Newly Discovered Greek Inscriptions

Pinhas Porath

These inscriptions, among others, have come to my attention as the result of my work as inspector of antiquities since 1970 for the region east of Afula and south of Tiberias, Israel. Since all the inscriptions except no. 3 come from unknown sites I can supply no details as to their origins except to say that they probably come from the Golan Heights.

1. Havat Shoshana

Found by Mr. M. Har-Tsion, the owner of the Ḥavat Shoshana cattle ranch, among piles of stones brought from the Golan. A monumental tombstone made of basalt, measuring 134x 44x 24 cm. The height of the letters is 6-10 cm.

1.	ПАПІ	Παπί-
2.	ΑΣΑΝ	ας 'Αν-
3.	TIOXOY	τιόχου
4.	ΑΩΡΕ	ἄωρε
5.	XAIPE	χαῖρε

For the name Παπίας see W. Pape-G. Benseler, Wörterbuch der Griechischen Eigennamen (Graz 1959) 1137; G. Kaibel, EG No. 666; P. Frey, CII, ii, No. 1374 a, b — inscriptions of Jews from Beit-Shean (Scythopolis) buried in Jerusalem.

2. Havat Shoshana

A basalt lintel from a monumental building found among the same stones as no. 1. The inscription is in a wreath which is part of a fairly complicated composition containing knots, birds and other objects. The composition seems similar to the decorations in the Golan synagogues. The stone measures 81 x 29 x 18 cm. The height of the letters is 2-4 cm.

ΕΥΤΥ Εὐτυ ΧΙΤΩ χ(ε)ίτω
ΟΥΛΠΙ Οὔλπι(ος)

For εὐτυχ(ε)ίτω with nom. (fem.) see EG, No. 908. 6.

3. Beit-Shean

The inscription is on a limestone sarcophagus found during the laying of a pipeline in 1962 west of the northern cemetery of Beit-Shean. Judging by the pottery and mosaic floors in the area the sarcophagus is from the Byzantine period. The dimensions of the sarcophagus, now in the Beit-Shean museum, are $204 \times 74 \times 70$ cm., the height of the letters is 6-7 cm.

1. ΙΜΜΙΔΟΥ C 'Ιμμιδοῦς

IMMIΔΟΥΣ appears on a headless bust of a female from Beit-Shean. The bust, now lost, was formerly in the Musée de Notre Dame de France. For details see I. Skupinska-Løvset, *Funerary Portraiture of Roman Palestine* (Gothenburg 1983) p. 96, cat. no. 172, pl. LIX, pp. 119, 142, note 37.

4. Tel Katsir

A fragment of a tombstone found built into a stone kerb in 1982. The stone, now in the Beit Gordon Museum at Degania A, is almost surely from the Golan. The height of the letters is 6-7 cm. and the remaining portion of the stone measures $54 \times 25 \times 18$ cm.

ΑΡ.ΚΙ [Θ]άρσ(ε)ι
ΑΝΝΟΥ ['Ιω]άννου
ΕΤ Ξ ἐτ(ῶν) ξ'

Since a genitive is not to be expected after $[\Theta]$ $\mathring{a}\rho\sigma(\epsilon)\iota$, $[I\omega]$ $\mathring{a}vvo\upsilon$ is problematic. Possibly we have a patronymic, a personal name being lost between $[\Theta]$ $\mathring{a}\rho\sigma(\epsilon)\iota$ and $[I\omega]$ $\mathring{a}vvo\upsilon[\varsigma]$. Or the name may be completed as [M] $\mathring{a}vvo\upsilon[\varsigma]$, $[\Pi]$ $\mathring{a}vvo\upsilon[\varsigma]$, [I] $\mathring{a}vvo\upsilon[\varsigma]$, etc.

5. Kafar Miser

A tombstone from the Golan now in the possession of Mr. H. Sabihiya of Kafar Miser near Ein-Dor. The basalt stone is 49x 28x 15 cm. and the height of the letters is 6-9 cm.

1.	CABINA	Σαβίνα
2.	ΘΕΟΔ	Θεοδ-
3.	ΩΡΟΥ	ώρου
4.	ΕΤΛ	ἐτ(ῶν) λ'

For another mention of a Sabina from the Golan see SCI6 (1981/2) p. 109 no. 21.

6. Beit Gordon

This stone, said to come from the Golan, is now in the Beit Gordon Museum at Degania A. The stone may have been the lintel of a mausoleum. The style of the letters and the abbreviative signs 'S' indicate the Byzantine period. The stone, made of basalt, measures 83x 30x 20 cm., the height of the letters being 8–9 cm.

MNHCCKPSXAPEREKTY

Μνή(μη)ς Σκρ(ινιαρίου) Χάρ(ιν) ἐπέκτ(ισεν) Υ[-

ΙSΑΝΝΑΣΙΑΑς Σεργίου

SANNACIÀASCEPTIÖS

For Mvή(μη)ς see E. Nachmanson, Eranos 10 (1910) 120 ff.; Ph. Lebas-W.H. Waddington, IGL no. 1016; W. Calder MAMA 7, nos. 409, 444 etc. — For Σκρ(ινιαρίου) see H. Grégoire, BCH XXXIII, p. 143, no. 115, there: CKP. — For ἐπέκτ(ισεν) see, IG XII 7 no.206 and C. Kraeling (ed.) Gerasa (1983) no.423.

Israel Department of Antiquities



Inscription No. 1



Inscription No. 2



Inscription No. 3



Inscription No. 4



Inscription No. 5



Inscription No. 6