



La collana *Diabaseis* ha la sua sede presso il Dipartimento di Studi Umanistici dell'Università Ca' Foscari di Venezia. Essa nasce dal progetto di ricerca nazionale di storia antica *La 'terza' Grecia e l'Occidente*, avviato nel 2009 grazie alla fattiva collaborazione tra le unità di ricerca delle Università della Calabria, Venezia Ca' Foscari, Napoli Federico II, Parma e Roma La Sapienza.

Diabaseis, in senso polibiano, sono tutti quei percorsi che attraversando i mari – il Golfo di Corinto, il Mare Ionio e l'Adriatico, ma anche lo Stretto di Messina e il Canale di Sicilia – collegano terre ed esperienze in un continuo e reciproco contatto, svelando volti inediti di una grecità che si suole definire 'periferica' ma che si dimostra invece vitale e originale.

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Diabaseis is an editorial series based in the Department of Humanities Ca' Foscari University of Venice. The project sprung from the 2009 National Research Project in Ancient History, *The 'Third' Greece and the West*, which included research units from the Universities of Calabria, Venice Ca' Foscari, Naples Federico II, Parma and Rome La Sapienza.

As is clearly indicated by the first published volumes, the goal is a common one: to highlight the relations between Western Greece – which is too often seen as 'peripheral' – and Greek and non-Greek peoples in the West. The series is published under the guidance of the Editor-in-Chief in collaboration with an International Scientific Committee. Its aim is to widen research on the Greek World and provide a critical contribution to the debate on the interaction between local history and international relations in the Archaic, Classical and Hellenistic ages, as well as to the knowledge of Greek political dynamics beyond Athens and Sparta.



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THE ISLANDS OF THE IONIAN SEA AND THE MAINLAND

LANDSCAPES, CONTACTS AND POLITICS

edited by
Adolfo J. Domínguez
José Pascual



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Fin dal primo volume della collana è apparso chiaro come la riflessione sullo spazio ionico fosse uno dei principali filoni di ricerca che si intendeva valorizzare: i rapporti fra le Isole Ioniche e la loro terraferma sono, da questo punto di vista, un campo di studio elettivo cui è dedicato l'intero numero 11 di Diabaseis.

Adolfo J. Domínguez e José Pascual hanno coordinato con successo un nutrito gruppo di studiosi internazionali nell'intento di descrivere la geografia politica delle Isole Ioniche muovendo dalla prospettiva del continente; e in questo risiede l'originalità dell'approccio. Generalmente, infatti, la prospettiva storiografica moderna segue quella antica che, generata dalla visione insulare e marittima, vede nell'epeiros un riferimento semantico indistinto. In questo volume, invece, larga attenzione è dedicata sia all'Epiro storico, indagato nella sua complessa genesi etnica e istituzionale, sia all'Acarnania, regione dalla travagliata e mutevole identità politica. Vi trova spazio anche una riflessione sul Peloponneso occidentale, considerato nella sua dimensione di 'terraferma' e che per questa ragione va letto in continuità e non separatamente rispetto all'epeiros della Grecia centrale. Sul versante marittimo, il focus è posto sull'insieme meridionale delle Isole Ioniche (Leucade, Cefalonia e Zacinto), che storicamente ha ricevuto meno attenzione da parte della critica; l'interesse si è concentrato soprattutto su Leucade che solo a tratti assume una connotazione insulare: gli studi qui raccolti concorrono a delinearne un profilo nuovo e per certi versi inedito.

Grazie a quest'ultimo volume di Diabaseis, dunque, la distanza metaforica che tradizionalmente separava questo comparto dello Hellenikon dal cuore pulsante della storia greca appare considerevolmente ridotta.

Venezia, giugno 2024

Claudia Antonetti

INTRODUCTION

The structure and historical development of the states of the Ionian Sea, their influence on the north-western region of Greece and the Western Peloponnese, not to mention the naval traffic between the Ionian Sea and the Adriatic and the Central and Eastern Mediterranean, mean that the Ionian islands are fundamental when it comes to understanding not only the Greek world in general, but also the Ancient Mediterranean Region as a whole. Thus, first of all, the northernmost islands, Corcyra and Leucas, were chosen as the location for colonial settlements by Greeks of other origins (Euboeans, Corinthians). One consequence of these developments was the emergence of the *polis* of Corcyra, which, in turn, would become an important colonising power in the neighbouring territories along the Epirote coast, as well as the Greek and non-Greek regions that lay to the north of this area (Chaonia, Illyria). Similarly, Leucas, another Corinthian colony, would become one of the main points of attraction in relation to Acarnania. The southern islands of the archipelago would, in principle, retain their autonomy, resisting any foreign colonial settlement. Whilst Ithaca and Zacynthus constituted a single state each on their respective islands, no fewer than four different states emerged on Cephallenia, the *tetrapolis*, and this not only meant that the connections between the *poleis* on the different islands were important, but that the connections between cities that shared the same island and identity were important, even though they may not have always followed the same policies. In short, and in spite of the differences between the various *poleis*, the importance of the shared historical development of the islands of the Ionian Sea cannot be ignored or underestimated. Suffice it to mention the essential role that all the islands played with regard to the links that were established between the Eastern Mediterranean, the Central Mediterranean and the West.

Maritime traffic and the strength of the island *poleis* would influence the development of the settlements in North-western Greece in terms of the processes, whereby ethnicities and states were defined, not to mention the progressive consolidation of certain continental elites and the emergence of their own Hellenic identity. In this respect, it is possible that the island

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poleis played a key role in the configuration of the state structures on the continent, based on a highly diverse rate of *poleogenesis*, ranging from the shaping of the first Acarnanian *poleis*, perhaps around the end of the sixth century or beginning of the fifth century, to the emergence of the Epirote *poleis* in the fourth century, not to mention the founding and consolidation of other ethnic and political structures, such as the *polis*-based ethnic confederations (*koina*) of the Chaonians and Thesprotians, the confederations sustained by *poleis* (Acarnania) and kingdoms (Molossia). In short, they influenced the different ways of being, becoming or being considered to be Greek. This was not a one-way influence, since we can distinguish between different aspects in the inter-relationship between the islands and the continent, such as economic, cultural and political relations. These relations were not always peaceful, encompassing as they did processes of ethnic permeability and even de-ethnicization, to the extent in which one state or population of ethnically distinct origin was integrated into another. As an example, we might mention Leucas, which, perhaps also as part of a dynamic process of identity building, came to serve as the capital of the Acarnanian Confederation during the Hellenistic Period. In this respect, Corcyra was able to inspire a process of consolidation of the Epirote elites and *ethne*. In Ancient tradition, Leucas was considered to be a peninsula (*chersonesos*) that formed part of Acarnania (Strabo 10, 2, 2). This account, together with others (cfr. *Od.* 24, 376-378), alerts us to its close links with the continent and with Acarnania, of which it came to occupy a part. Pottery finds in Cephallenia and Ithaca demonstrate their links with the entire North-west, with Epirus, Acarnania and the Peloponnese. Zacynthus, an Achaean colony in ancient tradition (Thuc. 2, 66), even featuring mythical links with Arcadia, provides us with a glimpse of Peloponnese influence, featuring a curious connection with the Iberian Peninsula, one in which, according to Strabo (3, 4, 6) and Appian (*Hispania*, 25), Saguntum was founded by Zacynthians, this conclusion obviously deriving from the similarity of the two names. All this without overlooking the fact that, according to the Zacynthians themselves, their links with defeated Troy stretched as far back as Cassandra herself, daughter of Priam and sister of Hellen, who would play such an important part in the ethnic formation and development processes of Epirus. In short, the history of the islands of the Ionian Sea cannot be understood properly without taking into account their mutual influence with regard to the Greek continent and the Western Peloponnese.

As a route of passage, the Ionian islands played a fundamental role as of the Archaic Period in terms of facilitating access to other parts of

Introduction

the Ionian Sea and the Adriatic, whilst also receiving return traffic from Magna Graecia and Sicily and from the Adriatic towards Greece (both in the direction of the Corinthian Gulf and the Peloponnese and, in particular, the region of the Pan-Hellenic sanctuary of Olympia), without forgetting the routes that linked the Ionian islands with the Aegean. In this respect, Corcyra was located at a key strategic point with regard to the routes towards the west and towards the north. Leucas, whose *polis* was located close to the strait, measuring just 600 metres in width, that separated the island from the continent, also constituted an essential throughfare for ships. Similarly, the Strait of Cephallenia-Ithaca served as a fundamental transit point for naval traffic running between Greece and Italy. Zacynthus was especially well situated on the naval routes to and from the Corinthian Gulf and the Peloponnese. In short, this strategic dimension of the territories located along the Mediterranean seaboard of the Ionian Sea – territories that were diverse, yet united by their importance in terms of navigation routes – is quite fundamental when it comes to understanding their history. We could say that a kind of “Homeric geography” united all of these regions, including Epirote Thesprotia and the island of the Phaeacians, by means of an entire series of human relations and mutual interests, aspects effectively projected in epic accounts that had, in fact, existed since the beginning of the Archaic Period and, quite possibly, for several centuries before that.

All of these themes are brought together in this book. First of all, we address the geographical make-up of the region, which is interlinked with different historical processes, featuring an environment of strong geo-physical, tectonic and seismic activity, not to mention a singularly mountainous terrain and a strong anthropogenic impact that led to deforestation and soil erosion. We go on to highlight the intensity of the contacts that developed between the Ionian islands and the continent, especially between Corcyra and Epirus, from the Archaic Period to the Hellenistic Period; we might also mention the links between Leucas and Acarnania and even the presence of islanders at Dodona. The ambitions of the Pan-Hellenic powers in the region also played a fundamental role, especially those of Sparta, Athens and Macedonia, and we can also mention the relations that the Ionian islands maintained with the closest Greek federal states such as Acarnania, Aetolia and Achaëa. As we have seen, the book highlights the special importance of the naval routes that ran to and from the west, the ports and the canals of the Ionian islands and, consequently, we can observe the presence of foreigners on the archipelago that originated from both sides of the Mediterranean, ranging

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from Massalia to Miletus. Finally, our study also encompasses aspects concerning the organisation of the different territories and states, including references to pioneering research and modern evocations.

This book is also the result of the research project "Between the Adriatic Sea and Continental Greece: The Ionic islands, State Structures, Colonization and Ethnogenesis" PID2019-108822GB-I00, financed by the Spanish Ministry for Science and Innovation. This project extended others that have been carried out within a research group that has produced numerous publications, headed by lecturers at the Autonomous University of Madrid, a group that has devoted itself to the study of Ancient Greece for decades.

The results of the project we are referring to here have once again been included in the prestigious *Diabaseis* Collection, and we would like to express our gratitude to Claudia Antonetti, the Director of the Collection, for the opportunity she has afforded us in this respect. Our thanks also go to Stefania de Vido, the Secretary of the Collection, as well as the staff at the ETS publishing company for their dedication.

We would also like to thank all those authors who, whilst not being members of our research team, have been willing to collaborate on this book, which has been significantly enriched by their important and high-quality contributions.

In addition, we would like to thank the many colleagues who have served as anonymous referees, whose efforts and precise observations have significantly enhanced the quality of our work. We would also like to thank María Luisa García-Martín and Antonio Carrasco Sabroso, from the Autonomous University of Madrid, and to Eloisa Paganoni and Ivan Matijašić from Ca' Foscari University of Venice for their considerable task relating to the publication and coordination of this volume.

Unfortunately, when this book was in the process of being published, one of the members of our research team, Soledad Milán, died suddenly from an unexpected illness. A specialist in GIS, she was one of the few Spanish academics, if not the only one, devoted to the study of the Aegean Bronze Age. This book includes her last study, which she hardly had time to complete. Never again shall we walk alongside her through the sacred land of Greece, nor feel the warmth of her spirit and friendship. We dedicate this book to her.

Madrid, May 2024

Adolfo J. Domínguez

José Pascual



María Soledad Milán Quiñones de León

IN MEMORIAM

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ABSTRACTS

Adolfo J. Domínguez

Universidad Autónoma de Madrid

OBSERVING THE IONIAN ISLANDS FROM THE MAINLAND. (*EPEIROS*)

From the Archaic to the Classical period, the territory of Epirus maintained relations with the various islands in the Ionian Sea. Although relations were most intense with the island of Coreyra, as written sources, archaeology and epigraphy show, there is also evidence of contacts of various kinds with Leucas, Cephallenia and Zacynthus. In the latter case, the relationship is even articulated through mythical kinships linking the Molossians to Zacynthus through Cassandra, as shown by an inscription discovered at Dodona.

Key words: Epirus, Dodona, Leucas, Cephallenia, Zacynthus.

Maria Intrieri

Università della Calabria

LE ISOLE DELLO IONIO NEL CONFRONTO TRA SPARTA E ATENE. DINAMICHE POLITICHE E STRATEGICHE NELLA METÀ DEL V SEC. A.C.)

In their role as hubs in the routes to and from the West, in their mutual relationships, with the surrounding regions and with the main protagonists of the history of ancient Greece, the Ionian Islands present themselves as a sort of laboratory, a microcosm affected by dynamics and phenomena of great interest.

The paper aims particularly at reconstructing the role played by Leucas, Cephallenia, Ithaca and Zacynthus, on a political and strategic level, in the clashes between Athens, Corinth and Sparta from 460 BC to the final years of the Peloponnesian War.

Key words: Leucas, Cephallenia, Zacynthus, Athens, Sparta, Corinth.

Klaus Freitag
RWTH Aachen University
DIE IONISCHEN INSELN UND DIE GRIECHISCHEN
BUNDESSTAATEN

This paper focusses on the relationship between the Ionian Islands (the “almost island” of Leucas, Cephallenia and Zacynthus) and Greek federal states (*koina* of the Achaeans, Aetolians, Acarnanians) on the mainland developed since classical times. The main subjects of this paper are the methods and strategies that islands of foreign ethnic origin, separated from the mainland by the sea, used, when they were politically and ideologically integrated into the “sphere” of mainland federal states and to what extent the island *poleis* were actively involved in this process. In addition, it is discussed whether on the islands federal structures have been introduced.

Key words: Ionian Islands, Greek federal states, Achaeans, Aetolians, Acarnanians.

Gian Michele Gerogiannis
Università di Catania
EPIRO LE ISOLE IONICHE. PAESAGGI ELLENISTICI A
CONFRONTO

With the reigns of Alexander the Molossian and especially with Pyrrhus and his son Alexander, Epirus significantly expanded its territory. This expansion is evident from archaeological evidence through numerous fortifications that transformed the landscape, allowing for effective management and control, particularly of the road system and productive areas. This new territorial dimension likely included the Ionian Islands as well. The objective of this paper is to analyze the relationship between the Ionian Islands and the kingdom of Epirus during the Hellenistic age and to determine, archaeologically, whether the new territorial management also involved the Ionian islands.

Key words: Epirus, Hellenistic age, fortifications, Ionian Islands, Landscape management.

Diego Chapinal-Heras
Universidad Autónoma de Madrid
DODONA AND THE IONIAN ARCHIPIELAGO

The aim of this essay is to examine the evidence for the presence of people from the Ionian Islands in the Sanctuary of Dodona. Although the paper considers all the neighbouring islands, it focuses mainly on the southern ones. The different testimonies collected show two levels of interaction, firstly the oracular activity and secondly the function of Dodona as a social arena that contributed to the continuous redefinition and consolidation of the hierarchy of each community.

Key words: Dodona, Ionian Islands, Greek oracles, Greek society, Epirus.

**Juan Antonio González Martín, Concepción Fidalgo Hijano,
Mario Corral Ribera, †Soledad Milán Quiñones de León**
Universidad Autónoma de Madrid

**THE IONIAN ISLANDS AND THE REGION OF
ACARNANIA: AN OVERVIEW OF ITS PHYSICAL
ENVIRONMENT**

The geographical location of the Ionian Islands and Acarnania is responsible for the main characteristics that make its landscape unique: a strong geophysical activity derived from the mobility of the tectonic plates that has configured an area of rugged mountains and basins, where seismicity is manifested with great intensity; a Mediterranean bio-climatic scenario and finally, an ancient anthropogenic intervention that destabilized the natural environment through deforestation and soil erosion, promoting river accumulation processes that gave way to the construction of deltas and flagrant changes in the layout of the coasts.

Key words: Ionian Islands, Acarnania, natural environment, geographical uniqueness, deforestation, deltas and coasts.

Jonathan Ritter, Manuel Fiedler
Goethe University Frankfurt a. M./ Rheinisches Landesmuseum Trier
**LEUKAS. ZUR ANTIKEN BESIEDLUNG UND ZU
DÖRPFELDS ALTFUNDEN**

One hundred years ago, the systematic archaeological exploration of the island of Leucas under the direction of Wilhelm Dörpfeld focused on finding the palace of Odysseus with its associated settlements and necropolises - under the assumption that Leucas was Ithaca -. Although this exploration completely missed its goal, this very structured and carefully carried out work is nevertheless significant, as it provided rich insights into the prehistoric and ancient settlement of the island. With the help of the excavation diaries from that time and of the samples of finds from these regional studies kept in the collection of the German Archaeological Institute at Athens, complexes of finds can be located, sharpen the rural settlement picture and raise further questions about settlement, not only in the city of Leucas, but in plain of Nidri in the middle part of the island, where Dörpfeld and his team explored the so-called royal tombs of Nidri (from the early and middle Bronze Age), excavated several fortified farmstead, located on the edges of the plain, mostly slightly elevated, at a distance of 100 to 500 meters from each other, and studied the integration of the plain into the island's watch and signal post system.

Key words: Dörpfeld, Leucas, Archaeology, settlements.

Claudia Sediari
Università Ca'Foscari Venezia
**IL RUOLO COMMERCIALE DI LEUCADE E LA PRESENZA
DI STRANIERI NELL'ISOLA**

The city of Leucas prospered due to its strategic location, serving as a transit point between Greece, the Adriatic coast, Italy, and western ports. Beginning with the foundation of Leucas and the construction of the διόρυκτος by the Corinthians, the paper focuses on the archaeological evidence related to the harbour and buildings associated with the productive activities of the ancient Corinthian colony. Finally, inscriptions attesting to the presence of foreigners on the island are examined, also considering the latest archaeological investigations. The analysis of the epigraphic and archaeological material of Leucas demonstrates how the island was

integrated into the commercial flows extending from Massalia to Miletus, offering a glimpse into a city whose commercial vitality is particularly evident from the Hellenistic period onwards.

Key words: Leucas, Epigraphy, Harbours, Economy, Trades.

Vivian Staikou

EphAAITL - Greek Ministry of Culture

THE FLOURISHING PORT OF ANCIENT LEUCAS.
TOPOGRAPHICAL AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL DATA

Based on topographical and excavation data, the port of Leucas exemplified a prosperous city. The port, large and safeguarded by an elongated mole within the Leucas channel, included numerous warehouses unearthed in past decades, where amphorae of wine and oil were stored. Recent excavations have uncovered an expansive commercial space with an imposing public stoa and a katagogion with spaces for accommodation, dining, and entertainment. These findings affirm that the port of Leucas was a crucial trade hub, thus enriching our understanding of its significance in antiquity.

Key words: Leucas, ancient ports, katagogion, public stoa, trade hub.

Olimpia Vikatou

Direttrice Generale delle Antichità e del Patrimonio Culturale

Ministero Ellenico dei Beni Culturali

IL TEATRO ANTICO DI LEUCADE.
DALL'IDENTIFICAZIONE DEGLI INIZI DEL XX SECOLO AL
RILIEVO E LA RICERCA UN SECOLO DOPO

Leucas' strategic position in antiquity facilitated strong connections with the surrounding regions, fostering significant economic and cultural prosperity. The island played a crucial role in the exchange of people, ideas, and technologies. Its control over vital maritime routes highlights its importance within the context of Corinthian colonization. This importance was further solidified when it became the second capital of the Acarnanian League.

The only systematic excavation ever conducted in the ancient town of Leucas began six years ago in the city's theatre, which is nearing completion

and has unearthed an impressive monument along with many interesting elements. The theatre is fully integrated into the natural geomorphology on the slopes of Koulmos hill, thus providing a panoramic view of the expansive region.

So far, the research has largely uncovered the *koilon*, the *orchestra*, the *euripus*, the *parodoi*, the retaining walls of the *koilon*, and much of the stage, which remains preserved at foundation level. Fragments of stone thrones, adorned with relief decorations including lion paw motifs at the base, along with depictions of dolphins, animal muzzles, lion skins, backward-facing bird heads, and Lesbian cyma, have been found scattered throughout the Euripus area.

The theatre of Leucas is the first big ancient theatre to have come to light in the Ionian Islands. The dating of the monument is still tentative, as both excavation and architectural study are ongoing. Similar to theatres in Aitolokarnania, which were constructed from the 4th century BC, it is likely that the theatre of Leucas also dates to this period of economic prosperity for the city. Completion of the systematic excavation, along with the study of the monument and artifacts, is expected to provide precise insights into its construction date, phases, architectural design, and its potential functions in relation to the historical trajectory of ancient Leucas.

Key words: Leucas, theatre, fourth century BC.

María Luisa García-Martín

Universidad Autónoma de Madrid

TAKING ADVANTAGE OF WIND, SLOPE AND SHADE.
BIOCLIMATIC ADAPTATION OF LEUCAS CITY PLAN AND
HELLENISTIC HOUSES

The ancient city of Leucas was located on the eastern coast of the island of the same name, a strategic position that allowed to control the maritime traffic through the Leucas Canal. Its location, on the lower hillside of Koulmos Hill, made it possible to take advantage of the slope to permit the functioning of the drainage pipes that ran through the rear passageways of some excavated blocks of the city. In the warmer months, the island of Leucas endures high temperatures with elevated humidity, resulting in sweltering heat. The orientation of the main streets of the ancient city favoured the action of the prevailing winds in summer, which helped to mitigate the heat. It is likely that, in the Hellenistic construction phases of

some excavated houses, the distribution of the building volumes contributed to the casting of shadows over the courtyards, preventing the interior of the dwellings from overheating.

Key words: Leucas, house, urban planning, bioclimatic architecture.

†**Soledad Milán Quiñones de León**
Universidad Autónoma de Madrid
THE LEUCADIAN *PERAEA*

This work aims to study the *peraea* of the *polis* of Leucas and its importance regarding Leucas' control of the maritime routes crossing the channel between the island and the western continental coast of Greece, particularly the Plagia Peninsula. In this case, we shall identify the different sites involved, the ancient sources available, and apply some GIS tools, as well as focusing on the viewshed from each point, the territory of the *polis* of Leucas and the different routes that Leucas was able to control.

Key words: Ionian Islands, Leucas, *Peraea*, Acarnania, GIS.

José Pascual
Universidad Autónoma de Madrid
THE CEPHALLENIAN *TETRAPOLIS*: TERRITORY,
POLEIS AND *ETHNOS*

This chapter analyses the manner in which the Cephallenian *poleis* occupied, exploited and defended their territory, and the development of Cephallenia during the Classical Period. We shall also investigate the aspects that shaped the identity and political organisation of the Cephallenians during this period. In this way, whilst the other islands of the Ionian featured just one *polis*, Cephallenia featured four different *poleis*: Same, Crane, Proni and Pale that were unequal in terms of size, importance and wealth. Cephallenia's identity revolved around the tradition of Cephalus as a shared ancestor and eponymous hero of the Cephallenians, also reinforcing their awareness of their Hellenic origin. We are dealing with an ethnic identity, an *ethnos*, but it did not reach the point of constituting a federal state in the Classical Period.

Key words: Ionian islands, Cephallenia, Classical age, *poleis*, ethnicity.

Gerasimos Livitsanis
Ephorate of Antiquities of Cephalonia and Ithaca
**IN THE SHADOW OF ODYSSEUS. A HISTORY OF
ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESEARCH AND CONTRACT
ARCHAEOLOGY IN ITHACA**

This paper offers an account of contract archaeology in Ithaca based on the author's experience over two decades. The first part recounts the history of archaeology in Ithaca, highlighting how the quest for Odysseus has shaped the formation of the published archaeological record. The second part provides an overview of rescue fieldwork undertaken under contract, and discusses the results in their local and regional context.

Key words: Ithaca, archaeology, Odysseus, neglect, landscape.

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**ZACYNTHUS AND THE WESTERN PELOPONNESE:
BETWEEN THE ACHAEAN HELLENISTIC KOINON AND
ROMAN EXPANSION INTO GREECE**

The objective of this paper is to delve into the history of Hellenistic Zacynthus, with a particular focus on the period spanning from the late 3rd century to the early 2nd century BC. Situated strategically between Italy and the Adriatic on one side, and the Peloponnese and the Aegean Sea on the other, the island was disputed among various political entities, *i.e.* Macedonia, Rome, and the Achaean Koinon. Despite limited historical evidence —comprising archaeological findings, epigraphic records, numismatic evidence, and literary texts—this study aims to elucidate Zacynthian ties to the Peloponnese and challenge the prevailing notion that the island's interests were solely directed towards the central Mediterranean from the 4th century onwards.

Key words: Zacynthus, Achaean Koinon, Rome, Hellenistic period, connectivity.

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**DON'T BE SILENT, HOMER: ANTIQUITY FOR LAWRENCE
DURRELL IN THE IONIC ISLANDS LANDSCAPE**

In his literature, Lawrence Durrell approaches the Greek map as if confronting a heraldic reality, replete with emblems that are constructed through a combination of heliocentric visualism and the impact caused by the historical references that have taken place at certain coordinates. In this sense, Antiquity achieves a great predominance to the detriment of later periods. This article examines each of the components of the emblem separately, applying its results to the landscape of the Ionian Islands, focusing especially on two fundamental books by Durrell: "Prospero's Cell" and "The Greek Islands". The aim is to enter into the author's subjectivity with analytical rigour, exploring the consequent hierarchisation of *his* particular geography in this specific area.

Key words: Lawrence Durrell, heraldic reality, heliocentric visualism, Antiquity, Ionian Islands.

