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A Hellenistic Decree from Apollonia under Salbake

ABSTRACT: The author identifies a fragmentary honorific decree in the Archaeological Museum of Denizli-Hierapolis as the upper part of a long-known Hellenistic decree from Apollonia under Salbake in honour of the ambassador Pamphilos, dating shortly after 188 BC. The author proposes various new readings and restorations to the text of the upper part of the decree.

KEYWORDS: Apollonia under Salbake; decree formulae; honorific inscriptions; Hellenistic period.

In 2008, Francesco Guizzi published the upper part of a Hellenistic honorific decree of unknown provenance, now in the Archaeological Museum of Denizli-Hierapolis.¹ The decree, in honour of a certain Pamphilos son of [.]eogenes, is inscribed on a block of white marble, complete at left, right and above (and perhaps below). The face of the stone, particularly the lower left-hand part, is badly worn and extremely difficult to read (Figure 1). Guizzi gives the dimensions of the stone as H. 0.425m, W. 0.51m, Th. 0.24m (letter-height 0.015m). Guizzi prints the following text:

[..]αθινος Ἀριστομάχου Γλύ[κωνο]ς Διογέ-
νου Μην[ά]ς Διονυσίου [εῖπ]αν· ἐπεὶ Πάμφιλο[ς]
[.]εογένου τῶν πολιτῶν ἀνὴρ καλὸς καὶ ἄγα-
[θὸς] καὶ ἐξ ἀρχῆς τῶν [κρ]ατίστων ζηλωτὴς
5 [γε]νόμενος πρὸς πλῖστα ΑΣΤΑΚΑΝ[.]ΝΙΖΩΝ
τῶν αὐτῶν ΔΙΑΤ[...]Α[.]ΣΤΩ[.]ΟΓΟ .
. ΩΝΑ . στῆσαι ΑΠΑΙΙΑΣ[..]ΝΙΑΝΕΙΑΝΠΟ[...]
Μ[..]ΣΥΜΩ[.]ΙΝΙΑ[.]ΙΤ[.]Σ[...]ΙΣΑΙΝΕΥ[.]ΙΡ[..]
ΟΝΔΗΜΟΣ[.]ΑΙΙΙΟΚΑΙΑΙ[..]ΙΙΕΣ[...]ΑΣΙΤ[..]
10 [.....]ΠΑΙΙΑ[..]ΕΙ[- - c.11 - -] ΚΑΙΥΠΙΟ[...]
[- c.7 -]ΙΑ[.]ΙΣΤ[..]Σ[...] ἐγγόνω[.] χορηγῶν [...]
[- - - - c.15 - - - - -]Ν[...]πολιτῶν τῆς π
[- - - - c. 20 - - - - -]ΙΛ.ΝΗΤΗΣ ΤΩΝ
[- - - - c.20 - - - - -]ασάμενος. *vac.*
15 [..]ΣΙΑ [- - - - c.20 - - - - -]ΣΤΟΥ[.....]
[- - - - c.31 - - - - -]

This inscription has attracted little attention since its first publication. It is in fact the upper part of a decree of Apollonia under Salbake in honour of the ambassador Pamphilos, dating shortly after 188 BC, the lower part of which was published in 1954 by Louis and Jeanne Robert in their magisterial corpus of the inscriptions of the Tabai plateau.² As will be clear from comparison of Figures 1 and 3, the lettering of

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¹ F. Guizzi, in Ritti *et al.* 2008, 64–7, no. 13 (SEG 58, 1548; briefly noted by P. Hamon, BE 2010, 511).

² Robert and Robert 1954, 303–12, no. 167 (Ma 2002, 369–71, no. 48); Kaye 2022, 65–7.

Lines A5–6: The verb κανονίζω seems not to appear elsewhere in Hellenistic epigraphy, but the construction (κανονίζειν τι πρός τινα, ‘regulate x by reference to y’) is perfectly standard: compare e.g. the *Letter of Aristeas* 168, προσυπεδεῖξαμέν σοι διότι πάντα κεκανόνισται πρὸς δικαιοσύνην, ‘we have shown you that everything has been regulated by reference to justice’; Lucian, *How to Write History* 9, πρὸς τὰ ἔπειτα κανονιστέον τὰ τοιαῦτα, ‘(praises) of this kind must be regulated by reference to the future’. In the middle of line A5, the reading πρὸς πλῆστα ἄριστα is not quite certain. The *pi*, *tau*, and *alpha* of πλῆστα are clear; the second letter of the word could be either an *alpha* or a *lambda*; this is followed by a vertical stroke, and then apparently a letter with a lower horizontal. πάντα seems incompatible with the traces on the stone.

Lines A6–7: Compare Robert 1945, no. 11 (Sinuri, Hellenistic), lines 3–5: προτεθειμένος ἀπὸ τῆς ἀρχῆς ἐπιτηδεύειν τὰ κάλλιστα καὶ τῆς τῶν προγόνων ἀρετῆς ἄξια πράσσων, ζηλωτής τε τῶν ἀρίστων γείνεται; I.Kyme 13 (decree for Archippe, second century BC), lines VII.18–19, τῆς τῶν προγόνων δόξης ἄξια πράσσουσα.

Lines A7–9: We should take the dative πᾶσι τοῖς π[ολί]ταις in line A8 closely with φανεράν in line A7: compare e.g. I.Priene² 64 (decree for Moschion), lines 60–61, τήν τε πρὸς τοὺς γονεῖς εὗνοιαν προαιρούμενος [πᾶσι φανερὰν καθι]στάναι.

Lines A9–11: It is not clear whether these lines introduce the series of embassies undertaken by Pamphilos which will be discussed at length in the first part of fragment B, or whether the reference is to other liturgies performed or offices held at Apollonia; for the phraseology, compare e.g. I.Nordkarien 211 (Alabanda, decree for Pyrrha[-]), lines 19–20, παρακληθεὶς ὑπὸ τοῦ δή[μου] προθύμως ὑπήκουσεν. At the end of line A9, we are more likely to have [π]όλει τ[- -], or perhaps [- -]ο λειτ[ουργ] - -, than [π]ολείτ[ων], [π]ολείτ[ας] vel sim., since elsewhere in this text πολίτης is always spelled with *iota* only (lines A3, A8, A12); I am unable to suggest a credible restoration.

Line A14: The letters ΧΑΣΑΜΕΝΟΣ are clearly legible on the photograph; this must be the end of the aorist participle of the verb στοχάζομαι, ‘aim at’, ‘have regard to’, a rare verb in Hellenistic honorific epigraphy: compare IG II³ 1, 1141 (late third century BC), lines 8–9, αὐτὸς ἐκὼν τῆς [τοῦ δή]μου [χρ]είας στοχαζόμενος; SEG 64, 492 (Doliche, 167 BC), line III.26, πάντας ὑμᾶς οὖν στοχαζομένους τοῦ καλῶς ἔχον[τος]; IG X 2.1, 4 (Thessalonike, 95 BC), lines 12–13, [κα]θόλῳ στοχαζό[μ]ενος ἐμ πᾶσι τοῦ πρέποντος; I.Kyme 13 (decree for Archippe), lines VII.12–13, τοῦ τῆς πατρίδος συμφέροντος στοχαζομένη.

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Apollonia Salbake'den Bir Hellenistik Kararname

Öz: Denizli-Hierapolis Müzesi’nde korunan, kısa bir süre önce yayımlanan bir kararnamede Pamphilos adında bir elçi onurlandırılmaktadır. Yazar, bu yazıtın daha önce yayınlanmış, Apollonia kentine ait bir onurlandırmanın üst kısmını olduğunu tespit etmektedir. Makalede iki parça birleştirilmekte, böylece neredeyse tümüyle korunmuş metin yeni okuma ve düzeltme önerileriyle bir arada sunulmaktadır. Apameia Barışı’ndan kısa bir süre sonra, yakl. MÖ 188 yılında kaleme alınmış olan metinde elçinin memleketi için gösterdiği diplomatik gayretler dile getirilmektedir.

ANAHTAR SÖZCÜKLER: Apollonia Salbake; kararname; onurlandırma; Hellenistik Dönem.