

A War Written in Stone: *IEphesos* V, no. 1450 and Ephesos' *Koinos Polemos*

This paper examines the contents and context of the inscription *IEphesos* V, no.1450, its *lacunae*, and its date. This paper also discusses whether the war at Ephesos mentioned in *IEphesos* V, no. 1450 was the *koinos polemos* (common war) Ephesos fought with Prienian rebels against the tyrant of Priene, Hieron (300-297 BC), and whether this war also involved the recently revived Ionian League. In this examination of *IEphesos* V, no. 1450's text, I will fill in and argue for the full name of the Magnetan to whom the Ephesians are conferring citizenship for ransoming freemen and slaves after the war. In addition to literary accounts on conflicts at Ephesos during the end of the fourth and beginning of the third centuries BC, I examine secondary scholarship, archeological data, and other inscriptions that mention Hieron of Priene and the *koinos polemos* such as *IEphesos* Ia, no. 4 (297/6BC), *IEphesos* VI, no. 2001 (ca. 298 BC), and *IPriene*, nos. 11 (297 BC) and 37 (196-192 BC). Contrary to Biemann (1994) who dates this inscription to Ephesos' subjugation by the *strategos* of Lysimachos, Prepelaos, in 302 BC, I argue that *IEphesos* V, no. 1450 was inscribed right after Hieron launched a devastating attack on Ephesos in late 298 BC during a *koinos polemos* between the tyrant and the Ionian League.

In support of my argument, I first examine *IEphesos* V, no. 1450's text and its *lacunae* to try and produce a fuller version of the text. Specifically, I attempt to reconstruct the name of the Magnetan son of Poseidonius honored in the text, of which only the first three letters remain (Thras-), by analyzing both the stone itself and cross-referencing with possible matches in the Lexicon of Greek Personal Names (LGPN) based on the nature of the *lacuna*. To establish the inscription's date, although Biemann (1994) places its contents within the context of Prepelaos'

subjugation of Ephesos in 302 BC, my discussion on the historical record of Prepelaos' attack will instead show how Bielman's dating for the inscription cannot be the case and it is better dated to 298 BC. I then cross-reference inscriptions from Ephesos and Priene concerning Ephesos' conflict with Hieron and reconstruct the events of the war. I also explain how this conflict was, as *IEphesos* Ia, no. 4 describes, a *koinos polemos*. The Ionian League, which seems to have recently been revived by Antigonos and of which Ephesos and Priene were members, likely had a significant interest in deposing Hieron and returning Priene to its people because of Priene's proximity and access to the league's meeting place, the Panionian. Finally, I explore the role that the Magnetan son of Poseidonius and the captured freemen and slaves had in the *koinos polemos*, as well as to what extent Hieron damaged the Ephesian polis' lands and finances, in order to understand why the Ephesian politeia relied on a benefactor to supply the ransom for the captured people.

Bibliography

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