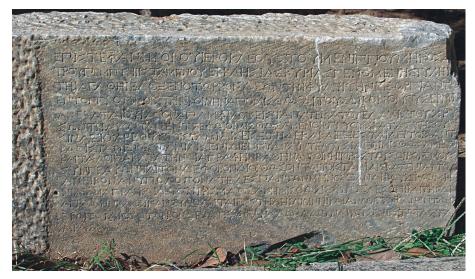


5. NOVEMBER 2018 BEGINN: 18.00 UHR ÖSTERREICHISCHE AKADEMIE DER WISSENSCHAFTEN HOLLANDSTRASSE 11–13, 1020 WIEN SEMINARRAUM 1. OG



A land-lease document from Mylasa (© W. Blümel)

EINLADUNG ZUM VORTRAG

GODS, MEN AND THE LAND IN HELLENISTIC MYLASA AND ITS WIDER REGION

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The Greater Mylasan dossier of c. 150 inscribed sale and lease documents is one of a small number such dossiers known from the Hellenistic period. The transactions concern the acquisition of land for the benefit of local gods and its subsequent leasing out. Scholars have assumed that what we see is a significant increase in sacred land, and a transformation of the nature of landownership: the Mylaseis went from being a society of owner-cultivators to one of tenant-cultivators. They have tried to understand the reasons for the practice, offering a range of inconclusive explanations; both high and low datings have been defended. One – neglected – aspect of the transactions is that, in order to describe the property being sold, a detailed list of neighbouring plots is given, along with features in the landscape that defined the location. My lecture will focus on what this information in particular can tell us about patterns of landownership, the relative fragmentation of the land and the alleged shift in ownership from individuals to temples.

