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REMARKS ON THE DATA OF SOME INSCRIPTIONS

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(1) I.Ko.Ko.¹ 4a

In the first line of this inscription of only two lines Bernand deciphered Ἀδ(ριανού) γ̄ which he translates as «l'an 3 d'Hadrien». In his note on this line he gives several reasons why his translation is strange although he does not mention the absence of ἔτους or the symbol thereof. True, when someone feels the urge to inscribe his and/or other names on a monument he usually mentions the regnal year, the month and the day of his performance. However, examples of such inscriptions mentioning only the month and day are not rare.² I.Ko.Ko.4a also mentions only the month and the day of Annion's inscription: Ἀδ(ριανού) γ̄ = Χοίακ γ̄ = November 29/30.³ This implies for the date of this inscription that we cannot say exactly when it was inscribed except that it was inscribed at some 29th/30th November after the introduction of the honorific month-name Ἀδριανός.⁴

(2) I.Ko.Ko. 40

According to the latest editor this inscription was dated to the 2nd regnal year of the emperor Tiberius: Τιβ[ε]ρ[ί]ου (ἔτους) β. It is rather curious that the name of the emperor ("reduite à son expression la plus simple") would precede (ἔτους) β. On planche 35 (*not* 40 as stated in the introduction to this inscription) one can find an admirably clear squeeze of this inscription and see that lines 3 and 4 of I Ko.Ko.40 are not Greek but Demotic.⁵ The exact date of this inscription can, therefore, not be established.

(3) I.Fayoum I⁶ 43

Lines 5 and 6 of this inscription were published as follows: (ἔτους) ζ, χοιὰ(κ) θ̄. | (ἐτῶν) ιθ.⁷ It seems strange that the age of the deceased was added as an afterthought after the date of the inscription. On planche 32 (once again a photograph of excellent quality) one can see what actually happened. The stone-cutter started line 5 rather far to the right and ran into difficulties when he tried to squeeze in the month and the day at its end. On top of that he made a mistake, since he

¹ This siglum stands for A. Bernand, *De Koptos à Kosseir*, Leiden 1972.

² Cf., e.g., A. et E. Bernand, *Les inscriptions grecques et latines du Colosse de Memnon*, Le Caire 1960, nos. 46, 59, 67.

³ Unfortunately this conclusion cannot be supported by I.Ko.Ko. 73 where Bernand, following Th. Reinach, thought to see above line 1 to the right Τυβὶ ζ. Above I.Ko.Ko. 73 there stands not Greek but Demotic (cf. H.-J. Thissen, *Enchoria* 9, 1979, 67, text no. 6a).

⁴ Cf. K. Scott, *Greek and Roman Honorific Months*, YCIS II, 1929, 261f. Cf. also *BASP* 28, 1991, 104.

⁵ My impression was confirmed by S. P. Vleeming whom I consulted on this inscription and whom I thank for his advice. In a letter (dated February 2, 1992) he states as his opinion that lines 3 and 4 of I.Ko.Ko. 40 contain the rests of 2 demotic graffiti which cannot be read totally or with certainty (this is probably the reason why they were not published by Thissen [cf. footnote 3]).

⁶ This siglum stands for E. Bernand, *Recueil des inscriptions grecques du Fayoum*. Tome I: La "mérés" d'Hérakleidès, Leiden 1975.

⁷ In a remark on line 6 Bernand writes "Le sigle de l'âge manque."

inscribed $\chi\omicron\iota\bar{\theta}$ instead of $\chi\omicron\iota\bar{\iota}\bar{\theta}$. He did the best he could and changed (rather clumsily) the $\bar{\theta}$ at the end of line 5 into a κ and added the day ($\iota\theta$) in a separate, sixth line. This inscription has, therefore, to be dated to $\chi\omicron\iota\alpha\kappa\iota\theta$ (December 15/16) of an unknown 6th regnal year.

(4) I.Fayoum II⁸ 123

Bernand read the month in line 8 as $\chi\omicron\iota\alpha[\chi]$ - -. On planche 27 we find a very clear photograph of the stone. It seems to me that the traces which the editor took as a part ($\iota\alpha$) of the month-name are in fact the last letters of line 8, i.e. they represent the day of the month, either $\iota\alpha$ or $\iota\delta$. I think that it is possible to read in front of these two letters $\upsilon\rho$ which would lead us to $[\text{A}\theta]\upsilon\rho\iota\alpha/\iota\delta$. If my readings are correct this inscription has to be dated to November 8 or 10, A.D. 127.

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⁸ This siglum stands for E. Bernand, *Recueil des inscriptions grecques du Fayoum. Tome II: La "mérés" de Themistos*, Le Caire 1981.

