

светилиштето, вкупно 165 натписи, во три хронолошки групи (тнр. Кралски период, епирски коинон – *symmachia* т.н. републикански период, проследени со три географски карти во боја I-III), а во нивните рамки се подредени според содржината: посвети, декрети, ослободителни натписи и група други. Посветите за Севс Наиос се испишани на различни предмети: статуи или постаменти за статуи, вазни, шлемови, троножници, кнемиди, огледало, мали жртвеници, врв од копје, различни садови од бронза (вазни, патера, фиала, скифос, киликс, рачка од цедалка), рачки од разни предмети, канделабар, и една бронзена тојага, атрибут на Херакле (бр. 72). На една посвета Севс е наречен заштитник на Додона (бр. 54). Од другите натписи треба да се спомене почесниот за Ливија (бр. 115) поставен од Молошкиот коинон, како и списокот со 137 војници со означено потребување на жито. Натписите од другите места на Молосија исто така се дадени хронолошки, вкупно 33, како и 98 натписи најдени надвор од Молосија но се однесуваат на оваа област (бр. 298 е со сомнителна припадност на Молосите), при што 4 се од времето на римското царство сите со посвета на Севс Додонски, а 19 се надгробни споменици на Епирци, само еден молошанец, погребани во Атина.

Книгата е добро илустрирана, пропустите, како и печатните грешки се ретки.⁷ Авторот ја уредил книгата според новиот образец: пред корпусот дал пресек на досегашните научни сознанија за оваа област – полезно за сите оние што се занимаваат со изучувањето на античката историја на Молосија и на епирската област. Но најголемата придобивка од оваа книга е збирката натписи, коишто се и најголемата новина во оваа книга.

Скопје, октомври 2022

Наде Проєва

SLAVICA BABAMOVA – KALINA KUZMAN-DODEVSKA, *Епиграфски споменици од Плаошник - Охрид (Epigraphic Monuments from Plaošnik – Ohrid)*, Ohrid, NI Institute for the Protection of Cultural Monuments and Museum, 2021, pp. 144, photographs, ISBN 978-9989-924-51-4.

The monograph *Епиграфски споменици од Плаошник - Охрид (Epigraphic Monuments from Plaošnik – Ohrid)* is an exceptional book which provides a comprehensive and in-depth analysis and insight into the inscriptions from Lychnidos and Plaošnik, meticulously presented and described in a historical and archaeological context. The book has been published in Macedonian and in English, which has allowed it to gain a wide reading audience. Analysis of data from historical sources, archaeological findings and epigraphic monuments are examined in a methodical manner, thoroughly and with great understanding, which makes the book very concise.

The monograph consists of the following chapters: Preface (9), History of the Research at Plaošnik (11-17), which includes the history of publication of inscriptions from Lychnidos, Epigraphic, historical and archaeological sources for Lychnidos and Plaošnik, Time before the Roman conquest (21-31), Early Imperial period (35-62), Votive inscriptions (62-68), Funerary inscriptions (68-73), Period of Late Anti-

⁷ На стр. 198 во името *Kantharas* вметната е латинската буква b *Kabnatharas*.

quity and early Christianity (76-91), Catalogue of inscriptions (97-130), Bibliography (132-138), and Index (140-142).

The quote by M. G. Demitsas, which the monograph starts with: “Lapides docent vos quod non discetis de vestris magistris / Οἱ λιθοὶ διδάξουσιν ὑμᾶς ἅ παρὰ τῶν ὑμετέρων διδασκάλων οὐκ ἐμάθετε,” is confirmed throughout the work, constantly highlighting various moments of local history and life in antiquity, filling in the various gaps in history.

The Preface provides an introduction to the historical-archaeological-epigraphical journey: 69 inscriptions from Ohrid and the Ohrid-Struga region have been published up to date, to which 59 newly-discovered inscriptions and fragments are added herein, published for the first time (included in the catalogue of the book), as well as 13 other inscriptions previously discovered or brought to the NI Institute and Museum Ohrid. The authors use these inscriptions and fragments to reconstruct the history of Lychnidos in the antiquity and early Christianity, providing great insight and an in-depth analysis.

The chapter dedicated to the history of Plaošnik encompasses the research, a chronology of the research with the newly-discovered inscriptions and fragments, the location of the findings (mainly secondarily used as building material – *spolia*), listing all contributions made by the archaeologists and the other experts. The research of Plaošnik (formerly known as Imaret, as well) has its own history - from the middle of 20th century to the present day with the projects “Restoration of St. Clement’s Church” and “Restoration of St. Clement’s University Complex”.

The history of publication of the Lychnidos inscriptions, on the other hand, begins in the middle of the 19th century in the works of the travel writers and archaeologists of that time; their travel notes make mention of the inscriptions and monuments they have seen. For the first time, all the known inscriptions from Macedonia are published by Margarites Demitsas in his work from Ohrid.

In the 20th century, Nikola Vulić continues to record, document, collect and publish the ancient monuments, and from 1950, with the establishment of the National Museum in Ohrid, the newly-discovered inscriptions are published by F. Papazoglou, V. Bitrakova-Grozdanova, Pasko Kuzman, etc.

All the published inscriptions from Ohrid and its surroundings are put together in the edition *Inscriptiones Graecae* (IG X 2,2,1) in 1999, wherein Slavica Babamova makes a significant contribution.

The next chapter looks at the materials of the topic of interest, developing the analysis from three aspects – historical sources, archaeological finds, and epigraphic monuments. For the earliest historical periods, the Late Bronze Age and the Early Iron Age, archaeological findings confirm organized living (12th through 7th century B.C.); in addition, there are finds from the next phase of the settlements existence (6th-5th century B.C.), where the Archaic graves belong with grave goods that chronologically and culturally connect to the extravagant burials in Trebenishte.

The period from the 5th to the 2nd century B.C. brings numerous and volatile events to the historical scene at that time, and the Lychnidos area played an important role in the then-political and military events and relations between the Macedonians and the Illyrians, the Illyrians and the Romans and the Macedonians and the Romans. Sections of the historical works by Diodorus, Polybius, and Livy pertaining to the military operations which mention the Dassaretioi, the Lychnidos area, Lychnidos, all of which are connected with the current events of the time, are skillfully and meticulously presented and analyzed in this chapter.

The situation after the Roman conquest of Macedonia is superbly explained and interpreted, according to the data found in Livy, Plutarch, and Diodorus.

Information of this historical period is supplemented and supported by the archaeological findings, which sheds light on a significant section of the period through the time of Lychnidos.

Lychnidos in the Roman period, and the inscriptions confirm this, remained a city organized according to Hellenistic traditions – it was governed by a *strategos* and other governing bodies, such as archons, boule, demos.

The period of Late Antiquity brought great changes to Lychnidos, from the reorganization of the provinces during the time of Diocletian through the biggest change of proclaiming Christianity as the state religion, which led to major social, cultural and sociological changes.

Historical sources, mainly lists of participants in the ecclesiastical councils and other ecclesiastic documents, mention four bishops from Lychnidos: Dionysius, Antonius, Laurentius, and Theodoretus. With Christianity, the physiognomy of Lychnidos changed, which is also confirmed by the archaeological findings. The 5th and 6th centuries mark the discovery of nine three-aisled basilicas, two polyconchal in the city (of which three in Plaošnik), and two more Christian basilicas near the city, with beautiful floor mosaics containing typical Christian motifs.

Everything that history and archaeology claim through data and finds has been confirmed by epigraphy, even supplements providing immediate information about how people lived and behaved during the noted historical periods.

The Hellenistic period has, so far, been represented by two people testified on two sepulchral monuments - Epikados, the son of Aristoboulos, and Nanos, the son of Menetos.

The Roman period, during which history and archaeology confirm that Lychnidos developed as an administrative center, provides many more inscriptions, mainly public ones: votive inscriptions dedicated to the god Ares, to the new Heracles by the Dassaretioi, to the god Pan, then the inscriptions from the governing bodies of the city *archontes*, the council, the people of the Dassaretioi, to Aurelius Krates, the son of Ptolemy, votive inscriptions in the honour of the Roman emperors Septimius Severus, Gordianus III, Galienus, to Constatine Augustus made by Flavius Hyginus, the governor of the Epirus Nova province, several funeral inscriptions, inscription on a mosaic floor of a luxurious building with baths built by Kleonike, the daughter of Trissairos.

Seven inscriptions date from the early Christian period, one votive inscription on a mosaic floor from a bishop whose name was not preserved (in second half of the 5th century A.D.), and six funeral inscriptions.

The epigraphic section of the book looks at and analyzes the inscriptions from all aspects, including the onomastics and prosopography, which offers an excellent portrayal of the structure of Lychnidos society throughout the centuries.

The catalogue of the inscriptions contains 59 newly-discovered inscriptions, accompanied by high-quality photographs, translations in Macedonian and English, and overall epigraphic apparatus.

The Bibliography section contains an overview of a plethora of varied literature consulted by the authors in creating this superb book.

The last chapter is the Index (140-142), which contains all the words from the inscriptions, arranged in several sub-sections: Names of men and women, Toponyms and tribes, Roman Emperors, City affairs and officials, Res sacra, and Index of words.

The findings from Plaošnik have an extraordinary significance as they are a testimony to the longevity and intensity of life in Lychnidos throughout the centuries; in Antiquity, according to the archaeological and epigraphic evidence, it saw great development and growth during the Roman period. It became a Christian center as

early as early Christian times, which has its place in the hagiography of St. Erasmus, and continued in the next historical periods from St. Clement's time up to now.

All the knowledge and information provided in the book confirm the rather significant, even inevitable, role of epigraphy in reconstructing and studying the past, as stated at the beginning of the book, and it is clearly shown throughout the book by the expert interpretations of the inscriptions which have been carried out with great diligence, enthusiasm and love for epigraphy and archaeology by the authors of this work.

Vesna Kalpakovska

Independent researcher, Bitola