

A GREEK HOROSCOPE OF A. D. 243

(Cf. Plate XIII d)

= Baccani, *Oroscopei greci*, Nr. 12

The papyrus published here was recently acquired. It is at the present moment in my private possession. Its provenance is unknown. The measures are 5.9 x 4.8 cm. At the left side is a free margin of 1.3 cm. The right side and the bottom are broken off. A clear trace of ink is to be seen at the left side (l.4), possibly of an omega. At the back are some traces of ink of uncertain significance.

TEXT	TRANSLATION
1 Γένεσις Ἄρειου	Birth of Arius
2 Ὥρα Σκορπίου	Horoscopus in Scorpio
3 Ἑρμῆς Ἄρης Αἰγιοέλιος	Mercury (and) Mars in Capricorn
4 Ζεὺς Ἥλιος Ὑδροχόος	Jupiter (and) Sun in Aquarius
5 Σελήνη Καρκίνου	Moon in Cancer
6 Κρόνον Παρθένου	Saturn in Virgo
7 Ἀφροδίτη Τοξότη	Venus in Sagittarius
4 l. Ἥλιος Παρ.: Ὑδροχόος	6 l. Κρόνος

Greek horoscopes found on papyrus are authoritatively treated by O. Neugebauer-H.B. Van Hoesen, *Greek Horoscopes*, Philadelphia 1959 (Mem. Amer. Philos. Soc., Vol. 48). For later additions cf. O. Neugebauer-H.B. Van Hoesen, *Astrological Papyri and Ostraca: Bibliographical Notes*, Proc. Amer. Philos. Soc., Vol. CVIII (1964) pp. 57-72, esp. pp. 66-67.

Since then a few new texts have been published: P. Oxy. XXXI 2555-57; P. Cologne inv. 930 in ZPE I (1967) p. 240 (cf. ZPE IV (1969) p. 22); P. Oxy. XXXVI 2790.

Our text lacks any specific calendaric date. This seems interesting in the light of the observation made by Neugebauer-Van Hoesen, *Gr. Hor.*, p. 165, that only two undated horoscopes have been found on papyrus thus far.

The computation of the numbers and the exact dating of this horoscope I owe to the most kind help of Prof. Neugebauer, who wrote (letter of Sept. 17, 1973): "Using B. Tuckerman's Tables (Planetary, Lunar and Solar Positions A.D. 2 to A.D. 1649, Mem.

Amer. Philos. Soc., Vol. 59, Philadelphia 1964) one finds for the given positions the date A.D. 243, Jan. 20/21 :

Text		Comp.
H	η	Midnight
ϝ } Ϟ }	ζ	⏟ 2 ζ 25
Ϡ } ϡ }	⏟	⏟ 13 ⏟ 1
Ϣ	ϣ	ϣ 0 to 20
ϣ	Ϥ	Ϥ 16
ϥ	[Ϧ]	Ϧ 26

The small discrepancy for Mercury lies well within the differences between ancient and modern tables".

2. For "Ωρα = 'Ωροσκόπος cf. Gr. Hor., No. 277,9; 293 VIII,4; 283,4; 320,5.

P.Oxy. XXXVI 2790 II, 1.

4. For "Ἡλις = "Ἡλιος cf. D.J. Georgacas, On the Nominal Endings -ις, -ιυ in Later Greek, *Classical Philology* XLIII (1948) pp. 243-260.

6. For Κρόνον instead of Κρόνος cf. Greek Hor., No. 260,5.

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