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## ΠΟΛΕΙΣ AND ΠΟΛΙΤΕΙΑΙ IN UPPER MACEDONIA UNDER THE PRINCIPATE: A NEW INSCRIPTION FROM LYKE IN ORESTIS

Although new inscriptions and archaeological data have tended to refute earlier views that there were no urban centres in Upper Macedonia under the Principate and that the main form of civic organisation in the region was the *komai*,<sup>1</sup> the degree of urbanisation —i.e. the number of cities— in the region is still a matter for debate. Modern scholars' estimates vary on this point, and this is partly due to the different interpretations that have been given at various times of the nature of the communities in Upper Macedonia, which in three different inscriptions are referred to as *politeiai*: i.e. the *politeiai* of Orestis (Battyna and Lyke) and Elimia (Oblostai). Thus, chiefly on the basis of the famous decree of Battyna, some scholars refer to these *politeiai* as cities, others doubt that they really were proper cities, and yet others believe that they were tribal communities.<sup>2</sup>

It is symptomatic of the general puzzlement that two eminent experts in

<sup>1.</sup> See the views of T. Mommsen, *Römische Geschichte*, Berlin 1894, vol. V, 275 and M. Rostovtzeff, *The Social and Economic History of the Roman Empire*, second edition, Oxford 1957, p. 253. For the views of other scholars who have challenged the existence of cities in Macedonia, particularly in the Classical period, see J. N. Kalléris, *Les Anciens Macédoniens*, Athens 1976, vol. II, pp. 575 n. 1, 576 n. 1, 590 n. 2, and 614 n. 6. For the degree of urbanisation in Macedonia in general and Upper Macedonia in particular in the period under discussion, see F. Papazoglou, *Les Villes de Macédoine à l'époque romaine (BCH*, Suppl. 16), Athens 1988, pp. 441–2.

<sup>2.</sup> For the opinions that have been ventured from time to time regarding the nature of these communities, see F. Papazoglou, "Encore une fois sur une signification tardive du mot politeia", ZA 45, 1995, 239–40. Regarding Lyke, we must also add the views of Ph. Petsas, "Xqovixá 'Aqxaioλoyixá 1968-70", Maxeδovixá 15 (1975), 311, and D. Samsaris, Totopixń Γεωγραφία τῆς Ρωμαϊκῆς Έπαρχίας τῆς Μακεδονίας, Thessalonike 1989, p. 153, who both call it a city. As far as we know, no special study has been devoted to the term *politeia*; for the various meanings of the term in the inscriptions, see P. Herrmann's brief but comprehensive article, "Epigraphische Notizen 10–2", EA 21, 1993, 71–2 (10 πολιτεία).

the study of the Macedonian institutions have argued this particular issue from diametrically opposed positions in recent works. M. B. Hatzopoulos believes that the *politeiai* were simply *komai* — communities with rudimentary civic organisation and limited autonomy as regards their external relations and consequently their dealings with the Roman authorities.<sup>3</sup> This theory has been criticised by Ph. Papazoglou, who argues that in Upper Macedonia the term meant a 'small civic community' (*petite communauté civique*), apparently meaning a city and standing by her theory about the origin of the word in the Macedonian inscriptions — i.e. that it is the Greek rendering of the Latin term *civitas.*<sup>4</sup>

We believe that fresh light is shed on the problem by the epigraphical find published here. It is a dedicatory inscription that was found in the summer of 1995 during an excavation conducted by Professor Nikolaos Moutsopoulos in the little basilica of St Demetrius on the islet of Ayos Ahillios on the smaller of the Prespa Lakes.<sup>5</sup>

Parallelipedic slab of soft limestone damaged at the left edge. Re-used as the lintel over the door from the narthex into the naos. Dimensions  $1.04 \times 0.34 \times 0.34 \text{ m}$ . Height of letters 0.030-0.050 m. Now in its finding place, the narthex of the church. The script is carefully executed. Characteristic letters are the reverse *sigma*, found eight times (II. 1, 2 and 3), and the *upsilon*, which is considerably taller than the other letters (II. 3 and 4).<sup>6</sup> Ligatures : TH in II. 1 and 4 (Plate 1).

**<sup>3.</sup>** "Epigraphie et villages en Grèce du nord: Ethnos, polis et kome en Macédoine", *L' Epigrafia dell Villagio*, Faenza 1992, pp. 158–9; *idem, Macedonian Institutions under the Kings*, Athens 1996 vol. I (MEAETHMATA, 27), pp. 80–1.

**<sup>4.</sup>** Papazoglou (n. 2), 243.

<sup>5.</sup> We should like to thank Professor N. Moutsopoulos both for his permission to study and publish the inscription and for his information about the circumstances of its discovery.

<sup>6.</sup> The reverse sigma does not appear in the published inscriptions from Upper Macedonia, though it is seen in a few inscriptions from Thessalonike from the mid-first century AD onwards: see IG X 2, 1, 70 (AD 66/7), 34 (AD 89), 69 (late 1st c. AD), 304 (2nd c. AD), 744, 749, and 812 (2nd/3rd c. AD). The distinctive tall upsilon is also seen in two inscriptions from Thessalonike: see IG X 2, 1, 57 (2nd c. AD; cf. D. Diamantourou-Papakonstantinou, "Eπιγραφαί Μυγδονίας, Κρηστωνίας, 'Ανθεμοῦντος, Χαλκιδικῆς'', Ποικίλα, Athens 1990 (Μελετήματα, 10), p. 243, for a photograph and the improved text of the inscription), and 208 (2nd or 3rd c. AD; cf. P. Adam-Veleni, Μαχεδονιχοί Βωμοί, unpublished diss., Thessalonike 1996, p.181-82, No. 65, with photograph and the inscription dated on the basis of the form of the monument in the late 2nd c. AD).

[Θε]οις Δ Σεβαστοις και τη Αυκαίων [πό]λει ΔΛ. Φλαούιος Φαβρικιανός Δ ['Αντ]ίπατρος διά τοῦ ἰδίου πατρός Λευκίου [Φλ]αουίου Φαβρικιανοῦ τη πατρίδι θρεπτήριον

The reference to the  $\theta eoi \Sigma \epsilon \beta a \sigma \tau oi$  does not constitute firm evidence for dating the inscription to a period when there were more than one emperor — i.e. after AD161— because the phrase could equally well refer to the living Emperor and his deified predecessors.<sup>7</sup> Thus, apart from the *gentilicium* Flavius borne by the individuals mentioned, which dates the inscription to after the third quarter of the first century AD, there is no further internal evidence for its dating. However, the overall impression given by the writing suggests that the text probably belongs to the second, if not the early third, century AD.

The individuals mentioned in the inscription are not known from elsewhere. Their *cognomen* is found once more in Upper Macedonia. In an inscription from Herakleia in Lynkos, the *koinon* of the Macedonians honours the daughter of a Roman, one of whose *cognomina* is Fabricianus.<sup>8</sup> The same *cognomen* also appears in an inscription from Beroia, which preserves a very fragmentary letter to the city from a Roman official or emperor.<sup>9</sup> The name Antipatros borne as a second *cognomen* by the first person mentioned in the inscription is met occasionally in Upper Macedonia<sup>10</sup> and attests that, under the Principate, inhabitants of the region used the names of figures from Macedonian history.

<sup>7.</sup> See E. Meyer, "Augusti", Chiron 5 (1975), 393-402.

<sup>8.</sup> M. Demitsas, Η Μακεδονία ἐν λίθοις φθεγγομένοις καὶ ἐν μνημείοις σωζομένοις, Athens 1896, p. 258, No. 218; cf. Papazoglou (n. 1), 263.

<sup>9.</sup> I. Touratsoglou, ArchDelt 24 (1969) Chron. B 2, 325–6, No. 11; cf. A. Tataki, Ancient Beroea: Prosopography and Society, Athens 1988 (MEAETHMATA, 8), p. 287, No. 1258.

**<sup>10.</sup>** See A. Rizakis and I. Touratsoglou, Ἐπιγραφές Ἄνω Μακεδονίας, Athens 1985, vol. I (hereafter *EAM*), 20 (Elimia, 2nd–3rd c. AD, where mention is made of a freedman named Bάσος Ἀν [τ]ιπάτρου ἐ [λ] ευθερωθείς ὑπό Ἀντιπάτρο[υ] τοῦ Ἀλεξάνδρου), 164 (Lynkos, 2nd–3rd c. AD, Ἀντίπατρος Ῥυμητάλκου), 204 (Orestis, undated, *HPAKAEAI* Ἀντιπάτρου).

The precise nature of Antipatros' donation, which, we are told, is made to his homeland in gratitude for his upbringing, is not specified. Judging by other dedicatory inscriptions in which the same formula,  $\theta \varepsilon \sigma \overline{\iota} \varsigma \Sigma \varepsilon \beta \alpha \sigma \tau \sigma \overline{\iota} \varsigma \varkappa \alpha t$  $\tau \overline{\eta}$  ( $\delta \varepsilon t \nu \omega \nu$ )  $\pi \delta \lambda \varepsilon \iota$ , is used, it was most likely a building, with the inscription built into the façade.<sup>11</sup> Nor do we know why it is his father who is executing the donation, as the text of the inscription specifically states. The most likely reason is that the donor was absent from the city either temporarily or perhaps even permanently.One cannot exclude also the possibility that he was a child.

The use of the word  $\theta \rho \epsilon \pi \tau \eta \rho \iota ov$  in this little city in Upper Macedonia is an interesting aspect of this brief dedicatory inscription. It is found already in Homer and the tragic poets, and as far as we know it is met in a small number of inscriptions of the late Empire relating to individuals making donation or offering other services to their homeland, with the intention of thus repaying it for having reared them, as children might repay their parents.<sup>12</sup> It is used in this sense equally rarely by writers under the Principate.<sup>13</sup> The fact that the word is used so rarely and above all poetically suggests that the author of the inscription, who may well have been the donor himself, L. Flavius Fabricianus Antipatros, was one of the educated members of this little community.

Even more interesting is the fact that the inscription uses the term *polis*, which touches on the question of the status of Lyke. Lyke, which is on the islet of Ayos Ahillios on Little Prespa,<sup>14</sup> was hitherto known to us chiefly from two

**<sup>11.</sup>** See, e.g., the inscription of the 2nd century AD from Thessalonike, IG X 2, 1 102 ll. 1–9 ( $\Theta \epsilon o \bar{l} \varsigma \Sigma \epsilon \beta a \sigma \tau o \bar{l} \varsigma \varkappa a i \tau \bar{\eta} \pi \delta \lambda \epsilon \iota ... \tau \delta v va \delta v \varkappa a i \tau \eta v \sigma \tau \delta \alpha v \tau \bar{\eta} \varsigma E \bar{l} \sigma \iota \delta \delta \varsigma M \epsilon \mu \varphi i [\tau] \iota \delta \delta \varsigma \varkappa a i t \delta \pi \varrho \delta \pi \upsilon \lambda \delta v < \tau > o \upsilon [\tau o \upsilon] \tau o \bar{\upsilon} v \alpha o \bar{\upsilon}$ ), or the inscription of the 1st –2nd century AD from Lakonia, E. Kourinou and G. A. Pikoulas, "`Eπιγραφή àπό τὸν `Aσωπὸ (Πλύτρα) Λακωνάς", *HOPOΣ* 7 (1989), 126 (= SEG 39, 1989, 372), ll. 1–3 (Θεο \bar{l} \varsigma \Sigma \epsilon \beta \alpha \sigma \tau o \bar{l} [\varsigma \varkappa a i \tau \bar{\alpha} / \tau \bar{\alpha}] 'Aσωπειτῶν πόλ [ει ή δε īva] ...τὸ βαλανεῖον ἐχ θεμελίων...). All the same, it would seem that the donation is not always specified; see, e.g., the inscription from Selge in Asia Minor (Principate), IvSelge (*IK* 37), 1.

**<sup>12.</sup>** The inscriptions are collected and commented on by L. Robert, "Epigrammes d'Aphrodisias", *Hellenica* IV (1948), 133–5.

**<sup>13.</sup>** See Plutarch, Arat. 25, 1, αμα τῆ τε πόλει θρεπτήρια τὴν ἐλευθερίαν ἀποδοῦναι φιλοτιμούμενος.; Artemidoros, Onirokr. III 66, διὸ θρεπτήρια οὖσημοι πατρίδι πρὸς μητρὸς ταῦτα ἀποδίδωμι αὐτῆ.

<sup>14.</sup> See Papazoglou (n. 1), 242, and Samsaris (n. 2), 153.

inscriptions from the Principate. One of them preserves the name intact;<sup>15</sup> in the other there is only the genitive plural ending of the ethnic, the correct restoration of which [Av] ×aiwv, as had already been proposed,<sup>16</sup> is now confirmed by the inscription published here. In the second inscription, which is dated to between the middle and the end of the second century AD, the Lykeans, as a *politeia*, honour the high priest K. Julius Crispus, who is probably the same person as the ambassador of the *ethnos* of the Orestai mentioned in the decree of Battyna.<sup>17</sup>

The expression  $\tau \bar{\eta} \wedge \nu \pi \alpha i \omega \nu [\pi \delta] \lambda \epsilon \iota$  which appears in the new inscription, resolves the doubts about the urban nature of the community<sup>18</sup> and firmly establishes that, in the period to which the inscription belongs, there was a, probably small, urban centre on the islet of Ayos Ahillios.

But what was the status of Lyke? Hitherto, scholars have produced various answers to this question, based on the term *politeia* in the inscription of Julius Crispus, which, in the absence of other data, they have interpreted in the same way as the same term in the decree of Battyna. The appearance of the

**18.** See Hatzopoulos (n. 4), 156 n. 28, who disagrees with Papazoglou that Lyke had the status of a *polis* and himself believes that, like Battyna, it was a *kome*. This is in line with his general theory that the only *poleis* of the *koina* of Upper Macedonia were their capitals: see Hatzopoulos, "Epigraphie et villages.."(n. 3), 160.

<sup>15.</sup> ΕΑΜ 147, 1.1, πολιταρχούντος έν Λύκη Φιλίππου.

**<sup>16.</sup>** EAM 149, [Λυ] χαίων ή πολειτεία / Κ. Ίούλιον Κρίσπον / τον <ᾱ>ρχιερη χαὶ εὐ/ εργέτην τειμης χά / ριν, δι ἐπιμελητῶν Νειχάρχου τοῦ Δημητρί / ου καὶ Τ. Φλαουίου / Διονυσίου, incl. older bibliography. The islet of Ayos Ahillios has also yielded the following epigraphical finds: i) fragments of clay roof-tiles bearing stamped names and dated (on the basis of the letter shapes) to the Hellenistic period (EAM 179); ii) the 'Macedonian' grave altar of the physician K. Julius Niketes (EAM 165); and iii) a four-sided slab of the second half of the third century AD, the text of which survives in very fragmentary condition (EAM183). For the various excavations carried out on the island and their findings, see Ph. Petsas, ArchDelt (1961–2), Chron. B 2 219–26 and A. Andreiomenou, ArchDelt 22 (1967) Chron. B 2, 416.

<sup>17.</sup> EAM 186, ll. 32–4,  $\delta\iota\dot{\alpha}\tau\bar{\omega}\nu\pi\rho\varepsilon\sigma\beta\varepsilon\nu/\tau\bar{\omega}\nu$   $\tau\sigma<\bar{\upsilon}>\check{\varepsilon}\theta\nu\upsilon\varsigma$  Touliou Koioπou καί Φιλάγρου καί Κλείτου των/ Πτολεμαίου. For the discussion about to this identification, see Papazoglou (n. 1), 242 n. 41. The identification makes it likely that Lyke and the Little Prespa area came under the *ethnos* of the Orestai. Samsaris (n. 2), 52–3, supports this on the basis of the area's geomorphology. The editors of the *Corpus* of the inscriptions of Upper Macedonia (see *EAM* 149) leave the subject open, though on the map at the end of their work they include Lyke and the Little Prespa area in Orestis. At all events, wherever Lyke belonged administratively, the importance of the new inscription for the problem of the civic organisation of Upper Macedonia remains the same.

term *polis* in the new inscription gives us a new datum, which, if we consider it together with the already known term *politeia*, may shed some light on the question of the status of Lyke, as long as we can establish the relationship between the two terms. At first sight, one might say that they relate to two different points in time and reflect a change in the legal status of Lyke from a *polis* to a *politeia* or *vice versa*. However, this presents the drawback that no literary or epigraphical source gives any indication that *politeia* means a form of civic organisation different from that of a *polis*.<sup>19</sup> It seems much more likely that both terms were in use at the same point in time in the inscriptions of Lyke; which means that *polis* in the new inscription denotes either the urban centre of the whole of the autonomous community of the Lykeans, which is called a *politeia*,<sup>20</sup> or, more probably, the city of Lyke itself, as a term equivalent to, and indiscriminately used for, *politeia*.

At this point, one might well wonder whether and when the term *politeia* is anywhere specifically defined as an autonomous city. There is epigraphical evidence to show that the term did in fact acquire this meaning as early as the Hellenistic period: in a well known Larisean decree of 217 BC, for instance, are mentioned at the same time the equivalent formulas  $\psi \alpha \varphi_i$ - $\sigma \alpha \mu \epsilon \nu \eta_5 \pi \delta \lambda \epsilon \omega_5$  and  $\hat{\epsilon} \psi \dot{\alpha} \varphi_i \sigma \tau \epsilon_i \tau \bar{\alpha} \pi \delta \lambda \iota \tau \epsilon_i \alpha^{21}$ . But even if one denies that the

**20.** It goes without saying that, apart from the population of the city, the *politeia* of the Lykeans would have included the inhabitants of the lakeside *komai* (or settlements), archaeological traces of at least one of which have been located in the village of Pyle, southwest of Little Prespa: see Papazoglou (n. 1), 242, and Samsaris (n. 2), 167. On the basis of the remains of a wall he has located, Samsaris also mentions a 'fortress settlement' under the Principate on Kale Hill between the villages of Lefkonas and Karyes, 200m west of Little Prespa. With the evidence available, it is not possible to determine the administrative connection between these *komai* and the *polis* of Lyke.

**21.** See *IG* IX 2, 517, ll. 9 and 17 respectively, *cf.* 1. 41; for the date of the decree see Chr. Habicht, "Epigraphische Zeugnisse zur Geschichte Thessaliens unter der makedonischen

<sup>19.</sup> However, attempts have been made to interpret it in this way. Thus, for instance, according to Hatzopoulos, "Epigraphie et villages" (n. 3), 158–9, in the inscriptions of Upper Macedonia the term *politeia* means kome. Furthermore, in the dedication from Bragylai in Krestonia (SEG 12, 1955, 349: Boayvhíwv  $\hat{\eta}\beta ovh\hat{\eta} \varkappa ai \hat{\eta} \pi ohi \zeta \varkappa ai \hat{\eta} \pi ohi treia$ ) to Hadrian and his wife Sabina, the term *politeia* is interpreted by M. B. Hatzopoulos and L. D. Loukopoulou, Morrylos, cité de la Chrestonie, Athens 1989 (Meletifuata 7), pp. 61ff., as neighbouring komai forming a 'sympolity' with the nearest urban centre; and by Papazoglou ("Encore une fois" [n. 2], partic. p. 238) as the rural population of the politeia/civitas of Bragylai, as she had already proposed in an earlier study, "Une signification tardive du mot IIOAITEIA", REG 52 (1959), 100–5 (cf. Bull. épigr. 1960, 202).

use of the term could date back to the Hellenistic period in the case of the Lyke inscription (and the Upper Macedonian inscriptions in general) on the grounds that all the available evidence from the same area dates to the Principate, it is by no means difficult to understand the term as signifying a city. In this case, as has already been suggested, the usage would be a Latinism, because Greek translations of Roman administrative documents frequently use the term *politeia* for the Latin *civitas.*<sup>22</sup>

From what has been said above, it is clear that the two inscriptions from Lyke, taken together, give us no choice but to accept that its *politeia* and, likewise, the other two communities attested by the same term (Battyna and Oblostai) were indeed cities — i.e. civic communities<sup>23</sup> — regardless of whether the use of the term in the relevant inscriptions is a Latinism (which it very probably is, at least in the light of the existing data) or part of the Hellenistic tradition.

This finding changes the picture we have had hitherto of the degree of urbanisation and the civic organisation of the Orestis area: to the unidentified city mentioned in the list of epheboi (of AD 146/7) from Sisani<sup>24</sup> we may now add the civic community (*politeia*) of Lyke; and, equally, of Battyna, because, thanks to this new inscription, we now have strong grounds for believing that

Herrschaft", Ancient Macedonia I, Thessalonike 1970, 273 - 279. The formula  $\delta\psi\dot{\alpha}\varphi\iota\sigma\tau\epsilon\iota\tau\tilde{\alpha}$  $\pi o\lambda\iota\tau\epsilon\iota\alpha$  also appears in the decree SEG 27, 1977, 202, 1. 15 (of 220-210 BC), with which Larisa honours Philip V's officer Chrysogonos.

**<sup>23.</sup>** See already Papazoglou, (n. 1), where she uses the word *cité* for Lyke (p. 242) and the phrase *communauté autonome* for Battyna (p. 241); *cf. eadem*, "Encore une fois" (n. 2), 243, where the three *politeiai* of Upper Macedonia are collectively referred to as *petites communautés civiques*.

<sup>24.</sup> See *EAM*187. Although reservations have been expressed as to whether the inscription was found *in situ* (see Papazoglou [n. 1], 244), most scholars accept that it originates from the

the latter's *politeia* was an civic community, like Lyke. The same must apply to the area of Elimia, where, apart from Aiane, there is an inscriptional reference to the  $O\beta\lambda ootigy \pi o\lambda iteia$ .<sup>25</sup> Whether there was the same degree of urbanisation and similar civic organisation in the rest of Upper Macedonia is a question to which only new epigraphical and archaeological finds can give a definite answer.

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**25.** EAM 37. According to some scholars (see Papazoglou, "Encore une fois" [n. 3], 242, and G. Karamitrou-Mentesidi,  $Ko\zeta άνη$ , Πόλη Έλιμιώτιδος, Thessalonike 1993, p. 28), the institutions of the boule and the [demos] mentioned in the honorary inscription *EAM* 34 (of the 2nd c. AD) belong to an unknown city of the *Koinon* of the Elimiotai, which was on the site of modern Kozani. This is challenged by Hatzopoulos, *Institutions* (n. 3), 89–90, who does not regard it as necessarily so and suggests that they are the boule and the demos of the *Koinon* of the Elimiotai. For new inscriptional evidence attesting the existence, at least in the 3rd century BC, of an otherwise unknown city in Elimiotis named Tela, see P. M. Nigdelis, "Μαχεδονιχά Σύμμειχτα", *Τεχμήρια* 1 (1995) 173–9, *SEG* 43, 1993 [1996], 937.

area of ancient Orestis: see, e.g., Rizakis and Touratsoglou, *EAM*187, and N. G. Hammond, *A History of Macedonia*, Oxford 1972, vol. 1, n. 114. K. Buraselis, "Bemerkungen zum Dekret der Battynäer", *Ancient Macedonia*, V, Thessalonike 1993, p. 287 n. 24, also considers this origin very likely. For geographical reasons, however, Samsaris (n. 2), 134–5, suggests that the city mentioned in the inscription belonged to Elimia.

#### ΠΕΡΙΛΗΨΗ

## Πόλεις και Πολιτεΐαι στὴν Ἄνω Μακεδονία κατὰ τὴν Αὐτοκρατορικὴ ἐποχὴ: Μιὰ νέα ἐπιγραφὴ ἀπὸ τὴν Λύκη τῆς ἘΟρεστίδος.

Ό προσδιορισμός τοῦ νομιχοῦ καθεστῶτος τῶν κοινοτήτων τῆς Ἄνω Μακεδονίας ποὺ εἶναι γνωστὲς ὡς πολιτεῖαι, δηλ. τῶν πολιτειῶν τῶν Βαττυναίων καὶ τῶν Λυχαίων στην Ὁρεστίδα καὶ τῶν Ὁβλοστίων στὴν Ἐλίμεια ἀποτελεῖ γιὰ τὴν ἔρευνα ἕνα δυσεπίλυτο πρόβλημα. Ὁρισμένοι ἐρευνητὲς πιστεύουν ὅτι οἱ κοινότητες αὐτὲς ἦσαν πόλεις, ἐνῶ ἄλλοι ὑποστηρίζουν ὅτι ἐπρόκειτο γιὰ φυλετικὲς κοινότητες ἤ κῶμες. Νέο φῶς στὸ πρόβλημα ρίχνει ἡ σύντομη ἀναθηματικὴ ἐπιγραφὴ (τοῦ 2ου ἤ τῶν ἀρχῶν τοῦ 3ου αἰ. π.Χ.) ποὺ βρέθηκε πρόσφατα στὴ νησίδα τοῦ ἡ Αγίου ἡ Χιλλείου τῆς Μικρῆς Πρέσπας καὶ δημοσιεύεται ἐδῶ γιὰ πρώτη φορὰ. Στὴν ἐπιγραφὴ αὐτὴ ἡ Λύκη, ἡ ὁποία μᾶς ἦταν γνωστὴ ἀπὸ ἄλλη ἐπιγραφικὴ μαρτυρία (ΕΑΜ 149) ὡς Λυκαίων πολιτεία, ἑμφανίζεται ὡς Λυκαίων [πό]λις. Τὸ νέο δεδομένο μᾶς ἐπιτρέπει νὰ ὑποστηρίξουμε ὅτι ἡ κοινότητα αυτὴ, καθώς ἐπίσης, ἀναλογικὰ, καὶ οἱ ἄλλες γνωστὲς πολιτεῖαι τῆς Ἄνω Μακεδονίας ἦσαν πόλεις.



P.M. Nigdelis- G.A. Souris plate 1