

Valery Osipov

THE READING OF ETRUSCAN INSCRIPTION TLE 890

Povzetek

RAZUMEVANJE ETRUŠČANSKEGA NAPISA TLE 899

Razumevanje dobro ohranjenega etruščanskega napisa iz drugega stoletja pr. Kr., na obočni steni groba pri Villa Tarantola, je možno razumeti na osnovi slovanskih jezikov in nam spregovori o Velesu kot bogu podzemlja.

Preface

The Etruscan inscription TLE 890 from 2nd century BC, on the arch-wall in tomb at Villa Tarantola, Tarquinia, is quite good preserved and is presented on next figure [1,2]. It is kept in Museo Nazionale di Tarquinia.

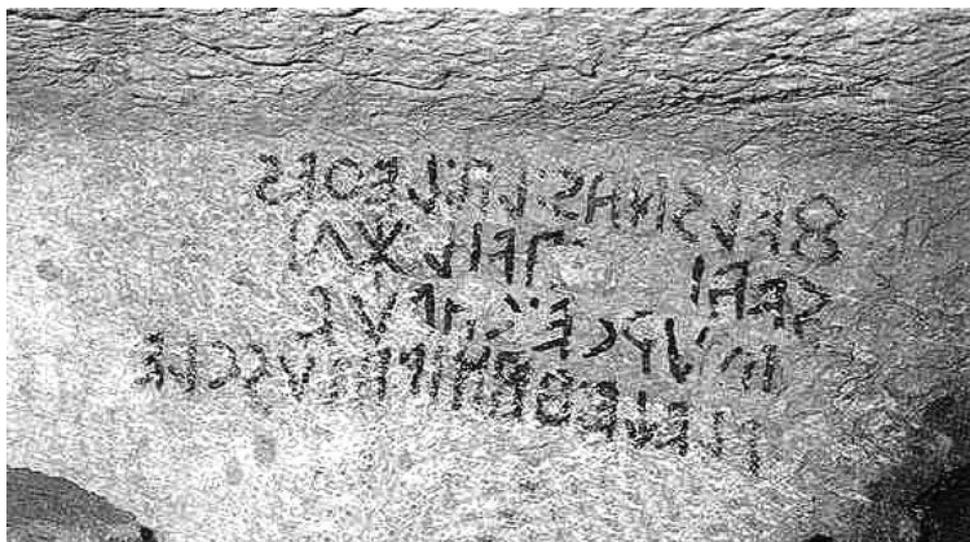


Figure 1.

Mauro Cristofani gives the draw of inscription with better divisibility of letters that is present in next figure [2].

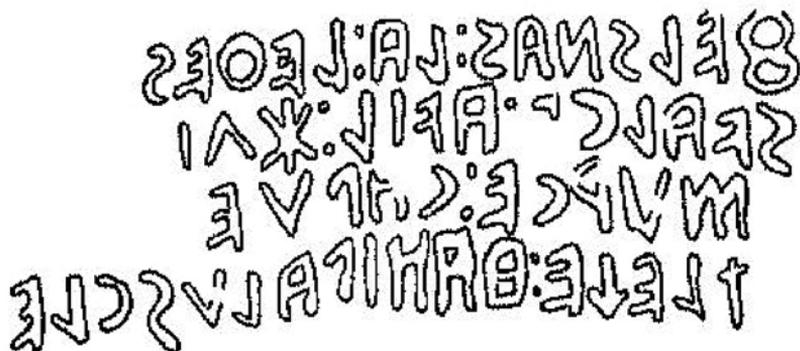


Figure 2.

Transliteration

Mauro Cristofani transliterates it in the same way as Glen Gordon that spells it out as the following [1-2].

- 1 **felsnas : la : lethes**
- 2 **svalce : avil CVI**
- 3 **murce : capue**
- 4 **tlexe : hanipaluscle**

V. Osipov

1. The text of this inscription is read from right to left.
2. The scribe has divided almost all the text of this inscription into words by himself using the mark : (colon).
3. I read it as follows:

VELZNAS : YA : LEDES

SPALTE : ABIL : 100-5-1

MURTETNKVE

TLEKE : ZANIHALUSTLE

Deciphering

Linguists

Contents of this inscription are by linguists considered as non-deciphering.

V. Osipov

After dividing this partly continuous text into words and using the transliteration I write it in Latin letters as follows:

**VELZe NASH YA LEDES SPALTe ABIL 100-5-1 MURTsE TsNKVE TeLEKE ZA
NIH ALU STsELE**

And in Cyrillic letters:

**ВЕЛСе НАШ Я ЛЕДЕС СПАЛЦЕ АБИЛ 106 МУРЦЕ ЦНХВЕ ТЛЕКЕ ЗА НИХ
АЛЮ СЦЕЛЕ**

The Russian translation

О наш Велес! Я, Ледес, обил склеп 106 кусками олова.
Только за них Алю исцели.

The English translation

Oh our Veles! Me, Ledes, I have sheeted this burial vault with 106 pieces of tin.
But in exchange heal Ala.

The Slovene translation

O naš Veles! Jaz, Ledes, imam pokopno vrednost 106 kosov svinca.
Toliko njih zacelijo Ala.

Comments

1

As for the reading of the third word, I see here two possible approaches.

The first one is simple. There is a mistake of the scribe or a damaged letter. And then we must read this word as the Russian Я not LA.

The second explanation is more complex. If the scribe really wanted to, and have wrote LA it must be read as LA or as LYA. And this is the name of the note A or La, the sixth note of the fixed-Do solfège. This is the very note which is generally used as a standard for tuning. And then the beginning of the inscription will sound differently, in another way: VELZhe NAshe LA, that will mean: Oh Veles! You are our note A (or Вельже, наше ля! in Russian). This reading of the beginning of the inscription brings the sense to the biblical expression in the Book of Revelation “I am the Alpha and Omega, the first and the last”. The letter A (Latin name of the note La) is the first letter in the Latin alphabet. The Slavic God Veles was known as a god of the underworld, death and also as a god of musicians.

The reading of LA as RA (name of God) is not excluded (is also possible).

2

VELZe, VELSE (or VELJE, ВЕЛЪЖЕ in Russian) is vocative case of the word Veles (Велес) (like the case of Боже – “Oh God!” from Бор – “God” in Russian).

3

Etruscan letter Z here is for sounds [z], [s], [j] and [sh] (Russian [з], [с], [ж] and [ш]).

4

The word MURTSЕ – is akin to French MORCEAU – “chunk”, English MORSEL – “small piece, fragment” and Latin MORSUS – “a bite”.

5

The Etruscan letter 8 is used here to write the [v], [f] or [hf] sound.

6

The Etruscan letter Γ represent here the [h] and [g] sounds. So we can read the ending of the text as follows: ZA NIH GALU STsELI if this letter will be read twice. GALU - is the accusative case of the female proper name Galya (ГАЛЯ). ALA is a diminutive (pet) female name from Alina or Alevtina.

7

SPALTSE maybe is akin to Russian USYPALNITSA (УСЫПАЛЬНИЦА) – “burial-vault”.

Sources

1. See photo of this inscription on the WEB at <[paleoglot.blogspot.com/.../problems-with-etruscan-inscription-tle.htm...>](http://paleoglot.blogspot.com/.../problems-with-etruscan-inscription-tle.htm...)
2. See drawing of this inscription in “Mauro Cristofani, Introduzione allo studio dell’etrusco, Florence 1991, p. 163, scheda n. 28.

Abstract

The good preserved Etruscan inscription from 2nd century BC, on the arch-wall in tomb at Villa Tarantola, could be deciphered in Slavic languages and tell us about the God Veles as the god of underworld.