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Two Loan Repayments from Second-Century Tebtunis

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TWO LOAN REPAYMENTS FROM SECOND-CENTURY TEBTUNIS

The type of document commonly referred to as the repayment, or return, of a loan has been recently discussed in the introduction to P. Yale 63. The editors there conclude (p. 198) that "written repayments of loans were not given for repayment itself, but to cover peculiar circumstances" (space by me), such as the decease of the original creditor or debtor, or occasions when repayment was made in a place different from that in which the loan was taken out. The two papyri presented below lend confirmation to this conclusion: No. 1 is the repayment in Tebtunis of a loan originally drawn up in the record office (grapheion) of Theogonis; in No. 2 repayment is made in behalf of a deceased debtor by his sister. For further discussions and details, see P. Yale 63 introduction, with the list of repayments given, pp. 196 - 97. To this may be added P. Teb. 596 descr. (in BASP 6 [1969] pp. 31ff.).

1

P. Teb. 537 descr. 10 x 11.6 cm. Aug. 20, 137 A.D.
Plate IIa

Acknowledgement of the repayment of 132 drachmas owed by Pakebkis son of Marepsemis to Heron son of Souchas. Pakebkis is quite possibly identical with the original debtor of the following text (No. 2, line 15).

\[
\text{Ετος τριαν \ Αποφασις Αυτοκρατορος}
\]
\[
\text{Καίσαρας Τραίανο \ 'Αδριανο \ Σεβαστού}
\]
\[
\text{Μεσορή κ}' \ έν \ [T]έβτυν \ τής \ Πολέμωνς \ μερί-}
\]
\[
4 \ \text{δος \ τοῦ \ 'Αρσινοίκου \ νομοῦ. \ άπονομεί} \ \text{"Ηρων}
\]
\[
\text{Σουκά \ ἀς ἐτών \ τριάκοντα δύο \ οὐλην.}
\]

1 The papyri edited here were summarily described at the back of the Tebtunis Papyri Vol. II. They are part of the Tebtunis collection owned by the University of California and housed in the Rare Books Department of the Bancroft Library. I am grateful to Prof. Hagedorn and Prof. Koenen for proposing some improvements in the reading of both texts.
χειρὶ ἀριστερῇ Πακῆβκι Μαρεψήμεως

Ως ἐτὸν εὐκοσί δικτῶν οὐλὴ παρ’ ἀντική-

μον [δ]εξιόν ἀπέχειν παρ’ αὐτοῦ

Πακῆβκις [δι]ὰ χειρὸς ἀργυρίου δρα-

χμᾶς ἐνατὸν τριάκοντα δύο κ[α]ὶ τοὺς
tόκους δὲ ἀφείλεν ὁ Πακῆβκις τῷ

12 “Ἡρωὶ καθ’ ὅμολογίαν χρήσεως τε-
tελειομένην [δ]ιὰ τοῦ κόμης θεογο-
nίδος γραφεῖον τῷ ἐνεστῶτι ἐτὶ μη-
nι Φαμενῶ(θ) τεσσαρακαίδεκάτῳ ἦν καὶ

16 [[δεκά]τῃ ἦν καὶ] ἄν[α]δέδωκεν αὐτῶι ἐ[ἰς ἄ]θε-

[τηι]ν καὶ ἀκῆ[ρωι]ν καὶ μὴ ἐπελεύσασθαι

[ἀπέσ]χησ[ε] καθὸ πρὸς τὸ [πρό̣]

4 'Αρσινοίτου 5 οὐλὴ 7 δικτῶ 13 τετελειωμένην 14 ἐτεὶ

Twenty-first year of Imperator Caesar Traianus Hadrianus Augustus,
Mesore 27, at Tebtunis of the Polemonos Meris of the Arsinoite Nome. Heron,
son of Souchas, about thirty-two years old, with a scar on his left hand, ack-
nowledges to Pakebkis, son of Marepsemis, about twenty-eight years old,
with a scar along his right shin, that he has received from him, Pakebkis,
from hand to hand, one hundred thirty-two silver drachmas plus interest which
Pakebkis owed Heron according to the terms of a contract of loan drawn up by
the record office of the village Theogonis in the present year on the fourteenth
day of the month Phamenoth; and he has turned over this contract to Pakebkis
for cancellation and invalidation. Nor shall Heron take action against Pakeb-
kis with respect to what he has received, as stated above . . . .

1 - 3 The date is Aug. 20, 137 A.D.
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4 - 5 ἰδόν Σουχᾶ : Person(s) of this same name occur in P. Teb. 318, 6 (166 A.D.) and 320, 3 (188 A.D.).

13 - 14 [δ]λα τοῦ ἱηούς θεογονίδως γραφείον : Theogonis was one of the small villages in the Fayum's Gharaq basin; on its location see P. Teb. II p. 379; G.S. Crotti, Aegyptus 42 (1962) pp. 110 - 13; Dorothy J. Crawford, Kerkeosiris: An Egyptian Village in the Ptolemaic Period (Cambridge 1971) pp. 46 - 50. The fullest discussion of its relationships with, and, in the Roman period, its dependence upon Tebtunis is that of Crotti, pp. 103 - 13. In the first century A.D. its grapheion is found united with that of the village Tali (P. Mich. V 287, 2); but by the second century Theogonis was maintaining its own independent record office. Loans originally drawn up at the Theogonis grapheion were sometimes repaid at Tebtunis, with attendant contracts being drawn up and registered by the Tebtunis grapheion (P. Fam. Tebt. 9 and the present text), and vice versa (P. Teb. 596 descr. in BASP 6 [1969] pp. 31 ff.). See also PSI X 1145 where a pastophorion located in Tebtunis is ceded by means of a contract drawn at the record office of Theogonis.

14 - 15 The date is March 10, 137 A.D.


2

P. Teb. 447 descr. 11 x 21 cm. July 15, 155 A.D.
Plate Ia

Psenkebksis son of Marepsemis acknowledges to Thenmarsisouchos daughter of another Marepsemis that he has received from her the 460 drachmas owed him by her brother Pakebkis. Presently mounted to lower left of this document is a small fragment (2.5 x 6 cm), written in a hand similar to, if not the same as, that which wrote the body of the loan repayment:

]σ[ ]ωρος ις[ ]ωρος πι[ ]Μά]ξιμος [ ]ωρος σα[ ]ωρος πε[ ]
It seems to be some kind of name list (with names ending in -ωρος in lines 2 - 3, 5 - 7, Μα]ξιμος in line 4) including patronymics (e.g. Κρον[τωνος aut sim. in line 7). The fragment has no apparent connection with the following contract.

Ετους δικτωκαίδεκατον Αυτοκράτορος
Καίσαρας [T]ίτου Άλλιου 'Αδριανοῦ
'Αντωνίνου Σεβαστοῦ Εὐσεβοῦς 'Επείφ

Να ἐν Τετάνει τῆς Πολέμωνς μερίδος τοῦ
'Αριστο[ό]είτου νομοῦ. Ὑμολογεῖ Ψευνήβης
Μαρεφήμεως ὡς ἔταν τριάκοντα πέντε
Ἀσίμους Θεομαρσοῦχων ἔτερον Μαρε-

ψῆμεως ὡς ἔταν τριάκοντα ἑπτά ἁσῆμ' ψ' 
μετὰ κυρίου τοῦ ἀνδρός Πακῆβης 
τοῦ Ἀριποκρατίωνος ὡς ἔταν τεσ-
σαράκοντα πέντε ἁσῆμον ἀπέχειν 

Παρ' αὐτῆς Θεομαρσοῦχου διὰ χειρός
ἀργυρίου δραχμᾶς τετρακοσίας
ἐξήμοντα ὑφειληθείσαις ὑπὸ τοῦ
ἀδελφοῦ αὐτῆς Πακῆβης τῶν

阍 Τε[ε]ι Ἀντωνίνου
Καίσαρος τοῦ κυρίου [Φαρ]μοθεί α ἦν καὶ
Eighteenth year of Imperator Caesar Titus Aelius Hadrianus Antoninus Augustus Pius, Epeiph 21, at Tebtunis of the Polemonos Meris of the Arsinonite Nome. Psenkebkis, son of Marepsemis, about thirty-five years old, with no distinguishing mark, acknowledges to Thenmarsisouchos, daughter of another Marepsemis, about thirty-seven years old, with no distinguishing mark, with her husband Pakebkis, son of Harpokration, about forty-five years old, with no distinguishing mark, as guardian, that he has received from her, Thenmarsisouchos, from hand to hand, four hundred sixty silver drachmas owed to him, Psenkebkis, by her brother Pakebkis according to the terms of a contract of loan drawn up by the same record office in the twelfth year of Antoninus Caesar the lord, Pharmouthi 1; and he has turned this contract over to her for invalidation and he, Psenkebkis, will not take action concerning these (i.e., the 460 drachmas in principal) or the interest on these,
since this also has been repaid, or concerning any other matter whatsoever down to the present day.

(2nd hand) I, Psenkebkis, son of Marepsemis, have received from Then-
marsisouchos the four hundred sixty drachmas plus interest which she owed him (sic) and will not take action, as stated above. I, NN, have written for him because he is illiterate.

(3rd hand) Registered by the record office in Tebtunis.

1 - 4 The date is July 15, 155 A.D.

9 - 10 Pakebkis son of Harpokration is possibly identical with the Pakebkis son of Harpokration who is receipted for having paid the poll-tax in P. Teb. 306, lines 1 - 4 (163 A.D.). He was probably a priest (so P. Teb. 306 intro.) and may have been the father of Kronion, the deputy prophet (διαδοχος προφητευς) of P. Teb. 293, lines 1 - 2 (about 187 A.D.).


18 δ[ωδεκά]τωι : Fills the lacuna better than δ[εκα]τωι. The twelfth year of Antoninus is 148/9 A.D.

19 Pharmouthi 1 of the 12th year of Antoninus is March 27, 149 A.D.

21 - 23 For the restoration of these lines cf. P. Ryl. II 174, lines 16ff.

23 - 24 For the restoration cf. inter alia P. Fam. Tebt. 9, line 18.

28 [α]ύτῳ : μον is expected. The use of αύτῳ is presumably a psychological slip on the part of the man who wrote in Psenkebkis' behalf.

30 The name of the man who wrote for Psenkebkis is either very short (3 - 4 letters) or ἔγραμεν has in some way been abbreviated. Cf. ἔγραμεν(φα) in P. Teb. 397, line 34. ἔγραμεν(φα) must have been abbreviated since the lacuna before the grapheion docket is not sufficient to accommodate the word written in full.

31 The restoration is modelled on PSI X 1140, 34; P. Teb. 312, 25 - 26; P. Fam. Tebt. 7, 29; 27, 28 - 29.

Berkeley

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a) Repayment of a loan (P. Teb. inv. nr. 447), zu J. G. Keenan S. 87
b) Receipt for dyke and other taxes
c) Anweisung an die Totengräber
   (P. Colon. inv. nr. 3004), zu L. Koenen S. 20.
d) Namenliste (P. Amsterdam inv. nr. 27), zu P. J. Sijpesteijn S. 47 f.
a) Repayment of a loan (P. Teb. inv. nr. 537), zu J. G. Keenan S. 85 ff.

b) Lease of vaults (P. Yale inv. nr. 156 verso), zu J. Rea. S. 1.

c) Delivery to a granary (O. Leiden 144), zu J. R. Rea S. 2 ff.