NEW LIGHT ON ANTIphon

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Ancient philosophy is not static. New texts are discovered every year—manuscripts, inscriptions, papyri—which add steadily to our knowledge. Some of the additions are spectacular (the Herculaneum papyri, the Arabic translation of Galen's *On Medical Experience*, the inscription at Oenoanda). Most are humble. Even the humblest may have an interest.

There is little enough to POxy 3647—in all it contains fewer than 200 letters. The text comes from Antiphon's *peri' Alitheias*; for the fragment joins physically with POxy 1364, first published in 1915 and familiar to scholars as Antiphon, B7 B 44 Diels-Kranz. The new fragment is edited by Maria Serena Funghi, in *The Oxyrhynchus Papyri* vol 51, ed. Helen M. Cockle (London, 1984), pp.1-5; it has been discussed by Fernanda Decleva Caizzi, 'Il Nouvo Papiro di Antifonte', in F. Adorno et al, *Protagora, Antifonte, Posidonio, Aristotele, Studi dell' Accademia Toscana di scienze e lettere "La Colombaria",* vol LXXXIII (Florence, 1986). There will be a new edition of all the Antiphon papyri, by Decleva Caizzi and Guido Bastianini, in the first volume of the *Corpus dei papiri filosofici greci e latini* which is being prepared under the aegis of the Tuscan Academy. (English translations of the current text of POxy 1364 may be found in Jonathan Barnes, *The Presocratic Philosophers* (London, 1982), pp.509-513, or in Trevor J. Saunders, 'Antiphon the Sophist on Natural Laws (B 44 DK)', *Proceedings of the Aristotelian Society* 78, 1977/8, 215-236.)

POxy 1364 consists of two fragments, the first containing seven and the second two columns of text. At the top of column ii of 1364B (= B 44.B DK) only the left ends of the lines survive. POxy 3647 joins 1364B at this point and contains parts of the missing right-hand ends of the lines. The new papyrus also contains the first ten or so lines of the next column of text (i.e. of what would be column iii of 1364B); and it preserves a few fragments of the left-hand edge of the top of the following column.

What new information about Antiphon's work can we
glean from these scraps?

(1) The new material in column iii adds a dozen words to the Antiphontic stock. But it continues the train of thought started in ii 15, itemizing further ways in which nature is the same in all men, Greeks and foreigners alike. There is nothing startling here. The remains of column iv are too meagre to allow any interesting restoration.

(2) The physical condition of the new fragment suggests that it 'stood near the outside of the roll'. Moreover, the evidence of the kolleseis indicates that it stood immediately before P0xy 1364A, i.e. that col i of 1364A was the next column after col iv of 1364B + 3647 (see Funghi, p.1). In that case, the traditional order of the two fragments in 1364 should be reversed - and this may well have some effect on our understanding of the course of Antiphon's argument. (The traditional order, canonized by Diels-Kranz, goes back to the editio princeps of B.P. Grenfell and A.S. Hunt, The Oxyrhynchus Papyri, vol 11 (London, 1915), who, however, observe that 'the position of Fr. 2 [= 1364B] relatively to Fr. 1 [= 1364A] is unknown' (p.93).)

(3) The beginning of 1364B column ii is printed as follows by Diels-Kranz:

1 ῥων ἐπαιδοῦ
2 μεθά τε καὶ σεβόμεθα
3 τοῦς δὲ ἐκ μὴ κα
4 λοῦ ὦκιου ὄντας
5 οὕτε ἐπαιδούμε
6 θὰ οὕτε σεβόμεθα.
7 ἐν τούτω [δὲ

(Restorations after Grenfell-Hunt and Wilamowitz.) The new papyrus adds just twelve letters to our evidence:

1
2
3
4 Ἰτων