**Phalaris’ epistles; critical edition, translation, commentary.**

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Abstract

The doctoral thesis intents to study the fake letters which were attributed to Falaris, tyrant of Acragas of Sicily. The authenticity of the letters was questioned by Richard Bentley in 1697, who proved that they were in fact artificial letters, probably dated in the 2nd century b.C. 148 letters were attributed to Phalaris, the corpus of which is delivered in 132 manuscripts from 10th to 18th century. The thesis will study the intentions of the letters’ original composer and the reasons why they were attributed to Phalaris. Apart from the question above, the whole corpus will be translated in Greek for the very first time, the manuscripts will be studied and a critical edition and commentary will be released. Therefore, the suggested structure of the thesis is in general the following: introduction, where the questions mentioned above will be studied, as well as the history of the text. Furthermore, the relation between the manuscripts will be exposed, the essential manuscripts will be chosen, followed by the critical edition of the text, the greek translation and the commentary. The doctoral thesis will attempt to cover a gap in the study of ancient epistolography, provided that there is no other translation in Greek or critical edition and commentary in bibliography worldwide.

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