

BA Program in the Archaeology, History, and Literature of Ancient Greece

Course: **75403** Studying Greek History through Inscriptions

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THE EPIGRAPHY OF PIETY

DEDICATIONS

1. *IG I³ 948, Olympieion Athens, c. 521 BC*

Μνῆμα τόδε ἡἷς ἀρχεῖς Πεισίστ[ρατος ἠιππίο ἠ]υιὸς
θεῖκεν Ἀπόλλωνος Πυθ[ί]ο ἐν τεμένει.

Pisistratus, son of Hippios, dedicated this altar to the sanctuary of Pythian Apollo as a souvenir of his office.

2. *The British Museum no 399, Priene, 334 BC*

Βασιλεὺς Ἀλεξάνδρος
ἀνέθηκε τὸν ναὸν
Ἀθηναίῃ Πολιάδι

King Alexander
dedicated this temple
to Athena Polias

3. *IG II² 2891, Acropolis, Athens, 40/41-53/4 AD*

ἀγαθῇ τύχῃ.
in corona:
Γ(άιος) · Ἰούλιος
Μητρόδωρος
Μαραθ(ώνιος)
θεσμοθετήσας Ἀ-
πόλλωνι ὑπ' ὀμ}ἄκραις
ἀνέθηκεν.

With Good Fortune.

G(aios) Ioulios
Metrodoros
from (the deme of) Marathon
after having been *thesmothetes*
dedicated to Apollo under Akropolis.

4. Chr. Löhr, *Griechische Familienweihungen* (2000) no 169, Athens, end of the 4th c. BC

Θουδόσιος Παιανιεύς
Ἀσκληπιῶι ἀνέθηκε
ὑπὲρ τῆς θυγατρὸς.
Θεανώ.

Theudosios from (the demos of) Paiania dedicated to Asklepios for the sake of his daughter.

Theano

5. E. Bernard, *Inscriptions grecques d'Alexandrie ptolémaïque* (2001) no 24, Egypt, 222/1-204 BC

Ὑπὲρ βασιλέως Πτολεμαίου
καὶ βασιλίσσης Ἀρσινόης
Θεῶν Φιλοπατόρων Ἀνούβει.
Οἱ πρεσβύτεροι τῶν ὀλυροκό-
πων, ἱερεὺς Ἀμεννεὺς
Παχῶς Πσάπης
Παψώρθης
Παθροῦς
Πετόσιρις
Πεσιέχων

On behalf of king Ptolemaios and queen Arsinoe Theoi Philopatores, the elders of those who cut the wheat (dedicated) to Anubis

COMMUNICATIONS WITH THE GODS

6. IG II² 4636, Attika, 4th c. BC

Ἀριστοκλέα : Κιτιὰς : Ἀφροδίτη Οὐρανία : εὐξαμένη : ἀνέθηκεν
Aristoklea from Kition dedicated to Aphrodite Ourania (from heaven) having done a wish

7. A. Rizakis – I. Touratsoglou , *Inscriptions from Ano Macedonia I* (1985) 39 no 23A, Velvendos, 2nd-3rd c. AD

θεοῖς ἐπηκόοις
τήνδε χάριν τεύ-
ξας Θεόδοτος
ν εὐξάμενος.

To the gods who hear (the prayers)
Theodotos made this gift
having done a wish
To the gods who hear (the prayers)
Theodotos made this gift
having done a wish

8. *SEG* 41, 1628

Egypt, Kanopos, 2nd c. AD
Ἐπαφρόδειτος Ἴσιδ(ι)
ἀπελεύθερος ἀνέθηκα

I, Eraphrodeitos, ex-slave, dedicated to Isis

INTRODUCING ORIENTAL GODS / EXPORTING GREEK GODS

9. *SEG* 38, 1547, 4th/3rd c. BC

Σωτέλ[ης τοῦ δεῖνος]
Ἀθηναῖο[ς ἡγεμῶν]
καὶ οἱ στρα[τιῶται]
Δι Σωτῆρι,
Ἕ Ποσειδῶνι,
Ἄρτέμιδι
Σωτεῖραι.

Soteles, [son of ...]
Athenian [head of the soldiers]
and the soldiers
to Zeus Saviour,
to Poseidon,
to Artemis

Saviour

10. IG XI 4, 1248

Delos, end of 3rd - beginning of 2nd c. BC

Σαράπιδι, Ἴσιδι, Ἀνούβιδι

Κτησίας Ἀπολλοδώρου Τήνιος

τὸν θησαυρὸν καὶ τὸ στρῶμα

κατὰ πρόσταγμα τοῦ θεοῦ

5 ἀνέθηκεν.

μήτι με θαμβήσεις ἐσιδὼν, ξένε·

τόνδε γὰρ ἡμέριος καὶ πάννυχος ἀμφιβεβηκῶς

θησαυρὸν φρουρῶ θεῖον, ἄπνους ἐών·

ἀλλὰ χαρεῖς ἐνβαλλε ὅ τί σο<ι> φίλον ἐστὶ ἀπὸ θυμοῦ

10 εἰς ἐμὸν εὐδεκτόν σῶμα διὰ στόματος.

This is dedicated to Sarapis, Isis, and Anubis. Ktesias son of Apollodoros of Tenos (island) set up the offering receptacle and the base according **to the command** (*prostagma*) of the god.

Do not be surprised when you see me (i.e. the animal in bronze who guards the treasury) looking fierce, oh stranger! For, patrolling day and night, I guard this divine offering receptacle without sleeping. Yet you please me when you throw whatever your heart desires into my spacious body through the mouth.

SALVATIONS – HEALING INSCRIPTIONS/PRACTICES

11. IG IV 1² 121b, Epidauros, 4th c. BC

Andromache of Epirus, [came to the Sanctuary] for the sake of offspring. She slept in the Abaton and saw a dream. It seemed to her that a handsome boy lifted up her dress, and after that the god touched her belly with his hand. After the dream a son was born to Andromache from her husband Arybbas.

ORACLES

12. M. Guarducci, *Epigrafiá greca* I, 295 ff. and IV 83 ff., Dodona, 550-500 BC

Ἔρμον τίνα

κα θεον ποτθέμ-

ενος γενεά F-

οι γένοιτο ἐκ K-

5 ρεταίας ὀνά-
σιμος πὸτ τᾷ ἐ-
άσσαι.

Hermôn (asks)
by conciliating which of the gods
there would be for him a
profitable offspring
thanks to Kretaia, in addition to
the one he already has.

CURSES - DEFIXIONES

13. *SGDI* 15632, Teos, c. 475 BCE

Α Ὅστις φάρμακα δηλητήρια ποιοῖ ἐπὶ Τηίοισιν τὸ ξυυὸν ἢ
5 ἐπ' ἰδιώτη, κῆνον ἀπόλλυσθαι καὶ αὐτὸν καὶ γένος τὸ κένῳ. | ὅστις
ἐς γῆν τὴν Τηίην κωλύει σίτον ἐσάγεσθαι | ἢ τέχνῃ ἢ μηχανῇ ἢ
10 κατὰ θάλασσαν ἢ κατ' ἡπειροῦ ἢ ἐσαχθέντα ἀνωθεοίη, κῆνον
ἀπόλλυσθαι καὶ αὐτὸν καὶ γένος τὸ κένῳ.

Who ever should make deadly drugs for the Teian community or for an individual, destroy him and his family. Whoever stops the importation of grain into the Teian land or repels it as it is being imported either with skill or device and on sea or on land, destroy him and his family.