NEW READINGS OF PERSONAL NAMES II[1]

Nikolaos Gonis *University College London*

Abstract. — Corrections to the reading of personal names in Greek papyri.

Keywords: Personal names; ghost-names

Some more ghost-names

Ἡρωτ-

This name was read twice in *P.Prag.* 3.223.ii.6 and 7, an Arsinoite register of the second century: Ἡρωτ ̣τ[and Ἡρωτ ̣τ ̣[. The editor notes: 'The name is not in Preisigke, *NB*, or D. Foraboschi, *Onomasticon Alterum* …. A variant form of Ἡρώδης (…) may be possible, but I cannot read it here.' There is no new name, and the problem is due to the variable form of ν, as the image shows;[2] Ἥρων should be read in both lines. Τ[follows in l. 6, but I am not sure about the reading of the two letters before the break in l. 7.[3]

Μυρίομος

BGU 4.1046, an extensively discussed Arsinoite document of 166/7, refers to a certain Ἀφροδίσιος Μυριόμου (ii 2). His father's name is unattested elsewhere. Preisigke, *NB* 222, listed it under Μυρίομος, and adduced *BGU* 1.34.ii.24 Μυρ[ιό]μῳ as another example, but added: 'Möglich auch Μυ[ρισ]μῷ.' This appeared in 1922; Preisigke had recorded the suggestion to read Μυ[ρισ]μῷ in *BL* 1.9, published in 1913, but it seems he was not entirely convinced. This is what the papyrus has:[4]

If the letter after Μυρι is ο, its form would be elliptical. Even if its right-hand part does not descend below the line as much as others in this hand, σ would be an easier reading, and would yield a securely attested name (TM Nam 10675). We may thus read Μυρίσμου.

Πανατωῆουις, Χανώιο(ς)

P.Sijp. 27 is a list of taxpayers of 69, excavated at Hawara. It was said not to be 'really interesting from the point of view of the proper names listed,' but there is at least one
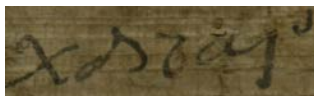
---

[2] At http://www.psi-online.it/documents/pprag;3;223.
[3] There is another mysterious sequence at ii 15, με ̣οιω[, '[p]erhaps Μεσο(ρή) as ii 8, or possibly a place name.' The papyrus has Μεσο(ρη) ιθ [. Another dubious point: the sequence Εὐεργ]έτιδο(ς) Ἀρ[σι]ν[οί(του)] γο[μοῦ] at i 2 is unidiomatic, and in fact it cannot be verified on the image, but I have no alternative to offer.
[4] Credit for image clipping: © Staatliche Museen zu Berlin, Ägyptisches Museum und Papyrussammlung. Scan: Berliner Papyrusdatenbank, P 8144 R.

novelty. Χανώιο(ς) in l. 9 is not known otherwise. The reading of ω may be questioned: α, β or κ are other possibilities, but the name would still be new.

In l. 19 we find Πανατωήο(υιος) το(ῦ) Πανατωῆουις Πανατωῆους), and in l. 20 Πανατωῆουις Πανατωήο(υιος). The editor notes: 'the name is previously unattested, but the reading seems in all four instances quite certain. (…) For similar articulation, see e.g. F. Preisigke, *NB*, s.v. Πανεγβήουϊς, Πανεγβήουϊος.' However, the editor's reading is not certain and the name is not new. We have to read Πανετβηο(ύιος) το(ῦ) Πανετβηο(ύιος) and Πανετβήουις Πανετβηο(ύιος). Πανετβήουις is one of the many versions of Πανετβευς (TM Nam 732).

Another name that requires correction is Ἡρακλῆς in l. 24. It begins with A and ends βις, μις, or even κις. Ἄρ[χ]ηβις, Ἄρ[ψ]ημις, and Ἄρ[β]ηκις are possibilities.

Πετειμώτης

Πετειμώτου in *P.Leipz*. 11r.7, a third-century document from Memphis, could be a version of Πετειμούθης (so TM Nam 862), but the papyrus has Πεταρμώτου (there is a blank space between ρ and μ, as the scribe avoided writing over a *kollesis*). The name is attested in this form only once; it is more often written as Πετεαρμώτης, a variant of Peteharmotnis (TM Nam 853).

The name is followed by a word transcribed as λινο⟩ and interpreted as λινουργός. Although the curved abbreviation stroke descends below the line, it can hardly be anything but the one implying the presence of π. This person may have been a λινοπ(ώλης).

Πιρᾶς

The editor notes that Πιρᾶς in l. 38 of PSI Corr. 1244 (= *SB* 14.11932), an Arsinoite document of 208, is a *hapax*, though Περᾶς is attested. The letter read as ρ appears to be ε; the shape of the next letter is inconclusive, while ς is certain. I propose to read Πιεύς, a variant of Πιηυς (TM Nam 11606), attested in this region.

Πκάλιος

This name (TM Nam 24375) made its first appearance in *P.Amh*. 2.151, a Hermopolite loan of 610–19: Πκαλίου (6), Πκάλιος (9), Πκάλι[ο]ς (20). The reading does not look objectionable, but we may just as well opt for Πκυλίου and Πκύλιος, a very common name in this area. The same name was read in *P.Laur*. 3.77.4 (603), Πκαλίου, but Πκυλίου is an easy alternative.

There remains the Theban *O.Leid*. 353.3 (4th/5th c.) Πκάλιο(ς). Πκαλ is fairly clear on the published photograph (Pl. 89), but not what follows, which may be an abbreviation sign. We are probably dealing with a form of Πκαλη(ς) / ⲡϭⲁⲗⲉ (TM Nam 18339).

Σηλῆνος

The editor's note to l. 6 of *P.Mert*. 3.127, a list of *symmachoi* of the sixth century, reads: 'Σηλήνῳ: not in *NB. Lambda* is doubtful; if right, the name is probably a by-form of Σερῆνος.' There is no by-form: the text reads Σερήνῳ, as we can tell from the online image.

The papyrus was said to be of unknown provenance, but this can be established with certainty. The clue lies in the subscriptions, read as (*m.*[2]) γί(νεται) ὅλ(ον) νομιτ(ευόμενα) νομισμάτια | ἕξ, γί(ν.) ὅλ(ον) νομιτ(ευόμενα) νο(μ.) ⛧ μ(όνον). | (*m.*[3]) † [γ]ί(ν.) π(ᾶν) ν[ο]μι-τ(ευόμενα) κτλ. (ll. 9–11). ὅλ(ον) in ll. 9 and 10 conceals ἰδ(ιωτικῷ), the gold standard typical of late antique Oxyrhynchus. ἰδ(ιωτικῷ) may also be read instead of π(ᾶν) in l. 11.

Other hidden or mistaken identities

Scapula and Μέθη

In *P.Oxy*. 24.2421.27, a list of payments of the early fourth century, the editor read Ἐκαπλᾶς, a name not known from elsewhere, but this relies on a false reading; the papyrus has Σκάπλας. This must be a Greek version of the Latin name Scapula.

A search for #Σκαπλ in papyri.info/ddbdp yields '5 hits.' The first comes from *BGU* 9.1898.153, a second-century tax list from Theadelphia: Μύσθης Ζήνωνος πρὸς Σκαπλον. F. Zucker, *Gnomon* 14 (1938) 388 (= *BL* 3.27), recognized Σκαπλον as a rendering of Scapula. This is also the *cognomen* of an Augustan prefect of Egypt (P. Ostorius Scapula), written as Σκάπλου in *I.Fayum* 3.166.4, [Σ]κάπλου in *SB* 16.12531.13, and Σκάπλαι (dat.) in *SB* 16.12713.1. *P.Graux* 2.9 (Ars.; 33) introduced a servant of this name: Σκαπλᾶτι (l. 7), Σκάπλᾳ (ll. 9, 11). An additional attestation may come from *P.Athen*. 41.20 (Ars.; 1st c.) Σκαπλ( ), if correctly read.

Inspection of the online image of *BGU* 1898 reveals another point of onomastic interest in the same passage. The papyrus does not have Μύσθης[5] but Μεθηι:[6]

This female name (TM Nam 10568) may derive from μέθη, 'drunkenness.' It is attested only in two other Arsinoite texts, *I.Fayum* 3.143.3 (1st/2nd c.) and *SB* 20.14329.3, etc. (175). The final ι (not *sigma* in this hand) is curious; it may be of the superfluous kind, but there is no evidence of this practice elsewhere in the text.

BGU 1.6

---

[5] *BGU* 9.1896.138f. Μύσθην | τὸν καὶ Σαραπίωνα Ζήνωνος might have influenced the reading.
[6] Credit for image clipping: © Staatliche Museen zu Berlin, Ägyptisches Museum und Papyrussammlung. Scan: Berliner Papyrusdatenbank, P 11669 R.

This is an Arsinoite list of liturgical nominees of 158/9. After *BL* 1.7, l. 13 should run Φ[. . . . . .] Φασει τοῦ Φασ ̣ ̣. The papyrus has Φασει τοῦ Φασει; Φασει is a common form of the genitive of Φασεις. Before the break, the remains of the letter after Φ suit α, but the trace that follows is exiguous; this person would have been called e.g. Φασ[εις] or Φάη[σις].

BGU 2.499

In ll. 9–10 of this second-century Arsinoite document, we find the sequence]ις Ἁρμιύσεως τοῦ Ὥσεως [- - | - - Τ(?)]αῶσις γυνὴ τοῦ προγεγρ(αμμένου) Ἀπύγχ[εως. In view of 'the afore-written Apynchis' in l. 10, it is virtually certain that in l. 9 we have to restore Ἄπυγχ]ις.

Another broken name occurs in l. 17,]θ ̣ ̣ς Ἀγχορίμφεως τοῦ Πεθέως. The papyrus has]θμις (no dots needed). The likeliest name to restore is Ἄρσυ]θμις; it is found in l. 13 of the same text, Ἁρσύθμεως (*BL* 7.13, confirmed on the image), though it refers to a different person.
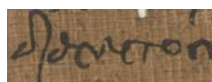
BGU 2.560

This Arsinoite document of the second century contains a list of men and their ages, the pattern being name + father's name + grandfather's name + mother's name. A number of these names are uncertainly read, but we may reclaim two or three of them.

One of the problematic passages is Πασιπο[̣] ̣ς Θώνε[ως] νεω(τέρου) Το[̣ ̣]παη( ) in l. 3:[7]

Πασιπο- takes us nowhere; if we read Πασινο-, we come close to the abbreviated name in l. 15, on which see below. Το[̣ ̣]παη( ) does not match any known name either, but may be approached differently: I would venture to read τοῦ [Ἀρ]παή(σεως). There is a high trace after το on the edge of the break, compatible with the left arm of υ. Though this scribe does not write τοῦ between νεω(τέρου) (l. 17, Θ]ώνεως νεωτ(έρου) Νεφερῶτος) or πρεσβ(υτέρου) and the grandfather's name elsewhere in this text, the construction is well attested in Arsinoite documents.

In l. 8, Τιθο[είους πρ]εσβ(υτέρου) Φασ ̣υτος, the unread name is Φασειτος. The shape of ει may be paralleled from Θαυεῖτ(ος) in l. 3.

In l. 15 we find ἀνθ' οὗ Πασινο( ) τοῦ Πανινούτιο(ς). The abbreviation Πασινο( ) implies a common name that would not have been misunderstood, but the sole name that begins with Πασινο- and is recorded in the Fayum is Πασινόσιρις (TM Nam 22957), found

only in two Ptolemaic documents. Πασίνο(υς) (TM Nam 4925) would be an easier reading, but this name is not attested in this area.

Finally, one of the reviewers points out that in l.11 "we should read Τανινουτιος instead of the meaningless Ταναπουτιος."

BGU 11.2131

This is a list of men written on the back of a composite roll of Arsinoite declarations of flooded land dated to 209. Some of them have Roman *nomina*: [Κλ]αύδιος Σαταρνείλου (i 4), Αἴλιος Ὠρίων[ος (?), Ἰούλιος Κλήμη[τος (?), Ἀντών[ιο]ς Φη[, Ἀντώ[νιο]ς Διοσ[κόρου (ii 1, 3, 5, 7). Many *nomina* were also used as *cognomina*, but the question marks indicate the editor's uncertainty about two of them. As far as I can see, there is no example of Αἴλιος used as a *cognomen* in the papyri; it would be preferable to read Αἴλιος Ὠρίων. Κλήμη[τος would also be an odd spelling of Κλήμεντος (to judge from the image, η is preferable to ε), but it would be preferable to read Ἰούλιος Κλήμη[ς]. As for Διοσ[κόρου], Διόσ[κορος] is also possible. Φη[may be restored as Φῆ[λιξ] or Φή[λικος].

P.Abinn. 73

In l. 42 of this fourth-century Arsinoite account, the online image indicates that Πυ ̣η ̣ ̣ may be read as Πυμήν, a phonetic version of Ποιμήν (TM Nam 11715).

P.Cair.Mich. 2.22

This is a list of names from Karanis of the late second century. One of the entries was read as Λογ[γῖ]νος Ἀπονείτου (ii 5). Ἀπονείτου is uncertainly paralleled, and on close inspection cedes its place to something more common. The published photograph, as well as an image kindly supplied by Mohamed El-Maghrabi, shows that the papyrus has ἀπὸ Νέστου. This person came from Nestou (TM Geo 1450), a village in the division of Herakleides, located somewhere between Karanis and Philadelphia.

Another person who had gone to Karanis from a different place was Aphrodisios, from nearby Bakchias: in place of Βα<κ>χίωνος in i 9, read Βαχιώτης. On this spelling of Βακχιώτης, see *ZPE* 208 (2018) 188.

Damage has obscured the reading of several names but at least two of them are recoverable: in ii 3, for Κ ̣ ̣ το[ς] read Κάστω[ρ]; in iv 2, for Ουμερ ̣ς read Οὐαλέρις.

P.Genova 2.77

This is a list of names of unknown provenance assigned to the second century. One name has remained unnoticed: αρχικω in l. 2 should be read as αρχιβιͦ, i.e., Ἀρχίβιο(ς).[8]

In l. 6, where the edition gives Πάνος, we may also consider Πάπος.

P.Lond. 2.181

Ἀρσεῦτος in C.5 of this Arsinoite tax register of 63 was changed to Ἐριεῦτος in *Tyche* 5 (1990) 180 = *BL* 9.126, but this is not an improvement. To judge from the online image, the papyrus has Ὀρσεῦτος, a name found also elsewhere in the register (A.5, B.21, C.11).

---

[8] The papyrus is reproduced in Tav. XVII and at http://www.pug.unige.net/pug;II;77.

P.Palau Rib. 25

This is a Hermopolite lease of the sixth/seventh century. The reading of two names in the witnesses' subscriptions may be improved with the help of the plate (Lam. IV). In l. 10, Αὐρ(ήλιος) Δωρόθεος Ἀ ̣ ̣[, the father's name should be read as Βίκ[τωρος. In l. 11, Αὐρ(ήλιος) Κασ[, read Βασ[ι]λ̣[, which suggests Βασ[ι]λ̣[είδης or Βασ[ί]λ̣[ειος.

P.Princ. 3.138

This is a receipt for the payment of tax grain, probably to be loaded on a boat, since it involves a skipper: ὑπὸ Ἀνηλίου κυβερ(νήτου) | πλοί(ου) Ἰ[ω]άννου Πανερ( ) (ll. 2–4). Πανερ( ) would suit a number of names, but there is no name at this point: read λαμπρ, that is, λαμπρ(οτάτου).

The text may refer to an Aphroditopolite village (*BL* 9.221); no *vir clarissimus* named Ioannes is known from this area. The text was assigned to the sixth century, but the late fifth may be more likely.

PSI 3.218

The name of the signatory to this Oxyrhynchite contract of 250 was given as Αὐρηλία Σαασκ ̣ ̣ (?) (l. 10) in the edition. The image shows that her name is Σαραπιάς.

PSI 7.733

In l. 58 of this Oxyrhynchite tax report of 235, there appears one Δρωσι[̣ ̣]α, on whose name the editor noted: 'Forse Δρώσιλλα per Δρούσιλλα.' We may confidently restore Δρωσί[λλ]α; cf. *P.Oxy*. 44.3169.146 (*c*. 210–12) Δρωσίλλα Πετσείριο[ς.

P.Wash.Univ. 2.89

An unexpected name occurs in this sixth-century list of payments: [π(αρὰ)] Ἐπίκουρος̣ (l. Ἐπικούρου) ἀπὸ Μεσοπ(οταμίας) (l. 7). The editor notes: 'There is no Epicurus in Oxyrhynchus documents known to me — but the reading is uncertain.' As the online image shows the name of this person is less remarkable; read [π](αρὰ) Πιηοῦτος ([π]´ pap.).

The papyrus was almost certainly found in Oxyrhynchus (cf. T.M. Hickey, *BASP* 57 [2020] 298ff.), but the text points to the region of Hermopolis. In l. 5 there is a γνωστήρ, a typical Hermopolite official, and in l. 6 a reference to a φυλή, another Hermopolite institution (for φ ̣λ(ου) read φυλ(η); I cannot make out what precedes it). Mesopotamia was a village in the north of the Oxyrhynchite nome, but also in the north of the Hermopolite; see F. Mitthof, *APF* 49 (2003) 210f.

SPP 22.6

This text refers to Karanis and dates from 204/5. Its content was described as '*Indicantur (stratego?) nomina eorum qui tributa solverunt*'; to judge from the image, some of these *nomina* may be read differently:

In l. 11, the papyrus does not have Δωρατ( ) but Δωρᾶ, with alpha extended.

In l. 15, for Ἀγχῶπις Γν[read Ἄγχωφις γναφεύς (γ corrected from ϲ).

In l. 18, for [Κ]άστω[ρ] *traces* [read Ḳάστωρ Σαραπ[.

In l. 19, [Ἀπ]ῦγχ[ις] is impossible. The papyrus has]υ ̣λε̄ ̣, to be read as [Ο]ὐạλέ(ριος) or rather, as one of the readers suggests, [Ο]ὐελέ(ριος).

O.Mich. 1.87 (revised)

This ostracon from Karanis bears a list of liturgical workers and may be assigned to the fourth century (see W. Clarysse, M.C.D. Paganini, *APF* 55 [2009] 82). I present a revised edition on the basis of the online images.

	κεφ(αλαιωτὴς) Πατέρμουτις	Ṗạπαους Ἀσοει
	Αγυς Παράνου (καὶ) ὁ ἀδελφ(ός)	Παῦλος Νεμεϲίνου
	Ἀπάμμωṇ καὶ Πασις	Ἄμαεις καὶ ̣εινος
	Παῦλος Παράμμọυ	
5	Ὁλ ἀρτοκόπος	
	Φηους Παγείνου	

1 κεφ΄   2 ∫οαδελφ/   5 ολ'

i 1 Cf. *O.Mich.* 2.940.1 κεφαλαιω(τὴς) | Πετέρμουθις, perhaps a mere coincidence (the hand of 940, assigned to the late third or early fourth century, looks earlier than that of 87).

2   Αγυς Παράνου (καί): Αὐρη(λία) Σαραπο(ῦς) (καί) *APF* 55 (2009) 88 n. 60: Αὐρή(λιος) Σαραποῦς *ed. pr.* The abbreviated (καί) was first read by H.C. Youtie, as we learn from the APIS record of this item (michigan.apis.114). The reading of the first name is tentative, but it is certainly not the *gentilicium*, which would also be unexpected. If correct, it could be a variant of Ἀνύσιος. (Κάστωρ Ἀνῦς in *P.Col.* 2.1r(3).8.12 does not inspire confidence.) Alternatively, read Απους, suggested by one of the journal's readers, to whom the reading of the other name as Παράνου is due. The name Παρανος is attested in Karanis from *O.Mich.* 1.341.5 (3rd/4th c.) and *BGU* 2.608.2.10 (4th c.).

3   Ἀπάμμωṇ καί: Ἀμμώνιος *ed. pr.*

4   Παράμμọυ: Πρόκλου *ed. pr.* Cf. *BGU* 2.608.20 Παράμμọυ.

5   ἀρτοκόπος: Ἀρποκρᾱ̣τọς *ed. pr.*

ii 1 Ṗạπαους remains without parallel. Σạπαους is also possible but would again be unique. Ἀσοει: ἀδελφ(ός) *ed. pr.* The new reading is due to P. Heilporn, noted on the APIS record.

2   Νεμεϲίνου: or Νεμ<ε>ϲίνου.

3   Ἄμαεις καὶ ̣εινος: Ἀμᾱ̣ϲι̣ς Ḳạḷḷι̣νός *ed. pr.* The second name might be Νε̣ῖνος or Ἄγεινος (cf. *O.Mich.* 940.4).