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PINAR ÖZLEM AYTAÇLAR – ESENGÜL AKINCI

A LIST OF FEMALE NAMES FROM LAODICEA ON THE LYCOS

aus: *Epigraphica Anatolica* 39 (2006) 113–116

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## A LIST OF FEMALE NAMES FROM LAODICEA ON THE LYCOS\*

The inscription presented here has been found in an old cemetery (*eski mezarlık*) located at *İlbadı*, a quarter (*mahalle*) of the city of Denizli. As the find-spot is about 4 kms SW of the site of the ancient Laodicea ad Lycum, the inscription has to be attributed to this city.

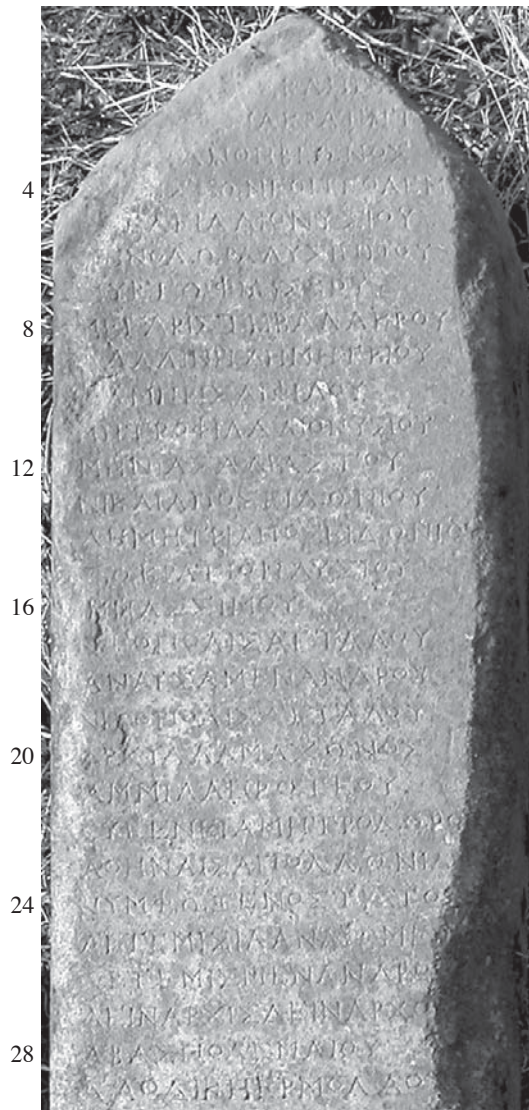
Description: Marble stele (?) which was later cut for forming an Islamic (?) grave marker. After line 30 the letters are carved higher.

Height 1.24; width 0.28; thickness 0.10; letter height 0.010 to 0.016 m.

	[ ca. 9 ] Ἀσκληπι[- ],	[ daughter of A]sklepi[- ],
	[ ca. 8 ] Ἀκρατήτ[ου],	[ daughter of] Akratet[os],
	[ 4–5 ] ἄνθη Βίωνος,	[ ]anthe, daughter of Bion,
4	[ 4–5 ] Ἰσιτὼ Νεοπτολέμ[ου],	[ ]isto, daughter of Neoptolemos,
	[ 2–3 ] ἔλεια Διονυσίου,	[ ]eleia, daughter of Dionysios,
	[Μ]ηνοδώρα Λυσίππου,	[Μ]enodora, daughter of Lysippos,
	Μυρτὼ Φιλίσκου,	Myrto, daughter of Philiskos,
8	Μεγαρίστη Βαλάκρου,	Megariste, daughter of Balakros,
	[?Κ]αλλίνη Δημητρίου,	[?Κ]alline, daughter of Demetrios,
	[Λ]αμπρίς Διφίλου,	[L]ampris, daughter of Diphilos,
	Μητροφίλα Διονυσίου,	Metrophila, daughter of Dionysios,
12	Μηνιάς Ἀδράστου,	Menias, daughter of Adrastos,
	Νίκαια Ποσειδωνίου,	Nikaia, daughter of Poseidonios,
	Δημητρία Ποσειδωνίου,	Demetria, daughter of Poseidonios,
	[?Σ]ωκράτιον Λυσίου,	[?Σ]okration, daughter of Lysias,
16	[.]μμας Σίμου,	[.]mmas, daughter of Simos,
	Νικόπολις Ἀττάλου,	Nikopolis, daughter of Attalos,
	Αναυσα? Μενάνδρου,	Anausa?, daughter of Menandros,
	Νικόπολις Ἀττάλου,	Nikopolis, daughter of Attalos,
20	Ἄρχυλλα Μάχωνος,	Archylla, daughter of Machon,
	Ἄμμιλα Πρωτέου,	Ammila, daughter of Proteas,
	Εὐγένεια Μητροδώρο[υ],	Eugeneia, daughter of Metrodoros,
	Ἀθηναῖς Ἀπολλωνίδ[ου],	Athenais, daughter of Apollonides,
24	Νυμφὼ Ξενοστράτο[υ],	Nympho, daughter of Xenostratos,
	Ἄρτεμισία Ἀνδρομέ[νου?],	Artemisia, daughter of Androme[nes?],
	Ἄρτεμις Μενάνδρου[υ],	Artemis, daughter of Menandros,
	Δείναρχις Δεινάρχο[υ],	Deinarchis, daughter of Deinarchos,
28	Ἀβας Πολεμαίου,	Abas, daughter of Polemaios,
	Λαοδίκη Ἑρμολάου,	Laodike, daughter of Hermolaos,
	Δημητρία Ἰππάρχ[ου]	Demetria, daughter of Hipparchos,
	Λυκίου δὲ γυνή	wife of Lukios,

---

\* We would like to express our thanks to C. Şimşek for encouraging us to publish the inscription, to B. Söğüt and K. Pektaş, who discovered the inscription, for their kind help in copying and photographing it and to A. Tatakı for her kind help and advice during the preparation of the article.



- 32 τοῦ Μηνοφίλου,  
Ἄπολλωνία Μαιανδρ[ίου]  
γυνὴ δὲ Ἄπολλωνίο[υ]  
τοῦ Μενάνδρου,  
36 Μελίτιον  
Ἄρτεμιδώρο[υ]  
γυνὴ δὲ  
Κρατέρου το[ῦ]  
40 Παμμένο[υ],  
Μύρτιον  
Κότυος  
γυνὴ δὲ  
44 Μιλήτου τοῦ

- son of Menophilos,  
Apollonia, daughter of Maiandrios,  
wife of Apollonios,  
son of Menandros,  
Melition,  
daughter of Artemidoros,  
wife of  
Krateros, son of  
Pammenes,  
Myrtion,  
daughter of Kotys,  
wife of  
Miletos, son of

Λαχάρου,	Lachares,
[Ἄρ]τεμισία Θρα-	[Ar]temisia, daughter of Thra-
[σέ]ου γυνή [δὲ]	[se]as, wife of
[     ]ϺΥ[     ]	[     ]     ]

The list, which has to be attributed to the late Hellenistic period, consists of the names of women. The women in the first 29 lines bear only patronymics, while those from line 30 on are married so that also the names of their husbands are recorded. It is also worth noting that the names of these married women are inscribed in careless script, a fact that leads one to suppose that their names were later added by a different mason.

It can be seen at first sight that the list does not have a homogeneous onomastic content; it includes Greek, Macedonian (Βάλακρος, Ἄτταλος, Πολεμαῖος, Λαοδίκη and Κράτερος), Thracian (Κότυς), and local names (Μηνιάς, Ἄδραστος, Αβας, Μίλητος and Ἄρτεμις) together.

As the beginning of the inscription is missing, it is difficult to know who were these women whose names were publicly announced. One may wonder whether it was originally a list containing the names of some unmarried priestesses, to which the names of some married women were added later when the cult practice changed. Or, is it a part of a census-roll, listing women citizens, or is it a part of a list of the members of a religious association? There may be some other possibilities, all far from being certain, and the nature of the list remains mysterious.

#### Notes on some of the names

2 For the name Ἄκράτης cf. *LGPN* I (dubious), III.A and III.B, s.v.

3 There are several possibilities to fit the lacuna, e.g. Χρυσ]άνθη, Ἑρμ]άνθη, Χαρι]άνθη etc.

4 Κρατ]ιστώ, Παλα]ιστώ, Φειδ]ιστώ, Καλλ]ιστώ, Στρατ]ιστώ etc.

5 Εὐτ]έλεια, Ἄτ]έλεια, Ἄνθ]έλεια, Ἄφ]έλεια etc.

8 On the Macedonian name Βάλακρος (or Βάλαγρος) see J. and L. Robert, *Fouilles d'Amazone en Carie* I, Paris 1983, p. 233 and A. Tataki, *Macedonians Abroad* (Meletemata 26), 1998, *passim*.

9 Regarding the lacuna of one letter at the beginning, we can offer only [Κ]αλλίνη, for which see W. Pape – G. E. Benseler, *Wörterbuch der griechischen Eigennamen*, s.v.

10 For the rare female name Λαμπρίς see *LGPN* III.B, s.v.

12 For the local female name Μηνιάς see L. Zgusta, *Kleinasiatische Personennamen*, § 910, cf. A. Wilhelm, *Akademieschriften* II, 178. Ἄδραστος, the name of her father, is characteristic for the region of the Carian-Phrygian borderland (see L. Robert, *Laodicée du Lycos*, 299–301, cf. also H. Malay, *Arkeoloji Dergisi* II, 1994, 181 note 19). Numerous examples of this name can be found in Aphrodisias, Attouda, Trapezopolis, Antiochea ad Maeandrum, Heraclea Salbake and Laodicea ad Lycum.

15 [Σ]ωκράτιον or [Φ]ωκράτιον, both unattested.

16 For [.]μμας one would think of Ἄμμας (see e.g. *IGR* IV, 1575 from Teos) or Ἰμμας (see L. Zgusta, *op. cit.*, § 466–9 [Isauria]). – For an appearance of Σῆμος in Laodikeia see *IvLaodikeia am Lykos* I, no. 5.

17 For another (?) Νικόπολις Ἀτάλου see line 19 (on the occurrence of the female name Νικόπολις in Laodicea see H. Malay – R. Schmitt, *EA* 5, 1985, 27–9).



18 The name *Αναύσσα*, if it does not stand for *Ἀναύσσα* (*IvEphesos*, 1622), is unknown. It is tempting to restore the name as [B]άνανυσα though it is difficult to find a room for *beta*, but not impossible (cf. *Βανανυσίς* and *Βάνανυσος*; O. Masson, *ZPE* 64, 1986, 181).

20 *Ἀρχυλλα* (cf. *Ἀρχιλλα*, *Ἀρχυλλος* and *Ἀρκυλλα*) seems to be unattested.

21 On the name *Ἀμμίλα* (= *Ἀμιλλα* = *Hamilla*) see *IvSmyrna*, 211, cf. also *IvKnidos* I, 400. Parallels for this name can be found in Asia Minor, in Greece and in the Balkans. *Ἀμίλα*, *Ἀμμίλα*, *Ἀμιλλα*, *Ἀμιλλα*, *Ἀμιλλώ*, *Ἀμιλω* and *Ἀμμιλώ* must be the variants of the same name. There is some disagreement among scholars about the origin of this name. In some studies concerning Balcanic names, this name, with its variants, is categorized under the pre-Greek names (A. B. Tataki, *Ancient Beroea*, 1988, pp. 87, 252 and 400, cf. also *SEG* 43, 345). There are also some opinions about their Greek (H. Solin, *Die griechischen Personennamen in Rom. Ein Namenbuch*, 1180) or Macedonian (J. H. Mordtmann, *AM* 7, 1882, 257) origin. The form *Ἀμμείλα* (Isauria), on the other hand, is classified as indigenous by L. Zgusta, *op. cit.*, § 57–27.

22 On the name *Εὐγένεια* see A. Tataki, *Tyche* 8, 1993, 191.

26 On the personal name *Ἀρτεμῖς* see W. Blümel – H. Malay, *EA* 21 (1993), p. 135–6 with commentary.

27 For the female form *Δειναρχίς* see *MAMA* VII, 314 (Sinanlı in Phrygia).

28 *Αβας*, both masculine and feminine, is a well-known Anatolian name: see L. Zgusta, *op. cit.* § 1-2; L. Robert, *Noms indigènes*, 505 with notes 5 and 8 and W. Blümel, *EA* 20, 1992, 9.

29 For an occurrence of the name *Ἐρμόλοος* in a contemporary (?) inscription from Laodicea see *IvLaodikeia am Lycos* I, no. 99.

39 For the Macedonian name *Κράτερος* see L. Robert, *OMS* II, 983.

42 On the Thracian name *Κότυς* see D. Detschew, *Die thrakischen Sprachreste*, 258ff. and *LGPN* IV, s.v.

44 On the heroic name *Μίλητος* see L. Robert, *A travers l'Asie Mineure*, 408.

45 For the appearance of the name *Λαχάρης* in Laodikeia see *IvLaodikeia am Lykos* I, no. 1.

## Özet

Makalede, Laodicea ad Lycum kentinin 4 km. kadar güneybatısında yer alan Denizli Eski Mezarlığı'nda (İlbadı Mezarlığı) bulunmuş, geç Hellenistik döneme ait bir isim listesi ele alınmaktadır. Kadın isimlerinden oluşan ve içinde Grek, Makedon, Thrak ve Küçük Asya isimlerinin birlikte yer aldığı görülen listede, bugüne kadar bilmediğimiz bazı kadın isimleri de yer almaktadır.

Listede adı geçen kadınların ilk 29 satırda baba isimleri ile, ama özensiz bir biçimde yazılmış olan sonraki satırlarda ise onların hem baba hem de kocalarının adları ile anılmaları dikkat çekicidir. Yazıtın başlangıç kısmı eksik olduğundan, listenin hangi amaca hizmet ettiğini söylemek zordur. Bu listenin, başlangıçta evlenmemiş rahibelerin adlarını kaydettiği ve kült kurallarının değişikliğe uğradığı sonraki bir dönemde evli rahibelerin adlarının da listeye eklenmiş olduğu düşünülebilir. Veya belki bu bir nüfus sayımına ilişkin bir listenin kadınları kaydeden bölümüydü. Olasılıkları çoğaltmak mümkün olmakla birlikte, listenin niteliği sırrını koruyacak gibi görünmektedir.