LYCIA UNDER ROME

C. KOKKINIA: *Die Opramoas-Inschrift von Rhodiapolis. Euergetismus und soziale Elite in Lykien*. Pp. xi + 274. Bonn: Dr Rudolf Habelt GmbH, 2000. Cased, DM 148. ISBN: 3-7749-2970-X.

Kokkinia's doctoral thesis is a new edition of the longest preserved Greek text on stone: the famous collection of decrees and letters in favour of Opramoas, one of the greatest benefactors of Lycia under Roman rule (first half of the second century A.D.). The inscription, about 2000 lines long, was incised on the walls of his long-since-ruined mausoleum, and it consists of hundreds of fragments; by assigning 115 out of the 228 fragments left unassigned in the previous editions to their presumably original place, K. achieves its most complete publication so far.

K. begins her book with a short introductory section (pp. 1–8: a characterization of the inscription, material remains, date, and history of research), before proceeding to several studies on the text itself, which also serve as a justification for its reconstruction (pp. 8–16). She also makes useful remarks of a more general value which, although concerned with the language and orthography of this particular text, can in general be applied to the epigraphy of Asia Minor at that time.

After this helpful introduction, K. presents her reconstruction of the text (pp. 17–75) with a double system of numeration. She has divided the distribution of the inscription on each wall of the mausoleum into a grid-like scheme of columns of text (Roman numerals) and rows of blocks (capital letters), which appear on the left-hand side of the printed inscription (e.g. 'IB' is the first column, second block from above). On its right-hand side, each single document is numbered and its contents briefly characterized. To make this easier to understand, K. adds five 'Beilagen' to her book, the first of which shows the distribution of the inscription on the walls of the building and her system of numeration. Next comes the first German translation of the entire text (pp. 76–106; it would, however, be more user-friendly if the Greek and the German were printed on facing pages instead of placing the translation after the Greek text). This, in turn, is followed by a thorough commentary on the running text of the inscription (pp. 107–89), in which, for example, questions of reconstruction (including placing of fragments) and of the meaning of single words or expressions are addressed, as well as problems which occur only once.

The complex inscription, however, contains on the one hand so much useful information about Lycia in Roman times (especially about the organization of the province) and on the other hand presents so many problems that—beyond the running commentary—another type of explanation and interpretation is necessary. Therefore K. addresses a good number of issues in the fourth part of her book ('Historische Interpretation', pp. 190–246). This is divided into the chapters 'Chronologie' (pp. 190–213), 'Ämter und Ehren' (pp. 213–33), and 'Der lykische Weltbürger' (pp. 233–46). The chapter about the chronology not only deals with the dates of the documents relating to Opramoas, but also tries to establish a chronology of the Lycian high-priests in his time. To achieve this, K. begins with the Opramoas inscription, but takes into account also the much shorter inscription of a contemporary benefactor of Lycia, Iason of Kyaneai. The second chapter is the most important for the understanding of the inner organization of Lycia. Among other issues, K. discusses the still highly controversial question of the identity of the offices of Lyciarch and high-priest. She holds, rightly I think, that these titles indicate the two different aspects of one and the same office; in contrast to 'high-priest', however,

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'Lyciarch' could be used as a lifelong honorary title. After their term of office, the high-priests may have become members of the federal council. Another leading officer was the 'archiphylax', whose title—according to K.—replaced the Hellenistic title of 'strategos', which could, however, sometimes still be used synonymously. His duties were now mainly fiscal (collection of taxes for Rome), and K. puts forward the original idea that the office was held for two years, first as junior, then as senior officer; therefore two office-holders with overlapping tenure were in charge at only one time. A chapter about minor offices (p. 222) is rather short; for the benefit of the reader, it could have included some explanations. The last chapter in this section examines the family of Opramoas, its accession to the Lycian élite and some formulae used in the inscription in connection with his offices and benefactions. The formula *πολιτευόμενος καὶ ἐν ταῖς κατὰ Λυκίαν πόλεσιν πάσαις* is taken to indicate citizenship (and perhaps the holding of offices) in all Lycian cities. Despite Opramoas' prominent rôle, his family seems to have become a member of the élite only a short time earlier, and he himself never received Roman citizenship.

The book concludes with a summary, a bibliography, and exhaustive indices. In sum, it is a thorough study with important results not only for the reconstruction and interpretation of this fascinating inscription, but also for our understanding of the Lycian League under Roman rule and the rôle of its élite in making it work.

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GREEK ECONOMIC LIFE

L. MIGEOTTE: *L'économie des cités grecques de l'archaïsme au Haut-Empire romain*. Pp. 160. Paris: Ellipses, 2002. Paper. ISBN: 2-7298-0849-3.

Professor Léopold Migeotte is well known for his epigraphic studies of life and institutions in the Greek cities of the ancient world, especially public finances. At the end of his career, he has now decided to bring together his research experience in a synthesis on the economy of the Greek world from archaic times to the Roman empire. The result is this short book of a 160 small pages. It is intended as a basic introduction primarily for students at beginner's level. This is a format which seems to suit the author well. One does not usually look to textbooks for daring new questions and original perspectives. Of inclination a traditionalist, M. is quick to express reservations and counsel caution about the many theoretical advances made in the study of the ancient economy in the past few decades. Instead, he favours a more empiricist approach, adopting as far as possible the perspective of the (fragmented) ancient sources (pp. 8–9). The structure of the book reflects this more traditional, empiricist orientation: first, a short introduction, then a broad chapter outlining some fundamental principles of the economy of the ancient Greek world, followed by three chapters dealing in succession with agriculture, manufacturing, and trade, and finally a brief conclusion. The intention has clearly been to provide an undramatic, sound version of ancient Greek economic life.

Such an approach is not without merits. Throughout the book M. offers interesting observations on particular points of the ancient reality, for example, on taxation (pp. 41–6) and on the economic aspects of the informal and formal methods the Greeks used to regulate economic relations between citizens of different city-states (pp. 125–36). Neither is he in practice impervious to the themes made prominent by

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