

## Valerius Papirianus

SEG 48.1315 = CIGP 77 = CIGP<sup>2</sup> 91

### Text

D(is) M(anibus) • C(aio) Val(erio) Papirian[o] trib(un)o  
leg(ionis) II ad(iutricis); / urbe Pal(a)estina genitum [m]e /  
militiae res / transtulit hue SPER (or B or P)[- ca. 3 -] tamd[i]uq(ue) //  
tribunus insont[e]m v[itam s]o/lvi. duo pignor[a cara amoris (?) an]/tiqui, sume ac be[ne]  
vive [- - -]/  
C(aii) Valeri(i) Turbo et L(ucius) [Val(erius) --] us fil(ii) eius / eq(uites) R(omani) //

πατρίς ἔμοι Συρίας δάπεδον / πόλεως Καπετωλιάδαο, /  
κεῖμε δ' ἐν Πα[ί]οσι κενὸν ὄρ/γανον ἀνθρώποισι  
λεγε//ῶνος ἀρχηγὸς γεγονώς / ᾧ τοῦνομα Παπειρίανος  
ὑπάρχει • / υἱοὶ ἱππικοὶ β' πατρὶ χρηστῶ

### Translation

#### Latin:

To the Shades. For Gaius Valerius Papirianus the tribune  
of the second legion Adiutrix; Military matters brought me, born in the city of Palestina,

.....

I, as a tribune, lived my life innocently. Receive two costly debts of aged love and live well...  
Turbo, son of Gaius Valerius, and Lucius Valerius, his sons, Roman knights, made this.

#### Greek:

My fatherland is the land of Syria, the city of Kapetolias,  
I lie as a body empty to men among the Paionians.

Having become a tribune of the legion, to which the name Pateirianos was granted.

His two knight sons (made this) for their worthy father.

### **Apparatus Criticus**

A. I.C. Valerius Papirianus: tribunus angusticlavus of *legio II adiutrix*, K., with further comment on his military career and on equestrian officers from the East (especially Syria) in Pannonia

2. urbs Pal(a)estina, specified in B L. 2 (πόλις Καπετωλίας or Καπετωλιάδης): identified by Scheiber as (Colonia) Aelia Capitolina (Jerusalem); this city is occasionally also on record as Αἰλία Καπιτωλιάς (Ptolem. 5.16.8; 8.20.18), and our text seems to use a shorter variant; however, Kapitolias of the Dekapolis, north of Jerusalem, cannot be excluded [it is preferred in *An.Ép.* (2001) [2004] no. 1691; another (Latin) epitaph of an officer of *legio II adiutrix* originating from Aelia Capitolina was equally found in Aquincum, K., who suggests that Oriental elements were enrolled especially when the whole legion including Pannonian vexillations went to the East during Verus' Parthian campaign

4. perhaps spe b[ona] or p[reti(i)] or p[r(a)emi] or a form of sperare; tamdiuque tribunus: he served as a tribunus for a long time, K.

5-6. duo pignora (cara amoris?): Papirius' sons (of equestrian rank, who erected his epitaph: see A LL. 8/9 and B L. 7); 'as a tribunus I paid my innocent wife with the two dear children of our old love'; or, less preferably, insont[e]m v[ita s]olvi (so in *CIGP* and [SEG 48 1315](#))

**B.** written in an attempt to produce a metrical epitaph, probably by Papirius' sons themselves: perfect hexameter in LL. 1/2, followed by a pseudometrical (occasionally dactylic) text; elements of other epigrams were used to compose a new text: for Συρίης δάπεδον cf. *AP* 12.131, for the beginning πατρίς ἐμοί cf. *GV* 1056 (*IGR* I 258; *IG* XIV 1627; *IGUR* 1222), and for ᾧ τοῦνομα *GV* 1077, 1098, and 1104, K.

3-4. κενὸν ὄργανον ἀνθρώποισι: the body is empty, because the soul has left it, K., referring to Christian authors qualifying the σῶμα as ψυχᾶς ὄργανον *vel sim.*

5. ἀρχηγός: 'chief, leader', here used in the (previously unattested) specific sense of *tribunus*, K.

### **Commentary**

Early 3<sup>rd</sup> century CE

Limestone sarcophagus. 2 x 0.76 x 12.5

Letter height 4-5 cm.

Budapest Museum InvNr. 72.7.4.

Inscription field in tabulae ansatae.

There are rosettes in the ansae, beside them ivy leaves can be seen.

Found in the former *canabae*, in the courtyard of the synagogue of Óbuda, south of the legionary fort; now in the Aquincum Museum at Budapest. Dates to the Severan Period (2<sup>nd</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> CE).

The epigraphic poet emphasizes the theme of death in a foreign place.

Καπετωλιάδαο is the city of Kapetolias

ἐν Παίοσι means the Pannonians.

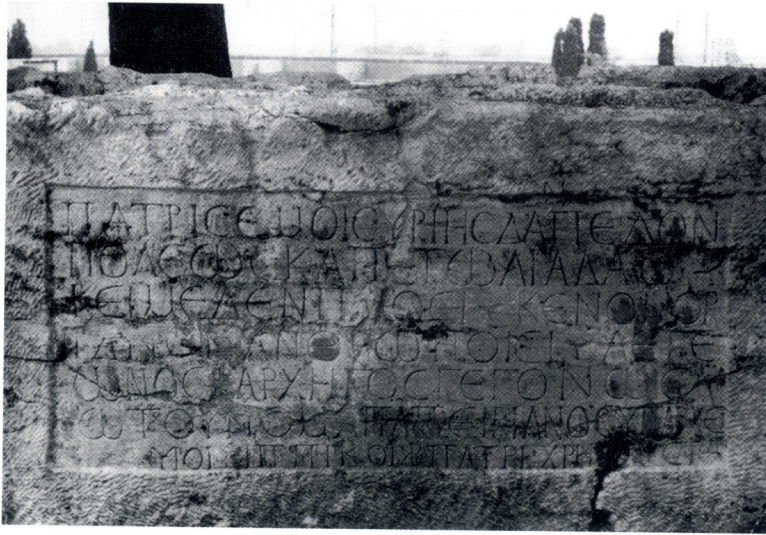
The Greek appears on a side panel.

For the basic theme of our inspirational text (though with a change in the hopes of her progression of his career) see Zarker 58 and especially *CLE* 407 (about a soldier who was from Moesica and moved for reasons of his career to Moguntiacum where he died).

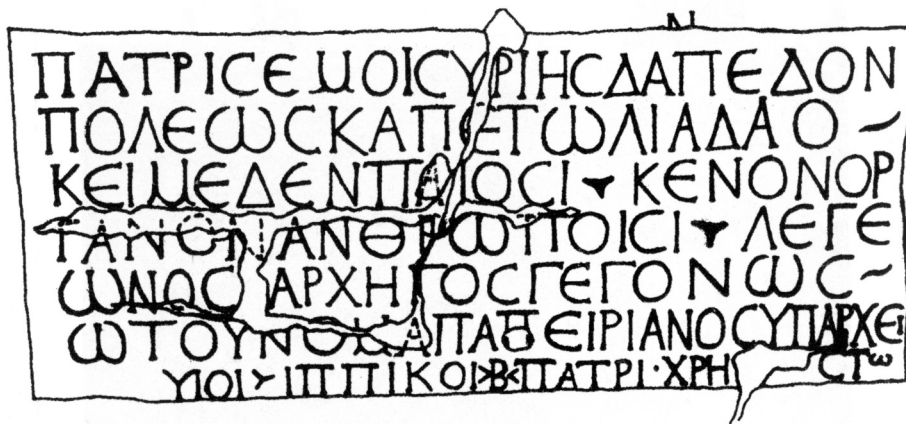
### **Bibliography**

P. Kovacs, *Corpus Inscriptionum Graecarum Pannonicarum*. Hungarian Polis Studies 8, December 2001, pp. 88-101.

S. Scheiber, *Jewish inscriptions in Hungary from the 3<sup>rd</sup> century to 1896* (Budapest 1983) 67.



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