἰα Παπίου, γυνὴ δὲ Βερσο-
ρος Μητροβίου· χαῖρε.

The eleventh year. Eia, daughter of Papias, wife of Bersor, son of Metrobios, farewell.

Date: The beginning of the era system employed in this inscription has not as yet been precisely resolved. But it seems most probable that the year numbers of such inscriptions refer to the administration years of the Roman Emperor and that the Constitutio Antoniniana (212 A.D.) is a terminus ante quem for the dating of such inscriptions.⁴ However, this inscription should be dated to the 2nd century A.D. having the second century characteristics of funerary inscriptions from this region dated in concordance with this aera system⁵.

L. 1: Εἰα: Frequently employed as a women's 'Lallname' in Asia Minor which originates from Thracia. It is well attested in Bithynia as Εἰα, Εἰας and Ια.⁶

L. 1: Παπίας, Παπίου: Frequently used *masculinum* 'Lallname' in Asia Minor⁷ which originates from Thracia.⁸

L. 1-2: Βερσορ: This name does not seem to be attested elsewhere.

3) The tomb of slave bred Epiktesis.

Marble doorstone, Found in Seyfiler (Sefiller) / Gölpazarı.

Dimensions: H. 1.20 m W. 0.50 m L. 0.02 m.

Marble stele with triangular gable. The corners of the stone are broken and worn. The only part of the palmette which is visible is that hanging from the top. The stone is broken at top and at the bottom. The shaft is divided into two panels. On the upper part is the inscription and the panel and on the bottom part there is a niche. On the upper panel there is a wreath in the middle and two scent bottles are in the frame. In the left panels above are: a spindle, a

⁴ For assessments and the settling areas of this *aera* system in the region see S. Şahin, *op. cit.*, p. 39ff and 85ff, cf. L. Robert, REA 42 (1940), 319.

⁵ Concerning the forms and picture motifs of steles to date inscriptions see T. Lochman, Studien zu kaiserzeitlichen Grab- und Votivreliefs aus Phrygien, Basel 2003, p. 222ff.

⁶ For the latest literature see M. Adak - N. E. Akyürek Şahin, Katalog der Inschriften im Museum von Adapazarı, Gephyra 2 (2005), no. 7, 14 and 26.

⁷ Zgusta, Personennamen, §1199-5 and §1199-7.

⁸ D. Detschew, Die Thrakischen Sprachreste (Österr. Akad. D. Wiss. Phil. -hist. Kl. / Schriften der Balkankommission XIV Wien 1957), p. 356, s.v. Παπας, Παπίας, Ραπίας, Παπιανος, Παπος, Παππος, Παπυλης, Παπυλος.

distaff and a comb, below, a mirror? In the right panels above are: square keyplate with concave sides, a writing instrument and a rosette, below, a basket.

The inscription consists of three lines.



ἔτους ε' Ἐπίκτησις θρεπτή
2 Ἴππομάχου, γυνή δὲ Σου-
[σ]ου· *vacat* χαίρει.

The fifth year. Epiktesis Hippomachos' slave bred, wife of Sousos, farewell.

Date: 2nd century A.D. ; cf. above inscription no. 2.

L. 2-3: Σου[σ]ου: It should belong to the native names either Σουσοσ⁹ or Σουσου (indeclinable)¹⁰ which are attested in inscriptions from Thrace and Asia Minor.¹¹ Another forms of the name are also attested in Bithynia: Σουσας, -α(-αδος)¹², Σους.¹³

4) Grave stele for Demosthenes

Limestone gable doorstele with pediment. Found in Gökçeler / Gölpaazarı, in the field of Recep Özer (ca. 1 km east of the village). Now in the house of R. Özer.

Dimensions: H. 1.70 m, W. 0.63 m (top), 0,75 m (bottom), D. 0.27 m, L. 0.02–0.025 m.

The *acroteria* are broken except at the left corner. The stele is broken at the bottom right. There is a rosette in the centre of the pediment. There are two panels on the shaft. A *tabula ansata* is carved on the upper panel. The inscription consists of four lines. The first line is on the pediment and the rest is on the *tabula ansata* and is complete. Two *bukrania* are carved in relief under the *tabula ansata*. A basket is carved between the *bukrania*.

The shaft of the stele is divided into two separate niches in a large panel. In the upper middle and in the upper corners of the niches are carved small flower motifs. The left flower

⁹ Zgusta, Personennamen §1463-5; For the inscriptions in the region see: TAM IV I, 7, 16, S. Şahin, *op. cit.*, no. 102, 1235; E. Schwertheim, *Die Inschriften von Hadrianoi und Hadrianeia* (I.K. 33) Bonn 1987, no. 151; H. Kalkan, *New Inscriptions from Bithynia and Mysia in the İstanbul Museum*, EA 20, (1992), 103, no. 5; cf. SEG 42 (1992), no. 1125c.

¹⁰ Zgusta, Personennamen §1463-1; cf. J. Devreker, *De Anatolia Antiqua I* (Paris 1991) 185–186, no. 2; cf. SEG 41 (1991), no. 1150.

¹¹ For names and the outlying regions cf. L. Robert, *Rev. Phil.* 1943, 198 and 199; *Hellenica* X–XII, 379, no. 243; Detschew, *op. cit.*, s.v. Σουσοσ 427f., I. Duridanov, *Linguistique Balkanique* 20, 4 (1977) 13–14; cf. SEG 27 (197), no. 1265.

¹² TAM IV I, 302; S. Şahin, *op. cit.*, no. 1450; T. Corsten, *Die Inschriften von Prusa ad Olympum II* (I.K. 40) Bonn 1993, no. 1009.

¹³ F. Becker-Bertau, *Die Inschriften von Klaudiu Polis* (I.K. 31) Bonn 1986, no. 37.



is fairly worn. There are a sickle, an axe, a writing tablet and a writing instrument in the left niche and, a distaff, a spindle, double scent bottles, double folding mirror?, and a basket in the right niche.

ἔτους εἰ·
2 Πρωτοκράτης Δη-
μοσθένη τῷ πα-
4 τρὶ μνήης χάριν.

The fifteenth year. Protokrates for his father Demosthenes, in memory.

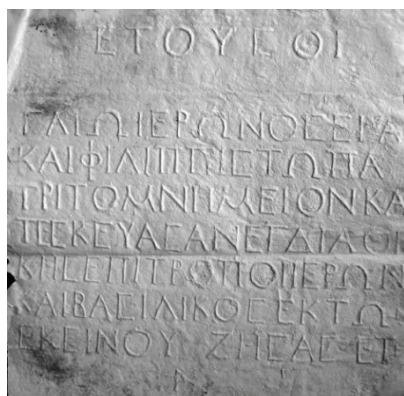
L. 4: μνήης: It is the simplified form of μνήμης. Cf. S. Şahin, Ein Kindersarkophag aus Umurbey im Museum von İzmit, in: EA 3 (1984), p. 108, and also cf. SEG 31 (1981), no. 1089-1091 and SEG 34 (1984), no. 1265.

Date: 2nd century A.D. ; cf. above inscription No. 2 and fn. 6.

5) Grave monument for Gaius

Basis with profile. Found in Doğancıl / Taraklı, in the Kadımezarlığı cemetery.

Dimensions: H. 1.43 m, W. 0.56 m, D. 0.56 m, L. 0.035 m, (Φ: 0.05 m).



Rectangular grave stone with profile. The right upper profile is broken. There is a wreath in the centre of the pediment, between *acroteria*. The inscription starts below the moulding and consists of nine lines. Letters are complete, well-preserved and carved fairly regularly. The first line and the other eight lines of the inscription are demarcated by the straight line and there is a space between them. Letters, such as *omega*, *my*, *ny*, *delta*, are convex and the *sigma* is angled and keen.

ἔτους θι·
Γαίῳ Ἰέρωνος Εἰα
καὶ Φιλίππιδος τῷ πα-
4 τρὶ τὸ μνημεῖον κα-
8 τεσκευάσαν ἐγ διαθή-
κης ἐπίτροποι Ἰέρων
καὶ Βασιλικὸς ἐκ τῶν
ἐκείνου ζήσαντι ἔτη
ν'.

In the nineteenth year. Eia and Philippis erected this memorial for Gaius, son of Hieron, their father, in accordance with his testament; stewards Hieron and Basilikos (defrayed) from his (Gaius') own financial resources. He lived 50 years.

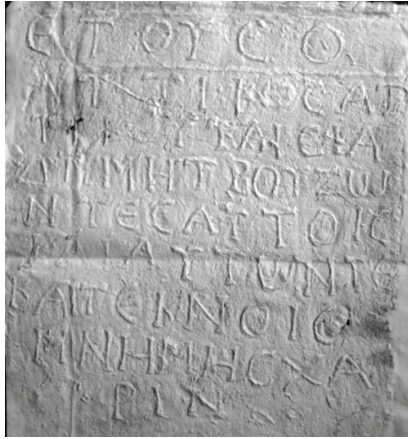
Date: 2nd century A.D. ; cf. above inscription No. 2.

L. 2: ΕΙΑ: Cf. above inscription No. 2.

L. 8: ΖΗΣΑΣ *in lapide*. Therefore the last *sigma* should be omitted in the text.

We understand from the money expended for the grave monument by the stewards (ἐπίτροποι) from the family fund that both Eia and Philippis when their father died, had not reached the age of adolescence.

6) Grave monument of Atticus, Eia and their family



Found in Killer, Ark quarter (mahallesi) / Taraklı, on the street.

Dimensions: H. 1.50 m, W. 0.43 m (shaft), 0.53 m (basis), D. 0.42 m, L. 0.03 m.

A rectangular funerary altar with two corner *acrotéria*, below which palmettes are placed on each side. The right face is decorated with a small *patera* and a tendril. The nine-line inscription is written on the front surface of the shaft. The stone and the inscription are well-preserved. Lunate *sigma* and minuscule *omega* have been used in the inscription.

	ἔτους θ'		ντες αὐτοῖς
	Ἄττικὸς Ἄτ-		καὶ αὐτῶν {ΤΕ
	τικοῦ καὶ Εἰα		ΚΑΙ} τέκνοις
4	Δημητρίου ζώ-	8	μνήμης χά-
			ριν.

The ninth year. Atticus, son of Atticus and Eia, daughter of Demetrios, while they are still alive, for themselves and their children, in memory.

Date: 2nd century A.D.; cf. inscription No. 2 and fn. 6.

L. 3: ΕΙΑ: Cf. above inscription No. 2.

L. 4: I(ota) was omitted. It was inserted later closely spaced between P and O: ΠΙΟ.

7) Grave monument for Peducaeus Longinus Asklepiodotos and his wife Polle

Limestone grave altar. Found in the south of Sabırlar / Taraklı in front of a walnut house. In

situ.

Dimensions: H. 1.30 m, W. 0.72 m (shaft), 0.78 m (profile), D. 0.74 m (shaft), 0.88 m (profile), L. 0.03–0.035 m.

It has three mouldings. The corner *acroteria* are well-preserved. Between the *acroteria* there is a rosette, bunches of grapes, a head of ox carved on the front and on the back of the stone. The right, left and upper parts of the altar are broken and fairly worn. The lower part of the altar is underground. The inscription consists of six lines and on the shaft of the stone. The lower part of the shaft is broken.



Πεδουκαῖος Λο[ν]-
 [γ]εῖνος Ἀσκληπι[ό]-
 [δ]οτος ἑαυτῷ καὶ
 4 [Π]ώλλῃ τῇ γυναικί
 τὸ μνημεῖον κα-
 τεσκεύασεν.

Peducaeus Longinus Asklepiodotos erected this monument for himself and his wife Polle.

Date: 2nd century A.D. (Because of the letters (*omega*) and the rosette motif); cf. above inscription No. 2 and fn. 6.

8) Grave monument for Dionysios

Limestone gable doorstele. Found in the south of the village Orhaniye / Yenişehir (Bursa). Now in the garden of Rahmi Mestan.

Dimensions: H. 1.40 m, W. 0.64 m, D. 0,19 m (top), 0,30 m (bottom), L. 0.022–0,03 m.

The stone is broken into three parts. The right corner *acroterion* is broken and the pediment of the stele is broken on the left. There is a small shield in the centre of the pediment. The shaft of the stele is divided into three panels. It carries three frontal busts of men on the panel under the pediment. Because of the damage and the worn state of the carving, the middle figure can only be seen with difficulty. Under the busts there is an inscription panel of four lines. The inscription is complete but the letters are worn in patches. There is a male bust in the small niche at the lower left-hand corner of the inscription panel. The lower part of the *stèle* shaft is carved in the shape of a large niche and in it is carved a writing tablet? and a writing instrument?. Above this niche two rosettes are in the right and left corners.



2 Γάϊος Πωλλίων-
ος Διονυσίῳ τῷ
relief
3 υἱῷ ἀνέθηκα μν-
4 χάριν ἡμη[ς] (sic.).

I Gaius, son of Pollio, erected (this monument) for my son Dionysios, in memory.

L. 3: ἀνέθηκα used rarely in the funerary inscriptions. For a few examples see: S. Şahin, *op. cit.* (fn. 1), no. 1458, E. Schwertheim, *op. cit.* (fn. 10), no. 151, Th. Corsten, *Die Inschriften von Prusa ad Olympum I* (I.K. 39), Bonn 1991, nr. 57, 138, C. Marek, *Katalog der Inschriften von Amastris, in Stadt, Ära und Territorium in Pontus- Bithynien und Nord Galatia* (Istanbuler Forschungen 39) Tübingen 1993, p. 171, no. 50 (=SEG 35, 1985, 1326).

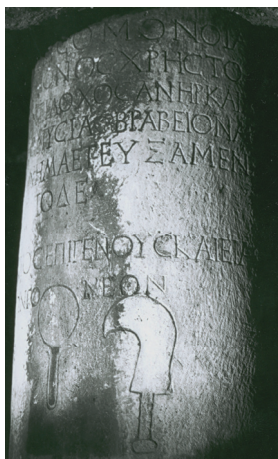
Date: Presumably the end of the 2nd century A.D.

9. Grave monument for Epigenes and Eia

Limestone round base. Found in Sarıcalar / Findıcak (Mudurnu).

Dimensions: H. 1.71 m, D. 0.90 m, L. 0.04 m.

Profiled bottom. The upper part of the stone is underground. The inscription consists of eight lines and is well-preserved. On the fourth line is an ivy leaf among letters and on the sixth line before the letters is a quatrefoil. On the left side of the inscription area are stylized decorations of ivy leaves and tendrils. In the last line amongst the letters is a mirror and a sickle. The mirror has been carved between the letters of the last word γονέων.



Ζῶντες ὁμοιοῖα
φιλόφρονος χρήστου
βίου Ἀντίλοχος ἀνὴρ καὶ δά-
4 μαρ Διονυσία βραβεῖον ἀρε-
τῆς μνήμα ἐτεύξαμεν
τόδε
ζῶντος Ἐπιγένους καὶ Εἰας
8 τῶν γο relief νέων.

Living in the concord of kindly and useful life, we, Antilochos, the husband, and his wife Dionysia, have erected the monument of our parents Epigenes, who lives, and Eia as a prize for virtue.

Date: 2nd century A.D.?

L. 4: βραβείον: Generally it is a winning prize in competitions. About this cf. L. Robert, Une vision de Perpétue martyre à Charthage en 203, in: CRAI 1982, p. 263ff. (= OMS V, Amsterdam 1989, p. 826 ff.); also cf. SEG 32 (1982), no. 1698.

L. 7: Εἰα: Cf. above inscription No. 2.

The author of the text uses a very poetical wording.

Özet

Bithynia'dan Yeni Yazıtlar

Makalede Bithynia Bölgesinden dokuz adet yazıt tanıtılmaktadır. Yazıtlardan ilki Zeus H?iarazaios'a adanmış bir adak yazıtı, diğerleri ise mezar yazıtlarıdır. Yazar ilk yazıtta yer alan ve Dor dialektinde yazılmış olan *epitheton*'un ilk kez karşımıza çıktığını söylemektedir. Diğer yazıtların çevirileri ise şöyledir:

2. 11. yıl. *Papias'ın kızı, Metrobios ođlu Bersor'un ise zevcesi olan Eia; sağlıcakla.*
3. 5. yıl. *Hippomakhos'un beslemesi, Sousos'un ise karısı olan Epiktesis; sağlıcakla.*
4. 15. yıl. *Protokrates (bu anıtı) babası Demosthenes için anısı vesilesiyle diktirdi.*
5. 19. yıl. *Eia ve Philippis bu anıtı babaları 50 yıl yaşam süren Hieron ođlu Gaius için vasiyet uyarınca yaptırdı. Vekilharçlar Hieron ile Basilikos harcamayı onun (Gaius'un) (parasından yaptılar).*
6. 9. yıl. *(Bu anıtı) Atticus ođlu Atticus ile Demetrios kızı Eia henüz yaşarlarken kendileri ve kendi çocuklarının anısına (yaptırdılar).*
7. *Peduceaus Longinus Asklepiodotos bu anıtı kendisi ve zevcesi Polle için yaptırdı.*
8. *(Ben) Pollio ođlu Gaius (bu anıtı) ođlum Dionysios'un anısına diktim.*
9. *(Biz) Antilokhos ve Dionysia karı-koca olarak müşfik ve yarar dolu bir yaşamın huzuru içinde yaşarken bu anıtı bir erdem ödülü olarak ebeveynimiz Epigenes –henüz yaşarken- ve Eia için yaptırđık.*