

ABSTRACTS

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NEW DEVELOPMENTS AND TRADITION IN EPIRUS: THE CREATION OF THE MOLOSSIAN STATE

This article analyses literary references to the political changes introduced by King Tharyps in Molossia, combining them with new archaeological findings in the Ioannina Basin that reveal the emergence of new unwalled settlements as of the end of the fifth century B.C., settlements that featured a new urban structure within a Molossian context. Combining this information with the scarce epigraphic details that exist and other examples, we seek to present a reconstruction of how a federal-type State developed in Molossia throughout the fourth century B.C.

Keywords: Molossia, Tharyps, settlements, federal state, territory

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FROM THE FIFTH CENTURY TO 167 B.C.: RECONSTRUCTING THE HISTORY OF ANCIENT EPIRUS

Going beyond traditional schemas, this article seeks to reconstruct the history of Epirus between the end of the fifth century, circa 430 B.C., and the definitive Roman domination of the region in the year 167 B.C. In this respect, the *theorodokoi* lists for Epidaurus, Argos and Delphi do not prove the existence of numerous independent States throughout Epirus in the fourth century, and neither do they confirm the disappearance of the *koinon* of the Molossians or the emergence of a form of organisation prior to unification, namely the *symmachia* of the Epirotes, which would have excluded the Chaonians. Thus, during the last third of the fifth century, a *symmachia* would have emerged under the hegemony of the Chaonians, one that would have included the rest of the Epirote peoples and other peoples from North-West Greece.

Subsequently, the weakening of Chaonian power and the emergence of other Epirote *ethnes*, especially the Molossians under the royal Aeacid Dynasty, would have led to a unified Epirus in the form of a State known as “The King and the Epirotes”, without any need for intermediate aggregation. This would have been made up of the monarch and the three *koïna* of the large Epirote ethnic communities: the Chaonians, the Molossians and the Thesprotians. Following the end of the monarchy in 232 B.C., the subsequent Epirote Confederacy would have maintained and included these three *koïna*.

Keywords: Ancient History, Greece, Epirus, Monarchy, Federalism

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**POLIS AND DEPENDENCY IN EPIRUS: THE CASE OF
CASSOPE AND THE *POLEIS* OF CASSOPAEA**

The main objective of this paper is to analyse the territory of Cassopaea and its political organisation according to the sources available, ancient authors, epigraphy, archaeology and the support of the spatial analysis and *GIS* tools to have a more comprehensive idea of the geographical limits of the region, the locations of the sites and to ascertain the possible relationship between the different *poleis* included in the Cassopean territory.

Keywords: Cassopaea, ethnos, polis dependency, Thesprotia.

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**THE ISLAND, THE *EPEIROS* AND THE SANCTUARY: A
REFLECTION ON THE CORCYRAN *ANATHEMA* IN DODONA**

In studies concerning the relations between Corcyra and the Oracular Sanctuary of Zeus at Dodona, proper emphasis has been given to an impressive *anathema* dedicated by the *polis*: a young man with a whip in his right hand and a cauldron placed on two columns side by side. Known only from literary sources, since Ancient times this has been linked to the emergence of two proverbs: “the gong of Dodona”

(Δωδωναῖον χαλκεῖον), and “the Corcyraian whip” (ἡ Κερκυραίων μάστιξ).

Through a renewed analysis of the literary sources, this paper reconstructs the evolution of the tradition in order to clarify the origins of the proverbs, and to offer new possible hypotheses concerning the interpretation of the *anathema*, not to mention the reasons for this dedication in the Epirote sanctuary.

Keywords: Corcyra, Dodona, *epeiros*, *anathema*, whips

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THE RELATIONSHIPS AMONG GREEK ORACULAR
SANCTUARIES. RIVALRY, COOPERATION OR DESISTANCE?

A closer examination of Ancient literary sources concerning multiple and double consultations, as well as filiation legends of oracles founding oracles, contradicts the often-taken-for-granted claim that Greek oracular shrines, namely Delphi, Dodona, Claros, etc., were rivals. The evidence points to the fact that no proper rivalry or cooperation existed among the oracles. Rather, there was a tacit plan of non-disruption, which implied mutual recognition of prestige, authority and remits.

Keywords: rivalry, oracles, oracular filiation, multiple/double consultations, desistance

Sandro De Maria, Lorenzo Mancini

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SACRED TERRITORIES AND LANDSCAPES IN HELLENISTIC
AND ROMAN CHAONIA

This paper aims to investigate the connections between the settlement system of Chaonia, located in the northernmost part of Ancient Epirus, and the cultic landscapes which stratified in the region from the Early Hellenistic period to Roman times. In the first section, Sandro De Maria analyses the general picture regarding settlement in Chaonia and the distribution of cults over the territory. These seem to concentrate especially around the few urban centres, namely Phoinike, Antigonea and Butrint, without presenting any clear correspondence with the sparse settlement typical of Epirote tribes. This fact can

certainly be ascribed to a gap in archaeological research. However, in comparison with the features of the sacred landscape among the other Epirote *ethne*, one may legitimately speculate whether it might depend, at least partially, on the somewhat ‘urban’ character of Chaonian tribes. In an attempt to address this question, Lorenzo Mancini proposes a reassessment of archaeological, epigraphic and literary sources regarding Chaonian cult sites, both in the urban settlements (Butrint and Phoinike) and in the few non-urban sanctuaries in the hinterland of Phoinike. Following an introduction on the mythical and religious landscapes relating to maritime routes, the focus will be placed on the issue of the early phases of the Sanctuary of Asklepios at Butrint, on new data from excavations at Phoinike, and on evidence relating to sacred architecture among the Chaonians.

Keywords: Epirus, Chaonia, Hellenistic and Roman Greece, Sanctuaries, Epirote religion

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PLACES OF POLITICAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE LIFE IN THE
CITIES OF EPIRUS

Today, amongst studies devoted to public spaces and buildings in the urban centres of Late Classical and Hellenistic Epirus, a contribution that thoroughly researches the architecture of political and civil character, focusing on both its uniqueness and its connections with the urban and regional context, is still lacking. This paper seeks to fill this gap through a contextual approach that focuses on the *agorai* and buildings that fulfilled an administrative and political function in eight major cities in present-day Southern Albania and North-Western Greece. First of all, this research enables us to identify the functions and architectural forms of these political and administrative spaces, as well as tracing their development from the beginnings of Epirote urban culture during the 4th century up until the end of the 1st century B.C., in reference to the architectural and urban models distributed throughout the Mediterranean Basin from the end of the Classical period. Secondly, the study provides further useful details that help us to understand the institutional and administrative framework of the

urban centres of the region, on the one hand, and their role within ethnic and tribal groups and the Epirote federal state, on the other.

Keywords: Epirus, *Agora*, public buildings, institutions, Hellenistic period

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LINGUISTIC ASPECTS OF EPIROTE ETHNICS

In Antiquity, Epirus was famous for its numerous *ethne*, *koina* and other kinds of 'communities'. This short study provides a concise linguistic analysis of major Epirote ethnics, in comparison with select lesser ethnic names from Bouthrotos, with the aim of tracing common patterns, on the one hand, and discerning clear discrepancies, on the other, particularly at the levels of morphology/word-formation and semantics.

Keywords: Ethnic, Illyrian, morphology, semantics, suffix

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“ON THE BOUNDARIES OF GREECE”: REFERENCES TO THE
TOPOGRAPHY AND ARCHAEOLOGY OF EPIRUS IN THE
ACCOUNTS OF THE EARLIEST TRAVELLERS TO THE
REGION (18TH AND 19TH CENTURIES)

This article seeks to highlight the contributions made by various travellers to our knowledge of the archaeology and topography of Epirus, mainly during the 19th century. Irrespective of whether some of their identifications and sitings of cities mentioned by Ancient authors were erroneous, the considerable merit of these travellers consists of the fact that they explored regions that, until that time, were as distant and remote with regard to the habitual destinations of the “Grand Tour” in Greece (Athens and Attica, Central Greece, the Peloponnese, the Ionian Islands and the Aegean, the Ionian Coast) as they had been in Antiquity, as various Graeco-Roman sources confirm.

Keywords: Epirus, Dodona, travellers, topography; antiquarianism