

New Honorary Inscriptions from Aizanoi

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This paper introduces four new honorific inscriptions from Aizanoi mentioning significant citizens of high status. Our first inscription is on the base of the statue of Lucius Claudius Lepidus, the ἀρχιερεὺς Ἀσίας and the high priest of Commodus, erected by the *phyle* of Asklepias. In n. 2, the People and the Council of Aizanoi honours [- -]nios, the *chreophylakes*. Nos. 3 and 4 are contemporary statue bases of Philiskos, the ephebos and Neikostratos, the *stephanephoros*. All of the inscriptions have been found in Çavdarhisar during the excavation seasons of 2021 and 2022.¹ Excluding n. 2, the stones are rectangular bemos-type statue bases dating from the Roman Imperial Period. The monuments are now being preserved in the backyard of the excavation house.

No. 1. Honorary inscription of Lucius Claudius Lepidus

Statue base of white marble with moulded top and base. Broken on all sides. Depressions for the statue's feet on top. Found in the ruins of a house in Meydan Mahallesi. Date: 180-192 AD. Inv. n.: YK 13-1. Fig. 1a-b.

h.: 151, w.: 53, th.: 56, l.h.: 2,5-3 cm.

[Tύ]χη Ἄγαθῆ·	12	ναίων πόλεως, στε-	With good fortune... The Askle-
ἡ Ἀσκληπιάς φυ-		φανηφόρον καὶ	pias phyle (honoured) L(ucius)
λὴ Λ. Κλ. Λέπιδον,		ἀγωνοθέτην ἀ-	Cl(audius) Lepidus, the archi-
4 τὸν ἀρχινεώκο-		ποδεδειγμένον	neokoros and lifelong priest of
ρον καὶ ἱερέα τοῦ	16	[τ]ῆς πατρίδος, τὸν	the emperor, high priest, prytanis
Αὐτοκράτορος		εὐεργέτην. ^{vac}	of the polis, high priest of the
διὰ βίου, ἀρχιερέα,		ἐπιμεληθέντων	temples of the most illustrious
8 πρύταγιν τῆς		Ἀρτεμιδώρου Ἀπ-	city of Smyrnaeans, designated
πόλεως, ἀρχ[ερέ]α	20	πουλήσιον καὶ Ιου-	as stephanephoros and agono-
ναῶν τῶν ἡ λαμ-		λιανοῦ Φιλοκάλου	thete of his fatherland, the bene-
προτάτης Σμυρ-		τῶν φυλάρχων.	factor. Artemidoros, son of Ap-
			puleius and Iulianus, son of Phi-
			lukalos were phylarchoi to over-
			see (its installation).

Lucius Claudius Lepidus was the life-long high priest of the emperor in the reign of Commodus. He was the chief priest of Asia and the *neokoros* of the temples in Smyrna. In the third quarter of the second century AD, he was honoured with a series of statues as στεφανηφόρος and

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ἀγωνοθέτης in Aizanoi. The honours of the phylai Herakleas² and Hadriane³ have already been known⁴. This time, in our inscription, the *phyle* Asklepias honours Lepidus. In Aizanoi, this is the second attestation of the Asklepias *phyle*, the name of which first came into light thanks to the excavations in the theatre in 2020.⁵



Fig. 1a-b

Lepidus occurs in two other honorary inscriptions. One of these is an octagonal column with an inscription very similar to the other examples of the series. Although the names of the honoree

² MAMA IX, P55, LBW 842; (CIG 3831a¹³; IGR IV, 586): Ἡ Ἡρακλεὰς φυλὴ | Λ(ούκιον) Κλ(αύδιον) Λέπιδον, τὸν | ἀρχινεώκορον, ιε[ρέα τοῦ αὐτοκράτορος διὰ βίου, ἀρχιερέα Ἀσίας ναῶν ἐν | Σμύρνῃ, στεφανη[φόρον καὶ ἀγωνο]θέτην ἀποδεδει[γμένον τῆς πατρίδος τὸν εὐεργέτην, ἐπιμεληθέντι[τος]

³ MAMA IX, P56 (Günther 1976, 111-5; SEG-26, 1352): Ἡ Ἄδρι[ανὴ φυλὴ Λ.] | Κλ. [Λ]έ[πιδον, τὸν] | ἀρχινεώκο[ρον] | καὶ ιε[ρέα τοῦ αὐτοκράτορος διὰ βίου], | ἀρχιερέα Ἀσίας [ναῶν] | τῶν τῆς λαμπ[ροτά] | τῆς Σμυρν[αίων πο][λ]εως, στεφ[ανηφό]ρον καὶ ἀγ[ωνοθέ]την ἀπο[δειγμέ]νον τῆς π[ατρίδος] | τὸν εὐεργέτην, | ἐπιμεληθέντο[ς] || Φιλίππου Ἀγαθίωνο[ς] | τοῦ φυλάρχου.

⁴ See MAMA IX, p. xxx, with note 9.

⁵ Türkan 2021, 525-6, pl. 7-8. Türkan states that thanks to the excavations held in the theatre, the *phyle* Dionysias is added to the known phylai of Aizanoi. The inscriptions ΑΣΚΛΗΠΙΑΣ and ΔΙΟΝΥΣΙΑΔΟΣ show that the parts of the theatre were reserved for these phylai.

and the *phyle* are lost, it can still be said that this is also an honorific inscription for L. Cl. Lepidus by a *phyle*⁶, perhaps the *phyle* of Dionysias, whose name appears among other phylai in the theatre of Aizanoi.⁷

The family of Lucii Claudii was one of the leading elite families of the city and had outstanding members like L. Cl. Pardalas. Lepidus was the grandchild of L. Cl. Severinus,⁸ the ἀρχινεώκορος of the temple of Zeus and possibly, the forebear of Ti. Claudius Campanus Aurelianus, who claimed himself as descended from high priests.⁹

The neokoria of Zeus is proven by the inscriptions and the coins of Aizanoi, the only city known to have been neokoros of Zeus. M. Ulpius Appuleius Flavianus and his family are important in the cult of Zeus. Appuleius Flavianus was the chief priest of Asia for the temples in Pergamon. His son, M. Ulpius Appuleius Flavianus, was the priest of Zeus for life and agonothetes of the contest held in the god's honour. In the next generation, Eurykles represents his city to the Pan-hellenion in Athens for the year 156/7.¹⁰ Most probably, it was his family who helped to get the title of neokoros for the city.¹¹ After Eurykles, L. Cl. Lepidus was the second ἀρχιερεὺς Ἀσίας from Aizanoi, residing in Smyrna.¹² Besides, as is shown on the coins under Commodus, he held the function of ἀρχινεώκορος at the Zeus temple, just as his grandfather Severinus did.¹³

Two phylarchoi were responsible for the erection of the statue of L. Cl. Lepidus: Artemidoros, son of Appuleius and Iulianus, son of Philokalos. It is quite possible that Artemidoros in our inscription is the same person whom we know from an inscription on the temple of Apollo in Claros. Approximately a decade before our inscription, in 171/172 AD, a delegation of 12 chorists led by Claudius Pardalas and Antonius Eurykles was sent by Aizanoi to Claros. This choir consisted of the sons of the leading families of Aizanoi and included Artemidoros and his two brothers, Apollonios and Antoninus.¹⁴

No. 2. Honorary inscription of [- - -]nios

Marble block with moulding at top. Bottom cut roughly square as if another block joined on. Broken at right. Date: 2nd or 3rd century AD. Fig. 2a-c.

h.: 21, w.: 58, th.: 65, l.h.: 2 cm.

⁶ MAMA IX, 22: [- - -ἀρχι] | ερέα ναῶν | τῶν τῆς λαμπροτάτης | Σμυρναίων || πόλεως, σ[τε] | φανήφορον | καὶ ἀγωνοθέτην ἀποδεειγμένον, τῆς πατρίδος τὸν | εὐεργέτην, | ἐπιμεληθέντος Ἀσκληπιάδου Παπίον Μενάνδρου | φυλάρχου.

⁷ For Dionysias *phyle*, see note 5 above.

⁸ Türkan 2021, 10.

⁹ Türkan 2021, p. xxv.

¹⁰ For the career of M. Ulpius Appuleius Eurykles, see Kearsley 1987, 49-56.

¹¹ Burrel 2004, 116-118.

¹² Wörrle 1992, 362. See also Friesen 1993, 177.

¹³ See SNG von Aulock 30, 91. Naumann 1979, 93, n. 64: ΕΠΙ ΚΛ ΛΕΠΙΔΟΥ ΑΡΧΙΝΕΩΚΟΡΟΥ ΑΙΖΑΝΕΙΤΩΝ.

¹⁴ See Ferrary 2014, n. 192, l.3 and LGPN VC s.v. Ἀπουλήιος (1).



Fig. 2a-c

ή βουλὴ καὶ ὁ δῆμος ἐτίμησαν [ca. 6]-νιον Δημητρίου τοῦ Κλέωνος χρ[εοφυλα]-κήσαντα δίς καὶ στρατηγήσα[ντα καλῶς?]
4 καὶ δικαίως καὶ ἐν πᾶ[σιν εὐεργέτην?].

People and the Council honoured [- - -]nios, son of Demetrios, grandson of Kleon, who served as chreophylakes twice and as strategos (in a good and ?) righteous way and (benefactor?) in all things.

Chreophylakia was one of the prominent public offices in Aizanoi, as seen in the honorific inscriptions of the city's elite citizens.¹⁵ This office is attested in four statue bases: One of these is of Iulianus, son of Tryphon, who was the life-long neokoros of Zeus.¹⁶ The other belongs to

¹⁵ For chyreophylakein, see Wörrle 2014, 454-6 with notes and MAMA IX, p. xxxi.

¹⁶ IGR IV 585 (MAMA IX, P 39): Ἀγαθῇ τύχῃ | ἡ βουλὴ καὶ | ὁ δῆμος ἐτείμησεν Ἰουλι||ανὸν Τρύφω|νος, νεωκό|ρον τοῦ Διὸς | διὰ βίου, ειρη|ναρχήσαντα || καὶ ἀγορανομή|σαντα καὶ στρατηγήσαντα καὶ | χρεοφυλακή|σαντα καὶ πά||λιν στρατηγή|σαντα τὸν πρώ|τον τόπον | καὶ ἐν τοῖς | λοιποῖς χρή||σιμον ἔαυτὸν | παρασχόντα τῇ πατρί|δι.

Menophilos, son of Apollonios, who conducted several magistracies, including the strategia, panegyriarcheia and grammateia.¹⁷ The third one honours the euergetes Hordeonios, son of Antiochos, who held the offices of agoranomia, strategia and boularchia alongside chreophylakia.¹⁸ Unfortunately, the name of the fourth euergetes who served as chreophylakes is missing.¹⁹

The chreophylakes must have been in charge of registering private and public debtors and archiving the documents securely. Therefore, it requires high trustworthiness. In Phrygia, the office occurs in Akmoneia, Eumeneia, Apameia and Hieropolis.²⁰ However, it is not peculiar to the region, and many examples can be found elsewhere.²¹

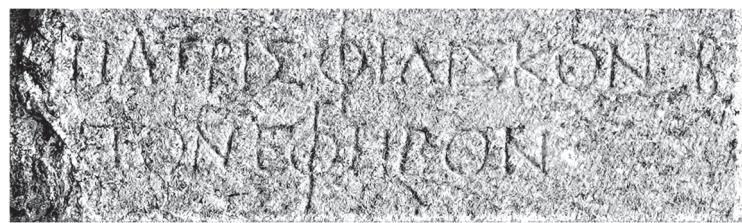
No. 3. Honorary inscription of Philiskos



Fig. 3a-b

Rectangular altar of greyish marble. Upper and lower mouldings are broken on the left side of the stone. Found at the excavations at Pankalas River. Date: probably 1st century AD. Fig. 3.a-b.

h.: 115, w.: up. 54-mid. 46-low. 53, th.: up. 39-mid. 41-low. 41, l.h.: 2,5-6,2 (phi) cm.



ἡ πατρὶς Φιλίσκον β' His fatherland (honoured) the
2 τὸν ἔφηβον. ephesos Philiskos, son of Philiskos.

¹⁷ LBW 984 (MAMA IX, P 43): ἡ βουλὴ καὶ ὁ δῆμος ἐτείμησεν | Μηνόφιλον Ἀπολλωνίου στρατηγήσαντα ἐπιφανῶς καὶ γραμματεύσαντα καὶ | πανηγυριαρχήσαντα καὶ χρεοφυλακήσαντα | καὶ ἐν ἄλλοις | πολλοῖς γενόμενον χρήσιμον τῇ πατρίδι.

¹⁸ LBW 985 (MAMA IX, P 41): [ἡ βου]λ[ὴ] καὶ ὁ δῆμος ἐτείμησεν | [.] | Όρδεώνιον Ἀντιόχου, νε[ωκ]ό[ρ]ον τῷ Διός, ἀνδρα καὶ ἀγαθὸν καὶ φιλόπατριν, ἀγορανομήσαντα, στρατηγήσαντα ἐπιφανῶς, βουλαρχήσαντα, χρεοφυλακήσαντα δις, | δόντος καὶ εἰς τὰ | σειτωνικὰ χρήματα ἀργύριον | παρ' ἑαυτοῦ δις, || καὶ ἐν τοῖς λοιποῖς εὐχρηστοῖς γενόμενον | τῇ πόλει· ἀναστησάντων || τὸν ἀνδριάντα | Εὐδόξου καὶ Ἀντιόχου τῶν ὑῶν | αὐτοῦ.

¹⁹ IGR IV, 580: χρεωφυλακήσαντα, δόντα ἀργύριον | εἰς τὸ γυμνάσιον ὄμοιώς καὶ εἰς | τὰ σειτωνικὰ, ἐργεπιστατήσαντα | πολλάκις, παρασχόντα τῷ κυρίῳ | Καίσαρι σύμμαχον || διωγμείτην παρ' ἑαυτοῦ κατὰ ἀνθύπατον Κυιντίλιον | Μάξιμον, ἀναθέντα | καὶ τὰ ιερὰ τὰ ἐν τῇ ἐξέδρᾳ τῆς βασιλικῆς.

²⁰ See Wörrle 2014, 455, note 61.

²¹ For other examples, see *ibid.*, 455, note 63.

h.: 115, w.: up. 54-mid. 46-low. 53, th.: up. 39-mid. 41-low. 41, l.h.: 2,5-6,2 (phi) cm.

l.1: For another Philiskos from Aizanoi, see *MAMA* IX, 423.

'Η πατρίς frequently occurs in the inscriptions of Aizanoi. However, in only two published examples, it is in the nominative case as the honorer. The bemos in *MAMA* IX, 40 is the honorary inscription of Heliodoros, who appears as an arch(iereus) or arch(ineokoros). The inscription is dated to the late 2nd or early 3rd century AD. In the other example dating from the reign of Commodus or Severus, the honorand is Cl. Stratonikos, the μέγας εὐεργέτης and κτίστης of the city.²² Our inscription can be dated to the 1st century AD on the ground of the letter forms. For a similar and probably contemporary statue base, see our n. 4.

It is also worth mentioning that Philiskos was defined as an ephebos. In Aizanoi, the age classes of Neoi and Epheboi occur at a relatively early date, as the honorary decree of Menogenes shows.²³ This inscription is dated to the year 37, corresponding to 49/8 BC (Sullan) or 6/7 AD (Actian)²⁴ and projects that Aizanoi had the civic organisation of a typical Greek polis at that time.²⁵

No. 4. Honorary inscription of Neikostratos

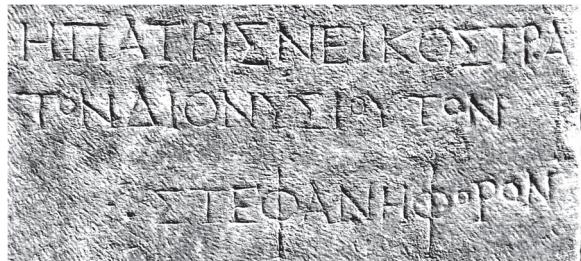


Fig. 4a-b

Rectangular bemos-shaped statue base of marble. Depressions for the statue's feet on top and holes for supporting dowels. Date: probably 1st century AD. Fig. 4a-b.

h.: 113, w.: up. 64-mid. 50-low. 66, th.: up. 63-mid. 53-low. 68, l.h.: 3, 1,5 (omicron), 7 (phi) cm.

For a similar and contemporary statue base, see above n. 3.



ή πατρίς Νεικόστρα-
 τον Διονυσίου τὸν
 στεφανηφόρον.
His fatherland (honoured) Neikostratos, son of Dionysios, the stephanephoros.

²² *MAMA* IX, P 34 (*IGR* IV, 570).

²³ Günther 1975, 351-356.

²⁴ For the discussions on dating the inscription, see *MAMA* IX, p. liv.

²⁵ See Thonemann 2013, 25-27.

We find a Neikostratos, the father of Menophilos, the ten times priest of Zeus, in two honorary inscriptions from Aizanoi.²⁶

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Aizanoi'dan Yeni Onur Yazıları Özet

Bu makalede, 2021 ve 2022 kazı sezonları sırasında Aizanoi antik kentinde bulunmuş olan dört adet onurlandırma yazımı ele alınmaktadır. 2 numaralı yazıt dışında tümü dörtgen *bomos* tipi heykel kaideleridir ve Roma İmparatorluk Dönemi'ne tarihlenmektedirler. 1 numaralı yazıt İmparator Commodus'un ölüm boyu başrahibi, Asia başrahibi ve Smyrna'daki tapınakların *neokorosu* olan Lucius Claudius Lepidus'a aittir. İS 2. yüzyılın 3. çeyreğine tarihlenir. Lepidus, Aizanoi'da, *stephanophoros* ve *agonothetes* olarak bir dizi heykel kaidesi ile onurlandırılmıştır. Bunlardan Herakles ve Hadriane *phyleleri* tarafından gerçekleştirilmiş olanları bilinmekteydi. Bu yeni yazıt ile

²⁶ MAMA IX, 35 (P 44). See also SEG 45, 1714.

birlikte, Lepidus'u onurlandıran Aizanoi *phyleleri* arasına Asklepias *phylesi* de katılmıştır. Asklepias *phylesi*, adına ilk olarak 2020 yılında tiyatrodada yapılan kazılarda rastlanan *phyle* idi. 2 numaralı yazıt, *khreophylakes* olarak görev yapmış olan (- - -)nios'un Meclis ve Halk tarafından onurlandırılmasıdır. *Khreophylakia* memuriyeti, Aizanoi'da onde gelen memurluklar arasındadır ve kentin elit vatandaşlarının onurlandırma yazıtlarında karşımıza çıkmaktadır. 3 ve 4 numaralı yazıtlar *bomos* tipi heykel kaideleridir ve çağdaştırlar. Her iki yazıt da ἡ πατρίς tarafından onurlandırılan kişilere aittir. 3 numaralı yazitta, *ephebos* olan Philiskos onurlandırılmaktadır. 4 numaralı yazıt ise vatanı tarafından onurlandırılan *stephanephoros* Neikostratos'a aittir. Yazıtların çevirisini söyleyelim:

No. 1: *Hayır olsun! Asklepias phylesi, İmparatorun arkineokoros'u ve hayat boyu rahibi, başrahip, şehrin prytanisi, Smyrnalıların parlak şehrindeki tapınakların başrahibi, vatanı tarafından stephanephoros ve agonothetes olarak görevlendirilmiş olan hayırseveri L(ucius) Cl(audius) Lepidus'u (onurlandırdı). Phylarkhos'lar Appuleius oğlu Artemidoros ve Philokalos oğlu Iulianus (heykelin dikilme işini üstlendiler).*

No. 2: *Meclis ve Halk, iki kez khreophylakes olarak görev yapmış olan Kleon torunu, Demetrios oğlu (- - -)nios'u, (iyi ve?) dürüst bir şekilde strategos'luk görevinde bulunduğu ve tüm (hayırseverlikleri?) için onurlandırdı.*

No. 3: *Vatani, Philiskos oğlu, ephebos Philiskos'u (onurlandırdı).*

No. 4: *Vatani, Dionysios oğlu, stephanephoros Neikostratos'u (onurlandırdı).*

Anahtar Sözcükler: Aizanoi, onur yazıtları, Phrygia, Roma İmparatorluk Dönemi.

New Honorary Inscriptions from Aizanoi

Abstract

This article discusses four honouring inscriptions found in the ancient city of Aizanoi during the 2021 and 2022 excavation seasons. Except for inscription 2, all of them are quadrangular *bomos*-type statue bases and date to the Roman Imperial period. Inscription No. 1 belongs to Lucius Claudius Lepidus, lifelong high priest of Emperor Commodus, high priest of Asia, and *neochoros* of the temples in Smyrna. It dates to the 3rd quarter of the 2nd century AD. Lepidus was honoured at Aizanoi with a series of statue basis as *stephanephoros* and *agonothetes*. These were known to have been erected by the *phyle* of Heracleas and Hadriane. With this new inscription, the *phyle* of Asclepias has been added to the *phylai* of Aizanoi honouring Lepidus. The *phyle* of Asclepias was the *phyle* whose name was first encountered during the excavations in the theatre in 2020. Inscription number 2 is the honouring of (- - -)nios, who served as *chreophylakes*, by the Assembly and the People. The office of *chreophylakia* was one of the most prominent offices in Aizanoi and is found in inscriptions honouring the elite citizens of the city. Inscriptions 3 and 4 are *bomos*-type statue bases and are contemporary. Both inscriptions belong to persons honoured by ἡ πατρίς. Inscription 3 honours Philiskos, an *ephebos*. Inscription 4 belongs to *stephanephoros* Neikostratos, honoured by his homeland.

Keywords: Aizanoi, honorary inscriptions, Phrygia, Roman Imperial Period.