



UNIONE EUROPEA



REPUBBLICA ITALIANA



REGIONE AUTÓNOMA DE SARDIGNA
REGIONE AUTONOMA DELLA SARDEGNA

Archaeological area of Mount Sirai

Patrimonio culturale
SARDEGNA Virtual Archaeology



■ Punic inscription on bronze sheet from the sanctuary of Astarte

There aren't many epigraphic documents of Monte Sirai. One important one (fig. 1) comes from the sacellum in the sanctuary of Astarte: it is a bronze sheet, with four holes in the corners to fix it to the wall, carrying an inscription on four lines in Punic letters from the 4th century BC.

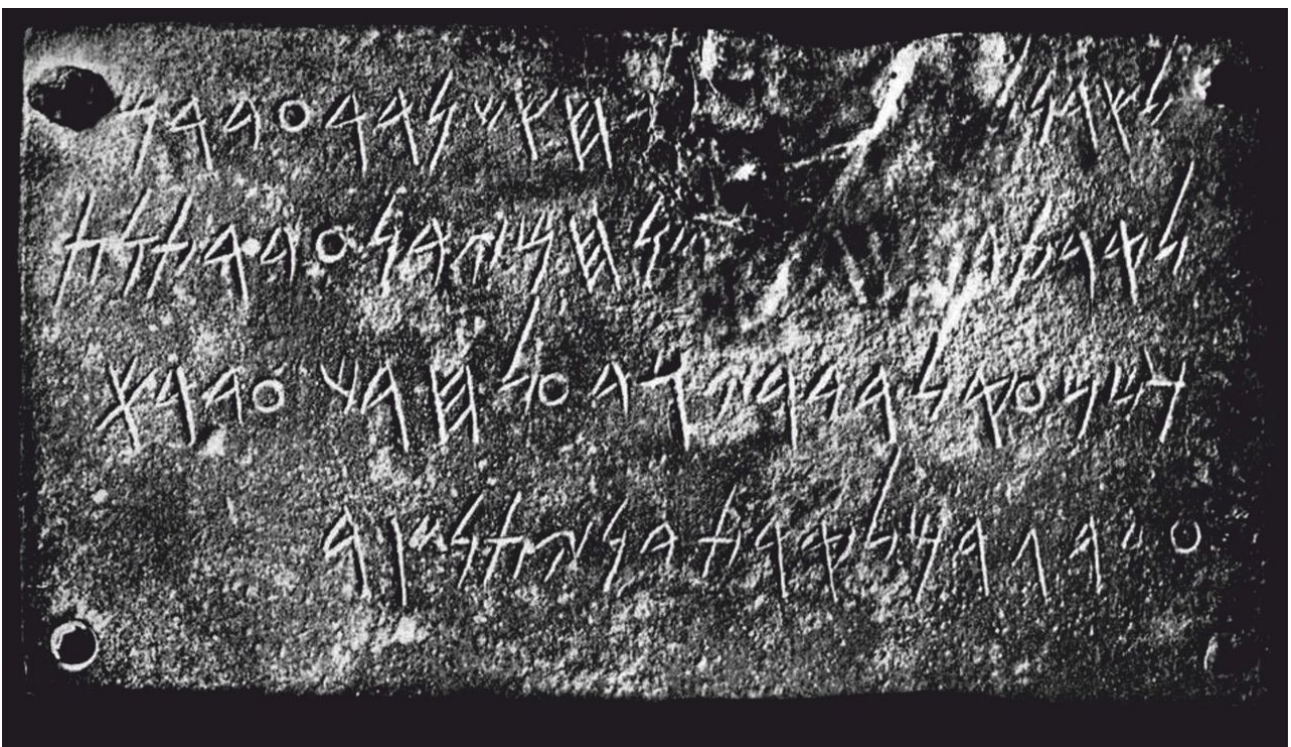


Fig. 1 - Sanctuary of Astarte. Inscription on bronze sheet (GUIRGUIS 2013, fig. 17)

The name of the male god seems to have been deliberately cancelled in ancient times. The inscription states the names and activities linked to the population living in the area and confirms the importance of the place of worship. Here is the wording:

"To the Lord [...al]tar who has dedicated ABDMELQART, s[on of ...], son of HMY, son of ABTANIT, as (the god) has listened to the voice of his words. Maker/engraver (was) ABDO servant of GERMELQART, son of YATONSID".

It may be interesting to recall a related artifact, the bronze foil inscription found during excavations at the temple of Sid in Antas. Dating from the fifth century BC, speaks of a specialist of the 'roof covers' (presumably Templar).

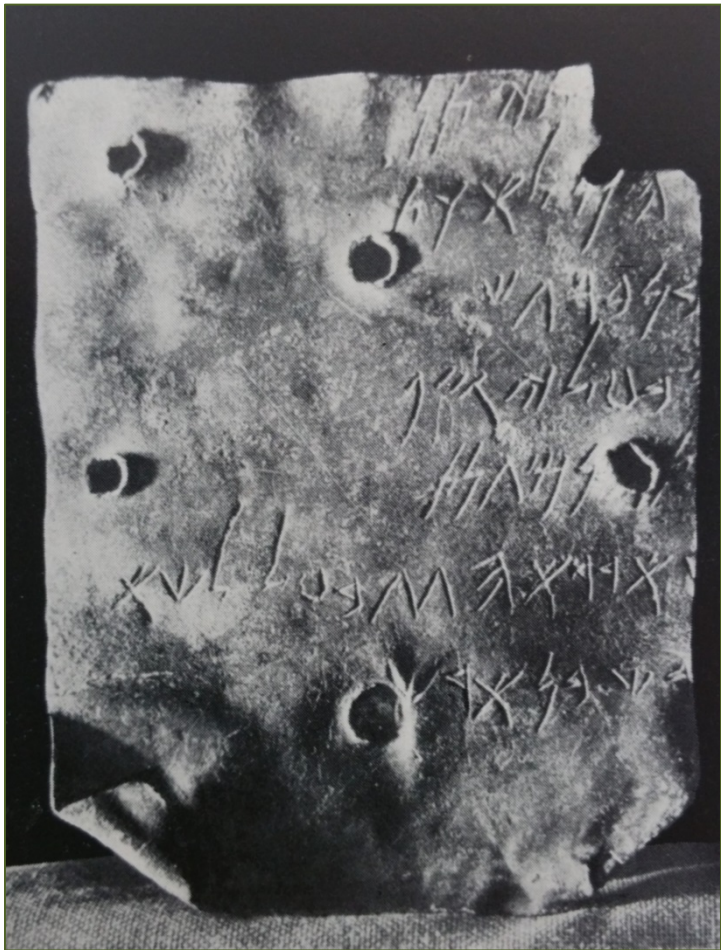


Fig. 2 - Temple of Antas (Fluminimaggiore). Inscription on bronze sheet (FANTAR 1969, Pl. XXV,2)



■ Credits

Deepening card edited by Dr. Giuseppina Manca di Mores and Prof. Marcello Madau

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La Sardegna cresce con l'Europa



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