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Five newly acquired gravestones in the Muğla Museum

Abstract: The article presents five new funerary stelai acquired by the Museum of Muğla and found in Stratonikeia and its hinterland. Two of them date from the Hellenistic period, three from Roman Imperial times. Of particular interest are the epichoric names in these inscriptions, as they add to our knowledge of the urban demography and of relief sculpture.

Keywords: gravestones; Muğla Museum; Stratonikeia; Caria

The five funerary stelai treated below have all been brought to the Muğla Museum during the past few years.¹ They all seem to derive from Stratonikeia and her territory. The stele of Rhodaineta (no. 1) was brought from the northern necropolis of the city. The stelai nos. 2, 4 and 5 were unearthed during illegal excavations in the territory of Stratonikeia and were brought to the museum after confiscation. The stele no. 3 was acquired by purchase.

1. Stele of Rhodaineta

Source: Territory of Stratonikeia. *Location:* Exhibited in showroom 11. *Inventory Number:* Not given.

Dimensions: Extant Height: 66 cm.; Width: 31 cm.; Extant Width of Base: 42 cm.; Height of Niche: 22.5 cm.; Width of Niche: 26 cm.; Thickness: 9.5 cm.; Thickness of Base: 13 cm.; Height of Letters: 2–2.5 cm.

Description: A whitish marble. The stele is broken on top, with total loss of the pediment, and is damaged in several other places, including its right bottom corner. The decorative curtain depicted on the upper part of the rectangular niche indicates a domestic setting, and shows sculpted figures and objects in almost three-dimensional relief. The human figures are depicted in realistic fashion. Rhodaineta sits on a diphros – a cushioned stool. The niche between the legs of the diphros has been carved with a drill. Some abrasion is observable on the face and hair of Rhodaineta, who wears a himation-on-chiton, and also on those of her maid-servant, who wears a short sleeved chiton and carries a casket.

Ῥοδαινέτα ^{vac.} Ἐφεσία

2 χρῆστὰ ^{vac.} χαίρε.

Excellent Rhodaineta of Ephesos, farewell!

Line 1: Rhodaineta was a citizen of Ephesos. The use of the Doric form χρῆστὰ suggests that she was a long-term resident of the Carian region.

The feminine personal name Ῥοδαινέτα is very seldom attested. One known example comes from the Aeolian island Lipara in the



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Thyrranian Sea (IG XIV 485: Ῥοδαινέ|τας).

Dating: The ‘Pudicitia’ relief type became widespread after 170/160 B.C.² The stele of Rhodaineta may be compared with a stele found in Smyrna.³ The Smyrnaean figure’s manner of wearing the *himation* and the plaits of the clothes are similar to those on Rhodaineta’s stele. Two Cyzicean stelai of the ‘Pudicitia-type’ may also be compared.⁴ These three stelai all date to the second century B.C. The maid-servant’s dress and gauzy chiton, under which the leg is visible, are similar to the clothes of the maid-servant of a Samian woman.⁵ The head and hair of another Stratonikeian woman of the mid-second century B.C. also resemble the head and hair of the maidservant of Rhodaineta.⁶

Typology: Rhodaineta differs from the ‘Pudicitia-type’ relief of Saufeia as they are in reversed postures.⁷ The ‘Pudicitia-type’ of Philista has legs in a comparable position to those of Saufeia.⁸ But the position of their arms and the form of the himation on the Philista relief are different from those of Saufeia and Rhodaineta. Hence both Saufeia and Philista are distinct in different ways from the stele of Rhodaineta. Except for her left arm, the ‘Pudicitia-type’ relief of Baebia has a similar appearance to Rhodaineta.⁹ As for the ‘Pudicitia’-relief from Braccio Nuovo, her wearing of the himation is different.¹⁰ In addition, Rhodaineta’s chiton is visible under her himation. As a result, Rhodaineta’s himation partly covers her right hand, extended forward to her lap. The lower part of her chiton appears under her himation, due to its style of wrapping her body. Rhodaineta holds the fabric of her himation with her left arm raised up near her head. Therefore, Rhodaineta’s posture is that of the so-called ‘Protopudicitia-type’, as termed by Cremer.¹¹

2. Stele of Gourgos

Source: Territory of Stratonikeia. *Location:* The garden of the Museum. *Inventory Number:* 421.

Dimensions: *Extant Height:* 55.5 cm.; *Height of Niche:* 41 cm.; *Width:* 45.5 cm.; *Width of Niche:* 38.5 cm.; *Thickness:* 11 cm.; *Height of Letters:* 1.5–2.5 cm.

Description: White marble. The top of the stele is broken, so the form of its pediment is unknown, and other areas are damaged. In the middle of the niche a man is depicted in military clothes, with shield, sword, spear and chlamys on his shoulder. In front of the spear a dog is depicted. In the opposite corner, a boy stands. He also wears military clothes.

Ἀμμιάς Γού[ρ]γο[v]
2 τοῦ ἀνδρὸς σὺν
καὶ Γούργω τῶ υ-
4 ἰῶ μνείας χά-
ρις.



² Horn, *Bildwerke* 182; Linfert, *Kunstzentren* 147.

³ Pfuhl – Möbius, *Grabreliefs I* no. 990 Taf. 149.

⁴ Pfuhl – Möbius, *Grabreliefs II* no. 1610 Taf. 234 and no. 1613 Taf. 235.

⁵ Horn, *Bildwerke* 164 no. 142 Taf. 86.

⁶ Özgan, *Skulpturen*, Taf. 7 c–d.

⁷ Pinkwart 1973, 149 fn. 21; Linfert, *Kunstzentren* 148; Pfuhl – Möbius, *Grabreliefs I* no. 417 Taf. 67 and no. 419 Taf. 69.

⁸ Pfuhl – Möbius, *Grabreliefs I* nos. 434–435 Taf. 72.

⁹ Pfuhl – Möbius, *Grabreliefs I* no. 570 Taf. 90.

¹⁰ Şahin, *Miletupolis* 63.

¹¹ Cremer, *Grabstelen* 87 Abb. 13.

Ammias (erected this stele) to the memory of her husband Gourgos as well as of her son Gourgos.

Lines 1 and 3–4: Γοῦργος is maybe a variation of the widespread personal name Γόργος, as suggested by Pape – Benseler (Eigennamen 259). For Γόργος and personal names with the beginning Γοργ- see Robert, Noms indigènes 159–60.

Dating: Lunar epsilon and sigma, cursive my and omega suggest a date in the Roman Imperial period. The hair of the man depicted in the military clothes is comparable with that of the soldier depicted on a stele from Chalcedon dated to the mid-first century A.D.¹²

Typology: The position of the right hand of the boy appears to be similar to the position of the right hand of the boy Chrysaor in the stele no. 3, and is also seen in the relief-type known as the ‘Dioskourides-type’.

3. Stele of the boy Chrysaor

Source: Territory of Stratonikeia. *Location:* Near the door of show-room 11. *Inventory Number:* 575.

Dimensions: *Height:* 68.5 cm.; *Height of Niche:* 54.5 cm.; *Width:* 38 cm.; *Width of Niche:* 30 cm.; *Thickness:* 16.5 cm.; *Height of Letters:* 2.5–3 cm.

Description: White marble. The stele has an arched pediment with two *akroteria*. The niche is deep, and repeats this arch. The frontal bust of Chrysaor wears a *himation-on-chiton*.



Παρησία Χρυσάρι τῷ τέκνῳ

2 μείας χάριν.

Paresia (erected this stele) to the memory of her child Chrysa(o)r.



Line 1: The last four letters of the name Χρυσάρι are squeezed into a single letter-space over an erasure; apparently the mason originally omitted the last two syllables of the boy’s name. The name Χρυσάρ apparently = Χρυσά(ω)ρ. The name is closely connected with Caria through the hero Chrysaor, great-grandson of Bellerophon and is attested many times at Stratonikeia (IStratonikeia 157–58; 286; 1006a; 1320; 1327; SEG 52, 1076; 1091). According to O. Masson (1988, 155–57), the name was not Carian but Greek.

Dating: Lunar epsilon and sigma, cursive my and omega suggest a date during the Roman Imperial period. The hair of Chrysaor is comparable with the hair of the two standing men depicted on stelai belonging to the stock of the Archaeological Museum of Istanbul.¹³ The former of these men dates to the Roman Imperial period, the latter, Χρῆστος Μουκιανοῦ, to the first half of the second century A.D. Chrysaor also dfafssgsdgsdglooks very similar to another Stratonikeian of the first century A.D. (apparently produced in the same workshop as our stele).¹⁴ The style of the depiction of Chrysaor dates at the latest to the reign of Traianus (98–117 A.D.).

Typology: Chrysaor is portrayed in effigy in the so-called ‘Dioskourides-type’.

¹² Pfuhl – Möbius, Grabreliefs I no. 305 Taf. 54.

¹³ Pfuhl – Möbius, Grabreliefs I no. 229 Taf. 45 “Aus Byzanz (Istanbul, Çemberlitaş)”. The gravestone is without inscription; no. 548 Taf. 86 “Herkunft unbekannt. Dem Stil nach gewiß ostgriechisch”.

¹⁴ Özgan, Skulpturen, Taf. 54b.

4. Stele of Kotes and Trokondas

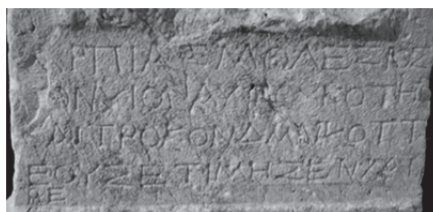
Source: Territory of Stratonikeia. *Location:* In the garden of the Museum. *Inventory Number:* 1474.

Dimensions: *Height:* 86 cm.; *Height of Niche:* 38.2 cm.; *Width:* 35.5 cm.; *Width of Niche:* 29 cm.; *Thickness:* 15 cm.; *Height of Letters:* 1–3 cm.

Description: White marble stele, probably originally with a pediment, decorated in the middle with a rosette. The top and base of the stele are broken and the frame of the niche is damaged. The stone is cracked directly beneath the heads of Kotes and Trokondas. The reliefs of these two figures are badly worn. The two men are wearing himation-on-chiton, and stand frontally within the niche.



- Αρπιας Μωλέσιος
 2 [τ]ὸν υἱὸν αὐτοῦ Κότῃ
 [κ]αὶ Τροκόνδαν Κόττ-
 4 εους ἐτίμησεν· χαί-
 ρε.



Arpias, son of Molesis, honours his son Kotes, and Trokondas, son of Kotes. Farewell!

Line 1: The name Αρπιας is attested in an honorary decree from Ariassos (ICentral Pisidia 127). The name Μωλέσις with an omega is a variant of the name Μόλεσις, normally spelled with an omikron.

Line 2: Κότῃ serves here as the accusative case of the name Κότῃς. Κότῃ[v] is not conceivable because there is not enough space for a further ny after the final eta.

Arpias obviously outlived his son Kotes as well as his grandson Trokondas. All four generations of this family bear epichoric names deriving from regions outside Caria. Molesis was a well-known name in Mysia, Lydia, Lycia, Phrygia, and Pamphylia.¹⁵ The masculine personal name Moles is attested at Mylasa in Caria.¹⁶ As stated previously, Arpias was a Pisidian name. Kotes was a common name in Pisidia, Phrygia, and Pamphylia¹⁷. L. Robert (Noms indigènes 283, fn. 3) believes that it was a pseudo-Lyidian, and a Cretan name. Trokondas was widespread throughout Phrygia, Lycia, Pisidia, Pamphylia, Lycania, Isauria, and Cilicia.

Dating: The letters appear to date from the Hellenistic period. A stele found in Aydın, dating from the first half of the third century B.C. is comparable to the stele of Kotes and Trokondas.¹⁸ Two other stelai from Stratonikeia seem to have been produced in the same workshop, one¹⁹ of which dates from the last quarter of the second century B.C., the other²⁰ from the late Hellenistic period.

5. Stele of Thoas

Source: Territory of Stratonikeia. *Location:* In the garden of the Museum. *Inventory Number:* 1472.

Dimensions: *Height:* 74 cm.; *Height of Niche:* 51.5 cm.; *Upper Width:* 34.5 cm.; *Lower Width:* 42 cm.; *Width of Niche:* 24 cm.; *Thickness:* 30 cm.; *Height of Letters:* 3 cm.

¹⁵ Robert, Noms indigènes 353–355, 432; Zgusta, Personennamen 325–326.

¹⁶ Zgusta, Personennamen 323.

¹⁷ Zgusta, Personennamen 249–250.

¹⁸ Pfuhl – Möbius, Grabreliefs I no. 104 Taf. 24.

¹⁹ Özgan, Skulpturen, Taf. 50a.

²⁰ Özgan, Skulpturen, Taf. 50b.

Description: White marble. The stele has an arched pediment. The niche in the stele repeats this arch. In the niche is a frontal depiction of a warrior standing on a base. He holds his spear with a crestless helmet under his left arm. The block is badly worn and damaged.

Θόας

2 Ῥομανο[ῶ]

Thoas, son of Rhomanos.



Line 2: Ῥομανο[ῶ] = Ῥωμανο[ῶ]. The reading of the first letter as rho is not certain, but since Rhomanos was a very popular name from the 2nd century AD it seems more favourable than a rare attested name like Κομανός.

Dating: The lunar sigma suggests a date during the Roman Imperial period. The uniform of Thoas, with its vertical stylized stripes, may suggest a date in the Antonine period.²¹

Abbreviated Literature

Cremer, Grabstelen	M. Cremer, Hellenistisch-Römische Grabstelen im nordwestlichen Kleinasien, Bonn 1991 (AMS 4,1).
Horn, Bildwerke	R. Horn, Hellenistische Bildwerke auf Samos; Samos XII, Bonn 1972.
Linfort, Kunstzentren	A. Linfort, Kunstzentren Hellenistischer Zeit, Wiesbaden 1976.
Masson 1988	O. Masson, Noms cariens à Iasos, in: F. Imparati (ed.), Studi di storia e di filologia anatolica dedicati a Giovanni Pugliese Carratelli, Firenze 1988, 155–157.
Özgan, Skulpturen	R. Özgan, Die Skulpturen von Stratonikeia. AMS 32, Bonn 1999.
Pape – Benseler, Eigennamen	W. Pape – G. E. Benseler, Wörterbuch der griechischen Eigennamen, Braunschweig ³ 1911 (Graz 1959).
Pfuhl – Möbius, Grabreliefs	E. Pfuhl – H. Möbius, Die ostgriechischen Grabreliefs I–II, Mainz am Rhein 1977/1979.
Pinkwart, 1973	D. Pinkwart, Weibliche Gewandstatuen aus Magnesia, AntPl 12, 1973, 149–159.
Robert, Noms indigènes	L. Robert, Noms indigènes dans l'Asie Mineure gréco-romaine, Paris 1963.
Şahin, Miletupolis	M. Şahin, Miletupolis Kökenli Figürlü Mezar Stelleri ve Adak Levhaları (yayımlanmamış doktora tezi), Erzurum 1994.
Zgusta, Personennamen	L. Zgusta, Kleinasiatische Personennamen, Prag 1964.

Özet

Muğla Müzesi'nden beş yeni mezar steli

Makalede, Stratonikeia Bölgesi'ne ait beş adet mezar taşı incelenmektedir. 1 numaralı mezar taşının, Stratonikeia kentinin kuzeyinde yer alan kent mezarlığından geldiği söylenmektedir. 3 numaralı mezar taşı Muğla Müzesi tarafından satın alınmıştır. 2, 4 ve 5 numaralı mezar taşları ise yasadışı kazılarla toprak altından çıkarılmış ve mahkeme kararıyla Muğla Müzesi'ne teslim edilmiştir. Mezar taşları üzerindeki Eski Yunanca yazıtların Türkçe çevirileri şu şekildedir: 1– *Ephesos'lu sevgili Rhodaineta, selam sana!* 2– *Ammias, kocası Gourgos'un (ve) oğlu Gourgos'un anısına (bu steli yaptırdı).* 3– *Paresia (bu steli), oğlu Khrysa(o)r'un hatırası için (diktirdi).* 4– *Molesis'in oğlu Arpias, oğlu Kotes'i ve Kotes'in oğlu Trokondas'ı onurlandırdı. Selam sana!* 5– *Romanos'un oğlu Thoas.*

Anahtar Sözcükler: mezar stelleri; Muğla Müzesi; Stratonikeia; Karia.

²¹ Pfuhl – Möbius, Grabreliefs I no. 152 Taf. 34; no. 1877 Taf. 269.