

Place Date Language Material Number of texts Type Collections Find/Acquisition	<p>Petitions from Magdola</p> <p style="text-align: right;">ArchID 80. Version 2 (2013) Willy Clarysse</p>
	<p>Arsinoites (Fayum), Krokodilopolis 28 January 222 - 11 May 218 BC Greek Papyrus 97 Official archive Paris, Sorbonne; Cairo, Egyptian Museum Extracted from mummy cartonnage found by Jouguet at Medinet Nehas (Magdola) in 1902</p>
<p>Bibliography</p> <p>Description</p>	<p>E. SEIDL, <i>Ptolemäische Rechtsgeschichte</i>, Glückstadt, 1962, p. 44 no. 26-27 (Archive von Ghôran und Médinet-en-Nahas).</p> <p>O. MONTEVECCHI, <i>La papirologia</i>, Milano, 1988², p. 249 no. 5 (Archivi di cui è traccia nei cartoni di mummie di Magdola e di Ghoran (Arsinoite)).</p> <p>The numbers in bold refer to <i>P. Enteux</i>.</p> <p>The papyri come from mummy cartonnage found by P. Jouguet at Medinet Nehas (Magdola) in January-April 1902. Some forty petitions addressed to the king were published between 1902 and 1903 by Jouguet and Lefebvre in <i>BCH</i> 26 (1902), p. 95-128 and 27 (1903), p. 174-205, and republished by J. Lesquier in <i>P. Lille Gr. II</i> (1912).</p> <p>In his authoritative edition of 1931 (<i>P. Enteux</i>.) Guéraud augmented the number of petitions (<i>enteuxeis</i>) to 113 because he included also <i>enteuxeis</i> from Jouguet's find in Ghoran. Though these have exactly the same format as the <i>enteuxeis</i> from Magdola, they have a different archival origin (see the archive of the Petitions from the office of the <i>epistates</i> of Arsinoe, ArchID 79). Here we have limited ourselves to the texts found at Magdola.</p> <p>Fragments of a single petition were found in cartonnages of different mummies and petitions were mixed up in the cartonnages with other texts, of which some may in fact belong to the same archive, as can be shown for the Mouchis <i>enteuxeis</i> (see the archive of Glaukos, policeman of Mouchis, ArchID 384). Guéraud's starting point was typological (collecting all petitions addressed to the king in the Sorbonne collection) and not archivist (collecting papyri which were kept together in one office in Antiquity) and this may have led him to separate texts that were in Antiquity kept together.</p> <p>The <i>enteuxeis</i> were nominally addressed to the king, but in fact handed over to the <i>strategos</i> of the Arsinoite nome. They are written in a uniform format (against the fibres on large papyri of 32-33 cm height), according to a fixed pattern: greeting formula in which the name of the king precedes the verb <i>χαίρειν</i>, final greeting with the reverential <i>εὐτύχει</i>, complaints are introduced by <i>ἀδικοῦμαι ὑπό</i>, simple requests start with different verbs. The petition itself begins with the expression <i>δέομαι οὖν σου, βασιλεῦ, προστάξαι</i> etc. In the third part of the text the king receives thanks for his help. Whenever the lower part of the text is preserved it contains a subscript (apostille) written in a different and often very cursive hand, with the instructions by the <i>strategos</i> to the local officials (<i>epistatai</i>). Apparently the</p>

documents remained in the office of the *strategos*, because only so can we explain that petitions from all areas of the Arsinoite nome were found together. There is nowhere an address on the back (unlike the petitions which were kept by the policeman Glaukos of Mouchis).¹

When a *strategos* is mentioned in the texts it is always Diophanes. This official is also known outside the present archive and some petitions addressed to him are even part of other archives, such as that of Glaukos, policeman of Mouchis. All texts fall within his term of office and there can be no doubt that the *enteuxeis* formed part of his official archives.

On the back the texts contain a short archival note, always positioned in the lower left corner when the papyrus is turned over horizontally. It contains

- 1) a Macedonian-Egyptian double date (in a separate first line)
- 2) the name of the petitioner, sometimes accompanied by a short description
- 3) in case of complaints against a person the name of the other party introduced by *πρός*
- 4) a short summary of the case introduced by *περί*.

From the first line it is clear that the texts were kept in chronological order. Again, Guéraud's edition, by classifying the texts according to the subject does not take into account the archival context.

The dated texts range from year 25 of Ptolemy III to year 4 of Ptolemy IV, i.e. from 223/222 to 219/218 BC, but their dockets are dated to just a few days within this period (the petitions themselves are not dated):

- January 28, 222 (year 25, Loios 26 = Choiach 13): **13, 14, 27, 35, 37, 45, 55, 58, 59, 71, 73, 75, 95, 98, 108, 109**
- February 26, 221 (year 1, Gorpaios 28 = Tybi 12): **7, 10, 24, 41, 42, 44, 65, 70, 77, 83, 85, 86, 91, 92, 96, 107**
- February 27, 221 (year 1, Gorpaios 30 = Tybi 13): **8, 26, 33, 36, 38, 39, 43, 49, 50, 62, 64, 76, 81, 88, 99, 111, 113**
- January 13, 218 (year 4, Daisios 27 = Hathyr 29): **15, 21, 22, 29, 48, 52, 53, 56, 57, 66**
- May 11, 218 (year 4, Dios 3 = Phamenoth 27): **23, 72, 110.**

It is unclear whether this very limited set of dates is due to the circumstances of preservation or if the office of the *strategos* received petitions only on a limited number of days. In any case the archive was clearly chronologically arranged.

Archive texts

P. Enteux. 2-3, 6-11, 13-24, 26-60, 62-67, 69-79; 81-83, 85-96, 98-99, 107-113; *SB XVIII* 13312 (= 5).

Text type

Petitions = incoming documents.

¹ The addresses of *epistatai* on the back of **12, 25, 80, 97** show that these texts were not part of the archive of the *strategos*. Indeed these four texts were not found at Magdola but at Ghoran and have nothing to do with the present archive.