

Hellenic Studies 94

TA-U-RO-QO-RO

𐀀𐀃𐀆𐀆

Recent Titles in the Hellenic Studies Series

*Greek Language, Italian Landscape:
Griko and the Re-storying of a Linguistic Minority*

Lovers of the Soul, Lovers of the Body

*Audible Punctuation:
Performative Pause in Homeric Prosody*

*Who Am I?
(Mis)Identity and the Polis in Oedipus Tyrannus*

*Demetrios of Scepsis and His Troikos Diakosmos:
Ancient and Modern Readings of a Lost Contribution to Ancient Scholarship*

*Homer's Thebes:
Epic Rivalries and the Appropriation of Mythical Pasts*

*The Cypria
Homeric Imagery and the Natural Environment*

*Achilles Unbound:
Multiformity and Tradition in the Homeric Epics*

*In Her Own Words:
The Life and Poetry of Aelia Eudocia*

*Particles in Ancient Greek Discourse:
Exploring Particle Use across Genres [[online and print]]*

*Agamemnon, the Pathetic Despot:
Reading Characterization in Homer*

The Singer of Tales, Third Edition

*One Man Show:
The Dynamics of Performance in the Iliad and Odyssey*

The Tears of Achilles

Equine Poetics

*The Art of Reading:
From Homer to Paul Celan*

*Masterpieces of Metonymy:
From the Ancient Greek World to Now*

*The Aethiopsis:
Neo-Neoanalysis Reanalyzed*

*Kinyras:
The Divine Lyre*

TA-U-RO-QO-RO



Studies in Mycenaean Texts, Language and Culture
in Honor of José Luis Melena Jiménez

Edited by

Julián Méndez Dosuna

Thomas G. Palaima

Carlos Varias García

CENTER FOR HELLENIC STUDIES

Trustees for Harvard University

Washington, DC

Distributed by Harvard University Press

Cambridge, Massachusetts, and London, England

2022

TA-U-RO-QO-RO: Studies in Mycenaean Texts, Language, and Culture in Honor of José Luis Melena Jiménez, edited by Julián Méndez Dosuna, Thomas G. Palaima, and Carlos Varias García

Copyright © 2022 Center for Hellenic Studies, Trustees for Harvard University
All Rights Reserved.

Published by Center for Hellenic Studies, Trustees for Harvard University, Washington, D.C.

Distributed by Harvard University Press, Cambridge, Massachusetts and London, England

Printed by Gasch Printing, Odenton, MD

Cover Design: Joni Godlove

Production: Kerri Cox Sullivan

PUBLICATIONS COMMITTEE:

Leonard Muellner (Chair), Noel Spencer (Vice Chair), Natasha Bershadsky, Keith DeStone, Casey Dué, Mary Ebbott, Angelia Hanhardt, Lanah Koelle, Zoie Lafis, Allie Marbry, Gregory Nagy, Jill Curry Robbins

EDITORIAL BOARD:

Casey Dué (Executive Editor), Mary Ebbott (Executive Editor), Natasha Bershadsky, Keith DeStone, Olga Levaniouk, Richard Martin, Leonard Muellner, Gregory Nagy, Laura Slatkin.

Production Manager for Print Publications: Jill Curry Robbins

Production Manager for Online Publications: Noel Spencer

SENIOR ADVISERS:

Leonard Muellner (Chair), Richard Martin (Vice Chair), Cléo Carastro, Gregory Crane, Casey Dué, Mary Ebbott, Johanna Hanink, Gregory Nagy, Gloria Ferrari Pinney, Laura Slatkin

SENIOR ADVISERS, EMERITI:

W. Robert Connor, Gloria Ferrari Pinney, Albert Henrichs[†], James O'Donnell, Bernd Seidensticker

ISBN: 978-0-674-27257-6

Library of Congress Control Number: 2022936187



José Luis Melena Jiménez

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a stylized 'J' followed by 'Luis' and 'Jiménez'.

Contents

Preface.....	xi
Bibliography of José Luis Melena Jiménez.....	xv
Abbreviations.....	xxix
1. Philologia cum Archeologia Proceidit: Reflexiones en torno a la demografía y composición de la sociedad micénica.....	1
Francisco Aura Jorro	
2. ἐν y ἐνί en micénico.....	13
Alberto Bernabé	
3. Mycenaean <i>wo-ra*</i>	25
Maurizio Del Freo	
4. Le trait d'union linéaire B.....	37
Yves Duhoux	
5. Considering the Linear B Tablets in British Museums.....	45
Richard Firth	
6. Anthroponymica Mycenaea 12. <i>Ne-ri-to /Nērito-/</i> 'libre de discordia' (ἔρις), Ἀνήριτος y Ἀνήριστος / Ἀνέριστος frente a hom. νήριτος 'innumerable, incalculable' (<i>*nārito-</i> : NP Νήριτος, τορόν. Νήριτον).....	57
José L. García Ramón	
7. Figs and Fig-Trees at Knossos.....	77
John T. Killen	

Table of Contents

8. Accounts, Values, Futures, Options: Production, Finance, and the End of the Late Bronze Age World Economy.....	85
Michael F. Lane	
9. Mycenaean <i>ka-ra-te-ra</i> , <i>ka-ra-ti-ri-jo</i> , Related Terms, and the Rise of Diminutives in Early Greek.....	107
Alex Leukart	
10. Mycenaean <i>o-pi-ke-re-mi-ni-ja</i>	121
Eugenio R. Luján and Juan Piquero	
11. “Thematic” 3sg. impf. ἦεν ‘He Was’ and ἦε(v) ‘He Went’.....	131
Julián Méndez Dosuna	
12. Observations on the Linear B Sign a_2 - in the Various Chronological Phases of the Knossos and the Mainland Archives.....	141
Marie-Louise Nosch	
13. <i>pa-ki-ja-ne</i> , <i>pa-ki-ja-na</i> , and <i>pa-ki-ja-ni-ja</i>	173
Thomas Palaima	
14. Leukippos: Paralipomena zu einem griechischen Personennamen.....	197
Oswald Panagl	
15. Quelques réflexions <i>fiscales</i> sur la tablette Jn 829 de Pylos.....	205
Massimo Perna	
16. Afinidades semánticas entre mic. <i>do-so-mo</i> y griego δωτίνη.....	211
Rosa A. Santiago	
17. Further Thoughts on the Reflex of Syllabic Nasals in Mycenaean Greek.....	221
Christina Michelle Skelton	
18. <i>ku-ne</i> y <i>qo-we</i> en la tablilla de Micenas Fu 711.....	231
Carlos Varias García	
19. Missing Numerals: A Neglected Phenomenon in the Linear B Documents.....	243
Jörg Weihartner	

Table of Contents

Afterword: How Far We Have Come in Mycenology
in Seventy Years 259
Thomas Palaima and Garrett Bruner

Personal Comments on José Luis Melena
from the Contributors 267

Photo Section follows

Preface

WORKS OF SCHOLARSHIP, LIKE HUMAN LIVES, move through time and space in ways as unpredictable as the human lives to which they are attached. This Festschrift in honor of José Luis Melena is no exception. What has made the contributors persist in perfecting their papers is the unique individual whom we are honoring.

José Luis Melena is, among philologists, a unique example of wisdom, capacity for work, tenacious determination, a deep and reverent sense of the vocation of being a scholar and a concomitant recognition that it is a rare privilege to pursue scholarly truths as a life's work. Personally—and all of us contributors have felt the effects of José's personality—he is generous towards others and has an unwavering sense of humanity, despite the disappointments, frustrations, sorrows, and miseries we inevitably confront as we live out our lives. In his career life and in his home life, José has been tested as if a modern Job. As William Faulkner put it about one of his most memorable characters, it is often a signal mark of success in the lives we lead to endure and endure and endure. José has done that and done so much more for all of us and for many others with equanimity and with intelligent understanding of human weaknesses.

Born in 1946, while still an adolescent schoolboy in his native San Sebastián at the beginning of the 1960s, during one of his frequent visits to the Reading Room of the Municipal Library, he began to read with great interest a Spanish translation of *The Aegean Civilization* by Gustav Glotz: *La Civilización Egea* (1926). He remembers being captivated by drawings of the Knossos tablets, much like the decipherer of Linear B, Michael Ventris, reading Adolf Erman's *Die Hieroglyphen*. And at once he was clear about where he was going to direct a big part of his studies: the Aegean writing systems.

A few years later, he found on the shelves of the library of the Peñaflorida Institute, where he was studying for the Higher Baccalaureate, a precious book, *Diecisiete tablillas micénicas* by Manuel Fernández Galiano (1959). He read it in full, as well as all the works available about Mycenae during his high school years in

Preface

San Sebastián. Such an early and determined sense of vocation in a recondite and complex area of scholarly inquiry that was studied by very few people in those days is very rare. In some ways it parallels the boyhood interests of Michael Ventris, who in young adulthood in the late 40's and early 50's, after his military service in World War II, virtually abandoned the career field of architecture that his mother more or less had dictated that he take up and instead worked intensively toward the decipherment of Aegean scripts, his real passion.

With characteristic intelligence and determination and Delphic self-knowledge, José Luis Melena stayed his course. It is not surprising, therefore, that, in October 1965, having just arrived in Salamanca to begin his university studies, he caught the attention of Manuel García Teijeiro, who was going to teach Mycenaean Greek, and the leading Spanish figure in the understanding of Mycenaean script and language, Martín S. Ruipérez himself. José asked specifically for the two volumes of *Scripta Minoa* (1909 and 1952) and for the run of the journal *Minos*. It was clear why José Luis Melena chose the University of Salamanca to study Classical Philology.

But staying the course was not without investigating seriously other areas of interest. Recently, José reminded us (personal communication August 3, 2021) that “my Master Thesis dealt with the taboo in Ancient Greece (1970) as a preliminary study for my [then proposed] PhD dissertation on the Homeric words for ‘strength’ which I eventually abandoned for a Mycenaean subject.” We can see how far José went down this alternative path by reading his impressive early article that merged intensive study of Indo-European and Homeric vocabulary with what has been his lifelong passion for Mycenaeanology: “El testimonio del micénico a propósito de los nombres de las distintas fuerzas en Homero,” *Emerita* 44:2 (1976): 421–436.

From the time he received his diploma (with Extraordinary Award) in 1970 to today, José Melena has done enormous and extraordinary work in virtually all the subfields that make up the field of Mycenaean studies. He has provided all kinds of help, sometimes without due recognition, to hundreds of researchers around the world, beginning with his decisive work in the edition of *Acta Mycenaea*, the proceedings of the Fifth International Colloquium of Mycenaean Studies organized by his teacher Martín S. Ruipérez in 1970. The *acta* were published as separate volumes of the journal *Minos* XI (1971) and XII (1972). This and many other tasks, which include his doctoral thesis (“Estudios sobre las inscripciones de Cnoso,” Madrid: Universidad Complutense de Madrid, Facultad de Filosofía y Letras, 1973) and his work on the journal *Minos: Revista de Filología Egea*, were carried out in a first stage of job instability and regular travel (Madrid, Salamanca, Canarias) until he achieved the position of Professor of Greek Philology at the University of the Basque Country, in 1983.

Mycenology would not have had the strong development that it has had throughout the world in the last fifty years without the tireless cooperative work of José Luis Melena. Among many other major scholarly duties that he performed during all this time, it is worth mentioning first and foremost the journal *Mínos*. For over four decades (1970–2011), its enormous international prestige in this field was due almost exclusively to the work of José Luis Melena, first as secretary and then as editor.

It is a pity that, for various reasons, this tribute could not appear in the journal to which José dedicated a large part of his life. We are very grateful to the Center for Hellenic Studies, especially to Gregory Nagy, Leonard Muellner, Kerri Cox Sullivan, and Jill Curry Robbins for their roles in publishing our Festschrift. We thank Charles Delattre, Roser Gómez Guiu, Jörg Weilhartner, Jared Petroll, and Zafeirios Adramerinas, who were of great help with proofing and formatting these complicated texts. Tom Palaima always thanks Garrett Bruner, PASP archivist, for locating needed materials.

José's excellent scientific production and his capacity for work and planning made it natural for José to be chosen Secretary General of the Comité International Permanent des Études Mycéniennes (CIPEM) in 1990, relieving John Chadwick. At the same time he replaced Martín S. Ruipérez as representative of Spain in CIPEM. He went well beyond working dutifully in these two key positions until he voluntarily ceded them to successors twenty years later in 2010.

The scientific prestige of José Luis Melena transcends the scope of Mycenaean and Classical Philology, as is made clear by two important external recognitions. The first is his appointment in 1987 as Cultural Attaché of the Embassy of Spain in Athens and Director of the Instituto Cultural Español Reina Sofía (now known as the Instituto Cervantes) in the Greek capital, a position from which he was ignominiously dismissed in 1990 through political machinations. The second was receiving the Euskadi Research Prize from the Basque Government in 1999.

We would like to close on a personal note beyond the expressions of gratitude that we have made, as have other contributors, in our papers and/or in the section of brief personal comments that closes this volume.

I, Carlos Varias García, would like to highlight the unparalleled kindness of José Luis Melena in guiding my doctoral thesis. In a letter written in January 1991 that I have treasured ever since receiving it, José Melena, having just recently arrived in Vitoria after enduring the shock of being removed from Athens, responded to my letter from Barcelona asking him to direct my doctoral thesis. José not only welcomed my request, at a very difficult time for him, but also proposed a change of thesis topic from one having to do with Mycenaean anthroponymy to another, the joint study of the inscriptions in Linear B of Mycenae.

Preface

The letter contains an impeccable argument that later proved to be correct. My thesis, from beginning to end, has the stamp of José Luis Melena, and without him as director it would never have seen the light of day. Such was his continuous support and scientific direction that I received as doctoral student, despite being at a different university. José's support was just as decisive throughout my entire academic career for which I have many times heartily thanked him. Thank you, again, José.

I, Tom Palaima, consider José my second mentor, after Emmett L. Bennett, Jr. José shares with Emmett a sincere sense of the fun in working on problems having to do with the Mycenaean Greeks and the writing system that they used. I was honored that he invited me to serve first on the Comité de Redacción of *Minos* from 1986–2011; then as assistant editor and book review editor 1990–95, and finally as co-editor and book review editor 1995–2011. Working with José, our labors were no burden at all. His open-mindedness, high scholarly standards humanely applied to submissions, and his critical and truly selfless enthusiasm for new ideas were so wonderful to absorb that it is only in recent years that I have come to see how exceptional these attributes were within our field or any scholarly fields. I share fully Carlos's sense that José Melena is a generous person.

There are stories that could be told of how calmly José withstood personal professional attacks and life tragedies that would have caused most human beings to respond by becoming bitter and hateful or by despairing of life itself. I share with Carlos a deep sense of gratitude for the forty-one years now that I have known and cooperated with José. I have asked him many stupid questions. I have always gotten careful, sincere, and kind answers.

We are sure that if life circumstances permitted Julián Méndez Dosuna, who did an enormous amount of work in organizing, collecting, and editing this volume in the first years of work on it, would add reflections similar to ours. Without Julián's work, this volume would not exist. He is truly, not just alphabetically, its first editor.

We, all three of us, are proud to have José Luis Melena as a mentor, a colleague, a guiding spirit, a friend, and a fellow explorer in the often sad and sorrowful pathways of life

We thank all our fellow contributors for making this volume a thank offering worthy of a remarkable scholar and human being.

Carlos Varias García, Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona
Thomas Gerard Palaima, PASP, University of Texas at Austin
Julián Méndez Dosuna, Universidad de Salamanca

Bibliography of José Luis Melena Jiménez

Books, Book Chapters, and Articles

1972

- “Un mundo nuevo en la antigua Grecia,” *Universitas* 20: 89–97.
- “Alejandro Magno,” *Universitas* 42: 223–231.
- “En torno al ΣΚΗΠΤΡΟΝ homérico,” *Cuadernos de Filología Clásica* 3: 321–356.
- “Tables of Ideograms and Syllabograms of Mycenaean Linear B,” in *Acta Mycenaea. Proceedings of the Fifth International Colloquium on Mycenaean Studies, Held in Salamanca, 30 March–3 April 1970*, ed. M. S. Ruipérez, I [= *Minos* 11] (Salamanca: Ediciones Universidad de Salamanca), xvii, xviii, xx, and xxi.
- “Index of Mycenaean Words,” in *Acta Mycenaea. Proceedings of the Fifth International Colloquium on Mycenaean Studies, Held in Salamanca, 30 March–3 April 1970*, ed. M. S. Ruipérez, II [= *Minos* 12] (Salamanca: Ediciones Universidad de Salamanca), 451–476.
- “On the Knossos Mc Tablets,” *Minos* 13.1: 29–54.
- “Further Comments on *142 and *151,” *Minos* 13.2: 259–260.

1973

- *Estudios sobre las inscripciones de Cnoso*, PhD diss., Facultad de Filosofía y Letras, Universidad Complutense de Madrid.
- “Algunas consideraciones sobre las tablillas Ai (2) de Cnoso,” *Estudios Clásicos* 69–70: 209–214.
- “Las tablillas del escriba 51 de Micenas y la forma *ṭo-so-ne*,” *Estudios Clásicos* 69–70: 215–219.

1974

- “Reflexiones sobre los meses del calendario micénico de Cnoso y sobre la fecha de la caída del Palacio,” *Emerita* 42.1: 77–102.
- “*ku-pa-ro* en las tablillas de Cnoso,” *Emerita* 42.2: 307–336.
- “*ki-ta-no* en las tablillas de Cnoso,” *Durius* 2.3: 45–55.
- “A Tentative Identification of the Syllabogram *18,” *Nestor* 3: 8 (Correspondence 1 November 1974): 954–955.

1975

- “*po-ni-ki-jo* in the Knossos Ga Tablets,” *Minos* 14 (1973 [1975]): 77–84.
- “El primitivo nombre de Heracles,” in *Genethliakon Isidorianum. Miscellanea graeca, latina atque hebraica Isidoro Rodríguez Herrera XIV lustra complenti oblata* [= *Helmantica* 79–81] (Salamanca: Universidad Pontificia), 377–388.
- “Part III: Indexes of Mycenaean Words,” in *The Thebes Tablets II*, ed. Th. G. Spyropoulos, and J. Chadwick, Suplementos a *Minos* 4 (Salamanca: Ediciones Universidad de Salamanca), 109–117.
- *Studies on Some Mycenaean Inscriptions from Knossos Dealing with Textiles*. Suplementos a *Minos* 5 (Salamanca: Ediciones Universidad de Salamanca).
- “A Supplement to MY Ge 603.1 and the Identification of *da-ra-ko*,” *Nestor* 4: 8 (Correspondence 1 November 1975): 1015–1016.

1976

- “Coriander on the Knossos Tablets,” *Minos* 15 (1974 [1976]): 133–163.
- “Aromatics Plants on the Knossos Tablets,” *Minos* 15 (1974 [1976]): 226–227.
- “El testimonio del micénico a propósito de los nombres de las distintas fuerzas en Homero,” *Emerita* 44: 421–435.
- J. M.^a Otero and J. L. Melena, “La estela inscrita de Siruela, Badajoz,” in *Actas del I Coloquio sobre Lenguas y Culturas Prerromanas de la Península Ibérica (Salamanca, 27-31 mayo 1974)*, ed. L. Michelena, F. Jordá Cerdá, and J. de Hoz (Salamanca: Ediciones Universidad de Salamanca), 343–352 + Láminas I-II.
- “La producción de plantas aromáticas en Cnoso,” *Estudios Clásicos* 78: 177–190.
- “A Suggestion for the Interpretation of the Couple *no-ri-wo-ki-de/no-ri-wo-ko*,” *Nestor* 5: 8 (Correspondence 1 November 1976): 1059–1060.

- *Sobre ciertas innovaciones tempranas del griego (El tratamiento de yod inicial y la alternancia pt-/p-). Informe provisional* (Salamanca: Ediciones Universidad de Salamanca).

1977

- “On the New Linear B Inscription from Mycenae,” *Minos* 16: 17–18.
- “An Emendation for the Word *te-ra-ni-ja* along with a Tentative Interpretation of Such a Form,” *Nestor* 5: 8 (Correspondence 1 November 1977): 1133.

1978

- “En torno a la identificación del silabograma *79 del silabario micénico,” in *Actas del V Congreso Español de Estudios Clásicos (Madrid, 20 al 25 de abril de 1976)* (Madrid: Sociedad Española de Estudios Clásicos), 751–757.

1979

- “Note on Spelling with a Dummy Vowel on KH Z 1,” *Nestor* 6: 5 (Forum May 1979): 1369.

1981

- “El aceite en la civilización micénica,” in *Producción y comercio del aceite en la Antigüedad. Primer Congreso Internacional (Madrid, 4-6 diciembre 1978)*, coord. J. M. Blázquez Martínez (Madrid: Editorial de la Universidad Complutense), 255–282.
- “On the Identification of a Plant Motif on a Minoan Pin,” *Nestor* 8: 7 (Forum October 1981): 1554–1555.

1982

- “The Reading of the Vase Inscription TI Z 30,” *Kadmos* 21.1: 95–96.

1983

- “Further Thoughts on Mycenaean *o-pa*,” in *Res Mycenaee. Akten des VII. Internationalen Mykenologischen Colloquiums in Nürnberg vom 6.-10. April 1981*, ed. A. Heubeck and G. Neumann (Göttingen: Vandenhoeck & Ruprecht), 258–286.
- Discussion bei Y. Duhoux, “Les syllabogrammes 34 et 35 du linéaire B,” in *Res Mycenaee. Akten des VII. Internationalen Mykenologischen Colloquiums in Nürnberg vom 6.-10. April 1981*, ed. A. Heubeck and G. Neumann (Göttingen: Vandenhoeck & Ruprecht), 124–125.

Bibliography of José Luis Melena Jiménez

- Response to St. Hiller, “Fruchtbaumkulturen auf Kreta und in Pylos,” in *Res Mycenaee. Akten des VII. Internationalen Mykenologischen Colloquiums in Nürnberg vom 6.-10. April 1981*, ed. A. Heubeck and G. Neumann (Göttingen: Vandenhoeck & Ruprecht), 201.
- Response to J. T. Killen, “On the Mycenae Ge Tablets,” in *Res Mycenaee. Akten des VII. Internationalen Mykenologischen Colloquiums in Nürnberg vom 6.-10. April 1981*, ed. A. Heubeck and G. Neumann (Göttingen: Vandenhoeck & Ruprecht), 232–233.
- Response to A. Morpurgo Davies, “Mycenaean and Greek Prepositions: *o-pi, e-pi*, etc.,” in *Res Mycenaee. Akten des VII. Internationalen Mykenologischen Colloquiums in Nürnberg vom 6.-10. April 1981*, ed. A. Heubeck and G. Neumann (Göttingen: Vandenhoeck & Ruprecht), 310.
- “Notas de Filología micénica, III: El silabograma *86,” *Emerita* 51: 255–267.
- “Un nouveau raccord de fragments dans les tablettes de Cnossos,” *Minos* 18: 69–70.
- “Olive Oil and Other Sorts of Oil in the Mycenaean Tablets,” *Minos* 18: 89–123.
- “Perfiles generales para una historia del ditirambo como género literario,” *Tabona* 4: 181–223.

1984

- “Allí donde al macho la hembra marida,” in *Apophoreta Philologica Emmanuelli Fernández Galiano a Sodalibus Oblata. Pars Prior*, ed. L. Gil and R. M.^a Aguilar [= *Estudios Clásicos* 87] (Madrid: Ediciones Clásicas), 151–158.
- “Dos lecciones sobre el verbo griego,” *Tabona* 5: 285–342.
- “Un ara votiva romana en El Gaitán, Cáceres,” *Veleia* 1: 233–260.
- *EX ORIENTE LUX. La aportación de las filologías del Oriente Próximo y Medio antiguo a la comprensión de los primeros textos europeos. Discurso pronunciado en la Solemne Apertura del Curso Académico 1984-1985* (Vitoria-Gasteiz: Servicio Editorial de la Universidad del País Vasco).

1985

- *Serta gratulatoria in honorem Juan Régulo*, vol. I: *Filología*, ed. J. L. Melena (La Laguna: Universidad de La Laguna).

- “Notas de Filología micénica, VI: El silabograma *83,” in *Serta gratulatoria in honorem Juan Régulo*, vol. I: *Filología*, ed. J. L. Melena (La Laguna: Universidad de La Laguna), 473–486.
- *Symbolae Ludovico Mitxelena septuagenario oblatae quas edidit José L. Melena*, 2 vols., Anejos de *Veleia* 1 (Vitoria-Gasteiz: Servicio Editorial de la Universidad del País Vasco).
- “Salama, Jálama y la epigrafía latina del antiguo Corregimiento,” in *Symbolae Ludovico Mitxelena septuagenario oblatae quas edidit José L. Melena, Pars prior*, Anejos de *Veleia* 1 (Vitoria-Gasteiz: Servicio Editorial de la Universidad del País Vasco), 475–530.

1987

- “Notas de Filología micénica, II: ¿Qué se asienta en PY Un 1320 [+1442?,” in *Athlon. Saturae grammaticae in honorem Francisci R. Adrados*, vol. II, ed. P. Bádenas de la Peña, A. Martínez Díez, M.^a E. Martínez-Fresneda, and E. Rodríguez Monescillo (Madrid: Editorial Gredos), 613–618.
- *Studia Palaeohispanica. Actas del IV Coloquio sobre Lenguas y Culturas Paleohispánicas* (Vitoria/Gasteiz, 6–10 mayo 1985), ed. J. Gorrochategui, J. L. Melena, and J. Santos [= *Veleia* 2–3 (1985–1986) [1987] (Vitoria-Gasteiz: Servicio Editorial de la Universidad del País Vasco).
- *Studies in Mycenaean and Classical Greek Presented to John Chadwick*, ed. J. T. Killen, J. L. Melena, and J.-P. Olivier [= *Minos* 20–22] (Salamanca: Ediciones Universidad de Salamanca).
- “On the Linear B Ideogrammatic Syllabogram ZE,” in *Studies in Mycenaean and Classical Greek Presented to John Chadwick*, ed. J. T. Killen, J. L. Melena, and J.-P. Olivier [= *Minos* 20–22] (Salamanca: Ediciones Universidad de Salamanca), 389–457.
- “On Untransliterated Syllabograms *56 and *22,” in *Tractata Mycenaea. Proceedings of the Eighth International Colloquium on Mycenaean Studies, Held in Ohrid, 15–20 September 1985*, ed. P. Hr. Ilievski and L. Crepajac (Skopje: Macedonian Academy of Sciences and Arts), 203–232.
- “Una apostilla a COLVAV,” *Veleia* 4: 371–372.

1988

- “Notas de Filología micénica, I: El ideograma *142,” in *Texts, Tablets, and Scribes. Studies in Mycenaean Epigraphy and Economy Offered to Emmett L. Bennett, Jr.*, ed. J.-P. Olivier and Th. G. Palaima, Suplementos a *Minos*

Bibliography of José Luis Melena Jiménez

10 (Salamanca and Lejona: Ediciones Universidad de Salamanca and Servicio Editorial de la Universidad del País Vasco), 213–217.

1989

- J. M. Driessen, L. Godart; J. T. Killen, C. Kopaka, J. L. Melena, J.-P. Olivier, and M. Perna, “107 raccords et quasi-raccords de fragments dans CoMIK I et II,” *Bulletin de Correspondance Hellénique* 112.1 (1988 [1989]): 59–82.
- E. L. Bennett, J. M. Driessen, L. Godart, J. T. Killen, C. Kopaka, J. L. Melena, J.-P. Olivier, and M. Perna, “436 raccords et quasi-raccords de fragments inédits dans KT 5,” *Minos* 24: 199–242.
- “Πρόλογος,” in M. Fernández Galiano, *Πανόραμα της Ελληνικής Φιλολογίας στην Ισπανία: 20^{ος} αιώνας* (Athens: Ισπανικό Μορφοτικό Ίδρυμα «Βασιλίσσα Σοφία»).

1990

- J.-P. Olivier, J. L. Melena, and C. Piterós, “Les inscriptions en linéaire B des nodules de Thèbes (1982): La fouille, les documents, les possibilités d’interprétation,” *Bulletin de Correspondance Hellénique* 114.1: 103–184.
- “Notas de epigrafía romana de Extremadura, I: Sobre un pretendido teónimo nuevo en Lusitania,” *Veleia* 7: 147–153.
- M. S. Ruipérez and J. L. Melena, *Los griegos micénicos* (Madrid: Historia 16).

1991

- *El Mundo Micénico. Cinco siglos de la primera civilización europea 1600–1100 a. C.*, catálogo de la exposición del Museo Arqueológico Nacional, Madrid, enero–febrero 1992; comisario: José L. Melena (Madrid: Ministerio de Cultura).
- “La Civilización Micénica reflejada en los documentos en Lineal B,” in *El Mundo Micénico. Cinco siglos de la primera civilización europea 1600–1100 a. C.*, catálogo de la exposición del Museo Arqueológico Nacional, Madrid, enero–febrero 1992; comisario: José L. Melena (Madrid: Ministerio de Cultura, 1991), 62–73.
- J. L. Melena and J.-P. Olivier, *TITHEMY. The Tablets and Nodules in Linear B from Tiryns, Thebes, and Mycenae. A Revised Transliteration*. Suplementos a *Minos* 12 (Salamanca and Lejona: Ediciones Universidad de Salamanca and Servicio Editorial de la Universidad del País Vasco).

1993

- L. Godart, J. T. Killen, C. Kopaka, J. L. Melena, and J.-P. Olivier, “501 raccords et quasi-raccords de fragments dans les tablettes de Cnossos post-KT V,” *Minos* 25–26 (1990–1991 [1993]): 373–411.
- J. L. Melena, G. Owens, and M. Serrano, “55 raccords de fragments dans les tablettes de Cnossos,” *Minos* 25–26 (1990–1991 [1993]): 413–417.

1994

- “Notas de epigrafía romana de Extremadura, II: Sobre el ara funeraria de Granadilla,” *Veleia* 11: 317–318.

1995

- L. Godart, C. Kopaka, J.-L. Melena, and J.-P. Olivier, “175 raccords de fragments dans les tablettes de Knossos,” *Minos* 27–28 (1992–1993 [1995]): 55–70.
- “167 Joins of Fragments in the Linear B Tablets from Pylos,” *Minos* 27–28 (1992–1993 [1995]): 71–82.
- “224 Joins and Quasi-Joins of Fragments in the Linear B Tablets from Pylos,” *Minos* 27–28 (1992–1993 [1995]): 307–324.

1996

- “The Reconstruction of the Fragments of the Linear B Tablets from Knossos,” in *Atti e Memorie del II Congresso Internazionale di Micenologia, Roma-Napoli, 14–20 ottobre 1991*, vol. 1: *Filologia*, ed. E. De Miro, L. Godart, and A. Sacconi (Rome: Gruppo Editoriale Internazionale), 83–90.
- M. S. Ruipérez and J. L. Melena, *Οι Μυκηναίοι Έλληνες* [translation of *Los griegos micénicos*, Madrid 1990] (Athens: Ινστιτούτο του Βιβλίου—Μ. Καρδαμίτσα).

1997

- “28 Joins and Quasi-joins of Fragments in the Linear B Tablets from Pylos,” *Minos* 29–30 (1994–1995 [1997]): 95–100.
- “133 Joins and Quasi-joins of Fragments in the Linear B Tablets from Pylos,” *Minos* 29–30 (1994–1995 [1997]): 271–288.
- “Notas de epigrafía romana de Extremadura, III: Sobre un nuevo nexo de letras,” *Veleia* 14: 375–377.

Bibliography of José Luis Melena Jiménez

1999

- “40 Joins and Quasi-joins of Fragments in the Linear B Tablets from Pylos,” *Minos* 31–32 (1996–1997 [1999]): 159–170.
- “13 Joins and Quasi-joins of Fragments in the Linear B Tablets from Pylos,” *Minos* 31–32 (1996–1997 [1999]): 171–178.
- “19 raccords et quasi-raccords de fragments dans les tablettes de Cnossos,” *Minos* 31–32 (1996–1997 [1999]): 417–422.
- “Some Thoughts on the Origin of the Knossos Fragments Found in 1984 at the Heraklion Museum,” in *Floreat Studia Mycenaea. Akten des X. Internationalen Mykenologischen Colloquiums in Salzburg vom 1.-5. Mai 1995*, vol. 2, ed. S. Deger-Jalkotzy, St. Hiller, and O. Panagl (Vienna: Verlag der Österreichischen Akademie der Wissenschaften), 363–387.

2001

- J. L. Melena and T. G. Palaima, “100 Years of Linear B from Knossos,” *American Journal of Archaeology* 105.2: 316–320.

2002

- R. J. Firth and J. L. Melena, “Identifying the Linear B Tablets from the Arsenal and Little Palace at Knossos,” in *A-NA-QO-TA. Studies Presented to J. T. Killen*, ed. J. Bennet and J. Driessen [= *Minos* 33–34 (1998–1999)] (Salamanca: Ediciones Universidad de Salamanca), 107–133.
- R. J. Firth and J. L. Melena, “The Knossos Tablets: Genesis of the 5000-Series,” *Minos* 35–36 (2000–2001 [2002]: volumen del cincuentenario): 315–355.
- “24 Joins and Quasi-joins of Fragments in the Linear B Tablets from Pylos,” *Minos* 35–36 (2000–2001: volumen del cincuentenario): 357–369.
- “63 Joins and Quasi-joins of Fragments in the Linear B Tablets from Pylos,” *Minos* 35–36 (2000–2001: volumen del cincuentenario): 371–384.
- R. J. Firth and J. L. Melena, “A Tale of Two Fragments: KN Dl 8216 and 8217,” *Minos* 35–36 (2000–2001: volumen del cincuentenario): 451–458.

2006

- “A New Fragment of Linear B Tablet from Pylos,” *Minos* 37–38 (2002–2003 [2006]): 111–112 + plate XVIII.

- R. J. Firth and J. L. Melena, “22 Joins and Quasi-Joins of Fragments of Linear B Tablets from Knossos,” *Minos* 37–38 (2002–2003 [2006]): 113–120 + plates XIX–XXVI.

2008

- R. J. Firth and J. L. Melena, “The Knossos Linear B Tablets: Genesis of the Listing of the Later Fragments,” in *Colloquium Romanum. Atti del XII Colloquio Internazionale di Micenologia (Roma 20–25 febbraio 2006)*, ed. A. Sacconi, M. Del Freo, L. Godart, and M. Negri, vol. I [= *Pasiphae* I] (Pisa and Rome: Fabrizio Serra Editore), 281–307.

2010

- “De leonas y ralladores de queso (Aristófanes, *Lisístrata* 231),” in *DIC MIHI, MVSA, VIRVM. Homenaje al profesor Antonio López Eire*, ed. F. Cortés Gabaudan and J. V. Méndez Dosuna (Salamanca: Ediciones Universidad de Salamanca), 431–440.

2014

- “Filling Gaps in the Basic Mycenaean Syllabary,” in *Donum Mycénologicum. Mycenaean Studies in Honour of Francisco Aura Jorro*, ed. A. Bernabé and E. R. Luján, Bibliothèque des Cahiers de l’Institut de Linguistique de Louvain 131 (Louvain-la-Neuve: Peeters), 75–85.
- “Filling Gaps in the Mycenaean Linear B Additional Syllabary: The Case of Syllabogram *34,” in *Ágalma. Ofrenda desde la Filología Clásica a Manuel García Teijeiro*, ed. A. Martínez Fernández, B. Ortega Villaro, H. Velasco López, and H. Zamora Salamanca (Valladolid: Ediciones Universidad de Valladolid), 207–226.
- “Mycenaean Writing,” in *A Companion to Linear B: Mycenaean Greek Texts and Their World*, ed. Y. Duhoux and A. Morpurgo Davies, vol. 3 [=Bibliothèque des Cahiers de l’Institut de Linguistique de Louvain 133] (Louvain-la-Neuve: Peeters), 1–186.

2016

- R. J. Firth and J. L. Melena, “Re-visiting the Scribes of Knossos: The Principal Hands 101–123, 125–141,” *Minos* 39: 249–318.
- R. J. Firth and J. L. Melena, “Re-visiting the Scribes of the Room of the Chariot Tablets at Knossos,” *Minos* 39: 319–351.
- R. J. Firth and J. L. Melena, “The Secondary Scribes of Knossos,” *Minos* 39: 353–378.

Bibliography of José Luis Melena Jiménez

- “La invocación a las NUBES: Aristófanes, *Nubes* 264–291, 323–325,” in *ΕΥΠΟΙΚΙΑΩΝ ΑΝΘΟΣ. Estudios sobre teatro griego en homenaje a Antonio Melero* (= *Studia Philologica Valentina* 18, n. s. 15), 217–228.

2019

- *The Knossos Tablets. Sixth Edition. A Transliteration* by José L. Melena in collaboration with Richard J. Firth (Philadelphia: INSTAP Academic Press).

2021

- *The Pylos Tablets. Third Edition in Transliteration* by José L. Melena with the collaboration of Richard J. Firth [=Anejos de *Veleia*, Series Maior 14] (Vitoria-Gasteiz: Servicio Editorial de la Universidad del País Vasco).

Forthcoming

- “On the Structure of the Mycenaean Linear B Syllabary, I: The Unstraliterated Syllabograms. Preliminary Report,” in *Proceedings of the Eleventh International Mycenological Colloquium (Austin, Texas, May 7-13, 2000)* [available at [www.ehu.academia.edu/Jose Luis Melena](http://www.ehu.academia.edu/JoseLuisMelena)].
- R. J. Firth and J. L. Melena, “The Find-Places of the Knossos Tablets: The 5000-Series,” in *Proceedings of the Eleventh International Mycenological Colloquium (Austin, Texas, May 7-13, 2000)* [available at [www.ehu.academia.edu/Jose Luis Melena](http://www.ehu.academia.edu/JoseLuisMelena)].
- *TITHEMY. The Tablets and Nodules in Linear B from Tiryns, Thebes, Mycenae. A Revised Transliteration* by José L. Melena and Jean-Pierre Olivier. 2nd ed. by José L. Melena, with the addition of Iklaina, Iolkos, Midea.

Reviews

- J.-P. Olivier, *The Mycenae Tablets IV* (Leiden, 1969), in *Minos* 10.2 (1969 [1970]): 186–187.
- D. J. Georgacas, *The Name “Asia” for the Continent: Its History and Origin* (*Names* 17 [1969]: 1–90), in *Minos* 10.2 (1969 [1970]): 193–194.
- P. Åström, *Excavations at Kalopsidha and Ayios Iakovos in Cyprus* (Lund, 1969), in *Minos* 10.2 (1969 [1970]): 195–196.
- L. Drees, *Olympia, Gods, Artists, and Athletes* (London, 1968), in *Minos* 10.2 (1969 [1970]): 197–198.
- E. A. S. Butterworth, *The Tree at the Navel of the Earth* (Berlin, 1970), in *Minos* 10.2 (1969 [1970]): 198–199.

Bibliography of José Luis Melena Jiménez

- V. E. G. Kenna, *The Cretan Talismanic Stones in the Late Minoan Age* (Lund, 1969), in *Minos* 10.2 (1969 [1970]): 199.
- J. Raison and M. Pope, *Index du Linéaire A* (Rome, 1971), in *Minos* 13.1 (1972): 101.
- J. Chadwick, J. T. Killen, and J.-P. Olivier, *The Knossos Tablets. Fourth Edition* (Cambridge, 1971), in *Minos* 13.1 (1972): 102–103.
- N. C. Scoufopoulos, *Mycenaean Citadels* (Göteborg, 1971), in *Minos* 13.1 (1972): 108–109.
- D. L. Page, *The Santorini Volcano and the Destruction of Minoan Crete* (London, 1970), in *Minos* 13.2 (1972): 262–264.
- E. L. Bennett, Jr. and J.-P. Olivier, *The Pylos Tablets Transcribed, Part I: Texts and Notes* (Rome, 1973), in *Minos* 14 (1973 [1975]): 191–192.
- S. Symeonoglou, *Kadmeia I: Mycenaean Finds from Thebes, Greece. Excavation at 14 Oedipus St.* (Göteborg, 1973), in *Minos* 14 (1973 [1975]): 198–200.
- M. Lindgren, *The People of Pylos: Prosopographical and Methodological Studies in the Pylos Archives. Parts I & II* (Uppsala, 1973), in *Minos* 14 (1973 [1975]): 200–201.
- M. Ventris and J. Chadwick, *Documents in Mycenaean Greek. Second Edition* (Cambridge, 1973), in *Emerita* 44.1 (1976): 217–219.
- P. Ballotta, *Le déchiffrement du Disque de Phaestos* (Bologna 1974); *Le Poème du Disque de Phaestos* (Bologna, 1974); *Ricerche di Susbrato* (Bologna 1975); *Sémantique des idéogrammes* (Bologna, 1975), in *Minos* 15 (1974 [1976]): 230–231.
- M. Ventris and J. Chadwick, *Documents in Mycenaean Greek. Second Edition* (Cambridge, 1973), in *Minos* 15 (1974 [1976]): 233–239.
- A. Tovar, *Sprachen und Inschriften. Studien zum Mykenischen, Lateinischen und Hispanokeltischen* (Amsterdam, 1973), in *Minos* 15 (1974 [1976]): 240–241.
- A. Sacconi, *Corpus delle iscrizioni vascolari in Lineare B* (Rome, 1974), in *Minos* 16 (1977): 236–238.
- A. Sacconi, *Corpus delle iscrizioni in Lineare B di Micene* (Rome, 1974), in *Minos* 16 (1977): 238–239.
- E. L. Bennett, Jr. and J.-P. Olivier, *The Pylos Tablets Transcribed, Part II: Hands, Concordances, Indices* (Rome, 1976), in *Minos* 16 (1977): 239–240.
- N. A. Masouridi, *Ἡ μινωϊκὴ γραφὴ εἰς τὰς πινακίδας τῆς Πύλου* (Athens, 1976), in *Minos* 16 (1977): 240–241.

Bibliography of José Luis Melena Jiménez

- Dal sillabario minoico all'alfabeto greco [= *La Parola del Passato* 166], in *Minos* 16 (1977): 241–244.
- Y. Duhoux, *Aspects du vocabulaire économique mycénien (cadastre-artisanat-fiscalité)* (Amsterdam, 1976), in *Minos* 16 (1977): 244–247.
- G. Maddoli, *La civiltà micenea: Guida storica e critica* (Rome-Bari, 1977), in *Emerita* 45 (1977): 480–482.
- L. Godart and A. Sacconi, *Les tablettes en linéaire B de Thèbes* (Rome, 1978), in *Minos* 18 (1983): 262.
- J. T. Hooker, *Linear B: An Introduction* (Bristol, 1980), in *Minos* 18 (1983): 263–264.
- F. Vandenabeele and J.-P. Olivier, *Les idéogrammes archéologiques du Linéaire B* (Paris, 1979), in *Minos* 18 (1983): 264.
- J. P. Best, *Supplementum epigraphicum mediterraneum* (Middelie, 1982), in *Aula Orientalis* 2.1 (1984): 159–163.
- J. Chadwick, L. Godart, J. T. Killen, J.-P. Olivier, A. Sacconi, and I. A. Sakellarakis, *Corpus of Mycenaean Inscriptions from Knossos*, vol. III (5000–7999) (Cambridge and Rome, 1997), in *Minos* 31–32 (1996–1997 [1998]): 458–464.

Translations into Spanish

Books

- L. R. Palmer, *Introducción crítica a la lingüística descriptiva y comparada* [=Biblioteca Románica Hispánica II, Estudios y Ensayos 227] (Madrid: Gredos, 1975) [original title: *Descriptive and Comparative Linguistics. A Critical Introduction* (London, 1972)].
- R. P. Stockwell and R. K. S. Macaulay, eds., *Cambio lingüístico y teoría generativa* [=Biblioteca Románica Hispánica. II, Estudios y Ensayos 266] (Madrid: Gredos, 1977) [original title: *Linguistic Change and Generative Theory* (Bloomington, IN, 1972)].
- J. M. Anderson, *Aspectos estructurales del cambio lingüístico* (Madrid: Gredos, col. 'Biblioteca Románica Hispánica. II, Estudios y Ensayos' 270, 1977) [original title: *Structural Aspects of Language Change* (London, 1973)].
- J. Chadwick, *El mundo micénico* (Madrid: Alianza Editorial, col. 'Alianza Universidad' 204, 1977) [original title: *The Mycenaean World* (Cambridge, 1976)].

- R. P. Stockwell, *Fundamentos de teoría sintáctica* (Madrid: Gredos, col. 'Biblioteca Románica Hispánica. II, Estudios y Ensayos' 304, 1980) [original title: *Foundations of Syntactic Theory* (New Jersey, 1977)].
- Th. Bynon, *Lingüística histórica* (Madrid: Gredos, col. 'Biblioteca Románica Hispánica. II, Estudios y Ensayos' 314, 1981) [original title: *Historical Linguistics* (Cambridge, 1977)].
- E. Vermeule, *La muerte en la poesía y en el arte de Grecia* (Mexico: Fondo de Cultura Económica, 1984) [original title: *Aspects of Death in Early Greek Art and Poetry* (Berkeley, 1979)].
- P. Faure, *La vida cotidiana en la Creta minoica*. Translation review (Barcelona: Argos Vergara, 1984) [original title: *La vie quotidienne en Crète au temps de Minos* (Paris, 1973)].
- R. Jakobson, *Obras Selectas* I. 40 articles translated by J. L. Melena (those in English, French, and Italian), G. Costas (those in German), and V. Díez (those in Russian) (Madrid: Gredos, 1988).
- E. Vermeule, *Grecia en la Edad del Bronce*. Segunda edición. Translation review (Mexico: Fondo de Cultura Económica, 1990) [original title: *Greece in the Bronze Age* (Chicago, 1964)].
- Z. Zatei, *Y vuelven con el crepúsculo* (Madrid 1996) [original title: *Και με το φως του λύκου επανέρχονται* (Athens, 1993)].

Other Translations and Translation Reviews

- D. Schmandt-Besserat, "El primer antecedente de la escritura," *Investigación y Ciencia* [original: *Scientific American*] 23 (agosto 1978): 6-17.
- Hung-hsiang Chou, "La osteomancia china," *Investigación y Ciencia* 33 (junio 1979): 72-81.
- W. A. Fairservis, "La escritura de la civilización del Valle del Indo," *Investigación y Ciencia* 80 (mayo 1983): 30-45.
- J. Friberg, "Números y medidas en los primeros documentos escritos," *Investigación y Ciencia* 91 (abril 1984): 68-77.
- "Επίλογος," in *Σύγχρονη ισπανική ποίηση*, ed. H. Ματθαίου (Athens, 1989).
- Review of translation into Modern Greek of Miguel de Cervantes, *Η τσιγγανόπουλα και Η δύναμη του αίματος*, translated by H. Ματθαίου (Αθήνα 1989) [original titles: *La gitanilla* y *La fuerza de la sangre*].
- Review of all the translations of Modern Greek into Spanish published in Greece in 1988, 1989, and 1990.

Bibliography of José Luis Melena Jiménez

- Collaboration with J. Mastoraki to translate into Modern Greek *Soneto IV* of Paravicino dedicated to El Greco.
- T. Taylor, “El caldero de Gundestrup,” *Investigación y Ciencia* 188 (mayo 1992): 68–74.
- Translation of some articles included in *El Mundo Micénico. Cinco siglos de la primera civilización europea 1600–1100 a. C.*, Madrid 1991, and general review of book’s translation. Translation of the handout and texts of the Exhibition with the same title.
- K. Demakopoulou, “Historia y arqueología del fenómeno cultural micénico,” in *Actas del Ciclo ‘La presencia micénica en el Mediterráneo: aspectos generales y regionales’* [forthcoming].
- Sp. Iakovidis, “Grecia y el Mediterráneo en la Edad del Bronce Reciente,” in *Actas del Ciclo ‘La presencia micénica en el Mediterráneo: aspectos generales y regionales’* [forthcoming].

Abbreviations

CoMIK	J. Chadwick, L. Godart, J. T. Killen, J.-P. Olivier, A. Sacconi, and I. A. Sakellarakis, <i>Corpus of Mycenaean Inscriptions from Knossos</i> , 4 vols. (Cambridge-Rome, 1986–1998).
DMic.	F. Aura Jorro, <i>Diccionario Griego-Español</i> . Anejos I–II: <i>Diccionario micénico</i> , 2 vols. (Madrid, 1985, 1993; repr. 1999).
DMic.Supl.	F. Aura Jorro, A. Bernabé, E. R. Luján, J. Piquero, and C. Varias García, <i>Diccionario Griego-Español</i> . Anejo VII: <i>Suplemento al Diccionario Micénico</i> (Madrid, 2020).
Docs ²	M. Ventris and J. Chadwick, <i>Documents in Mycenaean Greek</i> , 2nd edition (Cambridge, 1973).
Documents	M. Ventris and J. Chadwick, <i>Documents in Mycenaean Greek</i> (Cambridge, 1956).
EDG	R. S. P. Beekes, <i>Etymological Dictionary of Greek</i> , Leiden Indo-European Dictionary Series 10 (Leiden, 2010).
KT ⁶	J. L. Melena, in collaboration with R. J. Firth, <i>The Knossos Tablets. Sixth Edition. A Transliteration</i> (Philadelphia, 2019).
PTT ³	J. L. Melena, with the collaboration of R. J. Firth, <i>The Pylos Tablets. Third Edition in Transliteration</i> (Vitoria-Gasteiz, 2021).

TA-U-RO-QO-RO

𐌲𐌳𐌹𐌹

Mycenaean *wo-ra**

MAURIZIO DEL FREO

CNR-ISPC

maurizio.delfreo@cnr.it

Abstract

It is generally agreed that the term *wo-ra* designated a part of the Mycenaean war chariot. Its interpretation, however, is far from certain, and many different proposals have been advanced so far. The present article suggests a new hypothesis based on the shape of some variants of the CUR logogram.

Keywords

Craftsmanship, Mycenaean war chariots, chariot terminology, Linear B logograms

THE MYCENAEAN TERM *WO-RA* IS attested on two Knossos tablets from the Arsenal (L), which read as follows:

Sp 4451 + 4476 + 8701 + *frr.* (L; 231)

.a *vest.* [
 .b *wo-ra-e / pa-ra-[•]-we-jo* *253 2 [

.a *vest.* perhaps accidental.

.b Possibly *pa-ra-ku-we-jo*.

Sp 4452 + *fr.* (L; 231)

[*wo-]ra / ka-za* *253 1 [

* This article is offered to José L. Melena with gratitude and admiration for his invaluable work as editor and interpreter of Mycenaean texts. I thank J. T. Killen and S. Nikoloudis for reading and commenting on a first draft of this contribution. Any remaining errors are, of course, my own responsibility.

The alternation between *wo-ra-e* and]*ra* and the presence of logogram *253 on both tablets make the supplement [wo-]*ra* on 4452 virtually certain. *Wo-ra* is written in large characters and is therefore the name of the object represented by *253, while *ka-za* and *pa-ra-[•]-we-jo* are adjectives of material related to *wo-ra* (see below). The alternation between ‘2’ and ‘1’ suggests that *wo-ra-e* and [wo-]*ra* are a nominative dual and a nominative singular, respectively. Moreover, since *wo-ra-e* agrees with the -*ō* dual *pa-ra-[•]-we-jo*, a similar agreement has also to be assumed for [wo-]*ra* and *ka-za*. It thus seems reasonable that *wo-ra*, despite the -*a-e* dual, was a feminine noun in -*ā*.¹

Wo-ra is also indirectly attested on Se 880, a tablet from the Northern Entrance Passage (I3). The text of Se 880 is the following:

Se 880 + 1017 (I3; 127)

.1] *vac.*

.2], *po-ni-ke-a*, *wo-ra-we-sa* CUR 1

Possibly [+] Se 9307.

Cut at right.

.2 Trace at left (] *ja*). *wo-* over [[]], perhaps [[*wā*]]. CUR drawn over dividing line.

This tablet records a chariot (CUR 1) described by two terms: *po-ni-ke-a* / *phoinikehā* ‘painted in red’ and *wo-ra-we-sa*.² The latter is almost certainly the feminine of a *went-* adjective from *wo-ra*. Since *wo-ra-we-sa* ‘provided with *wo-ra*’³ describes a CUR, it is likely that *wo-ra* was a construction part or a decoration of war chariots.

The shape of the logogram *253 clearly shows that the object was some sort of “ring” (Fig. 3.1), but it is of no help in determining its size. As is clear from Sp 4451 and 4452, this object could be made ‘of bronze’ (*ka-za* / *k^haltsā* / vel sim. < **k^halk-yā*, adjective of material formed with the *io-* suffix instead of the more common -*eio-* suffix⁴) or of another material (*pa-ra-[•]-we-jo*).

The authors of *CoMIK* and *KT*⁶, following an old suggestion by J.-P. Olivier,⁵ propose for *pa-ra-[•]-we-jo* the reading *pa-ra-ku-we-jo*. As can be seen from the

¹ On the feminine dual in -*āe* instead of -*ō*, see Lejeune 1968b (cf. also Sharypkin 2009).

² The adjectives *wo-ra-we-sa* and *po-ni-ke-a* describe the logogram CUR and almost certainly refer to *i-qi-ja* / *ikk^wiā* ‘chariot’, a term attested in the Sd and Sf series from the Arsenal and probably implicit in the Se series (cf. Lejeune 1968a:41). If the quasi-join between Se 880 + 1017 and Se 9307 (*pte-ṛē[-wa]*) is correct, the chariot recorded on Se 880 was of elm wood (gen. /*ptelewās*/, cf. πτελέα ‘elm’, like those on Se 879, 890, 891, 892, 893, 5729, and 7920).

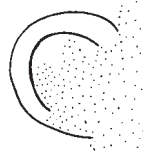
³ Cf. Lejeune 1968a:22; Lejeune 1968b:237; Doria 1972:59.

⁴ On the adjectives of material, see Ruijgh 1967:237–245 (esp. 238 and 245 for *ka-ki-jo*, *ka-ke-ja-pi*, and *ka-za*) and Risch 1976. For the various possible phonetic interpretations of *ka-za*, cf. *DMic. s.v.*

⁵ Olivier in Killen and Olivier 1968:127.



Sp 4451



Sp 4452

Figure 3.1. The logogram *253 (after CoMIK II, drawings by L. Godart).

CoMIK photograph, the faint traces still visible in the lacuna are not sufficient to confirm the reading *ku*.⁶ However, in my opinion, Olivier's suggestion can be reinforced by Sp 5102, whose text reads as follows:

Sp 5102 (231?)
]ḳo / pa-ra-ku[

Due to the fragmentary state of the tablet, it is impossible to know whether the *pa-ra-ku*[sequence continued after the break and whether the text had anything to do with chariot construction.⁷ The traces visible at the left end seem to exclude that the word before *pa-ra-ku*[was *wo-ra* (or *wo-ra-e*). However, it can be observed that *pa-ra-ku*[occupies the same position as *pa-ra-[•]-we-jo* in Sp 4451 and that, like *pa-ra-[•]-we-jo*, it is written in smaller characters immediately after a word in large characters. Moreover, *pa-ra-ku*[and *pa-ra-[•]-we-jo* seem to have been written by the same scribal hand (*pa* and *ra* are very similar in shape, while *ku* is compatible with the sign [•] of *pa-ra-[•]-we-jo*). Finally, as suggested by R. J. Firth and J. L. Melena, it is likely that the fragment 5102 had been excavated in the Arsenal in 1904 together with Sp 4451 and 4452,⁸ which justifies the reclassification of the tablet from Xf (KT 5) to Sp (KT⁶). Therefore, even if the parallel between 4451 and 5102 cannot definitively confirm the reading *pa-ra-ku-we-jo*, it certainly increases its degree of probability.

Grammatically, *pa-ra-ku-we-jo* is an adjective of material in *-eio-* derived from *pa-ra-ku*, a *-u-* stem attested both at Pylos (str. sg. *pa-ra-ku-we* on Ta 714.1.3, 715.3 and *pa-ra-ke-we* on Ta 642.1)⁹ and at Knossos (if [••]-*ku* on Od(1) 667.B is to be read *pa-ra-ku*).¹⁰ Another derivative from *pa-ra-ku* is *pa-ra-ku-ja*, an adjective

⁶ This explains why the reading is confined to the critical apparatus (cf. Olivier cit. above note 5: "la lecture *pa-ra-ku-we-jo* ne s'impose vraiment pas").

⁷ In theory, *pa-ra-ku*[could be *pa-ra-ku* (cf. KN Od 667.B: LANA), *pa-ra-ku-ja* (cf. KN Ld(1) 575: TELA²), or *pa-ra-ku-we* (cf. PY Ta 715.3, 714.1.3: *to-no*, *ta-ra-nu*, *to-pe-zo*).

⁸ Firth and Melena 1998–1999:110–112, 114.

⁹ On PY Cn 200.1 *pa-ra-ku* is the name of a man responsible for a group of OVIS^x and has therefore to be distinguished from *pa-ra-ku-we* etc. (for the interpretation /Brak^hus/, cf. DMic. s.v.).

¹⁰ KT⁶: "[pa-ra-ku not impossible" (cf. Melena in Bennett et al. 1989:204).

in *-io-* documented at Knossos on Ld(1) 575.b (*n. pl.*) and—with the alternative spelling **56-ra-ku-ja*—on Ld(1) 587.2 (*n. pl.*). At Pylos *pa-ra-ku* designates a material used in conjunction with *ku-ru-so* /*khrūsos*/ ‘gold’ and *ku-wa-no* /*kuanos*/ ‘blue glass paste’ to decorate tables, seats, and stools; at Knossos, the adjective *pa-ra-ku-ja* /**56-ra-ku-ja* refers to the color of a number of cloths (TELA), while *pa-ṛa-ku* describes small amounts of wool (LANA).

Among the various interpretations suggested for *pa-ra-ku*,¹¹ the hypothesis that best fits the evidence is that provided by Melena.¹² According to this interpretation, the adjective **56* /*pa-ra-ku-ja*, which refers to the color of some textiles (Ld(1) 575),¹³ can be compared with the Hesychius’ gloss βαρακίς γλαύκινον ἱμάτιον and interpreted as /*barakuia*/ (*n. pl.*) ‘(textiles) of bluish green color’. According to Melena, this adjective would refer to the color of the precious material called *pa-ra-ku* /*baraku*/ ‘blue-green stone’ (perhaps ‘turquoise’ or ‘emerald’), used to decorate the pieces of furniture recorded in the Pylos Ta series.

Melena, considering the alternation *tu-ma-da-ro* /*tu-*56-da-ro* and the consequent possible phonetic value /*mba*/ for **56*, compares **56* /*pa-ra-ku-ja* with Gr. σμάρραδος, μάρραδος and suggests that Myc. /*baraku*/ could be a loanword from Akk. *barrāqtu* ‘emerald’, acquired through the mediation of the Minoan language.¹⁴

Recently, J. Piquero, pointing out the absence of turquoise and emeralds from the Aegean archaeological record in the second millennium BCE, has proposed to interpret /*baraku*/ as ‘blue-green glass paste’.¹⁵

If one admits that *pa-ra-ku* was /*baraku*/ ‘blue-green stone’ or ‘blue-green glass paste’, *pa-ra-ku-we-jo*, which can be morphologically analyzed as *baraku-*

¹¹ Cf. *DMic. s.vv. pa-ra-ku-we* and *pa-ra-ku-ja* (‘green stone, emerald’, ‘silver’, ‘tin’, ‘zinc’, ‘amber, electron’, ‘seal stone’); Chadwick 1976:144 (‘niello’); and, most recently, Witczak 2000 and Witczak 2009 (‘iron’).

¹² Melena 1987:224–226. Some of the hypotheses mentioned in note 11 do not take into account the adjective *pa-ra-ku-ja*, which, as mentioned, refers to the color of some textiles; others depend on the interpretation of *wo-ra* as ‘wheel rim’, which, as will be seen below, is far from certain.

¹³ In addition to the **56-ra-ku-ja* textiles, the Ld(1) 575 tablet records a number of other colored textiles: *po-ki-ro-nu-ka* ‘with many-colored *o-nu-ke*’, *re-u-ko-nu-ka* ‘with white *o-nu-ke*’ and *po-ri-wa* ‘grey’ (cf. *DMic. s.vv.*). Other color adjectives ending in *-io-* are *po-ni-ki-ja* (‘chariots) painted in red’ and *po-pu-ro₂* (‘fabrics) of purple color’ (cf. *DMic. s.vv.*).

¹⁴ For this hypothesis, see already Ventris 1955:117 and *Documents*, 340.

¹⁵ Piquero 2015a (for a similar hypothesis, cf. Palaima 2004:115: “emerald-color paste”). According to Piquero (287–292), Myc. /*baraku*/ and Gr. (σ)μάρραδος should not be linked to Akk. *barrāqtu*, but to some other Semitic term derived from the root **wṛq* ‘green, yellow-green’, like, e.g., Eblaite *wa-ru₂-ga-tum* ‘green stone’. The original concrete meaning (‘green stone’) would have been replaced by an abstract meaning (‘green color’), then again by a concrete one: *pa-ra-ku* ‘green glass paste’ and *pa-ra-ku-ja* ‘green (textiles)’ (see also Piquero 2015b).



*240 BIG (Sc 257)



*241 CUR (Sd 4403)

Figure 3.2. The *240 BIG and *241 CUR logograms (after CoMIK, drawings by L. Godart).

eio-,¹⁶ can be interpreted as ‘made of blue-green stone / blue-green glass paste’ or, more likely, ‘decorated with blue-green stones / blue-green glass paste’.¹⁷

Wo-ra seems then to indicate a chariot part made of bronze (*ka-za*) or decorated with blue-green stones or blue-green glass paste (*pa-ra-ku-we-jo*).

Unfortunately, the few elements available make it difficult to identify the object. This explains why some scholars only admit the generic interpretation “chariot part.”¹⁸ Other scholars, however, have advanced some hypotheses based on the shape of the logogram *253 and/or on the etymology of *wo-ra*. In particular, some have proposed to identify the logogram *253 with a wheel rim,¹⁹ while others have suggested relating it to the lateral curved extensions (or “wings”) of the war chariots, a detail that is depicted in the logograms *240 BIG and *241 CUR (Fig. 3.2) as well as in several vases and frescoes.²⁰

The etymological analysis of *wo-ra*, for its part, has generated four main hypotheses: /*wollā*/ (or /*wōlā*/) ‘scratch, abrasion’ (< **wol-sā* or **wol-nā*, cf. οὐλή);²¹ /*wōrā*/ (or /*worā*/) ‘guard, protective device’ (< **wer-* / **wor-* ‘to watch, observe, be attentive, care for’, cf. ὄρα, ὀράω);²² /*wōrā*/ ‘leg, support’ (cf. Ion. ὄρη, ὄρη, ἄροισι);²³ and /*wolā*/ (or /*wōlā*/) ‘part of a braided or laced bridle’

¹⁶ Phonetically, *pa-ra-ku-we-jo* can be interpreted as /*barakweios*/: cf. the two spellings *pa-ra-ku-we* and *pa-ra-ke-we* for instr. /*barakwei*/ and the parallel formation *do-we-jo* /*dorweiōi*/ (str. sg.) ‘made of wood’ (Sd 4413.b etc.) from **doru-eio-* (Gr. δούρειος).

¹⁷ On the Mycenaean *-eio-* adjectives derived from names of ornaments (like *to-qi-de-jo*, *ko-ki-re-ja*, etc.), see Ruijgh 1967:236, 246, and Risch 1976:314.

¹⁸ Lejeune 1968b:237; Duhoux 1975:134; Tegye 1987:362.

¹⁹ Docs², 592; Vandenabeele and Olivier 1979:298–299; Plath 1994:57 (but see below note 20).

²⁰ Melena 1972:49 (with reference to Lorimer 1950:316); Plath 1994:57 (but see above note 19); Bernabé 1996:203. On the logograms *240 and *241, see Vandenabeele and Olivier 1979:76, figs. 35–36; for the artistic representations, see Crouwel 1981: pls. 14a–b, 15, 32a–b, 74–75, 77–78, 107 (on the chariot “wings” and their possible function, cf. Crouwel 1981:66–67).

²¹ *Documents*, 412; Lejeune 1958:22; Ruijgh 1961:209 (with hesitation); Chadwick and Baumbach 1963:230 (s.v. οὐλή); Baumbach 1971:177 (s.v. οὐλή, with doubts); Georgiev 1979:342; Perpillou 1987:278.

²² Palmer 1957:70 (cf. Palmer 1963:318 and 464, where it is not entirely excluded that *wo-ra* might designate a kind of material or a decoration); Doria 1972:75–76; Bernabé *et al.* 1992–1993:138, 143; Bernabé 1996:203; Bernabé and Lujan 2008:207n5; Piquero 2019:503–504 (s.v. ὄρα).

²³ Gallavotti 1961:177–179.

(< *wel- ‘to turn, roll’, cf. ειλέω, ἴλλω, and perhaps εὐλή, εὐληρα);²⁴ plus a number of less likely interpretations.²⁵

The idea of a wheel rim, however, seems difficult, not only because of the shape of the logogram (which is not perfectly circular), but also because of the materials employed.²⁶ On the other hand, the hypothesis according to which *wo-ra* would designate chariot wings is problematic. Wings are certainly present in all BIG and CUR logograms,²⁷ but the adjective *wo-ra-we-sa* is attested on just one tablet.²⁸ The alternative hypothesis, according to which *wo-ra* would designate not the chariot wings, but a decoration of some sort attached to their ends,²⁹ is also questionable, as it implies that, in order to represent that decoration, the scribes had recourse to an (inaccurate) depiction of the entire chariot wing.

As regards the etymological hypotheses, the interpretation /wollā/ (or /wōlā/) ‘scratch, abrasion’ was proposed when the relationship between [wo-]ra, *wo-ra-e*, and *wo-ra-we-sa* had not yet been identified, and it is now untenable for semantic reasons.³⁰ The second interpretation, /wōrā/ ‘leg, support’, is uncertain both in form and meaning:³¹ not only is it unclear if the root of Ion. ὠρη, ὠρη ‘thigh of a sacrificial animal’ (cf. Hom. ἄωροι, an epithet describing the twelve πόδες of Scilla in *Od.* 12.89) had an initial *w-*,³² but it is also difficult to imagine how the concrete meanings ‘pole junction’, ‘parking brake’, ‘support for the chariot’ suggested by Gallavotti might fit the shape of *253. The third hypothesis, /wōrā/ (or /worā/) ‘guard, protective device’, is formally acceptable (cf. *wer- / *wor- ‘to watch, observe, be attentive, care for’),³³ but none of the concrete meanings proposed—namely ‘chariot cover’ (Palmer), ‘support for a protective tent’, ‘warrior shield’ (Doria), ‘side protection of the chariot box’,

²⁴ Macedo 2018.

²⁵ Cf. Georgiev 1956:183–184 (/wo(l)lā/ ‘stud’, cf. ἧλος, dor. ἄλος, Hsch. γάλλοι ἧλοι); Milani 1969:646–648 (/wolā/ ‘scythe’, cf. ειλύω: the Mycenaean war chariots would have been “scythed chariots”); Petruševski 1979 (‘metal part fixed into the hub’, cf. Hsch. εὐραί: πλῆμναι and Poll. I, 146 τὰ δὲ τῶ ἄξονι ἐγκείμενα σιδήρια καὶ τριβόμενα ὑπὸ τοῦ τροχοῦ, εὐραί, v.l. of θύραι). All these hypotheses are phonetically or morphologically unlikely.

²⁶ Wheel rims decorated with bronze or precious stones are conceivable (compare the wheels described as *ka-ki-jo* /k^halkiō/ ‘of bronze’ and *ka-ko-de-ta* /k^halkodeta/ ‘bronze-bound’ recorded on KN So 894.2 as well as the wheels *ka-ko de-de-me-no* on PY Sa 794), but not very plausible.

²⁷ Cf. Vandenabeele and Olivier 1979: pls. XLIII–LXVII.

²⁸ One might think that the adjective *wo-ra-we-sa* was used only when *wo-ra*’s were made of bronze or *pa-ra-ku*, but that would be an *ad hoc* solution.

²⁹ Bernabé *et al.* 1992–1993:143: “un adorno metálico, quizá en el remate de estas alas, lo que se aviene bien con el ideograma.”

³⁰ In any case, in the chariot production process the scribes of Knossos only recorded the presence or absence of construction parts, never damages or deficiencies (cf. also Gallavotti 1961:178).

³¹ The proposal is made by Gallavotti “a puro titolo di ipotesi” (Gallavotti 1961:179).

³² Cf. Gallavotti 1961:179; *DELG* and *EDG* s.v. ἄωροι.

³³ Cf. *DELG* and *EDG* s.vv. ὠρα, ὀράω.

‘chariot wing’ (Bernabé, Luján)—is really compatible with the “ring” shape of *253.³⁴ Finally, the fourth hypothesis is not without problems either. Even if the interpretation /*wolā*/ or /*wōlā*/ ‘part of a braided or laced bridle’ (< **wel*- ‘to turn, roll’) is formally and semantically possible,³⁵ the shape of the logogram *253 suggests that *wo-ra* was a sort of ‘noseband of a bitless headstall’.³⁶ Now, while it is conceivable that nosebands were produced and recorded separately from chariots and that they were occasionally decorated with bronze ornaments or precious stones and materials,³⁷ it is unlikely that chariots were described as ‘provided with nosebands’. In our documents, in fact, chariots are always recorded with whole bridles, never with parts of bridles (cf. KN Sd series), and when they are provided with bridles they are described by the phrase *a-ra-ru-ja a-ni-ja-pi / araruiā (h)anniāp^{hi}/*, not by a *-went*- adjective like *wo-ra-we-sa*.

Under these conditions it is admittedly difficult to propose alternative hypotheses. However, an element which has not yet been duly emphasized can perhaps help formulate a new interpretation. That element is represented by a detail of the logogram CUR in the Se tablets (Fig. 3.3). As observed by Vandenaabeele and Olivier, four of the five CUR logograms recorded in the Se series (Se 880, 881, 883, and 7449) show two small semicircles placed on the top of the yoke,³⁸ a detail that is missing in all the other CUR and BIG logograms of the Knossos S series.³⁹ Due to their shape and position, these semicircles are interpreted by Vandenaabeele and Olivier as terrets, a chariot part often depicted in vase paintings, whose purpose was to guide the reins and prevent them from tangling.⁴⁰ Since these semicircles recall the shape of the logogram *253 and are found on the tablet where the adjective *wo-ra-we-sa* is attested (Se 880), one can

³⁴ It is impossible to say if the meaning of ‘decoration attached to the extremities of the chariot wings’ (see above) fits the shape of *253, but it is certainly difficult to reconcile with the notion of ‘protection’.

³⁵ As stressed by Macedo (2018:48), even if it is uncertain if εὐλή ‘worm, maggot’ and εὐληρα ‘reins’ are Greek words from the i.-e. root **wel*(*h*)- or Pre-Greek words (cf. *EDG s.vv.*), there are some Greek words derived from the root of εἰλέω (< **wel-n*-) and ἵλλω (< **wi-wl*-) which mean ‘rope’, ‘bond’, or ‘chain’ (cf. ἱλλάς, ἄλυσις, etc.).

³⁶ Cf. Macedo 2018:48.

³⁷ Cf. in the Knossos Sd series: *e-re-pa-te-jo o-po-qa /elep^hanteiois opōk^oois/* ‘horse-blinkers decorated with ivory’ and *ke-ra-ja-pi o-pi-i-ja-pi /keraiāp^{hi} opihāp^{hi}/* ‘horn plaques fixed on the straps’ *vel sim.*

³⁸ Vandenaabeele and Olivier 1979:125, 127, pls. LXVI:2–3, LXVII:1–2. According to Vandenaabeele and Olivier, the CUR logogram on Se 8477 would not show these semicircles (cf. 1979:123, pl. LXVII:3). In the CoMIK IV photograph, however, they are clearly visible.

³⁹ The only possible exception is the BIG logogram on Sc 5165 (cf. Vandenaabeele and Olivier 1979:125 pl. LVI:4).

⁴⁰ Cf. Vandenaabeele and Olivier 1979:128–139, figs. 87–92, and Crowel 1981:108–109, pl. 77 (cf. also Wiesner 1968:56). The detail on a fresco fragment from Knossos, interpreted as a terret by Vandenaabeele and Olivier (132, 136, fig. 84), is probably just one of the two ends of the yoke (cf. Crowel 1981:97, 108 and n36).

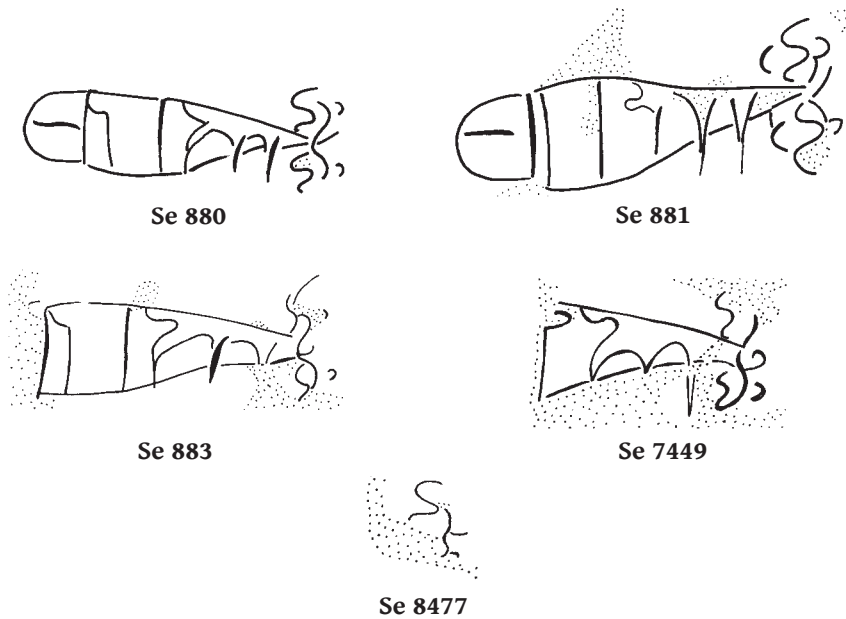


Figure 3.3. The shape of the logogram *241 CUR in the Se series (after CoMIK, drawings by L. Godart).

wonder whether *wo-ra* was the name of that accessory. Unfortunately, it is not easy to find confirmation of this hypothesis. The three tablets Se 881, 883, and 7449 are incomplete. It is thus impossible to know if in these cases CUR was preceded by the adjective *wo-ra-we-sa*.

Depictions of Mycenaean war chariots are conventional and not very detailed. It is interesting though that in some vase paintings terrets are represented by one or two concentric circular strokes⁴¹ and that in some cases they have a closed or open oval shape⁴² not too different from *253.

The fact that the *wo-ra*'s registered in our documents were made of bronze (*ka-za*) and *pa-ra-ku* is not incompatible with this hypothesis. A number of bronze terrets are in fact known from different places and epochs⁴³ and some of them are decorated.⁴⁴

⁴¹ Cf. Vandenaebale and Olivier 1979: figs. 89a–b, 92.

⁴² Cf. Vandenaebale and Olivier 1979:136 and fig. 88 (craters from Enkomi and Ugarit).

⁴³ Cf. especially the terrets attached to the chariots buried in the royal tombs of Salamis in Cyprus, dating back to the eighth–seventh centuries BCE (cf., e.g., Karageorghis 1969:27 [T. 1], 80–81 [T. 79]).

⁴⁴ Cf. the Sumerian terrets decorated with figurines from Ur and Kiš (see, e.g., Muscarella 1988:329–333) and the Celtic terrets from pre-Roman and Roman Britannia with studs made of bone, coral, or enamel (see Grodecka Lewis 2015 with bibliography). It is not impossible that the *pa-ra-ku-we-jo* specimens were similar to the Celtic terrets, with green stones or glass pieces mounted on

A further detail in support of this hypothesis is perhaps also the fact that Sp 4451 records two *wo-ra*'s, a number identical to the semicircles placed on the yoke of the CUR logograms in the Se series.⁴⁵

From the linguistic point of view, finally, it is not unconceivable that the meaning 'terret' might have developed from /*wolā*/ 'the thing turned' or /*wōlā*/ 'turn, turning' (< **wel-* 'to turn, roll') or from /*worā*/ 'watch, guard' or /*wōrā*/ 'care, concern' (< **wer-* / **wor-* 'to watch, observe, be attentive, care for'). In the first case the word would describe the shape, in the latter the function of the object.⁴⁶

On the whole, even if, *per se*, none of the elements above is decisive, their combination seems meaningful. The philological, archaeological, and linguistic data converge towards (or are compatible with) the 'terret' interpretation. If that does not necessarily lead us to opt for this solution, it at least makes it plausible. Such a solution clearly implies a lack of lexical continuity between the second and the first millennium BCE.⁴⁷ This, however, is not an obstacle, since the analysis of the Mycenaean vocabulary related to chariots and wheels has demonstrated that various technical terms of this sector completely disappeared after the collapse of the palaces.⁴⁸

It must be recognized that this solution leaves a number of details without a clear explanation, e.g., the shape of the logogram *253 (open at the bottom), the registration of a single separated *wo-ra* on Sp 4452, and, in general, the low number of *wo-ra*'s recorded in the tablets.⁴⁹ Nevertheless, it seems at least worthy of consideration alongside the other interpretations advanced so far.

a base made of bronze or some other material (cf. also the "decorated" terret on the Corinthian crater in Vandenebeele and Olivier 1979:fig. 89a–b).

⁴⁵ Unfortunately, the artistic representations do not allow us to determine with certainty how many terrets were used on chariots: see the discussion in Vandenebeele and Olivier 1979:136, and Crouwel 1981:108–109.

⁴⁶ For /*wolā*/ and /*wōlā*/ there are no clear Greek parallels; for /*wōrā*/, cf. ὄρα 'care, concern'; for /*worā*/ one can perhaps cite φρουρά 'watch, guard', if φρουρά is from **pro-horā* < **pro-worā* (see discussion in DELG and EDG s.vv. ὄραω, φρουρά, φρουρός). The -*ā* formations in the *ō*-grade would present a development from abstract to concrete meaning, similar to that shown by κάπη 'manger', κόπη 'handle', λώπη 'cloak', μύλη 'mill', etc.

⁴⁷ In the Homeric poems, the terrets of Priam's ἄμαξα seem to be designated by the word οἷηκες (*Il.* 24.269). Formally, οἷηκες is the plural of οἶαξ, οἶηξ 'chariot pole'. The interpretation 'terrets' is suggested by the *scholia vetera* (οἶηκεσσιν: κρίκοις, δι' ὧν ἐνειρόμεναι αἱ ἡνία). The modern interpreters, however, have suggested other possible meanings ('end of the yoke' and 'hooks for attaching the yoke to the horses' necks'): cf. Wiesner 1968:7, 18. Other terms for 'terrets' attested in the Greek alphabetic sources are: κρίκος, δακτύλιος, and θαιροδύτης.

⁴⁸ Cf. Bernabé *et al.* 1990–1991:168–172, and Bernabé *et al.* 1992–1993:154–156.

⁴⁹ The open shape of *253 (if it is not accidental) might reflect a construction detail aimed at facilitating the insertion of the reins into the ring. As regards the low number of *wo-ra*'s recorded, as has been suggested by Plath (1994:56), it could be due to the fact that *wo-ra*'s were generally made of less precious materials (cf. the Egyptian terrets, which, as reported by Crouwel 1981:108, were of leather). The hypothesis formulated by Bernabé *et al.* (1992–1993:160 and n140), according to which *wo-ra*'s were rare objects made with precious materials, seems less likely.

Abbreviations

- DELG = Chantraine, P. 1968–1980. *Dictionnaire étymologique de la langue grecque: Histoire des mots*. Paris.
- KT 5 = Killen, J. T., and J.-P. Olivier. 1989. *The Knossos Tablets*. 5th ed. Salamanca.

Bibliography

- Baumbach, L. 1971. “The Mycenaean Greek Vocabulary II.” *Glotta* 49:151–190.
- Bennett, E. L., Jr., J. M. Driessen, L. Godart, J. T. Killen, C. Kopaka, J. L. Melena, J.-P. Olivier, and M. Perna. 1989. “436 raccords et quasi-raccords de fragments inédits dans KT 5.” *Minos* 24:199–242.
- Bernabé, A. 1996. “Estructura del léxico micénico sobre el carro y sus partes.” In *Atti e Memorie del Secondo Congresso Internazionale di Micenologia, Roma-Napoli, 14-20 ottobre 1991*, ed. E. De Miro, L. Godart, and A. Sacconi, 195–207. Rome.
- Bernabé, A., J. L. Alonso, L. M. Benito, R. Cantarero, A. Leal, M. L. Marín, S. Moncó, P. Pérez, and P. Rodríguez. 1992–1993. “Estudios sobre el vocabulario micénico 2: Términos referidos a los carros.” *Minos* 27–28:125–166.
- Bernabé, A., D. Hitos, J. I. Juanes, E. R. Luján, J. A. Negrete, J. G. Rubio, and T. Souto. 1990–1991. “Estudios sobre el vocabulario micénico 1: Términos referidos a las ruedas.” *Minos* 25–26:133–173.
- Bernabé, A., and E. R. Lujan. 2008. “Mycenaean Technology.” In *A Companion to Linear B: Mycenaean Greek Texts and Their World*, vol. 1, ed. Y. Duhoux and A. Morpurgo Davies, 201–233. Bibliothèque des Cahiers de Linguistique de Louvain 120. Louvain-la-Neuve.
- Chadwick, J. 1976. *The Mycenaean World*. Cambridge.
- Chadwick, J., and L. Baumbach. 1963. “The Mycenaean Greek Vocabulary.” *Glotta* 41:157–271.
- Crouwel, J. H. 1981. *Chariots and Other Means of Land Transport in Bronze Age Greece*. Amsterdam.
- Doria, M. 1972. *Carri e ruote negli inventari di Pilo e di Cnosso*. Trieste.
- Duhoux, Y. 1975. “L’ordre des mots en mycénien.” *Minos* 14:123–163.
- Firth, R. J., and J. L. Melena. 1998–1999. “Identifying the Linear B Tablets from the Arsenal and Little Palace at Knossos.” In *A-NA-QO-TA. Studies Presented to J. T. Killen*, ed. J. Bennet and J. Driessen, 107–134. Salamanca.
- Gallavotti, C. 1961. “Note sul lessico miceneo.” *Rivista di filologia e di istruzione classica* 39:160–179.

- Georgiev, V. 1956. “La κοινή créto-mycénienne.” In *Études mycéniennes. Actes du colloque international de Gif-sur-Yvette, 3-7 avril 1956*, ed. M. Lejeune, 173–188. Paris.
- . 1979. “L’origine des désinences du nominatif-accusatif-vocatif d’après les données mycéniennes.” In *Colloquium Mycenaicum. Actes du sixième colloque international sur les textes mycéniens et égéens tenu à Chaumont sur Neuchâtel du 7 au 13 septembre 1975*, ed. E. Risch, and H. Mühlestein, 341–346. Neuchâtel.
- Grodecka Lewis, A. S. 2015. “Iron Age and Roman-Era Vehicle Terrets from Western and Central Britain: An Interpretive Study.” PhD diss., University of Leicester.
- Ilievski, P. H., and L. Crepajac, eds. 1987. *Tractata Mycenaea. Proceedings of the Eighth International Colloquium on Mycenaean Studies, Held in Ohrid, 15-20 September 1985*. Skopje.
- Karageorghis, V. 1969. *Salamis in Cyprus: Homeric, Hellenistic, and Roman*. London.
- Killen, J. T., and J.-P. Olivier. 1968. “155 raccords de fragments dans les tablettes de Cnossos.” *Bulletin de Correspondance Hellénique* 92:115–141.
- Lejeune, M. 1958. “Études de philologie mycénienne. III: Les adjectifs mycéniens à suffixe -φευτ-.” *Revue des Études Anciennes* 60:5–26.
- . 1968a. “Chars et roues à Cnossos: structure d’un inventaire.” *Minos* 9: 9–61.
- . 1968b. “Le duel des thèmes en -α.” *Revue de philologie, de littérature et d’histoire anciennes* 42:234–239.
- Lorimer, H. L. 1950. *Homer and the Monuments*. London.
- Macedo, J. M. 2018. “Mycenaean wo-ra-we-sa.” *Kadmos* 57:45–54.
- Melena, J. L. 1972. “On the Knossos Mc Tablets.” *Minos* 13:29–54.
- . 1987. “On Untransliterated Syllabograms *56 and *22.” In Ilievski and Crepajac 1987:203–232.
- Milani, C. 1969. “Note di filologia micenea.” *Rendiconti dell’Istituto Lombardo. Accademia di Scienze e Lettere* 103:634–648.
- Muscarella, O. W. 1988. *Bronze and Iron: Ancient Near Eastern Artifacts in the Metropolitan Museum of Art*. New York.
- Palaima, T. G. 2004. “Feasting in the Linear B Documents.” In *The Mycenaean Feast*, ed. J. C. Wright, 97–127. Princeton.
- Palmer, L. R. 1957. “A Mycenaean Tomb Inventory.” *Minos* 5:58–92.
- . 1963. *The Interpretation of Mycenaean Greek Texts*. Oxford.
- Perpillou, J.-L. 1987. “ἐν, ἐνς, ἐξ en mycénien?” In Ilievski and Crepajac 1987: 267–279.
- Petruševski, M. D. 1979. “[Wo]-ra, wo-ra-e, wo-ra-we-sa.” *Živa Antika* 29:225–226.

- Piquero, J. 2015a. "Incrustaciones con vidrios de colores en Pilo. Análisis lingüístico y arqueológico de micénico *pa-ra-ku-we*." In *Orientalística en tiempos de crisis. Actas del VI Congreso Nacional del Centro de Estudios del Próximo Oriente, Madrid 12-13 de diciembre de 2013*, ed. A. Bernabé and J. A. Álvarez-Pedrosa, 285–296. Saragossa.
- . 2015b. "Micénico *pa-ra-ku-we* y telas *pa-ra-ku-ja*: Una nueva etimología en el contexto del Oriente Próximo." *Aula Orientalis* 33:115–126.
- . 2019. *El léxico del Griego micénico. Index Graecitatis*. Nancy.
- Plath, R. 1994. *Der Streitwagen und seine Teile im frühen Griechischen: Sprachliche Untersuchungen zu den mykenischen Texten und zum homerischen Epos*. Nuremberg.
- Risch, E. 1976. "Die Stoffadjektive auf *-ejos* im Mykenischen." In *Studies in Greek, Italic, and Indo-European Linguistics. Offered to Leonard R. Palmer on the Occasion of His Seventieth Birthday*, ed. A. Morpurgo Davies and W. Meid, 309–318. Innsbruck.
- Ruijgh, C. J. 1961. "Le traitement des sonantes voyelles dans les dialectes grecs et la position du mycénien." *Mnemosyne* 14:193–216.
- . 1967. *Études sur la grammaire et le vocabulaire du grec mycénien*. Amsterdam.
- Sharypkin, S. 2009. "Mycenaean Dual Reconsidered." *DO-SO-MO. Fascicula Mycenologica Polona* 8:69–76.
- Tegyey, I. 1987. "Scribes and Archives at Knossos and Pylos: A Comparison." In *Ilievski and Crepajac 1987*:357–366.
- Vandenabeele, F., and J.-P. Olivier. 1979. *Les idéogrammes archéologiques du linéaire B*. Paris.
- Ventris, M. G. F. 1955. "Mycenaean Furniture on the Pylos Tablets." *Eranos* 53: 109–124.
- Wiesner, J. 1968. *Fahren und Reiten*. Vol. I, Chap. F of *Archaeologia Homerica*. Göttingen.
- Witczak, K. T. 2000. "Mykeńska nazwa żelaza (**pa-ra-ku*) i jej indoeuropejska geneza." *DO-SO-MO. Fascicula Mycenologica Polona* 1:53–61.
- . 2009. "A Wandering Word for 'Hardened Iron, Steel': A Study in the History of Concepts and Words." *Studia Etymologica Cracoviensia* 14:291–302.

Personal Comments on José Luis Melena from the Contributors

Francisco Aura Jorro

PROFESSOR EMERITUS, DEPARTAMENTO DE PREHISTORIA, ARQUEOLOGÍA, HISTORIA
ANTIGUA, FILOLOGÍA GRIEGA Y FILOLOGÍA LATINA UNIVERSIDAD DE ALICANTE

Es difícil condensar en pocas palabras la peripecia afortunada de una amistad cimentada sobre una relación profesional. Solo diré que me considero muy afortunado de tener como amigo a José Luis Melena («Jose», para mí), un maestro del que he aprendido y disfrutado, incluso abusado, de una generosidad sin límites. Siempre lo he encontrado dispuesto a resolver cualquier duda o ignorancia y a remediar mis carencias, poniendo a mi disposición y sin límites el enorme bagaje de su saber y el no menor de su trabajo, así como el mejor de los consejos. De ahí la verdad de la dedicatoria de mi contribución en su más que merecido homenaje. Gracias por todo, Jose, y, por encima de todo, por tu amistad.

It is hard to distill into a few words the fortunate turns of events of a friendship founded upon a professional relationship. I will only say that I consider myself very fortunate to have as a friend José Luis Melena ('Jose', for me), a mentor from whom I have learned and whose limitless generosity I have enjoyed and even taken advantage of. I have always found him willing to solve any doubt or ignorance on my part and to remedy my shortcomings, as he puts at my disposal, again without any limits, the enormous storehouse of his learning and not least of his scholarly work, as well as the best of his advice. On such reasons is based the truth of the dedication of my contribution to this volume in more than deserved tribute to him. Thank you for everything, Jose, and, above all, for your friendship.

Comments from the Contributors

Alberto Bernabé

PROFESSOR EMERITUS, DEPT. OF CLASSICAL PHILOLOGY UNIVERSIDAD COMPLUTENSE MADRID

José Luis Melena and I were born on the same day of the same year. We come from different ‘schools’, he from Martín Ruipérez’s (Universidad de Salamanca and Universidad Complutense Madrid) and I from Francisco R. Adrados’s (Universidad Complutense Madrid). This has not prevented us from having cordial relations; and he has always been a point of reference for me, especially in his capacity as editor of texts and in his long dedication, almost exclusively, to Mycenology. It is impossible to work in this field without coming across José Luis’s—always pertinent—contributions. I hope that we can continue to enjoy new and excellent contributions from him for a long time to come.

Maurizio Del Freo

DIRECTOR OF RESEARCH, CONSIGLIO NAZIONALE DELLE RICERCHE (CNR), ISTITUTO DI SCIENZE DEL PATRIMONIO CULTURALE (ISPC)

For me, as for many others, José has always been a model of method and a source of inspiration. He was so during my university years, when I did not yet know him personally, and he still is. The exchanges of views I have had with him over the years on many different subjects have enabled me to appreciate not only his scientific value, but also his human qualities, above all his generosity and openness to dialogue. Personally, I owe a lot to José, from the offer to collaborate with *Minos* to the concrete support for many of my projects. But above all, I am grateful to him for having always cultivated our relationship in the name of frankness and authenticity. My wish is that his exceptional work as a philologist and epigraphist can continue for a long time and that all his projects can be realized soon and in the best possible way.

Yves Duhoux

PROFESSEUR ÉMÉRITE FACULTY OF PHILOSOPHY, ARTS AND LETTERS UNIVERSITÉ CATHOLIQUE DE LOUVAIN (LOUVAIN-LA-NEUVE)

José, my friend José, has been and still is an example, and an unsurpassable one. Of course, I try to come nearer and nearer his formidable achievements. I fail. And I try again. And I fail once more. But what a pleasure to measure myself against such an outstanding colleague! Muchísimas gracias, querido José.

Richard Firth

WOLFSON COLLEGE, UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD, UK

The influence of José Melena on me and my work is too great for me to describe in brief.

But I will try. José has been my close friend and mentor for over twenty years. He has opened up a wide range of interests for me. These include not only the Mycenaean period and the wider aspects of the Linear B texts but also the more recent history surrounding Knossos during the years of its excavation, through a fascinating investigation of the diaries of Christian Doll. José has encouraged me to strive to higher goals and has given me space to develop my own ideas. In recent times, I was pleased to have collaborated with José on his publication of the transliterations of the Linear B tablets from Knossos and Pylos. These were the culmination of many years of his work and I am particularly grateful to José for giving me the opportunity to work on these projects.

Michael Lane

ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF ANCIENT STUDIES UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND BALTIMORE COUNTY

When I was a young student, before personal acquaintance with Professor Melena, the breadth of his scholarship astonished me. His meticulous close readings of the Linear B corpus also encouraged me, unperturbed, apparently, by social theoretical trends and fashions. When afterwards I made his acquaintance, his generosity in both material and spirit both impressed and humbled me. He answered my entreaties and commented on my work, while reciprocating with his own drafts, soliciting my commentary. He never seemed concerned to hold center stage or relegate me to a supporting role. He appeared instead dedicated to reproducing the next generation of scholars. For good or ill, he convinced me to pursue Linear B further. This *Festschrift* is a rare and happy occasion to celebrate the legacy of the scholar and the person of José Luis Melena Jiménez.

José Luis García Ramón

DOCENTE A CONTRATO "FILOLOGIA MICENEA" DIPARTIMENTO DI FILOLOGIA CLASSICA, PAPIROLOGIA E LINGUISTICA STORICA UNIVERSITÀ CATTOLICA DEL SACRO CUORE, MILANO

Con José Luis Melena he compartido reflexiones e ideas prácticamente a diario en la Universidad Complutense (1971–1977), cuando trabajábamos con nuestro maestro Martín S. Ruipérez. Los intercambios, ya centrados exclusivamente en

Comments from the Contributors

la micenología, han continuado, por desgracia desde la distancia, a partir del Coloquio de Atenas (1990). Mis trabajos se han beneficiado siempre en gran medida de las observaciones y críticas de José Luis y, en particular, de su ayuda en cuestiones de tipo epigráfico o de interpretación de los textos, así como de sus ediciones de las tablillas, que ha compartido conmigo a medida que su trabajo progresaba, y de sus informaciones sobre novedades epigráficas.

With José Luis Melena I have shared reflections and ideas practically daily at the Complutense University (1971–1977), when we were working with our teacher Martín S. Ruipérez. The exchanges, already focused exclusively on Mycenology, have continued, unfortunately from a distance, since the Colloquium in Athens (1990). My scholarly works have always benefited to a great extent from the observations and criticisms of José Luis and, in particular, from his help in matters of an epigraphic nature or in interpretation of the texts. My scholarship has benefitted as well as from his editions of the tablets, which he has shared with me. as his work progressed, as well as his sharing of information on new developments in epigraphy.

Eugenio R. Luján

PROFESSOR OF INDO-EUROPEAN LINGUISTICS, DEPT OF CLASSICS, SCHOOL OF LANGUAGES AND LITERATURES UNIVERSIDAD COMPLUTENSE DE MADRID

Juan Piquero

ASSISTANT PROFESSOR DEPT OF CLASSICS, SCHOOL OF LANGUAGES AND LITERATURES, UNED (UNIVERSIDAD NACIONAL DE EDUCACIÓN A DISTANCIA) MADRID

Professor José L. Melena's work has been for us a standing source of inspiration and a model of fine scholarship in the domain of Mycenaean and Aegean studies. We have been able to appreciate his profound knowledge of the intricacies of the Linear B script, his insights into the interpretation of the Mycenaean tablets, and his philological accuracy especially when working on Mycenaean lexicography and systematically checking readings of the tablets. We are indebted to him for his excellent editions of the Mycenaean texts, which are the foundation for undertaking an appropriate work on other areas of Mycenaean studies—no progress can be made unless the textual basis is solid. And because of José, it is.

Marie-Louise Nosch

PROFESSOR, CENTRE FOR TEXTILE RESEARCH & SAXO INSTITUTE UNIVERSITY OF COPENHAGEN

When I wrote my Ph.D. dissertation in the 1990s on Mycenaean textiles, José Melena's 1975 monograph *Studies on Some Mycenaean Inscriptions from Knossos dealing with Textiles* became my dearest reading and source of inspiration, together with the works by John T. Killen. Each chapter in Melena's book closely studies a set or a series of Linear B tablets and offers new and original interpretation of them. Later during my postdoc, I corresponded with José about plant dyes, especially about CROCus, saffron. I wanted to know: Was it a spice or a plant dye, or both? What technical knowledge of temperatures and mordants was available for dyeing textiles with plants in the second millennium BCE? I still recall José's kind and true comment: *Well, chemistry starts in the kitchen.*

Thomas G. Palaima

ROBERT M. ARMSTRONG CENTENNIAL PROFESSOR OF CLASSICS AND DIRECTOR, PROGRAM IN AEGEAN SCRIPTS AND PREHISTORY, THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN

I am in the same lucky position as José of having met many of the luminaries of the first generation of Linear B scholars who assembled at Gif-sur-Yvette in April 1956 and formally launched the discipline of Mycenaean studies. There are many Mycenaean ghosts whom I revere and try to keep with me. But three spirits have guided me and still keep me moving forward and always trying to do better in my own scholarly work the next time. They are Alice Elizabeth Kober, Emmett L. Bennett, Jr. and José Luis Melena. In my judgment, José is the greatest Mycenaean scholar of the last sixty-five years. He is a master across the board as a reader and editor of texts, as a pioneer in the art and practice of making joins and mastering palaeography, as long-time editor of *Minos*, during which I was fortunate to be assistant editor and see firsthand his unique form of kindly and encouragingly conveyed exacting criticism, as a true genius in imagining what texts mean and exploring historical parallels, as a linguist, and even as an artist in two and three dimensions. He is quite simply the Leonardo da Vinci of Mycenaean studies. He is also thoroughly and humanly moral and ethical. I share with all other contributors our feeling that we are lucky to have as a colleague and friend and model for our aspirations, José L. Melena.

Oswald Panagl

PROFESSOR EMERITUS, DEPARTMENT OF LINGUISTICS, UNIVERSITY OF SALZBURG

As the representative of Austria in the CIPEM since the eighties, I met José Luis at all relevant colloquia beginning with Nürnberg 1981. In September 1985, when — for personal reasons — I arrived in Skopje one day late, he took me from the airport and during our drive to Ohrid, the venue of the symposium, we had a nice discussion and a lot of fun together. Furthermore, I remember his fine paper at the Salzburg conference (1995) on the Knossos fragments found in 1984. For my own research on problems of Mycenaean morphology and etymology, José Luis has always proved to be a reliable guide for intricate questions in the field of epigraphy. Thanks for your help, Don José!

Massimo Perna

Sono molto lieto e onorato di partecipare a questo *Festschrift* per José L. Melena. Per i miei studi sulla fiscalità micenea, finalizzati alla tesi di dottorato e alla realizzazione di una monografia sullo stesso tema, di grande aiuto e ispirazione sono stati alcuni suoi lavori. Innanzitutto il mio interesse sulla serie Mc di Cnosso è nato proprio grazie agli articoli che riguardavano i prodotti registrati in questa serie e uno dei primissimi articoli che ho letto è stato proprio “On the Knossos Mc Tablets” di Melena, apparso in *Minos* nel 1972, seguito da quello sull’ideogramma *142 negli *Studies Bennett* del 1988, senza contare le sue analisi sul termine *o-pa*, sulla *ta-ra-si-ja* e sui tessili.

E’ stato per me, inoltre, un grande onore firmare i miei due primi articoli nel 1988 (*BCH*) e 1989 (*Minos*) su alcuni joints fatti sulle tavolette in lineare B di Cnosso insieme a Melena e gli altri membri del leggendario team che hanno portato alla pubblicazione dei 3000 frammenti di tavolette in lineare B rinvenuti nelle riserve del museo di Herakleion.

I am very pleased and honored to participate in this *Festschrift* for José L. Melena. For my studies on Mycenaean fiscality, aimed at the doctoral thesis and the eventual publication of a monograph on the same topic, some of his works were of great help and inspiration. First of all, my interest in the Mc series of Knossos was born thanks to the articles concerning the products registered in this series. One of the very first articles I read was “On the Knossos Mc Tablets” by Melena, which appeared in *Minos* in 1972, followed by that on the ideogram *142 in *Studies Bennett* of 1988, without counting his analyses of the terms *o-pa* and *ta-ra-si-ja* and of textiles. It was also a great honor for me to sign my first two articles in 1988 (*BCH*) and 1989 (*Minos*) on joins made in the Linear B tablets of Knossos

together with Melena and the other members of the legendary team who eventually published the 3000 fragments of Linear B tablets that were found in the storage areas of the Herakleion museum.

Christina Skelton

ASSOCIATE IN HISTORICAL LINGUISTICS AND AEGEAN PREHISTORY, CENTER FOR HELLENIC STUDIES, HARVARD UNIVERSITY

I have always been deeply grateful to José for his painstaking work on tablet joins (really, what an eye!) and for shouldering so much of the burden of ensuring that the tablets are kept up-to-date in well-edited editions. I'm sure I speak for everyone in saying that all of our work would be far less secure without his diligent efforts. I've recently begun collaborating with a group of computer scientists, and José's generous act of sharing electronic copies of his text editions with us is what will make our future work possible. Thank you so much for everything, José.

Carlos Varias García

ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF GREEK PHILOLOGY, DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCES OF ANTIQUITY AND THE MIDDLE AGES, UNIVERSITAT AUTÒNOMA DE BARCELONA

When in October 1988 Rosa Santiago, whom I had asked to supervise my MA thesis on Mycenaean Greek, introduced me through a letter to José Luis Melena, then cultural attaché of the Spanish embassy in Athens, I did not imagine that the most momentous relationship in my academic life would begin. José Luis wrote me a handwritten letter proposing to me the subject and structure of this work: an in-depth study of the textile tablet KN Ln 1568. After I presented my MA thesis in October 1989, he accepted to supervise my PhD dissertation, proposing to me again its topic (letter of January 11, 1991): a full study of the Linear B inscriptions from Mycenae. I owe him my entire research career for more than thirty years now. Besides being my friend, he has been my best guide as a scholar. His recent publications on Mycenaean, the chapter "Mycenaean Writing" in the third volume of *A Companion to Linear B: Mycenaean Texts and Their World 3* (2014) edited by Yves Duhoux and Anna Morpurgo Davies and the transliterated editions of the Knossos and Pylos tablets, testify that he is a unique Mycenologist.

Comments from the Contributors

Jörg Weilhartner

CLASSICAL AND AEGEAN ARCHAEOLOGY, UNIVERSITY OF SALZBURG

José Luis Melena and I met only once, at my first Mycenological conference in Austin, TX, in May 2000. Ever since then we have stayed in contact, assisted each other with bibliographical references, and shared our thoughts on the interpretation of logograms. Among his many contributions to Linear B studies, I would like to highlight his comprehensive chapter on Mycenaean writing in the third volume of *A Companion to Linear B: Mycenaean Texts and Their World 3* (2014) edited by Yves Duhoux and Anna Morpurgo Davies. This work is not only an indispensable point of reference for me, but also an ongoing source of inspiration for my own work on logograms.



Carlos Varias, Rosa Santiago, José Fortes, Antonio López Eire, Francisco Aura Jorro, Thomas G. Palaima, José L. Melena, and Jean-Pierre Olivier. Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona, Sept. 1993. Photo © Carlos Varias García.



Carlos Varias García, José L. Melena, José Luis García Ramon, and Alex Leukart. Salzburg, May 1995. Photo © Carlos Varias García.



Emmett L. Bennett, Jr., Thomas G. Palaima, José L. Melena.
Austin, May 2000. Photo © Thomas G. Palaima.



José L. Melena, John Bennet, Jean-Pierre Olivier, Thomas G. Palaima, Carlos Varias.
Austin, May 2000. Photo © Thomas G. Palaima.



Jan Driessen, José L. Melena, John Bennet, Jean-Pierre Olivier, Carlos Varias.
Austin, May 2000. Photo © Thomas G. Palaima.



Marie-Louise Nosch, Stefan Hiller, Oswald Panagl.
Austin, May 2000. Photo © Thomas G. Palaima.