

URANIA MOLYVIATI-TOPTSI

A DEATH CERTIFICATE FROM THE BERKELEY COLLECTION

aus: Zeitschrift für Papyrologie und Epigraphik 77 (1989) 281–282

© Dr. Rudolf Habelt GmbH, Bonn



### A Death Certificate from the Berkeley Collection<sup>1</sup>

This papyrus, Tebtunis Fragment 21,016 from the collection of the University of California at Berkeley, comprises the central portion of a death certificate. The papyrus measures 6.5 x 8.4 cm. and was written between A.D. 117 and 138. It attests the death of a person during the month Tybi. The name of the deceased as well as the name of the person submitting the declaration of death and the city in which the deceased was registered are lost. The declaration is written in a slightly cursive hand and offers no difficulties in transcription. The closest parallels are *P. Tebt.* II 300; *P. Lond.* II 281 p. 65; *P. Lond.* II 173 p. 66; *SB* I 5136, 5137. To the death certificates assembled in L. Casarico, *Il controllo della popolazione nell'Egitti romano, 1. Le denunce di morte*, *Corpora Papyrorum Graecarum* 2 (Azzate 1985), the following should be added:

	Year	Date of Death	Date of filing	Location
1 <i>SB</i> XVI 12383	55/56	----	----	Oxyrhynchos
2 <i>SB</i> XVI 12712	229	----	Mesore 20	Onomphtheus
3 <i>P. Sakaon</i> 50	317	----	Tybi 13	----

→ -----

[...] [.] ἀνα[γραφόμενος ἐπὶ τῆς]  
 [α]ὐτῆς κώμης ἐτελ[εύτηεν τῶ]  
 ἐνεετῶτι μηνὶ Τύβ[ι τοῦ ἐνεετῶ-]  
 4 [τος] ἔτους Τραιανοῦ Ἀδ[ριανοῦ Καίσαρος]  
 [τοῦ κυ]ρίου. διὸ ἐπιδ[ίδωμι τὸ ὑπό-]  
 [μνημα] ὅπως πε[ριαίρεθῆ] τοῦτο  
 [τὸ ὄνομ]α καὶ τα[γῆ] ἐν τῇ τῶν  
 8 [τετελευτ]ηκότων τ[άξει ὡς ἐπὶ τῶν]  
 [ὁμοίων.]

-----

1: ἀνα[γραφόμενος]: cf. e.g. *P. Lond.* II 281 (p. 65) 10; also possible, but less common, is ἀναγεγραμμένος (*P. Lond.* II 173 [p. 66] 10).

<sup>1</sup> I should like to thank Professor G.M. Browne for his generous help and advice in editing this papyrus.

3-4: For the restoration of [ἐνεστῶτος] ἔτους without the year number (for which the space does not seem adequate) see e.g. *P. Strasb.* 530. 12; *SB I* 5176. 9-10; VII 9627a9.

5-6: For the restoration ἐπιδ[ίδωμι τὸ ὑπόμνημα] see e.g. *P. Oxy.* XII 1550.34-36.

6-7: πε[ριαίρεθῆ] τοῦτο τὸ ὄνομα: see e.g. *P. Tebt.* II 300.12-13, *SB I* 5136; 5137.6-7.

8: After τ[άξει there is room for ὡς ἐπὶ τῶν ὁμοίων, which is usually found at this juncture. But it need not have been written: cf. *PSI IX* 1064 II; *P. Sorb. inv.* 2358 (*BASP* 14 [1977] 2).

**Translation:** ... N.N., registered at the same city, died in the present month Tybi of the present year of Trajan Hadrian Caesar the Lord. I therefore submit the declaration so that this name may be removed and inscribed in the list of the deceased as in similar cases.