

The Ancient Town of Styberra in the Light of Epigraphic Inscriptions*

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This MA thesis covers all known inscriptions originating from the ancient town of Styberra and its neighbourhood (today's villages of Čepigovo, Trojkrsti, Zagorani, Rufci, Bela Crkva and Krivogaštani), systematizes and relates them to other archaeological findings in order to allow us to draw conclusions regarding the relation of Styberra to De(u)riopos, Styberra's social and ethnic structure, the degree of Romanization of the local population, and the functioning of local administration.

The first chapters are dedicated to the attestation of Styberra in the literary writings of the ancient historiographers and ancient itineraries as well as archaeological information about Styberra. The two excavated public buildings (the temple of the goddess Tyche and the Gymnasium) provide plentiful epigraphic material mainly dating from the first to third centuries A.D. (40 inscriptions) which testify to 331 persons.

There is a catalogue of the inscriptions (almost all of them are in ancient Greek) accompanied with relevant translations into contemporary Macedonian. The information from both public buildings, the temple of Tyche and Gymnasium, allows us to look into Styberra's social structure at that time: there are many ephebes and officers within the gymnasium (284 persons), eminent people and a local benefactor (M. Ouetios Philon (M. Vettius Philo), mentioned on 6 inscriptions, of which 5 ephebes' catalogues and 1 decree relating to the execution of his testament), an eminent family of Septimios Silvanos Nikomachos (Septimius Silvanus Nicomachus) originating from Styberra, Roman traders, citizens with right of citizenship as well as numerous peregrines.

All persons encountered in the inscriptions of Styberra considered in the thesis are included in the chapter entitled 'Prosopography of Styberra's inhabitants'. The Chapter titled 'Anthroponymy of the inhabitants' considers the names of various origins: Latin, Greek, and Greek-Macedonian, indigenous together with several ethnicons, as well as divisions of the persons met in inscriptions sorted by centuries and according to their names.

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