

Instead of a foreword

The present study was initiated a long time ago at the University of Marburg an der Lahn under the auspices of the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation and with the invaluable encouragement of Prof. Dr. Hans-Albert Rupprecht. The study was continued at the University of Warsaw and at the Institute for Advanced Study in Princeton under the patronage of Professor Glen W. Bowersock, with the essential inclusion of the results of the author's research in Alexandria. The first version of the text in Polish was presented for habilitation at the Historical Faculty of the University of Warsaw. The *Habilitationsschrift* was reviewed by Professors Iza Biežuńska-Małowist of the University of Warsaw, Maria Jaczynowska of the Nicolaus Copernicus University in Toruń, and Joseph Méléze Modrzejewski of the Sorbonne. The habilitation paper entitled *Aegyptiaca Antoniniana. Działalność Karakalli w Egipcie (215–216)*, a printed matter of the Historical Faculty of the University of Warsaw of 1993, was not a regular book, had no ISBN number, and was never available in bookstores. It is only kept in a few university libraries. An extract of three chapters of that Polish text in the author's translation into English was later printed in a limited number of copies by the Department of Papyrology of the University of Warsaw as an internal paper under the title *Caracalla Philsarapis. Observations on Caracalla's visit to the Sarapeum of Alexandria (A.D. 215–216)*, Warszawa 1998. Also that text had no commercial distribution whatsoever and is hardly available.

That study took now the form of the present book in English (with all unavoidable deficiencies due to the fact that the author is not a native speaker of the language), which is the first regular and complete

publication of my work on Caracalla's visit to Egypt. Chapters I-IX contain the results of the research completed in 1993, which are now re-told in the author's English version. The supplementary remarks written in 2020 are added separately in chapter X (Postscriptum). This somewhat unusual arrangement of the contents is intended to separate the earlier results of the writer's research on Caracalla's visit to Egypt, which do not depend on any recent publication but nevertheless should be brought to the attention of readers, from the *addenda*, which refer to some new data but generally agree with the earlier conclusions.

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