

# Resolving Disputes in Second Century BCE Herakleopolis

*A Study in Jewish Legal Reasoning in Hellenistic Egypt*

By

Robert A. Kugler



BRILL

LEIDEN | BOSTON

# Contents

## Preface and Acknowledgements VII

### 1 Introduction 1

- 1.1 The Aim of the Study 1
- 1.2 The *πολίτευμα* Papyri as an Archive 3
- 1.3 The Contents of the Archive 5
- 1.4 The Date and Provenance of the Archive 12
- 1.5 The People of the Archive 14
- 1.6 The Jewish *πολίτευμα* in Herakleopolis as the Context for the Petitions 18
- 1.7 “Hellenized” Legal Reasoning in the Petitions? 26

### 2 Reading Petitions, Recovering Legal Reasoning 31

- 2.1 The Dynamics of Making a Petition 31
- 2.2 *P.Tebt.* 3.1.800 (*CPJ* 1.133): Sabbataios Seeks the Detention of Joanna 35
- 2.3 *P.Enteux.* 23 (*CPJ* 1.128): Helladote Complains That She Is Deprived of Her Property 48
- 2.4 A Framework for Analyzing the *πολίτευμα* Petitions 61

### 3 Delicts against the Person 63

- 3.1 *P.Polit.Iud.* 1: Andronikos Seeks to Restore His Honor 63
- 3.2 *P.Polit.Iud.* 2: Petaus Seeks Release from Prison 83
- 3.3 *P.Polit.Iud.* 6: Theodotos Seeks Justice for the Death of a *παῖδιον* 96
- 3.4 Summary 108

### 4 On Marriage and Family 111

- 4.1 *P.Polit.Iud.* 3: Protomachos Complains about a Failed Promise of Land Related to a Dowry 111
- 4.2 *P.Polit.Iud.* 4: Philotas Complains about a Betrothal Violated 133
- 4.3 *P.Polit.Iud.* 5: Polyktor Alienates a Dowry-Related Gift of a House from Its Seller 149
- 4.4 *P.Polit.Iud.* 7: Dorotheos Seeks the Return of His Niece to His Care 158
- 4.5 Summary 177

<b>5</b>	<b>On Loans, Leases, Sales, and Labor Agreements</b>	<b>179</b>
5.1	<i>P.Polit.Iud.</i> 8: Theodotos Seeks Repayment of a Loan	179
5.2	<i>P.Polit.Iud.</i> 9: Berenike Seeks Satisfaction for the Sale of a Slave and Wet Nurse Contract	204
5.3	<i>P.Polit.Iud.</i> 10: Ptolemaia Appeals to Obtain a Work Product from Tetous	222
5.4	<i>P.Polit.Iud.</i> 11: Ptolemaios Seeks to Recover the Cost of a Shipment of Wine from Arsame	228
5.5	<i>P.Polit.Iud.</i> 12: Nikanor Seeks Payment for a Land Lease	231
5.6	Pap.Graec.Mon. 287 + 293: Straton Petitions to Complete His Tenancy of Farmland	241
5.7	Summary	250
<b>6</b>	<b>Concluding Reflections</b>	<b>252</b>
	<b>Bibliography</b>	<b>257</b>
	<b>Index of Ancient Sources</b>	<b>268</b>