# PHOENICIAN ANIMAL NAMES

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*Abstract:* The aim of this paper is to provide a repertoire of the currently identifiable zoonyms in the Phoenician language. The available data are collected, presented, and analysed. Several animal names are directly mentioned in Phoenician inscriptions, but they also are attested as constituting elements of personal names, names of plant and names of place. Some texts by classical authors are also discussed.

Keywords: Zoonyms; Phoenician Language; Phoenician Vocabulary; Names of Animal.

#### 1. INTRODUCTION

The aim of this paper is to provide a repertoire of the currently identifiable zoonyms in the Phoenician language. To this aim, the available data, derived from a variety of sources, of different natures, in different scripts (Phoenician, Greek, Latin) and with varying degrees of reliability, are collected, presented, and analysed. The scarcity of contextual data and the transformation undergone by words that were adapted to Greek or Latin script make proposals for the identification of zoonyms highly hypothetical in many cases. In this context, it has been decided, for the sake of completeness, to report and discuss, where necessary, all relevant proposals made in this regard, even when they are highly uncertain or appear implausible.<sup>1</sup> The dispersion of data and studies relating to a Phoenician semantic area makes this kind of repertoire very useful.

The first documentary source here examined consists of the Phoenician inscriptions, starting with the most informative textual category, the so-called sacrificial tariffs. The inscriptions also mention several personal names corresponding to zoonyms or employing them as components. They will be examined separately. Next toponyms and phytonyms will be presented, which are often known to us only through Greek and Latin sources. Finally, some texts by classical authors relevant to our theme are considered.

Since the intention here is not to present an etymological/comparative study of individual zoonyms in the proper sense, but rather a lexical repertoire, comparisons with other Semitic languages are as a rule deliberately limited to Hebrew (as the closest referent) and North-Western Semitic, except in those cases in which, in the absence of a direct comparison in the languages of this sphere, they are necessary.

The asterisk indicates terms not attested in Phoenician epigraphy. The symbol  $\sqrt{}$  has been adopted to indicate a Semitic root. In the summary table, an approximate indication of the degree of likelihood of the identification of a term as zoonym (in the first column) and of its proposed translation (in the second column) is given by the use of the symbols: (?), "doubtful", (??), "unlikely" and (???), "speculative". The indication regarding the translation of the term, in the second column of the table, is to be understood as referring to its plausibility (on a comparative basis) assuming that the term was indeed

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<sup>1</sup> In particular, this is often the case for the proposals of Tomback and Fuentes Estañol. Krahmalkov and Lipiński are also sometimes excessively bold.

to be considered a zoonym, thus irrespective of the probability of its actual attestation/existence in the Phoenician language.<sup>2</sup>

### 2. Phoenician Inscriptions

The name "sacrificial tariffs" refers to a group of inscriptions (*CIS* I, 165=*KAI* 69, the longest and best-preserved one,<sup>3</sup> and the fragmentary *CIS* I, 167=*KAI* 74, *CIS* I, 168, *CIS* I, 169, *CIS* I, 170, *CIS* I, 3915, *CIS* I, 3916=*KAI* 75, *CIS* I, 3917).<sup>4</sup> These inscriptions come from 4th-2nd century BCE Carthage: in fact, although *CIS* I, 165 was found in Marseille (therefore it was labelled the "tariff of Marseille"), it is very likely that it was originally displayed at Carthage, in the sanctuary of a deity who, from the traces that remain of his name, should be Baal Saphon. The purpose of this genre of inscriptions was to establish, for each offer envisaged and according to the kind of sacrifice to be celebrated, the fees for the priests and what pertained to the offerer. The scheme followed by *CIS* I, 165 was probably common to the whole group, and is of major help in identifying what kinds of animals are involved. In this inscription the animals which were envisaged as possible material for offering were listed according to their size, from the larger to the smaller ones, with birds as the last (but there might be a reference to game further on, in a section otherwise concerned with non-animal offerings). The text can be divided into sections, on the grounds of the rules of distribution applied. These rules vary according to the size of the animals with which they are concerned, therefore evidencing groups of two or three kind of animals to which the same rules apply. The first two zoonyms mentioned in *CIS* I, 165, '*lp* and '*gl*, indicate bovines.

# `gl

'gl means "calf",<sup>5</sup> like its Hebrew cognate 'egel<sup>6</sup> and Ugaritic 'gl.<sup>7</sup>

# `lp

'lp is commonly translated as "ox",<sup>8</sup> corresponding to Hebrew '*elep*<sup>9</sup> and Ugaritic *alp*.<sup>10</sup> A (yearly) sacrifice of a '*lp* is also mentioned in *KAI* 26 (A III 1), a celebrative inscription of Azatiwada (8th or early 7th century) found at Karatepe, in Cilicia.<sup>11</sup> That the word '*lp* could occasionally have a broader sense, indicating "any mature bovine, whether bull or cow",<sup>12</sup> is suggested by its use in another passage of the same inscription

<sup>2</sup> In view of the possibility of differences in nuance, in the course of the following discussion, translations offered by scholars in languages other than English are given in the original.

<sup>3</sup> Text and commentary in Guzzo Amadasi 1967, pp. 169-182.

<sup>4</sup> The most comprehensive and balanced presentation is Amadasi Guzzo 1988, pp. 108-118. Cfr. also Capuzzi 1968; Xella – Lipiński 1992; Xella in press. D'Andrea 2020 does not add anything substantial; furthermore, *CIS* I, 168 and *CIS* I, 169 are uncritically included among the tariffs (D'Andrea 2020, p. 151, note 4), but their belonging to this genre is far from certain and, in the case of *CIS* I, 168, unlikely.

<sup>5</sup> Hoftijzer – Jongeling 1995, p. 824; Tomback 1978, p. 238; Fuentes Estañol 1980, p. 194 ("ternero"); Amadasi Guzzo 1988, p. 113 ("vitello"); Krahmalkov 2000, p. 359.

<sup>6</sup> Köhler – Baumgartner – Stamm 1994, pp. 784-785; Clines 1993-2011, VI, pp. 248-249.

<sup>7</sup> Watson 2006, p. 447; del Olmo Lete – Sanmartín 2015, pp. 149-150. Further parallels in Militarev – Kogan 2005, pp. 43-46.

<sup>8</sup> E.g. Hoftijzer – Jongeling 1995, p. 64.

<sup>9</sup> Köhler – Baumgartner – Stamm 1994, p. 59; Clines 1993-2011, I, p. 299.

<sup>10</sup> Watson 2006, p. 447; del Olmo Lete – Sanmartín 2015, pp. 58-59. Further parallels in Militarev – Kogan 2005, pp. 6-7; cfr. Cohen – Bron – Lonnet 1970-2012, p. 21 ( $\sqrt{^{\prime}LP}$ ).

<sup>11</sup> It was found in triplicate (together with two copies in Anatolian hieroglyphic).

<sup>12</sup> Pardee 2003, n. 10 p. 306; cfr. Segert 1976, p. 283 "piece of cattle, ox". Cfr. Fronzaroli 1969, p. 304 (not specifically on Phoenician): «[i]l termine comune per indicare il bue o per meglio dire il singolo capo di bestiame grosso, sarà da riconoscersi piuttosto in 'ALP-». The claim that '*lp* in the tariff specifically indicates a "bull" (Van den Branden 1965, pp. 118-119: "taureau") is unsupported.

(*KAI* 26 A III 8-9; C IV 8-9), where '*lpm* is used in parallelism with *s*'*n*. Perhaps the value of '*lp* as "head of cattle" is to be supposed in a passage of another inscription, *KAI* 24<sup>13</sup> (ll. 11-12): *w my bl hz pn š šty b*'*l* '*dr wmy bl hz pn 'lp šty b*'*l bqr*, "him who had never seen the face of a *š* I made owner of a flock; him who had never seen the face of a '*lp* I made owner of a herd". Here '*lp* is paralleled by the word *š*. In this passage *š* and '*lp* might broadly indicate a head of, respectively, small livestock and cattle, rather than precisely "a sheep" and "an ox". In the Ivriz inscription<sup>14</sup> (line 7 of left edge, line 1 of the reverse, and probably also on the first line of the back) '*lp w s*'*n* in a fragmentary passage may be interpreted in three different ways: either a single bovine and more than one sheep were meant,<sup>15</sup> or *s*'*n* indicates here a single animal of the flock,<sup>16</sup> or '*lp* is used with a collective value, corresponding to '*lpm*.<sup>17</sup>

#### ş'n

s'n is a word indicating "small cattle", "sheep" as a collective name,<sup>18</sup> a value shared with its Hebrew cognate  $so'n^{19}$  and Ugaritic sin.<sup>20</sup> In all its occurrences (*KAI* 26 A III 8-9; C IV 8-9; Ivriz inscription, line 7 of left edge and probably line 1 of the reverse), s'n is paralleled or associated to lp(m). In the Ivriz inscription, as noted above, s'n might indicate a single animal of the flock.

#### š

A broad meaning of "small livestock beast" is that of the Hebrew cognate of  $\check{s}$ , namely  $\acute{seh}$ .<sup>21</sup> The word  $\check{s}$ , commonly translated as "sheep" (cfr. Ugaritic  $\check{s}$ , "ram, sheep"),<sup>22</sup> is attested elsewhere in Phoenician: again *KAI* 24 (at line 8); *KAI* 26 A II 19-III 2; C III 2-6,<sup>23</sup> and, according to the interpretation of Schmitz<sup>24</sup> also in *CIS* I, 86=*KAI* 37, a plaquette from Kition, on both sides of which a number of payments was listed, written in ink (the text, or the two non-contemporary texts, is dated between the end of the 5th and the beginning of the 4th century BCE).<sup>25</sup> The sheep should be mentioned in a difficult passage (face B, line 8) where shepherds (r<sup>c</sup>m) are also mentioned.

<sup>13</sup> KAI 24 is a 9th century celebrative inscription by Kilamuwa. It was found at Zincirli (ancient Sam'al), in eastern Turkey.

<sup>14</sup> Röllig 2013. Dating back to the 8th century BCE, the text is inscribed on a stele found at Ivriz in Cappadocia (Turkey), which also carries a Luwian inscription, to which the Phoenician text probably corresponded, at least in terms of content. The inscription was ordered by a son of the king of Tyana.

<sup>15</sup> But, if the phrase referred to victims of sacrifice(s), as suggested by Röllig (2013, p. 315), one would expect the number to be specified, as in *KAI* 26, C IV 4-6.

<sup>16</sup> Cfr. Ugaritic *sin*, meaning in ritual texts «specimen from the mixed herd of sheep and goats» (Pardee 2000, p. 328).

<sup>17</sup> Röllig (2013, pp. 314-315) translates 'lp w s'n as "Rind(er) und Kleinvieh".

<sup>18</sup> Hoftijzer – Jongeling 1995, p. 954; Tomback 1978, p. 275; Fuentes Estañol 1980, p. 215 ("ganado menor"); Krahmalkov 2000, p. 411.

<sup>19</sup> Köhler – Baumgartner – Stamm 1994, pp. 992-993; Clines 1993-2011, VII, pp. 59-63.

<sup>20</sup> Watson 2006, p. 448; del Olmo Lete – Sanmartín 2015, p. 764. Further parallels in Militarev – Kogan 2005, pp. 283-285.

<sup>21</sup> Köhler – Baumgartner – Stamm 1994, pp. 1310-1311; Clines 1993-2011, VIII, pp. 115-116.

<sup>22</sup> Watson 2006, p. 448; del Olmo Lete – Sanmartín 2015, p. 783. Further parallels in Militarev – Kogan 2005, pp. 280-282.

The suggestion of the occurrence of  $\delta$  (twice, once in the form  $*\delta$ ) on an inscribed bowl from Kition (Amadasi Guzzo – Karageorghis 1977, pp. 150-160; Yon 2004, n°1100; around 800 BCE), as well as of a word  $*kb\delta$ , comparable to Hebrew *kebes* and meaning "lamb", proposed in lines 2-3 by Dupont-Sommer (1972, pp. 287-289), does not correspond to more recent readings of the text (Amadasi Guzzo – Karageorghis 1977, p. 150; Yon 2004, p. 188): the  $\delta$  is joined to the previous letters, giving *mls* on both occasions, while the supposed *k* of *kbs* is read as *p*.

<sup>24</sup> Schmitz 2013, pp. 206-207.

<sup>25</sup> Yon 2004, n° 1078 pp. 184-185; Amadasi Guzzo 2004, pp. 209-211.

# 'yl

*CIS* I, 165 considers together 'gl and 'yl (also attested in *CIS* I, 3915.1'). The word 'yl<sup>26</sup> has been interpreted as "deer",<sup>27</sup> corresponding to Hebrew 'ayyāl<sup>28</sup> and Ugaritic ayl,<sup>29</sup> or as "ram",<sup>30</sup> corresponding to Hebrew 'ayil<sup>31</sup> and to Ugaritic allil.<sup>32</sup> The interpretation of 'yl as "deer" is supported by a philological consideration,<sup>33</sup> since to Hebrew 'ayil would better correspond a Phoenician writing 'l (without yod), rather than 'yl.<sup>34</sup> Furthermore, the position of 'yl in the frame of the text suggests that the size of a 'yl was more similar to that of a calf than to that of an adult ovine or caprine, which are mentioned in the following group. In support of the interpretation of 'yl as "ram" it was sometimes brought up the assumption that only domestic animals were suitable to be offered and should therefore be mentioned in the "tariffs". This, however, is not a safe assumption. At line 12 of the "tariff of Marseille" (as well as in *CIS* I, 167.9) the word sd,<sup>35</sup> among several possible interpretations (like "flour"<sup>36</sup> or "food"<sup>37</sup>), may mean "game" (cfr. Hebrew sayid).<sup>38</sup> We will see further on that offerings of wild birds were probably allowed.<sup>39</sup>

# ybl

The interpretation of the zoonym *ybl*, mentioned in *CIS* I, 165 (also occurring in *CIS* I, 3915.2'), after '*gl* and '*yl*, and together with '*z*, is dependent on that of '*yl*, since, if a translation as "ram" is accepted for the latter, the same meaning should not be assumed for *ybl*.<sup>40</sup> Therefore, those who translate '*yl* as "ram" are forced to consider *ybl* as some different kind of ovine.<sup>41</sup> But *ybl* corresponds to Hebrew  $yôb\bar{e}l^{82}$  and perhaps to Ugaritic *ybl*<sup>43</sup> therefore the interpretation as "ram"<sup>44</sup> is surely preferable and supports the value of "deer" for '*yl*.

- 30 Dussaud 1921, pp. 139-141; ("bélier"); Van den Branden 1965, p. 119 ("bélier", perhaps also "bouc"); Krahmalkov 2000, p. 47.
- 31 Köhler Baumgartner Stamm 1994, p. 40; Clines 1993-2011, I, pp. 210-211.
- 32 Watson 2006, p. 447; del Olmo Lete Sanmartín 2015, p. 46. Further parallels in Militarev Kogan 2005, pp. 34-37.

- 34 About the monophthongization in Phoenician cfr. Friedrich Röllig Amadasi Guzzo 1999, p. 44, §86a; Steiner 2007.
- 35 Cfr. Amadasi Guzzo 1988, pp. 114-115; Hoftijzer Jongeling 1995, p. 959.
- 36 Février 1958-1959, p. 41 ("farine").
- 37 Van den Branden 1965, p. 123.
- 38 Cfr. e.g. Harris 1936, p. 139; Fuentes Estañol 1980, p. 215; Krahmalkov 2000, pp. 411-412.

<sup>26</sup> Amadasi Guzzo 1988, pp. 113-114; Hoftijzer – Jongeling 1995, p. 45. Cohen – Bron – Lonnet 1970-2012, p. 17 (V'YL).

<sup>27</sup> Février 1958-1959, p. 41 ("cerf"); Capuzzi 1968, pp. 50-51; Tomback 1978, p. 14 ("stag"); Xella 1983, pp. 41-43; Pardee 2003, n. 24 p. 307.

<sup>28</sup> Köhler – Baumgartner – Stamm 1994, p. 40; Clines 1993-2011, I, p. 212.

<sup>29</sup> Watson 2006, p. 448; Watson 2007, p. 94; del Olmo Lete – Sanmartín 2015, p. 131. Further parallels in Militarev – Kogan 2005, pp. 37-40; cfr. Fronzaroli 1968, p. 283.

<sup>33</sup> Xella 1983, pp. 41-43.

<sup>39</sup> Xella (1983, p. 43) drew the scholarly attention to a passage of Porphyrius of Tyre (*Abst.* II 25) where deer appear together with ovine, caprine and birds as matter of offerings.

<sup>40</sup> Krahmalkov (2000, pp. 47 and 204) does not notice the inconsistency and translates both terms as "ram".

<sup>41 &</sup>quot;Castrated ram" («le bélier châtré, autrement dit le mouton», Dussaud 1921, pp. 139-140); Van den Branden 1965, pp. 119-120 ("mouton").

<sup>42</sup> Köhler – Baumgartner – Stamm 1994, p. 398; Clines 1993-2011, IV, p. 163.

<sup>43</sup> Watson 2007, p. 96; del Olmo Lete – Sanmartín 2015, p. 936. Further parallels in Militarev – Kogan 2005, pp. 314-316.

<sup>44</sup> Février 1958-1959, p. 41 ("bélier"); Tomback 1978, p. 123; Fuentes Estañol 1980, p. 127 ("morueco"); Amadasi Guzzo 1988,

p. 113 ("ariete"); Hoftijzer - Jongeling 1995, p. 433.

# `z

The zoonym 'z (cfr. CIS I, 167.4; CIS I, 3915.2') means "goat" or "she-goat",<sup>45</sup> compared to Hebrew ' $\bar{e}z^{46}$  and Ugaritic 'z.<sup>47</sup> While there is no evidence supporting the assumption that the tariff only mentions male mammals, and therefore that 'z here must indicate a he-goat,<sup>48</sup> it is possible, instead, that 'z, as perhaps 'lp and s', may on occasion indicate generically a goat, either male or female.

The three following zoonyms of *CIS* I, 165, namely '*mr*, *gd*', and *srb* '*yl*, most likely all indicated the babies of previously mentioned animals:

# 'mr

'*mr* (also in *CIS* I, 3915.3') corresponds to Ugaritic *imr*,<sup>49</sup> Old Aramaic '*mr* (*KAI* 222.23; *KAI* 309.20)<sup>50</sup> and means "lamb".<sup>51</sup> It also occurs in the phrase *mlk* '*mr*, attested in inscriptions from the tophet, which record the offering of a lamb in those sanctuaries.<sup>52</sup> The presence of this word is much more uncertain in *KAI* 27, a 7th century BCE magical text from Arslan Tash (ancient Hadattu, in Upper Syria), in which a negative entity is mentioned, whose name might mean "Strangler-of-the-Lamb".<sup>53</sup>

#### gď

gd' (also in CIS I, 3915.3'), corresponds to Hebrew  $g^e di^{54}$  and to Ugaritic gd(y),<sup>55</sup> and means "(goat-)kid".<sup>56</sup>

# srb'yl

*srb* ' $yl^{57}$  (also in *CIS* I, 167.5 and probably *CIS* I, 3915.3': *srb* [...]), granted for 'yl the meaning "deer", as the young of the latter should be translated as "fawn".<sup>58</sup> Those who prefer to translate 'yl as "ram" are forced to translate *srb* 'yl as "young ram".<sup>59</sup> It cannot be excluded, however, that *srb* 'yl does not actually indicate a young 'yl but rather a different species, possibly a small African goat, perhaps a wild one.<sup>60</sup>

The next section of *CIS* I, 145, on line 11, concerns bird-offerings. Here the phrase *b*s]*pr*'*gnn*'*m* ss *šlm kll*'*m š*s*p*'*m hzt*, rises several issues. Syntactically, it seems preferable to integrate *b*s*pr*'*gnn*'*m sb*, *ss*, <sup>61</sup> according to

<sup>45</sup> Hoftijzer – Jongeling 1995, p. 875; Tomback 1978, pp. 240-241; Fuentes Estañol 1980, p. 196 ("cabra"); Amadasi Guzzo 1988, p. 113 ("capra"); Krahmalkov 2000, p. 362. Cfr. St. Byz. I 77, claiming that Ἄζα meant "she-goat" (χίμαιρα).

<sup>46</sup> Köhler – Baumgartner – Stamm 1994, pp. 804-805; Clines 1993-2011, VI, p. 321.

<sup>47</sup> Watson 2006, p. 447; del Olmo Lete – Sanmartín 2015, p. 193. Further parallels in Militarev – Kogan 2005, pp. 53-56.

<sup>48</sup> Capuzzi 1968, p. 51. Cfr. Hoftijzer – Jongeling 1995, p. 875.

<sup>49</sup> Watson 2006, p. 447; del Olmo Lete – Sanmartín 2015, p. 70.

<sup>50</sup> Further parallels in Militarev – Kogan 2005, pp. 7-9.

<sup>51</sup> Hoftijzer – Jongeling 1995, p. 78; Tomback 1978, p. 24; Fuentes Estañol 1980, p. 68 ("cordero"); Amadasi Guzzo 1988, p. 113 ("agnello"). Further parallels in Militarev – Kogan 2005, pp. 7-9.

<sup>52</sup> Cfr. Amadasi Guzzo – Zamora López 2012-2013, especially p. 171.

<sup>53</sup> Militarev – Kogan 2005, p. 7.

<sup>54</sup> Köhler – Baumgartner – Stamm 1994, p. 178; Clines 1993-2011, II, p. 321.

<sup>55</sup> Watson 2006, p. 447; del Olmo Lete – Sanmartín 2015, p. 292.

Tomback 1978, p. 63 (s.v. \*gdy); Fuentes Estañol 1980, p. 96 ("cabrito"); Amadasi Guzzo 1988, p. 113 ("capretto"); Krahmalkov 2000, p. 136, s.v. gd III. Hoftijzer – Jongeling 1995, p. 213 prefer "goat". The word possibly occurs, used as an insult, also in verse 1017 of Plautus' *Poenulus*, as gade (Gray 1923, p. 82) or gad (Sznycer 1967, pp. 143-144). Further parallels in Militarev – Kogan 2005, pp. 113-115. Cfr. Cohen – Bron – Lonnet 1970-2012, pp. 100-101 ( $\sqrt{GDY}$ ).

<sup>57</sup> Amadasi Guzzo 1988, p. 114; Hoftijzer – Jongeling 1995, p. 975.

<sup>58</sup> Février 1958-1959, p. 41 ("faon"); Tomback 1978, pp. 280-281 ("young stag"); Pardee 2003, n. 27 p. 307.

<sup>59</sup> Krahmalkov 2000, p. 421. Van den Branden 1965, p. 120, "agneau de lait".

<sup>60</sup> Capuzzi 1968, p. 51 (probably «qualche tipo di capra africana più o meno selvatica»).

<sup>61</sup> Baker 1987, p. 190; Mosca 2001, p. 405.

both *CIS* I, 3915.5' (*bspr'gnn'm bss*) and *CIS* I, 167.7 ([] *bss*). The most probable interpretation considers *spr'gnn* and *ss* as indicating kinds or classes of birds, *šsp* and *hzt* as kind of sacrifice.

# spr, spr 'gnn, ss

The word *spr*, "bird", <sup>62</sup> corresponding to Hebrew *sippôr*<sup>63</sup> and Ugaritic *spr*, <sup>64</sup> appears here as part of *spr 'gnn*. <sup>65</sup> It also appears on line 15 (for *spr* on line 12 see below). <sup>66</sup> In the plural form *syprm* the word also occurs on a Neo-Punic (1st century AD?) ostracon (*IPT* 86.7, an economic account from Al-Qusbat, Lybia), <sup>67</sup> where *syprm 'rrm* has been interpreted as "birds of decoy", <sup>68</sup> rather than as a bird-species ("the '*rr*-bird"). <sup>69</sup> A problematic point in *CIS* I, 165 is the occurrence of *spr* on line 12, where a further reference to birds appears unexpected. Here the word *spr* may rather be a homograph of *spr* "bird". Some scholars aimed to explain *spr* in this section as no animal victim, but rather meaning "semolina"<sup>70</sup> or "perfume". <sup>71</sup> Other scholars, however, disagreing with the assumption that this section does not actually mention animal offerings, interpret *spr* as "bird"<sup>72</sup> and *sd* as "game". <sup>73</sup> Indeed, according to a completely opposed (and unconvincing) hypothesis, most of the offerings mentioned in this section are to be considered as animal-offerings. <sup>75</sup>

The most commonly accepted interpretation of *spr 'gnn* and *ss* considers them two broad classes complementing each other, together including all or most of the groups of birds: respectively "domestic" and

65 Against an interpretation of the phrase bspr'gnn'm ss as "in (the case of) a bird, (whether it be)", followed by the specification of the birds (Pardee 2003, p. 308), stands *CIS* I, 3915.5' (bspr'gnn'm bss), where spr appears to be a part of the zoonym spr'gnn. Therefore "in (the case of) a 'gnn-bird or a ss" is preferable.

66 Reshep *sprm (KAI 26* A II 10-12) may mean neither "of the birds" not "of the goats" (or "of the darts" or "of the claws", as proposed by Garbini 1992: "dei dardi", "degli artigli"), being rather a place-name (Lipiński 2009, pp. 228-229; Niehr 2021, p. 202).

67 Cfr. most recently Jongeling 2008, pp. 41-44.

68 Levi Della Vida 1964, p. 14 ("uccelli da richiamo"); Tomback 1978, pp. 33 and 280 ("calling birds"). Cfr. Hoftijzer – Jongeling 1995, pp. 114, s.v.  $rr_3$ ).

- 69 Krahmalkov 2000, p. 420.
- 70 Van den Branden 1965, p. 123.
- 71 Février 1955, pp. 50-52; Delcor 1983.

74 Krahmalkov 2000, p. 424, s.v. qdmt I.

<sup>62</sup> Further parallels in Militarev – Kogan 2005, pp. 275-277.

<sup>63</sup> Köhler – Baumgartner – Stamm 1994, p. 1047; Clines 1993-2011, VII, p. 148.

<sup>64</sup> Watson 2006, p. 449; del Olmo Lete – Sanmartín 2015, pp. 777-778. Hoftijzer – Jongeling 1995, p. 973; Tomback 1978, p. 280; Fuentes Estañol 1980, p. 217 ("pájaro"); Krahmalkov 2000, p. 420. The word most probably is recognizable in the toponym *bit supuri* (*\*bt spr*, "bird's house"), perhaps to be identified as Ornithopolis: *RE*, XVIII, 1, s.v. "Ορνίθων πόλις", col. 1129 (E. Honigmann); Lipiński 2004, p. 18.

<sup>72</sup> Cfr. e.g. Guzzo Amadasi 1967, p. 172. Pardee 2003, p. 308, translates "bird (offering)". A meaning as "male goat" has also been suggested (Cooke 1903, p. 120), by comparison with Hebrew sapir (Köhler – Baumgartner – Stamm 1994, p. 1048; Clines 1993-2011, VII, p. 149). Indeed, a mention of a caprine at this spot would hardly fit better in the structure of the text than a mention of a bird.

<sup>73</sup> CIS, p. 233: sacrificium venationis; Harris 1936, p. 139; Fuentes Estañol 1980, p. 215; Krahmalkov 2000, pp. 411-412.

Pardee 2003, p. 308: «[(In the case of) every (other)] bird (offering), (whether it be) holy first-born (birds), game-(bird) sacrifices, or (bird-)fat sacrifices». The hypothesis that spr at line 12 does not refer to an animal victim would seem to be supported by the fact that the definitely animal offerings are introduced by *b*- (for the birds in line 11 of *CIS* I, 165 *b*- is reconstructed, but is attested in *CIS* I, 3915.5' and *CIS* I, 167.7 [] *b*ss). Subsequent potentially bloodless offerings are or appear to be introduced by '*l*-, including the *spr* at line 12. At line 15, where cattle or bird sacrifices are mentioned, the preposition is again *b*-. However, one might assume that the difference lies not in the nature of the victim, but in the nature of the ritual offering. At line 12 *spr* may indicate any (other) bird, apart from *spr 'gnn* and *ss*, the only ones permitted for prescribed forms of sacrifice (*slm kll*, *ssp*, and *hzt*).

"wild" birds (already the editors of the *CIS* translated as *avis domestica vel silvestris*).<sup>76</sup> The identification of *spr* 'gnn as "domestic bird" is based on the meaning of the root  $\sqrt{\text{GNN}}$ , "cover, protect",<sup>77</sup> whence Hebrew gan, "garden",<sup>78</sup> Ugaritic gn,<sup>79</sup> and therefore a supposed Phoenician \*'gnn meaning "farmyard".<sup>80</sup> For *ss*, whose meaning is even more controversial,<sup>81</sup> by comparison to the uncertain Hebrew *sîs*,"wing"<sup>82</sup> a meaning as "a free-flying bird" <sup>83</sup> is mostly accepted.<sup>84</sup>

Indeed, the hypothesis that *spr* '*gnn* and (*spr*) *ss* were classes complementing each other, for instance if they together included both domestic *and* wild birds, doesn't quite convince me, since *spr* alone would then have sufficed. A different possibility is to consider both *spr* '*gnn* and *ss* as less general, not complementary types of birds.<sup>85</sup> The occurrence of *spr* at line 12 might then be interpreted as "a(ny other) bird", rather than as a homograph.<sup>86</sup> Therefore, since the tariff is organized by size of the victims, *spr* '*gnn* and *ss* might rather be some sort of large birds, suitable for *šsp* and *hzt* sacrifice.<sup>87</sup> Some scholars, instead, consider *šsp* and *hzt* as kinds of birds.<sup>88</sup> According to Paul Mosca, *šsp* and *hzt* would indicate two complementary classes of birds, according to the nature of their feet: *šsp* would mean "split(-footed)" as opposed to *hzt*, which instead would

- 81 Cfr. Hoftijzer Jongeling 1995, pp. 973-974.
- 82 Perhaps "wings", cfr. Clines 1993-2011, VII, p. 118.

83 Cfr. Harris 1936, p. 139 (ss "bird of wing"). Pardee 2003, p. 308. Rather far-fetched appears to me van den Branden's (1965, p. 121) reference to the root  $\sqrt{SYS}$ , whence Hebrew sis "flower, blossom" (Köhler – Baumgartner – Stamm 1994, p. 1023; Clines 1993-2011, VII, p. 118), resulting in a meaning of ss as a "bird of nature" ("de la nature"), i.e. a wild one.

Scholars do not agree about the species included within these categories. Pardee considers the "free-flying birds" not as "wild birds" but rather as pigeons and/or doves, while Mosca (2001, p. 411) assumes that the "free-flying birds" may in addition have included wild but edible birds, such as quails, partridge and geese. On the other hand, he concedes that wild birds fattened in captivity might also have been included in the *spr 'gnn* (Mosca 2001, p. 406).

Cfr. Krahmalkov 2000, pp. 420-421. However, Krahmalkov's proposal of interpreting *ss* as possibly indicating a "hawk" (by comparison with Aramaic *sişâ*), raises doubts. Hawks appear a rather uncommon offering material. Thus, although the possibility cannot be ruled out, one would rather expect other species to be mentioned in a list regulating the sacrificial practice of a sanctuary. Dussaud's (1921, p. 141) proposed translation of *spr 'gnn* and *ss* as, respectively, "cock" ("coq"), and "hen, chicken" ("poule, poulet"), is not adequately grounded.

<sup>86</sup> Pardee translates the beginning of line 12 as follows: «[(In the case of) every (other) bird (offering)». In fact, if *spr'gnn* and *ss* correspond to the distinction between domesticated and wild birds (cfr. Pardee 2003, p. 308, note 28), then *spr* in line 12 could not mean "every (other) bird"; therefore, he interprets it as "every (other) bird (offering)". Consequently, according to this interpretation, this section of the text would concern different types of offering, all of them employing birds: "holy first-born (birds), game-(bird) sacrifices, or (bird-)fat sacrifices", which seems to me a forced interpretation. Furthermore, if *ss* are wild birds, then the mention of "game-(bird) sacrifices" is difficult to justify. This expression apparently does not indicate any sacrifice of game remains to be explained.

Cfr. Cooke 1903, p. 120 (domestic bird/wild bird); Lidzbarski 1907, p. 49 ("zahmer Vogel" and "wilder Vogel"); Février 1955, p. 51; Février 1958-1959, p. 41 ("oiseau de basse cour" and "oiseau volant"); Van den Branden 1965, p. 121; Fuentes Estañol 1980, pp. 60, 217-218: *spr 'gnn* possibly "pájaro doméstico", "ave de corral"; *șs* "pájaro silvestre"; Amadasi Guzzo 1988, p. 114; Delcor 1990, p. 90 «*șs* ne peut signifier que "oiseau volant" par opposition à l'oiseau de basse-cour qui ne vole pas»; Mosca 2001, pp. 404-411 ("bird of the enclosure" and "winged bird", i.e. "free-flying" bird).

<sup>77</sup> Cohen – Bron – Lonnet 1970-2012, pp. 147-158 (VGN'/W/Y/L).

<sup>78</sup> Köhler – Baumgartner – Stamm 1994, p. 198; Clines 1993-2011, II, p. 366.

<sup>79</sup> Del Olmo Lete – Sanmartín 2015, p. 299.

<sup>80</sup> The interpretation of *spr 'gnn* as «a bird prepared in a *'gnn* bowl» (Tomback 1978, p. 3) is far-fetched. In the tariffs the treatment of the victim as a rule is implied in the kind of ritual, not in the kind of victim. Furthermore, the form remains unexplained since a Phoenician word *'gn* exists, indicating «un récipient grand, à embouchure large» (Amadasi Guzzo 1990, pp. 21-23).

<sup>87</sup> Cfr. Hoftijzer – Jongeling 1995, p. 1185 (ssp) and 357 (*hzt*). Krahmalkov's swinging interpretaton of [bs]pr 'gnn 'm sş šlm kll as «For an entirely intact 'gnn-bird or a hawk» (Krahmalkov 2000, pp. 420-421) or «For an 'gnn-bird or for an entirely whole hawk» (Krahmalkov 2000, p. 441) is based on his personal and uncompelling interpretation of slm kll as "entirely intact".

B8 Dietrich – Loretz – Sanmartín 1975. Cfr. Krahmalkov 2000, p. 181). Actually,  $s_{sp}$  also appear among Phoenician personal names, a common feature for zoonyms, as we shall see shortly, but far less so for sacrificial terms (cfr. Benz 1972, p. 185, who consider  $s_{sp}$  a type of sacrifice, p. 425). Furthermore, the possibility of a homograph should not be excluded.

indicate a "web-footed bird", that is a "palmate" one.<sup>89</sup> Such an interpretation of *šsp* and *hzt* as complementary categories, however, raises the same difficulty as mentioned above for *spr* '*gnn* and *ss*.

To sum up, the sacrificial tariffs represent a major source of information about zoonyms in Phoenician language.<sup>90</sup> Due to their purpose, however, they are mostly concerned with some domestic mammals and with birds. Furthermore, they only concern animals which were allowed to be offered, which were probably a subset of those which were considered suitable to be eaten. Thus, not eatable animals are likely excluded *a priori*.

Besides the tariffs, possible zoonyms occur in several other Phoenician inscriptions. Due to the scarcity of contextual information, it is often uncertain which kind of animal is mentioned and, at times, even whether or not zoonyms are involved at all. Surely attested are:

#### ss

The word *ss*, "horse",<sup>91</sup> corresponding to Hebrew *sûs*,<sup>92</sup> Ugaritic *śśw/ssw*<sup>93</sup> is attested in two Phoenician-Luvian celebrative bilinguals from Cilicia: the Karatepe inscription (*KAI* 26 A I 7, 8th or early 7th century), and the of Çineköy (second half of the 8th century BCE), a royal inscription by Awarikas, king of Que (at line 6).<sup>94</sup>

#### klb, gr

The word for "dog",  $klb^{95}$  (cfr. Hebrew *keleb*,<sup>96</sup> Ugaritic  $klb^{97}$ ) is attested in the 9th century celebrative inscription by Kilamuwa from Zincirli (*KAI* 24.10). On the plaquette from Kition *CIS* I, 86 = *KAI* 37, already mentioned, *klbm* and *grm* are referred to together (line 10 of face B, and on line 15 of face A, where *klbm* is integrated).<sup>98</sup> The two terms are possibly to be translated, respectively, as "dogs" and "whelps",<sup>99</sup> *gr* corresponding to Hebrew *gûr*.<sup>100</sup> The meaning of *grm* as whelps, however, is not unanimously accepted: another possible translation is "lions".<sup>101</sup> Since the text is an account of payments to people of various description,

<sup>89</sup> Mosca 2001.

<sup>90</sup> Krahmalkov (2000, p. 424, s.v. *qdmt l*) also considers the word *qdmt*, following *spr* in line 12, as «a kind of animal offered in sacrifice», but apparently, since a more precise identification is not even attempted, it must be assumed that this interpretation is only due to the context, where the scholar considers all the offering of the group as concerning animals, excepted *šmn* which, however, he accordingly translates as "fat" rather than "oil". However, while the mention of "holy" firstlings is easily explainable, much less tenable is the offering of a "holy" animal (common enough to be envisaged in the tariff). The interpretation of *qdmt* as a kind of animal should therefore be discarded. The word is commonly interpreted as "firstlings", "first-fruit", cfr. Hoftijzer – Jongeling 1995, p. 992; Tomback 1978, p. 285; Fuentes Estañol 1980, p. 219 ("primicias"); Amadasi Guzzo 1988, p. 112 ("primizie").

<sup>91</sup> Tomback 1978, p. 231; Fuentes Estañol 1980, p. 187 ("caballo"); Krahmalkov 2000, p. 346.

<sup>92</sup> Köhler – Baumgartner – Stamm 1994, p. 746; Clines 1993-2011, VI, pp. 130-132.

<sup>93</sup> Watson 2006, p. 446; del Olmo Lete – Sanmartín 2015, pp. 760-761. Further parallels in Militarev – Kogan 2005, pp. 261-263.

<sup>94</sup> The text is inscribed on the base of a statue of the god Tarhunza (Tekoğlu *et al.* 2000).

The proposal by Coote (1975) of reading the name *klb* as the contemptuous appellation of a demon in the text inscribed on the bowl from Kition (Yon 2004, n°1100), should be rejected because the reading of the word actually appears to be *plb* (cfr. Yon 2004, p. 188). The text itself is most probably a dedication to Astarte, not an incantation as assumed by Coote.

<sup>96</sup> Köhler – Baumgartner – Stamm 1994, p. 476; Clines 1993-2011, IV, p. 415.

<sup>97</sup> Watson 2006, p. 449; del Olmo Lete – Sanmartín 2015, pp. 433-434. Common Semitic, see Militarev – Kogan 2005, pp. 156-158.

<sup>98</sup> Masson – Sznycer 1972, pp. 21-68; Amadasi Guzzo – Karageorghis 1977, pp. 103-126; Yon 2004, p. 185; Amadasi Guzzo 2004, pp. 209-211.

<sup>99</sup> Cfr. Watson 1997, p. 93. Healey 1974, pp. 55-56; Heltzer 1987, p. 313 ("cubs").

<sup>100</sup> Köhler – Baumgartner – Stamm 1994, p. 185; Clines 1993-2011, II, p. 337. For the root see Fronzaroli 1968, pp. 280-281. Further parallels in Militarev – Kogan 2005, pp. 120-123. It is perhaps noteworthy that of the attestations of compound names with the element *klb*, 5 out of 16 come from Cyprus (see below, in the section on personal names).

<sup>101</sup> Peckham 1968, p. 317; Healey 1974, p. 56; Tomback 1978, p. 67 "lion whelp". Van den Branden (1966, p. 259) interpretation of Phoenician *grm* as "lambs" ("agnelli"), assumes for Hebrew *gûr* a value of "lamb" that the term does not seem to possess.

it was suggested that these expressions indicated people, perhaps (male) prostitutes<sup>102</sup> or some other cultic personnel masked like dogs and lions<sup>103</sup>, rather than real animals.<sup>104</sup> However, completely different meanings for both *klbm* and *grm* in this text have also been proposed.<sup>105</sup>

Other terms, of dubious interpretation and/or reading, for which a zoonym value has been proposed, are:

#### 'rw

A 4th century inscription from Kition (*CIS* I, 10=KAI 32.3),<sup>106</sup> engraved on a marble altar, recalls the dedication of the altar itself and of two '*rwm*. The word '*rw* may correspond to Hebrew '*aryēh*, "lion",<sup>107</sup> Ugaritic *arw*,<sup>108</sup> and the two objects might have been two sculptures of lions.<sup>109</sup>

### byk

The word  $byk^{110}$  is a *hapax*, attested in an inscription from Carthage (*CIS* I, 5523=*KAI* 96.2), recalling building activities and mentioning sculptures. The existence of the word<sup>111</sup> and its tentative interpretation as "falcon"<sup>112</sup> is only based on a comparison with the Egyptian word *bik*.<sup>113</sup>

#### dtn

According to a suggestion,<sup>114</sup> the inscription on an anchor found along the coast of Spain,<sup>115</sup> dated to the end of the 9th-8th century BCE, should be to read *ldtn*, where *dtn*, supposedly the name of the ship to which the anchor belonged, might be "the name of a large fish", cfr. Akkadian *ditānu*.<sup>116</sup> This suggestion involves a reading of the text, its interpretation and an identification of a zoonym which are all extremely uncertain.

#### kprt

A 3rd century BCE dedicatory inscription from Umm el-'Amed,<sup>117</sup> engraved on the socle of a sculpture formerly representing a lion or a sphinx (only the front legs remain), mentioned something that was dedicated (possibly, but not necessarily, the sculpture itself). A comparison with Hebrew  $k^e p \hat{i} r$ , "young lion"<sup>118</sup> suggest-

- 115 Solá-Solé 1967, pp. 28-33.
- 116 Cfr. Chicago Assyrian Dictionary, vol. 3, p. 165.
- 117 Dunand Duru 1962, pp. 192-193.
- 118 Köhler Baumgartner Stamm 1994, p. 493; Clines 1993-2011, IV, pp. 453-454.

<sup>102</sup> Cfr. e.g. *CIS*, p. 95: *klbm* "scorta virilia"; van den Branden 1966, pp. 257-259; Delcor 1979, pp. 161-163; Gibson 1982, p. 130; cfr. Yon 2004, p. 185 ("les chiens" and "les jeunes garçons"). *KAI*, II, pp. 54-55, translates "Tempelpäderasten (?)" and "Klienten".

<sup>103</sup> Peckham 1968, n. 4 p. 317; Healey 1974, p. 56.

<sup>104</sup> For real dogs: Halévy 1881, pp. 200-202; Reinach 1884; Heltzer 1987, p. 313; also Hermary (2014, pp. 249-253) advocates the hypothesis of expenses for the maintenance of real dogs.

<sup>105</sup> Krahmalkov (2000, p. 227, s.v. *klb II* and p. 144, s.v. *grr*), translates *klbm* and *grm* "the wielders of the pickax" and "the sawyers", respectively. Schmitz 2013, p. 209, prefers "light troops" and "archers".

<sup>106</sup> Yon 2004, n°1002, p. 174.

<sup>107</sup> Köhler – Baumgartner – Stamm 1994, p. 87; Clines 1993-2011, I, p. 377.

<sup>108</sup> Watson 2006, p. 449; del Olmo Lete – Sanmartín 2015, p. 107. Further parallels in Militarev – Kogan 2005, pp. 24-26.

<sup>109</sup> Cfr. Hoftijzer – Jongeling 1995, p. 104; Fuentes Estañol 1980, p. 71 ("leones"); Krahmalkov 2000, p. 71. A different, not compelling (cfr. Amadasi Guzzo 2004, p. 208) interpretation as zoonym is proposed by Lipiński (1995, p. 187, note 482): "bouque-tin" (cfr. Akk. *arwû*, "gazelle", *Chicago Assyrian Dictionary*, vol. 1, s.v. *armû*). For an entirely different interpretation, cfr. *KAI*, II, pp. 50-50, "Altarherde"; Magnanini 1973, p. 95 ("fornelli").

<sup>110</sup> Cfr. Hoftijzer - Jongeling 1995, p. 152,

<sup>111</sup> KAI, I, p. 19, renounces dividing letters into words.

<sup>112</sup> Krahmalkov 2000, p. 101.

<sup>113</sup> Erman - Grapow 1971, I, p. 444. Cfr. Militarev - Kogan 2005, pp. 3-4.

<sup>114</sup> Lipiński 2004, p. 254-255.

ed to Caquot the restoration k[p]rt, \*kprt meaning "lioness", or "sphinx".<sup>119</sup> Different reconstructions<sup>120</sup> have been proposed, and even accepting the reconstruction of k[p]rt, different interpretations are possible,<sup>121</sup> and Caquot himself in his translation anteposes "lid" to "sphynx".<sup>122</sup> A difficulty is the possible indication that the object referred to was made of gold.<sup>123</sup>

# nḥr

The word *nhr* appears only in a neo-Punic inscription from Qalat abi s-Siba, in Algeria (*KAI* 165).<sup>124</sup> In this text, a bilingual Latin-Neopunic funerary inscription, the word *nhr*<sup>125</sup> (at line 3) has been hypothetically translated as "dolphin",<sup>126</sup> by comparison with Akkadian *nāhiru*,<sup>127</sup> whose meaning is, however, in turn much discussed.<sup>128</sup> In the Qalat abi s-Siba inscription, the zoonym supposedly indicates not a real animal, but an image of it, decorating the pedestal of a funerary monument. However, this assumption is rather uncertain and a different translation for the line has been proposed,<sup>129</sup> where not only *nhr* is not considered to be a zoonym, but it has nothing more to do with a sculpted decoration.

# `pt

A 5th century BCE dedicatory inscription by Yehaumilk, king of Byblos (*CIS* I, 1=*KAI* 10.5), mentions a golden '*pt*, set in a stone standing above a "golden" *pth* (perhaps a gateway).<sup>130</sup> On comparison with Hebrew ' $\delta p$  ("bird", but also everything that flies<sup>131</sup>), Ugaritic '*p* ("bird"),<sup>132</sup> Krahmalkov<sup>133</sup> suggests to interpret '*pt* as "bird", but most scholars prefer to interpret it as "winged disk".<sup>134</sup>

123 The proposed solution, that the sculpture was (partially) gilded or gold plated ("partiellement doré"), clashes with the supposed reference, in the text, to the offering of a "sculpture toute d'or" (Dunand – Duru 1962, pp. 192).

A difficulty accentuated by the translation proposed by Gibson (1982, p. 122) interpreting hrs not as "gold" but as a passive participle from  $\sqrt{HRS}$ , meaning "sculpted object" or something similar.

- 124 Jongeling 2008, pp. 249-251.
- 125 Cfr. Hoftijzer Jongeling 1995, p. 725, s.v. nhr,. "Ohne Deutung" for KAI, II, p. 154.
- 126 Van den Branden 1974, pp. 145-146; Watson 2013, p. 335.
- 127 Cfr. Chicago Assyrian Dictionary, vol. 11, p. 137 ("whale").

128 Bordreuil – Briquel-Chatonnet 2000; Lundström 2012, pp. 328-329; cfr. Elayi – Voisin 2014. The *nāḥiru*, which according to Assyrian sources was (locally?) called ANŠE.KUR.RA *ša* A.AB.BA "sea-horse", may have been a hippopotamus rather than a dolphin. The term *nāḥiru* may be the local term for hippopotamus, either derived from *nhr* "river" or from the same root *nḥr* of Ugaritic *anḥr* (Bordreuil – Briquel-Chatonnet 2000, p. 123; cfr. Elayi – Voisin 2014, p. 75). The meaning of Ugaritic *anḥr* is also uncertain (cfr. del Olmo Lete – Sanmartín 2015, p. 76; "dolphin/sperm whale" according to Watson 2007, p. 107). The phrase *nāḥira ša* ANŠE.KUR.RA *ša* A.AB.BA *iqqabbīšūni* "a *nāḥiru*, which is called a sea-horse" (cfr. A.K. Grayson, *RIMA* 2, Tiglath-pileser I A.0.87.1, 24-25; A.0.87.4, 87; A.0.87.15, 12′), instead of "a sea-horse, which is called a *nāḥiru*", might suggest that the local name of the animal rather corresponded to ANŠE.KUR.RA (*ss ym*?). Saporetti (1996, p. 1230) suggests that *nāḥiru* might indicate a class, so that the sentence should be rather interpreted as "the/that *nāḥiru* which is called sea-horse".

- 130 Cfr. Hoftijzer Jongeling 1995, p. 951.
- 131 Köhler Baumgartner Stamm 1994, p. 801; Clines 1993-2011, VI, pp. 312-313.
- 132 Watson 2006, p. 449; del Olmo Lete Sanmartín 2015, p. 170. Cfr. Fronzaroli 1968, pp. 283-284; Militarev Kogan 2005, pp. 66-68.
- 133 Krahmalkov 2000, p. 384. Militarev Kogan 2005, p. 66, judge the attestation of this zoonym not very reliable.
- 134 Cfr. *KAI*, II, p. 14 ("Flügelsonne"); Hoftijzer Jongeling 1995, p. 878; Magnanini 1973, p. 27 ("sole alato"); Fuentes Estañol 1980, p. 203 ("disco alado"), doubtful; Gibson 1982, 97.

<sup>119</sup> Caquot 1965, p. 30. Cfr. Hoftijzer - Jongeling 1995, p. 532 (probable).

<sup>120</sup> Dunand reconstructed k[s]rt, meaning "sculpture" (Dunand – Duru 1962, pp. 192-193). Krahmalkov (1971, p. 35) proposes k[k]rt, which he translates as "two talents".

<sup>121</sup> Gibson 1982, p. 122: "propitiatory offering".

<sup>122</sup> Caquot 1965, p. 31: "Couvercle (*ou* sphynge)".

<sup>129</sup> Jongeling 2008, pp. 249-251.

# p`r

An inscription from Ras el-Hadagia (Libya), from the beginning of the 1st century AD (*KAI* 118), might mention a statue of a p'r, which might mean "bull", corresponding to Hebrew  $par^{135}$  and Ugaritic pr.<sup>136</sup> The presence of such a word and its possible interpretation are, however, subject to discussion.<sup>137</sup>

A series of words indicating classes or groups of animals are also attested in Phoenician inscriptions:

### bqr

"Cattle"<sup>138</sup> (KAI 24.12), corresponding to Hebrew *bāqār*,<sup>139</sup> Ugaritic *bqr*.<sup>140</sup>

### mqn'/mqnt

"Livestock, cattle"<sup>141</sup> (in the tariffs *CIS* I, 165.15; *CIS* I, 167.6; *CIS* I, 169.1', and in *KAI* 138.3<sup>142</sup>), corresponding to Hebrew *miqneh*.<sup>143</sup>

### `dr

"Flock" of sheep<sup>144</sup> is attested in KAI 24.11, corresponding to Hebrew '*ēder*.<sup>145</sup>

### <u>hy</u>t

The word *hyt*, meaning "animals",<sup>146</sup> corresponding to Hebrew *hayyāh*,<sup>147</sup> possibly appears in *KAI* 43<sup>148</sup> (at line 9, maybe repeated in line 10) where *hyt* are said to have been "consecrated" to Melqart by a high official.<sup>149</sup> The interpretation of *'h'yt* in an extremely fragmentary passage of *KAI* 30 (a 9th century BCE funerary inscription from Cyprus)<sup>150</sup> is only hypothetical.<sup>151</sup>

The claim that '*zrm* could be a zoonym indicating a domestic ovine, whose sex was specified by the addition of '*š* or '*št*, so that '*zrm* '*š* and '*zrm* '*št* indicated, respectively, a male and a female lamb,<sup>152</sup> is to be

- 137 Cfr. Jongeling 2008, pp. 11-12.
- 138 Hoftijzer Jongeling 1995, p. 187; Tomback 1978, p. 54; Fuentes Estañol 1980, p. 89 ("ganado mayor"); Krahmalkov 2000, p. 124.
- 139 Köhler Baumgartner Stamm 1994, p. 151; Clines 1993-2011, II, pp. 250-252.
- 140 Watson 2006, p. 447; del Olmo Lete Sanmartín 2015, pp. 232-233. Further parallels in Militarev Kogan 2005, pp. 83-85.
- 141 Hoftijzer Jongeling 1995, p. 681 ("cattle"); Tomback 1978, p. 197 ("cattle"); Fuentes Estañol 1980, p. 167 "("rebaño, ganado"); Krahmalkov 2000, pp. 309-310 ("livestock, cattle").

142 Jongeling 2008, pp. 66-67. KAI 138 is a Neopunic dedicatory inscription from Bir Tlelsa (Tunisia), concerning an "altar of cattle" (*hmzbh š hmqnt*), of cereals, cakes and perfume.

- 143 Köhler Baumgartner Stamm 1994, p. 628; Clines 1993-2011, V, pp. 468-469.
- 144 Hoftijzer Jongeling 1995, p. 831; Tomback 1978, p. 239; Fuentes Estañol 1980, p. 195 ("rebaño"); Krahmalkov 2000, p. 361.
- 145 Köhler Baumgartner Stamm 1994, p. 793; Clines 1993-2011, VI, p. 285.
- 146 *KAI* II, p. 60 ("Tiere"); Hoftijzer Jongeling 1995, p. 369; Tomback 1978, p. 104; Fuentes Estañol 1980, p. 118 ("animales"); Gibson 1982, p. 137 "beasts".
- 147 Köhler Baumgartner Stamm 1994, p. 310; Clines 1993-2011, III, pp. 207-209.
- 148 A 3rd-century BCE dedicatory inscription engraved on a base from Lapethos.
- 149 An alternative translation as "temples" has been suggested by Krahmalkov (2000, p. 183).
- 150 Cfr. Gibson 1982, p. 29 (line 6).

151 Lipiński 2004, p. 44. The scholar speculates that the curse against who would violate the tomb wished for a transformation of his people into excrement and animal carcasses, but the condition of the text does not seem to support neither this nor any other interpretation of lines 6-7 (cfr. Müller 1975, p. 106; Gibson 1982, p. 29).

<sup>135</sup> Cfr. Péter 1975; Köhler – Baumgartner – Stamm 1994, pp. 960-961; Clines 1993-2011, VI, pp. 750-753.

<sup>136</sup> Watson 2006, p. 447; del Olmo Lete – Sanmartín 2015, p. 678. Further parallels in Militarev – Kogan 2005, pp. 239-242.

<sup>152</sup> Février 1955, pp. 57-63.

discarded: '*zrm* is used to indicate a human being of a premature age,<sup>153</sup> not a kind of animals, and therefore is not to be considered as a zoonym.

### 3. Zoonyms in Personal Names<sup>154</sup>

Several zoonyms appear in the Phoenician onomastics, many of them indicating wild animals, otherwise underrepresented in the Phoenician epigraphy. This kind of evidence, however, is not without its flaws. In fact, zoonyms employed as personal names<sup>155</sup> do lack any surrounding context which could help to recognize them. Thus, zoonyms otherwise unattested in Phoenician are mostly identified through comparison with other Semitic languages, mostly Hebrew (where similar zoonyms are sometimes also attested as personal names), or through etymological speculation. Notwithstanding these difficulties, several other Phoenician personal names have been tentatively identified as zoonyms. The animals involved are mainly insects and mammals:

*dbr*, "bee", <sup>156</sup> corresponding to Hebrew *debôrāh*.<sup>157</sup>

hld, "mole", "weasel", 158 corresponding to Hebrew holed. 159

*kyšr*, "elephant" (?).<sup>160</sup> The interpretation of this term has been proposed on the grounds of Latin sources (see further on, in the relevant section).<sup>161</sup>

*klb*, "dog", <sup>162</sup> already considered as a common noun, also appear in personal names (also in the feminine form *klbt*). <sup>163</sup>

kpr<sup>164</sup> may mean "young lion",<sup>165</sup> by comparison to Hebrew k<sup>e</sup>pîr.<sup>166</sup>

155 Cfr. Millet Albà 2000; Dirbas 2017.

<sup>153</sup> Xella 2007.

<sup>154</sup> Benz 1972, p. 239. See Benz also for occurrences of names and their variants.

<sup>156</sup> Benz 1972, p. 300; Fuentes Estañol 1980, p. 101. Benz records three attestations from Carthage and one from Lebanon (cfr. Benz 1972, p. 108).

<sup>157</sup> Köhler – Baumgartner – Stamm 1994, p. 208; Clines 1993-2011, II, p. 384. Further parallels in Militarev – Kogan 2005, pp. 96-99.

Benz 1972, p. 310. Benz records 16 attestations of the name *hld*, which is also attested once in the form *hld* and is once probably misspelled as *hldl*. All the occurrences are from Carthage (cfr. Benz 1972, pp. 108-109).

<sup>159</sup> Köhler – Baumgartner – Stamm 1994, p. 316; Clines 1993-2011, III, p. 227. Further parallels in Militarev – Kogan 2005, pp. 147-148.

<sup>160</sup> Clermont-Ganneau 1886; Fuentes Estañol 1980, p. 139; cfr. Benz 1972, p. 330.

<sup>161</sup> The personal name kyšr is attested 10 times, kyšrm twice. All instances are from Carthage (cfr. Benz 1972, p. 131).

<sup>162</sup> Benz 1972, p. 331; Tomback 1978, pp. 142-143; Fuentes Estañol 1980, p. 140; Krahmalkov 2000, p. 227, s.v. klb I.

<sup>163</sup> Attested in the names *klb*' (four times at Carthage, three times at Kition, once at Constantine), *klb*'lm (twice at Carthage, once at Kition), *klby* (once in Byblos and once in Sidon), *klbl* (once, at Elephantine), *klbn*[] (once, at Idalion), *klbt* (once, at Tyre: Sader 2005, p. 63). See Dixon 2018, Table 4 p. 35; Benz 1972, pp. 131-132.

<sup>164</sup> The name appears on two Phoenician seals, cfr. Sanders 1991, p. 71 (with note 1).

<sup>165</sup> Benz 1972, p. 334; Fuentes Estañol 1980, p. 143, "cachorro de león". According to an alternative proposal, it would be to consider as *D*-stem form or  $\sqrt{\text{KPR}}$ , meaning "he forgives" (Sanders 1991). Since, however, in Hebrew, which is the nearest related language to Phoenician, the use of the zoonym as a personal name is attested, while the use of the *D*-stem form or the root  $\sqrt{\text{KPR}}$  would find no certain parallel in Semitic onomastics, as observed (Layton 1993), the interpretation of *kpr* as a zoonym appears preferable, although dubious (cfr. Krahmalkov 2000, p. 240: «vocalization and meaning uncertain»).

<sup>166</sup> Köhler – Baumgartner – Stamm 1994, p. 493; Clines 1993-2011, IV, pp. 453-454.

lb'/lbt "lion", "lioness",167 corresponding to Hebrew lābî /libyāh,168 Ugaritic lbu.169

*nml*, "ant",<sup>170</sup> corresponding to Hebrew *n<sup>e</sup>mālāh*,<sup>171</sup> and perhaps to the Ugaritic personal name *nimaliya* (written *ni-ma-la-ya*).<sup>172</sup>

nmr, a big feline (perhaps "leopard" or "panther"),<sup>173</sup> corresponding to Hebrew nāmēr,<sup>174</sup> Eblaitic na-me-lum.<sup>175</sup>

ss', "moth" (?),<sup>176</sup> or another cloth-eating insect, corresponding to Hebrew  $s\bar{a}s$ ,<sup>177</sup> to the Ugaritic personal name ss (perhaps also ssn),<sup>178</sup> and to Eblaitic  $sa_3$ -su\_-um.<sup>179</sup>

'*glt* as a feminine personal name (meaning "heifer, young cow") probably occurs on a funerary inscription, presumably from Tyre and dating from around the 8th to 7th century BCE,<sup>180</sup> corresponding to the Hebrew personal name '*eglāh*.<sup>181</sup>

*kbr*, "mouse",<sup>182</sup> corresponding to Hebrew *akbār*,<sup>183</sup> and to the Ugaritic personal name *ak-ba-ru*, doubtfully attested also alphabetically as *kbr*.<sup>184</sup>

'nzr, "boar", 185 corresponding to Hebrew hazîr, 186 Ugaritic hnzr, as a personal name, 187 hu-zi-ru, 188

- 175 Sjöberg 1996, p. 11. Further parallels in Militarev Kogan 2005, pp. 216-219. Cfr. Fronzaroli 1968, p. 281.
- 176 Benz 1972, p. 368. A single attestation, from Carthage (cfr. Benz 1972, p. 148).
- 177 Köhler Baumgartner Stamm 1994, p. 761; Clines 1993-2011, VI, p. 173.
- 178 Watson 2006, p. 452.
- 179 Sjöberg 1996, p. 18. Further parallels in Militarev Kogan 2005, pp.
- 180 Abousamra Lemaire 2013, pp. 238-239.
- 181 Cfr. Friesen 2019, p. 47.

183 Köhler - Baumgartner - Stamm 1994, p. 823; Clines 1993-2011, VI, p. 384.

- 184 Watson 2007, p. 97. For further parallels see Militarev Kogan 2005, pp. 47-48.
- 185 Benz 1972, p. 381 ("wild pig"); Fuentes Estañol 1980, p. 202 "jabali" (?). Three attestations, all of them from Constantine (cfr. Benz 1972, p. 173).
- 186 Köhler Baumgartner Stamm 1994, p. 302; Clines 1993-2011, III, p. 184.
- 187 Watson 2012, p. 332.
- Huehnergard 1987, p. 128. Further parallels in Militarev Kogan 2005, pp. 149-152. Cfr. Fronzaroli 1969, p. 307.

<sup>167</sup> Fuentes Estañol 1980, pp. 147-148; Krahmalkov 2000, p. 252. Benz (1972, pp. 337-338) considers *lbt* as feminine of *lby*, "Libyan", not excluding that even *lb*' should be better explained as a variant writing of *lby*. He records 16 attestations of *lbt*, all from Carthage, and one of *lb*', from Sardinia (cfr. Benz 1972, p. 133).

<sup>168</sup> Köhler – Baumgartner – Stamm 1994, p. 517; Clines 1993-2011, IV, p. 513.

<sup>169</sup> Watson 2006, p. 449; del Olmo Lete – Sanmartín 2015, p. 486. Parallels in Militarev – Kogan 2005, pp. 194-197.

<sup>170</sup> Benz 1972, pp. 360-361; Fuentes Estañol 1980, p. 179. Attested 10 times at Carthage and once at El-Hofra; the name *nmlm* is attested three times at Carthage (cfr. Benz 1972, p. 147).

<sup>171</sup> Köhler – Baumgartner – Stamm 1994, p. 701; Clines 1993-2011, V, p. 696. Common Semitic, cfr. Fronzaroli 1968, p. 286; Militarev – Kogan 2005, pp. 214-216.

<sup>172</sup> Watson 2007, p. 106.

<sup>173</sup> Benz 1972, p. 361 ("leopard"); Fuentes Estañol 1980, p. 179 ("leopardo"); Krahmalkov 2000, p. 329 ("panther"). A single attestation, from Carthage (cfr. Benz 1972, p. 147. It is not possible to specify more precisely what feline (or group of felines) was meant; it is moreover very probable that, in reality, the term was adapted to the various local contexts and to the different environments, therefore actually indicating different species in different contexts.

<sup>174</sup> Köhler – Baumgartner – Stamm 1994, p. 701; Clines 1993-2011, V, p. 696.

<sup>182</sup> Benz 1972, p. 377; Krahmalkov 2000, p. 367, s.v. '*kbr I*; Fuentes Estañol 1980, p. 198. The name is attested 51 times, mostly at Carthage, but also twice at El-Hofra, and once each at Volubilis, Elephantine and in Sardinia. The feminine forms '*kbrt* (twice, at Carthage) and '*kbrt* (once, at El-Hofra) are also attested, as well as the names '*kbrm* (20 times, all from Carthage but one from El-Hofra) and '*kbr*' (three times, at Carthage). Cfr. Benz 1972, p. 171.

*pr'š*, "flea" <sup>189</sup> corresponding to Hebrew *par*'ōš, <sup>190</sup> Ugaritic *prġt* (also as a personal name), <sup>191</sup> Eblaitic *pur*-h*a-sum*<sub>2</sub>. <sup>192</sup>

sp', "snake" (?)<sup>193</sup> corresponding to Hebrew sepa'.<sup>194</sup>

*špn*, "badger",<sup>195</sup> corresponding to Hebrew *šāpān* ("rock badger", "rock hyrax", *Procavia capensis syriaca*),<sup>196</sup> Ugaritic *tpn*.<sup>197</sup>

šșp, as we have seen, is considered by a few scholars<sup>198</sup> as a kind of bird. A personal name

*šsp* is known,<sup>199</sup> whose relationship, if any, with the term in *CIS* I, 165 is not known.

For the personal name Abdi-Li'ti of a king of Arwad, S. Parpola<sup>200</sup> proposed an etymology as "Servant of the [divine] Cow" (cfr. Akk. *littu*),<sup>201</sup> but the name is better explained as "servant of the mighty one" (feminine).<sup>202</sup>

#### 4. Zoonyms in Plant-names

Some Phoenician animal-names are supposedly recognizable in Phoenician plant-names, known to us through Greek and Latin transcriptions which were included in ancient herbals. Textual uncertainties, obscurities in the transcription and difficulties of interpretation make the identification of zoonyms extremely uncertain.

A bunch of plant-names seems to include the word \**ḥṣr*, "herb" (Hebrew *ḥāṣir*).<sup>203</sup> So, the name of the herb *azirchalbe* ([Apul.], *Herb*. LXXXVII) might mean the "dog grass" (\**ḥṣr klb*).<sup>204</sup> Similarly, αστιρκοκ (Dsc., IV 100) may be interpreted as \**ḥṣr* \**qq*, perhaps "herb of the lamb/of the flock"<sup>205</sup> or, according to a different proposal, "herb of the partridge", supposing a Phoenician word \**qq* (comparing modern Hebrew *qāq*).<sup>206</sup> The *azirguzol* ([Apul.], *Herb*. LXVI) might be the "herb of the dove" (\**ḥṣr* \**gzl*),<sup>207</sup> Phoenician \**gzl* supposedly

- 191 Watson 2007, p. 101; del Olmo Lete Sanmartín 2015, p. 669.
- 192 Sjoberg 1996, p. 18. Other parallels in Militarev Kogan 2005, pp. 246-248.

193 Cfr. Harris 1936, p. 141. A single attestation, from Carthage (Benz 1972, p. 178). The personal name  $sp^{\circ}$  (*CIS* I, 788.3) could rather be a variant of the personal name sp' (Benz 1972, p. 400).

- 194 Köhler Baumgartner Stamm 1994, p. 1050; Clines 1993-2011, VII, p. 152.
- 195 Benz 1972, pp. 239, 424. A single attestation, on a scarab found in Egypt.
- 196 Köhler Baumgartner Stamm 1994, pp. 1633-1634; Clines 1993-2011, VIII, 544.
- 197 Watson 2006, p. 454. Afrasian parallels in Militarev Kogan 2005, p. 306 (neither Phoenician *špn* nor Ugaritic *tpn* is taken into consideration).
- 198 Dietrich Loretz Sanmartín 1975. Cfr. Krahmalkov 2000, p. 181.
- 199 Benz records 23 occurrences, all of which from Carthage (cfr. Benz 1972, p. 185).
- 200 In Radner 1998, p. 6.
- 201 Chicago Assyrian Dictionary, vol. 9, pp. 217-219 (s.v. littu A).
- 202 Cfr. Benz 1972, pp. 336-337; Lipiński 2004, p. 281, note 65.

203 The word is variously attested in the manuscripts (ασιρ-, ατειρ, ατιερ-, ατιειρ-, αστιειρ-, αστιειρ-, αστιειρ-, αστιειρ-, αzir-), cfr. Steiner 1982, pp. 60-61; Hoftijzer – Jongeling 1995, p. 400. The form *atzi-* «does not inspire confidence» to Steiner (1982, p. 60).

204 Vattioni 1976, p. 529.

- 205 Vattioni 1976, p. 521, cfr. Buxtorf 1875, p. 996, s.v. qwq.
- 206 Krahmalkov 2000, p. 431. Also comparable is the Akkadian bird-name *qaqû* (cfr. *Cicago Assyrian Dictionary*, vol. 13, pp. 124-125). Further possible parallels in Militarev Kogan 2005, pp. 172-173.
- 207 Vattioni 1976, p. 529: "erba della colomba".

<sup>189</sup> Benz 1972, p. 395; Fuentes Estañol 1980, p. 213; Krahmalkov 2000, p. 407, s.v. *pr'š I*. A single attestation, on a gemstone of unknown provenance.

<sup>190</sup> Köhler - Baumgartner - Stamm 1994, p. 971; Clines 1993-2011, VI, p. 776.

corresponding to Hebrew *gôzāl* ("young bird", especially young pigeon),<sup>208</sup> Ugaritic personal name *gzl* ("young bird").<sup>209</sup> Comparison might rather point to "young bird",<sup>210</sup> but another name of this same herb, *zizuinnim* ([Apul.], *Herb.* LXVI), might be understood as \**ṣṣ* \**ynm*, "flower (cfr. Hebrew *şîṣāh*) of the doves/pidgeons", supposing a Phoenician \**yn*, comparable to Hebrew *yônāh*,<sup>211</sup> Ugaritic *ynt*.<sup>212</sup>

Of the other zoonyms which are supposedly detectable in names of plants, some are already attested in Phoenician: the word *ss*, "horse", might occur in the plant name *abussussim* ([Apul.], *Herb.* XXXIV), if the latter is really derived from '*b ssm*, "father of horses"<sup>213</sup> (but the reading *abussusi* is adopted in the critical edition of Howald and Sigerist).<sup>214</sup> From *klbt* ("bitch"), attested as a personal name, may derive the plant name *didacbolbot* (κυνόσβατος, Ps.-Dioscorides, *De herbis femininis* LXI), perhaps to be read as *didachalboth*,<sup>215</sup> namely \**dd klbt* "udder/nipple of the bitch(es)".<sup>216</sup> The word *pr*'s, "flea", similarly also attested as a personal name, might be recognizable in the plant name ouαργουγουμ (supposedly a corruption of ouαργουσουμ or ouαργουσομ) carried by the ψύλλιον, "flea-wort".<sup>217</sup> The word '*lp* presumably occurs in αλσουναλφ, the "ox-tongue" (βούγλωσσος: Dsc., IV 127; cfr. [Apul.], *Herb.* XLI: *lasimsaph*), namely \**lšn* '*lp*,<sup>218</sup> with addition of a prothetic vowel (λασουναλφ is a correction proposed by Harris).<sup>219</sup> The word '*z* might perhaps be recognized in the plant-name άχοισομ, indicating a plant called τράγιον (Dsc., IV 50), which might be interpreted as \*'*hy* '*zm*, "herb of the goats".<sup>220</sup> The presence of the word '*mr* in the name of the herb *saramuris* (if derived from *s* '*r*'*mr*, "hair of lamb", "capigliatura dell'agnello") is not supported by the different vocalization of '*mr* on the stelae.<sup>221</sup>

Other supposed Phoenician zoonyms, which are not otherwise attested, are:

\*'*qw*, "deer", corresponding to Hebrew '*aqqô* ("wild goat"),<sup>222</sup> tentatively recognized in ασκαουκαυ or ασκαουκαου, the Phoenician name of the herb ἐλαφοβόσκον (Dsc., III 69), interpreted as \**hšq* \*'*qw*, *desiderium cervi*.<sup>223</sup>

\**hmr*, "ass", corresponding to Hebrew  $h^a m \delta r$ ,<sup>224</sup> Ugaritic hmr,<sup>225</sup> which might occur in the plant name *sara-muris* ([Apul.], *Herb.* XXVIII), if the latter really corresponds to "hair (cfr. Hebrew \**sē*<sup>\*</sup>*ār*) of the ass", but also "hair of the lamb (*'mr*)" may explain it.<sup>226</sup>

- 209 Watson 2006, p. 449. Further parallels in Militarev Kogan 2005, pp. 127-128.
- 210 Cfr. Krahmalkov 2000, pp. 138-139, s.v. gzl II ("chick, birdling, fledgling").
- 211 Köhler Baumgartner Stamm 1994, p. 402; Clines 1993-2011, IV, p. 187.
- 212 Watson 2006, p. 451; del Olmo Lete Sanmartín 2015, p. 957. Further parallels in Militarev Kogan 2005, pp. 321-322.
- 213 Vattioni 1976, p. 528.
- 214 Howald Sigerist 1927, p. 78.
- 215 Friedrich Röllig Amadasi Guzzo 1999, p. 40, § 78b.
- 216 Cfr. Buxtorf 1875, p. 259; Vattioni 1976, p. 529-530.
- 217 Gesenius 1837, p. 394; Vattioni 1976, p. 525.
- 218 Harris 1936, p. 115; Vattioni 1976, p. 525; Friedrich Röllig Amadasi Guzzo 1999, p. 20, §37.3a.
- 219 Steiner 2001, pp. 98-103.
- 220 Gesenius 1837, p. 386; Vattioni 1976, p. 522.
- 221 Vattioni 1976, p. 531.
- 222 Cfr. Köhler Baumgartner Stamm 1994, p. 82; Clines 1993-2011, I, p. 365.
- 223 Gesenius 1837, p. 386; cfr. Vattioni 1976, p. 521.
- 224 Köhler Baumgartner Stamm 1994, p. 327; Clines 1993-2011, III, pp. 252-253.
- 225 Watson 2006, p. 446; del Olmo Lete Sanmartín 2015, pp. 358-359. Further parallels in Militarev Kogan 2005, pp. 137-
- 139. Cfr. Fronzaroli 1969, p. 306.
- 226 Vattioni 1976, p. 531.

<sup>208</sup> Cfr. Köhler – Baumgartner – Stamm 1994, p. 182; Clines 1993-2011, II, p. 329.

\**qrr*. The *atircoris* ([Apul.], *Herb*. IX: *herba botracion*), might be the "herb of the frog/toad", supposing a Phoenician word \**qrwr*<sup>227</sup> or rather *qrr*.<sup>228</sup>

# 5. Zoonyms in Toponyms<sup>229</sup>

Phoenician animal-names also occur in some place-names. Some of the latter are only known through Greek and Latin transcription, which makes more uncertain, and often highly speculative, the identification of a supposed Phoenician zoonym. Furthermore, most of the zoonyms possibly recognizable in place-names are not independently attested elsewhere.

A group of zoonyms appears to consist in a construct chain composed by the word "island" ('y) plus a zoonym. To this group belong the following place-names:

'yksm (Algiers),<sup>230</sup> possibly to be interpreted as "island of the owls",<sup>231</sup> comparing \*ks to Hebrew kôs.<sup>232</sup>

'ynṣm (present-day Island of San Pietro),<sup>233</sup> is to be explained as "island of the hawks" ('y nṣm),<sup>234</sup> Phoenician \***nṣ**, "hawk", corresponding to Hebrew  $n\bar{e}$ ş,<sup>235</sup> Ugaritic nṣ.<sup>236</sup> This interpretation is confirmed by the correspondent Greek toponym, which is simply a translation of the Punic name, namely ἰεράκων νῆσος.<sup>237</sup>

*yrnm* (present-day Pantelleria),<sup>238</sup> perhaps "island of the ostrichs",<sup>239</sup> comparing the supposed zoonym \**rn* to Hebrew *r<sup>e</sup>nānîm*.<sup>240</sup>

*ytnm*, probably in the region of Hadrumetum,<sup>241</sup> might be interpreted as the "island of the jackals",<sup>242</sup> by comparison of a supposed zoonym \**tn* with Hebrew *tan*<sup>243</sup> or maybe "island of the tunnies".<sup>244</sup>

Much less compelling is the explanation of the modern name of the Zembra island (Arabic زمبرة), off the Tunisian coast, as derived from its supposed Punic name 'y **\*gmr**, "island of the buck",<sup>245</sup> as suggested by its

231 Sznycer 1977, p. 173 ("hiboux"); cfr. Lipiński 2004, p. 403.

- 238 CIS I 265.3 (from Carthage) and on coins of Pantelleria (see Filigheddu 2006, p. 155).
- 239 Sznycer 1977, p. 173.

241 The place name (not considered in Filigheddu 2006) is attested in three inscriptions from Hadrumetum (Cintas 1947, pp. 38-40, of which one is *KAI* 99).

<sup>227</sup> Vattioni 1976, p. 529.

<sup>228</sup> Krahmalkov 2000, p. 433. In support, Krahmalkov mentions Egyptian *qrr* (cfr. Erman – Grapow 1971, V, p. 61), and Aramaic *yaqûr*, but cfr. also Syriac *yakrura* (Militarev – Kogan 2005, p. 186).

<sup>229</sup> On animal names in Semitic toponyms see Dirbas 2021 (who does not include Phoenician in his discussion).

<sup>230</sup> For the attestations of the name see Filigheddu 2006, p. 154.

<sup>232</sup> Köhler – Baumgartner – Stamm 1994, p. 466; Clines 1993-2011, IV, p. 377. Militarev – Kogan 2005, p. 166.

<sup>233</sup> CIS I, 139 = KAI 64 = ICO Sard. 23 (from Sardinia), line 1; CIS I, 5606 (from Carthage); Plin. Nat. III 7,84: Enosim.

<sup>234</sup> Sznycer 1977, p. 173; Tomback 1978, p. 219; Fuentes Estañol 1980, p. 65; Krahmalkov 2000, p. 48.

<sup>235</sup> Köhler - Baumgartner - Stamm 1994, p. 714; Clines 1993-2011, V, p. 735.

<sup>236</sup> Watson 2006, p. 451; del Olmo Lete – Sanmartín 2015, p. 637. Further parallels in Militarev – Kogan 2005, pp. 222-223.

<sup>237</sup> Ptol., Geogr. III 3,8.

<sup>240</sup> Köhler - Baumgartner - Stamm 1994, p. 1249; Clines 1993-2011, VII, p. 504.

<sup>242</sup> Sznycer 1975, p. 62; Sznycer 1977, p. 173; Tomback 1978, p. 343.

<sup>243</sup> Köhler – Baumgartner – Stamm 1994, p. 1759; Clines 1993-2011, VIII, p. 650.

<sup>244</sup> Lipiński 2004, p. 12, on the assumption of a common Mediterranean word corresponding to the Greek  $\theta$ úvvo $\varsigma$ . Segert (1976, p. 283) proposes, doubtfully, "island of dragons".

<sup>245</sup> Lipiński 2004, p. 374.

transcription as Aiy( $\mu$ oupoç (Strab. II 5,19; VI 2,11; Zonar. IX 27) and *Aegimurus* (Flor. *Epit.* I 18). By translating "buck" Lipiński avoids a too precise identification of the species.<sup>246</sup> But the Ugaritic word *gmr*, on which his hypothesis rests, probably designates neither a buck nor any other animal.<sup>247</sup>

Another group of toponyms might derive from a construct chain composed by the word r's ("cape") plus a zoomyn:

*Rusguniae* (Algeria)<sup>248</sup> might be "Cape of the Francolin"<sup>249</sup> supposing a Phoenician word \*gn(y), comparing Arabic  $\tilde{gun}\tilde{i}$ .<sup>250</sup>

Rusubbicari (Algeria)<sup>251</sup> might be related with bqr,<sup>252</sup> so would mean "Cape of the Cattle".

Rusazus (Algeria)<sup>253</sup> might be interpreted as "Cape of the Goat" ('z).<sup>254</sup>

Also for the name of the cape called Κώτης ἄκρον,<sup>255</sup> or αἰ Κώτεις<sup>256</sup> (probably in present-day Morocco), an attempted interpretation detects a trace of a Phoenician zoonym, \* $q't^{257}$  (maybe "pelican"), by comparison with Hebrew  $q\vec{a}'at$ .<sup>258</sup>

Indeed, some toponyms have tentatively been explained as composed of the Phoenician word r's ("cape") plus Libyan zoonyms:

*Rusibis* (Morocco)<sup>259</sup> and *Rusippisir*<sup>260</sup> (probably in present-day Algeria) may supposedly be the "Cape of the Hyena", from Libyan *iffis* "Hyena".<sup>261</sup>

*Rusuccuru*<sup>262</sup> may supposedly be the "Cape of the Partridge", from Libyan *uskurt/usekkurt* "partridge".<sup>263</sup> If the latter interpretation is correct, the Libyan zoonym might have coexisted with Phoenician \**qq* (if the identification and interpretation of this zoonym in the plant-name  $\alpha \sigma \tau \iota \rho \kappa \sigma \kappa$  is correct), or might have replaced it locally. Moreover, *Rusuccuru* as "Cape of the Partridge" might be considered as entirely Phoeni-

- 249 Lipiński 1992-1993, p. 298; 2004, p. 402.
- 250 Cfr. Bodenheimer 1935, p. 172. Lipiński 2004, p. 402, note 373, mentions also (modern?) Hebrew gūnī.
- 251 Ptol., Geogr. IV 2,6 (Ρουσίκιβαρ/Ρουσίβικαρ).
- 252 Segert 1966, p. 21.

- 254 Segert 1966, pp. 21-22. According to Segert (p. 22, note 29), the ending *-us* of the toponym might perhaps represent the plural feminine ending *-ut* (occasionally appearing as *uth* in Latin, cfr. Friedrich Röllig Amadasi Guzzo 1999, p. 151, § 231).
- 255 Ptol., Geogr. IV 1,2.

- 259 Ptol., Geogr. IV 1,2 (Poυσιβίς). Cfr. RE, IA.1, s.v. "Rusibis", col. 1237" (H. Dessau).
- 260 Ptol., Geogr. IV 2,8 (Ρουσουβιρσίρ/Ρουσούβισιρ). Cfr. RE, IA.1, s.v. "Rusubirsir", col. 1245 (H. Dessau).
- 261 Mercier 1924, p. 266.
- 262 Ptol., Geogr. IV 2,8 (Ρουσουκκό(υ)ρου); Plin., Nat. V 20 Rusucurum. Cfr. RE, IA.1, s.v. "Rusuccuru", col. 1245 (H. Dessau).
- 263 Mercier 1924, p. 287.

<sup>246</sup> Lipiński 2004, p. 374 n. 187.

<sup>247</sup> Cfr. del Olmo Lete – Sanmartín 2015, pp. 297-298. Watson (2006 and 2007) does not include *gmr* among the Ugaritic names of animals.

<sup>248</sup> Ptol., *Geogr.* IV 2,6, Ρουσγόνιον (manuscripts have Ρουστόνιον); Plin., *Nat.* V 20, *Rusguniae*. Cfr. *RE*, IA.1, s.v. "Rusguniae", col. 1236-1237 (H. Dessau).

<sup>253</sup> Ptol., Geogr. IV 2,9 (Ρουσαζοῦς); Plin., Nat. V 20, Rusazus. Cfr. RE, IA.1, s.v. "Rusazu", col. 1234 (H. Dessau).

<sup>256</sup> Strab. XVII 3,2.

<sup>257</sup> Lipiński 2004, p. 448.

<sup>258</sup> Köhler – Baumgartner – Stamm 1994, p. 1059-1060; Clines 1993-2011, VII, p. 169. Further parallels in Militarev – Kogan 2005, pp. 172-173.

cian,<sup>264</sup> supposing the existence of another Phoenician word for "partridge", namely \*qr,<sup>265</sup> by comparison to Hebrew  $q\hat{o}r\vec{e}$ .<sup>266</sup>

An entirely Phoenician etymology has been proposed for the toponym *Cabarsussis* or *Cebarsussis*, <sup>267</sup> which might be explained as kpr ss(m) "village of the horse(s)".<sup>268</sup>

#### 6. Greek and Latin Sources

Some Phoenician animal names are occasionally reported by Greek and Latin writers. Mentions of Phoenician animal names in Greek and Latin sources present two main problems: the interpretation of a Phoenician word offered by a non-native speaker may be incorrect, and its phonetical adaptation to a different graphic system is generally, and necessarily, imprecise.

According to Plutarch (*Sull.* XVII 5: θώρ γὰρ οἱ Φοίνικες τὴν βοῦν καλοῦσι), Phoenicians called a cow θώρ, which (although š is not usually rendered by θ),<sup>269</sup> seems to point to a Phoenician word \*šr, corresponding to Hebrew šôr. Most probably, like its Hebrew cognate,<sup>270</sup> \*šr could indicate a male as well as a female bovine. The claim of Plutarch, that Phoenicians called θώρ the cow (τὴν βοῦν), does not exclude that a bull could also be indicated as θώρ; his reference to a female was specifically required by the context, an etymological tale explaining a Greek toponym by reference to the cow whom Cadmus had notoriously followed. In another passage. (*Quaes. conv.* IX 2,3) Plutarch gives ἄλφα as the Phoenician word for τὸν βοῦν.

According to a tradition, also the (Greek) name of Ashdod, namely "Aζωτος, supposedly originated from its founder's wife name, "Aζα, which meant "she-goat" ( $\chi$ (μαιρα).<sup>271</sup> Since the founder was said to be of one of those who had escaped from the "Red Sea" (therefore a Phoenician, according to a well-known tradition),<sup>272</sup> this is an allusion to a Phoenician context: therefore, the name "Aζα presumably corresponds to the Phoenician word 'z.<sup>273</sup>

Latin sources (Serv., A I 286 and others), claim that Caesar's name was derived by the Carthaginian or Maurian name of the elephant, namely *caesa* or *caesai*. It is to be kept in mind that the Carthaginians raised elephants for military purposes, and that they captured the animals which were indigenous in North Africa, and different from those living in Asia. Carthaginians could have adopted the local name for these elephants together with the animals themselves. The Phoenician name should rather be derived from the root  $p\bar{l}l$  (cfr. Hebrew  $p\bar{l}l$ , Akk.  $p\bar{l}lum$ ).<sup>274</sup>

Our knowledge of the names of marine fauna in Phoenician is very scanty, if extant at all. Fishing and the fishing trade, however, certainly were of considerable importance in the Phoenician world. This fact

267 Cfr. RE, III.5, s.v. "Cabarsussis", coll. 1161-1162 (H. Dessau).

<sup>264</sup> Lipiński 2004, p. 400.

<sup>265</sup> Lipiński 2004, p. 400.

<sup>266</sup> Köhler – Baumgartner – Stamm 1994, p. 1132; Clines 1993-2011, VII, p. 304; Jastrow 1903, p. 1341. Further parallels in Militarev – Kogan 2005, pp. 183-184.

<sup>268</sup> Vattioni 1978, p. 718.

<sup>269</sup> Cfr. Friedrich – Röllig – Amadasi Guzzo 1999, p. 26, §45b.

<sup>270</sup> Cfr. Péter 1975.

<sup>271</sup> St. Byz. I 77.

<sup>272</sup> Hdt. I 1,1; VII 89,2; Strab. XVI 3,4; Plin., Nat. IV 36,120; Just., Epit. XVIII 3,2.

<sup>273</sup> This etymology may suggest that 'z was also used as a personal name, but there is no supporting evidence in Phoenician epigraphy.

<sup>274</sup> Cfr. Fronzaroli 1968, p. 282; Militarev – Kogan 2005, pp. 227-230.

seems to have been acknowledged by those ancient etymologies explaining the names of Tyre and Sidon as referring to fish. Indeed, while a tradition assumed that the name of Sidon arose *a piscium ubertate* of the city, since *piscem Phoenices sidon vocant*,<sup>275</sup> on the other hand an explanation of the name of Tyre referred to a *sar*-fish which supposedly abounded in her waters.<sup>276</sup> Although these etymologies are not unquestionable (the name of Tyre probably derives from the word *şr*, "rock"), nevertheless they hint to the existence, respectively, of a Phoenician word \**ş*(*y*)*d*, probably meaning "fishery (and hunting)", and of a Phoenician fish-name \**ş*(')*r*, which cannot be identified.<sup>277</sup>

Pliny's statement (*Nat.* IX 51,97), that the *carabi*-crabs were called *hippoe* in Phoenician language (*in Phoenice hippoe vocantur*) is due to a misunderstanding. Aristotle (*HA* II 3, 526a) mentioned crabs living in Phoenicia which were called "horses" (ἴππους) because of their speed (περὶ δὲ τὴν Φοινίκην γίνονται ἐν τῷ αἰγιαλῷ οῦς καλοῦσιν ἴππους διὰ τὸ οὕτω ταχέως θεῖν ὥστε μὴ ῥἀδιον εἶναι καταλαβεῖν). Aristotle simply meant that such crabs were called "horses", therefore they were presumably called *ssm*.

#### 7. Conclusive Remarks

From the various sources available, the following evidence concerning possible zoonyms can be collected:

'yl	"deer" (?)
'mr	"lamb"
'lp	"ox", "head of cattle"
*'qw (???)	"deer" (?)
'rw (?)	"lion" (?)
byk (???)	"falcon"(?)
bqr	"cattle"
gď	"(goat-)kid"
*gzl (???)	"pigeon"
*gmr (???)	"buck" (?), "mountain sheep" (?)
*gny (?)	"francolin" (?)
gr	"whelp" (?), "lion" (?)
dbr	"bee"
ḥzt (???)	a kind of bird
<i>ḥld</i>	"mole", "weasel"
*hmr (???)	"ass"
ybl	"ram"
*yn (???)	"dove"
kyšr	"elephant" (?)
klb/ klbt	"dog", "bitch"
*ks (???)	"owl" (?)
kpr/kprt (?)	"young lion" / "lioness" (?)
lb'l lb't	"lion" / "lioness" (?)

Just., *Epit.* XVIII 3,4; cfr. Isid., *Orig.* XV 1,28: *a piscium copia Sidon appellaverunt. Nam piscem Phoenices 'sidon' vocant.* Cfr. Steiner 2007, pp. 75-77.

277 The similarity of the *sar*-fish with *sardae sardinaeque* (Isidorus adds *ex quo derivatum est huius similitudinis pisciculos sardas sardinasque vocari*), is most probably just etymological speculation.

<sup>276</sup> Serv., G. II 506: Tyros dicitur, olim Sarra vocabatur a pisce quodam, qui illic abundat, quem lingua sua sar appellant; Isidorus, Etymologiae XII 6,38: Civitas Syriae, quae nunc Tyrus dicitur, olim Sarra vocabatur a pisce quodam qui illic abundat, quem lingua sua 'sar' appellant.

mqn'/mqnt	"livestock"
nḥr (???)	"dolphin" (???)
nml	"ant"
nmr	a big feline
ns	"(sparrow)hawk" (?)
*sd (?)	"fish"
ss (.)	"horse"
ss'	"moth" (?)
`gl/`glt (?)	"calf" / "heifer"
`dr	"flock"
`z	"goat" or "she-goat"
`kbr	"mouse"
`nzr	"boar"
`pt (???)	a kind of bird
p'r (???)	"bull"
pr'š	"flea"
ș'n	"flock", "(head of?) small livestock"
<i>sp</i> ' (?)	"snake"
spr	"bird"
spr 'gnn	a kind of bird
spr 'rr (?)	a kind of bird
şş	a kind of bird
şrb'yl	"fawn" (?), "young ram" (?)
* q't (???)	"pelican"
*qq (???)	"partridge" (???), "lamb" (???)
*qr (???)	"partridge" (?)
*qrr (???)	"frog, toad"
*rn (?)	"ostrich" (??)
š	"lamb", "kid", "head of small livestock"
špn	"badger"
šșp (???)	a kind of bird
*šr	"head of cattle"
* <i>tn</i> (???)	"jackals" (??), "tunny" (??)

Due to the peculiarity of their contexts, the interpretation of such names is often mainly depending on the corresponding Hebrew cognate, according to the rule that comparisons should proceed starting from the nearest and progressing to the more distantly related languages, and to the latter only when comparisons with the former have been exhausted without conclusive results. As we have seen, the identification and interpretation of Phoenician zoonyms is hindered by several biases and limits in our evidence, mostly the paucity or even complete lack of contextual information. Furthermore, in addition to the uncertainty of the identification of the zoonym lying behind a toponym, especially in the case of zoonyms indicating wild animals there is the possibility of a semantic shift, as a consequence of the differences in the local environments. Phoenician language was used from the Levant to the Atlantic Ocean, including a variety of land-scapes where different ecosystems lived; it is therefore quite possible, if not inevitable, that a zoonym which was connected to a specific Levantine species in the Phoenician motherland referred to a different species in another natural context, where the species which was originally meant was lacking, while other, although similar, species were present. On the other hand, Phoenician zoonyms could coexist or even be replaced by

zoonyms in different languages spoken by native people. Comparison with Hebrew, therefore, while often seminal in identifying an animal name, is not necessarily a trustworthy guide for interpreting its meaning, which may be supposed to have been closer in the Phoenician homeland (which was culturally and ecologically related to the Biblical context) but could well have changed in other Phoenician settlement areas, whose environmental and faunal contexts were different.

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