

Do personal names in South Oscan show influence from Greek?

1. Introduction

“Le monde osque méridional à partir du IV^e s. est profondément engagé dans la sphère culturelle grecque, et cesse de subir l’influence des Osque centraux.” (Lejeune, 1970).

2. The nature of the corpus

South Oscan – 94 inscriptions total
 173 male, 4 female name elements in the corpus

2a. Name elements by site (most important sites for names)

Site	Total no. in corpus	Total name elements
Laos	2	40
Rossano	30	28
Bantia	11	24
Crimisa	3	12
Messina	8	12

2b. Name elements by type of document

Type of doc	Total no. in corpus	Total name elements
Curse tablet	6	70
Dedication	29	35
Official	13	21
Grave	4	7
Tile Stamp	18	11
Coin	8	1
Loomweight	2	3
Other	14	29

3. Typical Patterns in Oscan and Greek Names

Oscan: PR + GE + (PA) + (CO)

Greek: IND + (PA) + (DE/ET)

PR – praenomen, chosen by parents

GE – gentilicium, inherited from father

PA – patronym, father’s praenomen in the genitive

CO – additional name, may be inherited, given at birth, or given later as a nickname

IND – individual name, chosen by parents

PA – patronym, father’s individual name in the genitive

DE/ET – demotic or ethnic, determined by place of birth

4. Greek name elements

4a. The Tomb of Largo Santa Maria La Nova, Naples, C4th/3rd, Leiwo
(1994: 60)

[τρ]εβιο[σ ζ]ωιλου
ζωιλος
τρεβ[ι]οσ τρεβιου
αρ[ι]στοβουλο[σ]
τρεβιοσ

4b. Lu 42 – πλασσοσ

4c. Lu 46 – Φιβιν βοθρονη(ον)

4d. νομψισ / νυμψισ / νοψισ found in both Oscan and Italian Greek (Gr.
νυμφιοσ, νυμψιοσ)

5. Order of names

5a. Lu 40 – Rix (2002) version
αλαπονισ. πακΦηισ
οπιεσ. πιω–αισ. εκο
σαλαΦσ. Φαλε

La Regina (2002) version
[...σ]αλαπονισ. πακΦηισ[...]
[...]οπιεσ. πιω–αισ. εκο[...]
[vac.] σαλαΦσ. Φαλε [vac.]

5b. Lu 41 Rix (2002) version

πλατορ. σι. αλαπονισ

La Regina (2002) version

πλατορ. σκαλαπονισ

Image La Regina (2002).

ΠΛΑΤΟΡ·ΣΚΑΛΑΠΟΝΙΕΣ



(da BRACCO 1974)

5c. Me 5, Messina

Image La Regina (2002).

MESSANA

7. *Dedica ad Apollo*. Iscrizione osca in alfabeto greco su blocco di pietra calcarea. Museo di Messina, inv. A 554¹⁵.



]ΣΣΤΕΝΝΙΗΙΣ
]ΙΠΕΛΛΟΥΝΗΙΣ

]ς Στεννηίς
Α]πελλουνηίς

(da ORSI)

Traduzione:

«-----]ς *Steni f.*,
----- *Apollinis*»

]ς Orsi, Vetter;]ς Tagliamonte, Rix.

6. Graphic/phonological/morphological borrowing

6a. Graphic

Lu 45 μαμερεξ, μαχιεσ

6b. Phonological/morphological?

Lu 46 –

μαραεν οFi(v)	γαFiν
οFi(v) σαβιδι(ον)	νοψιν
νοψιν	μεδεκον
Far Fariεσ	οψιον
σπεδι(ον)	νοψιν
Fiβιν	σαβιδιον
μαραειν	μεδεκον
λοικιν	Fiβιν σπελιν
στατιν οψιον	
μεδεκον	
Fiβιν βοθροني(ον)	
νοψι(ι)α(v) Fariαν	
Fiβιαν σπελ(ι)αν	
μεδεκαν αραδιαν	

7. Incidence of one-element names

Totals for Central and North Oscan		
All	511	100%
4 elements	16	3.1%
4 elements, damaged	0	0
4 elements, female	0	0
3 elements	181	35.4%
3 elements, damaged	6	11.7%
3 elements, female	11	21.5%
2 elements	200	39.1%
2 elements, damaged	56	11.0%
2 elements, female	8	1.6%
1 element	114	22.3%
1 element, damaged	51	10.0%
1 element, female	8	1.6%
1 element, gen pl	14	2.7%

Thus, 1 element (undamaged) = 63 items, or 12.3%
 1 element (undamaged, not gen pl) = 49 items, or 9.6%

Totals for South Oscan		
All	94	100%
3 elements	26	27.7%
3 elements, damaged	2	2.1%
3 elements, female	0	0
2 elements	30	31.9%
2 elements, damaged	2	2.1%
2 elements, uncertain	8	8.5%
2 elements, female	2	2.1%
1 element	37	39.3%
1 element, damaged	12	12.8%
1 element, uncertain	10	10.6%
1 element, female	0	0

Thus, 1 element (undamaged, certain) = 15 items, or 16.0%

8. Conclusions

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