



CASTOLUS

CASTOLUS, a plain east of Sardis, site of the mustering of troops from the satrapy of Sparda (Lydia) during Achaemenid times (Xenophon, *Anabasis* 1.1.2, 1.9.7, *Hellenica* 1.4.3; cf. *Anabasis* 1.2.2-5; Plutarch, *Artaxerxes* 2; Diodorus, 14.2.8, 19.2.6). The site is attested in Achaemenid times only in connection with Cyrus the Younger's (son of Darius II) appointment as “*karanos* of those who muster at Castolus.” The practice of a yearly muster was not confined to Sparda, but is attested in other provinces (cf. Xenophon, *Oeconomicus* 4.6, *Cyropaedia* 8.6.16; and discussions in Cook, Hirsch, Briant). The term *karanos* (attested only in *Hellenica* 1.4.3) appears to parallel the Greek *stratēgos* “general” (cf. *Anabasis* 1.1.2, 1.9.7). I suggest that under normal circumstances (i.e., the absence of a major mobilization for large-scale campaigning) the post of “*karanos* of those who muster at Castolus” was held by the satrap at Sardis. Cyrus's holding of the office represents a further distortion of normal administrative practice and a diminishing of the status of Tissaphernes, then satrap at Sardis.

Castolus is attested in post-Achaemenid times (*OGIS* 488) as village (*komē*) with civic organs bearing Greek titles.



BIBLIOGRAPHY

For a discussion of mustering and the *karanos* see J. M. Cook, “The Rise of the Achaemenids and Establishment of Their Empire,” in *Camb. Hist. Iran* II, pp. 267-70 (*karanos* may be related to OPers. *kāra* “army”); cf. C. Haebler “Karanos,” in J. von Tischler, ed., *Serta Indo-Germanica. Festschrift für G. Neumann zum 60. Geburtstag*, Innsbrucker Beiträge zur Sprachwissenschaft 40, 1982, pp. 81-90. P. Briant, *L’Asie centrale et les royaumes proche-orientaux du premier millénaire*, pp. 82-86, discusses mustering in Bactria and also cites sources for other Achaemenid mustering points. S. Hirsch, *The Friendship of the Barbarians*, Hanover, 1985, pp. 10-11, defends the historicity of Xenophon and suggests the office of *karanos* at Castolus is a reflection of a separation of civil and military powers. This defense of Xenophon is taken to an unfortunate extreme in Th. Petit, “Étude d’une fonction militaire sous la dynastie perse achéménide,” *Les études classiques* 51, 1983, pp. 35-45. See also G. Cousin, *Kyros le Jeune en Asie Mineure*, Paris, 1905, pp. 15, 17, 18, 25. For post-Achaemenid Castolus see P. Briant, *Rois, tributs et paysans*, Paris, 1982, pp. 150-51.