

Sn. Tanju ÖZORAL'ın  
DİKKATİNE

(Amerika'daki Avukatlara Gönderilmek  
Üzere)

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ANTALYA 6 September, 1991.

Report of the technical experiment to determine whether the two parts of a statue of which the bottom segment found in the excavations at Perge in 1980 is in the Antalya Museum and the top segment is in the Boston Museum of Fine Arts, Leon Levy and Shelby White Private Collection, are parts of the same statue.

On 5 August 1991 this experiment took place in Leon Levy's house in New York. Turkey was represented by me, the lawyers Lawrence M.Kaye and Scott T.Tross, and restorer John Horn. Also present were Leon Levy, his wife Shelby White, the Curator of the Boston Museum of Fine Arts Cornelius Vermeule, his wife Emily Vermeule, their two lawyers and the Curator of the Metropolitan Museum of Art, Carlos Picon.

Although we had been assured that the post on which the piece is mounted would be removed, this wasn't done. We were disappointed because it was impossible to match the casts of the bottom and top broken surfaces with this obstacle in the way. The other party wanted to take some measurements of our cast to compare with theirs.

Meanwhile, I discussed with Mr.Vermeule the " two navels " problem. I showed him photographs of the Antalya segment and explained that our segment did not have a navel. He made no response to this. He brought up the problem that the lion pelt has two heads. I showed him photographs of the Antalya segment which illustrate the lion's head and I asked him where the lion's head appeared on their segment. He pointed to a particular part of the lion's mane and said that was where it was although I could see no difference in that part of the mane from any other.

The other party, particularly Mr.Picon and Mrs.Vermeule, insisted that a piece on the right side of the statue was missing. I said the piece was not really missing but appeared to be because their segment was not mounted in the proper position. The upper part of the statue has been erected and is supported in a way which leans it towards the left and therefore suggests, incorrectly, that a piece on the right side of the figure as well as part of the iliac muscle are missing. However, the Antalya segment shows the iliac muscle. Because of this incorrect positioning, the upper part of the statue, as presently displayed, is somewhat lop-sided.

I then asked to see the back of the statue. It is in good condition and the modelling of the muscles and the surface style show that the two segments are from the hands of the same artist. I also closely examined traces of the tree tendrils which look very much like those on the Antalya statue.

The other party suggested that we have a whole cast of each of the two segments made to resolve the problem. The meeting ended with the two parties agreeing that whole casts would be prepared.

Although this experiment did not provide definitive results, I concluded that both segments belong to the same statue.

During the experiment I examined the round post on which the piece is mounted and I concluded that it could be removed without damage to the statue. I also assume that a metal rod has been fixed inside the piece to hold it in place. If so, it would be dangerous to remove that.

However, before the cast of the upper part of the statue is made prior to the next experiment, the round post must be removed so that all of the broken surface is accessible. It should not be replaced before the next experiment is finished.

This statue is very important for the investigation of Greek sculpture; it is also one of the most beautiful statues from Perge. I hope that the opposing party will understand this and agree to return their place to Antalya where it belongs.

*Jale İnan*

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c.c to Mr.Lawrence M.Kaye and Mr.Scott T.Tross, New York

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