

### COMPOSITE CAPITALS ON HADRIAN'S GATES DURING ROMAN PERIOD: A PRELIMINARY STUDY

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#### ABSTRACT

This article includes a study of the composite capitals on the Hadrian's Gates at three locations: Gerasa, Antalya, and Ephesus. Hadrian's Gates were selected as a case study because it is one of the most important Buildings with composites capitals. A typological study of composite capitals shows two types, the first, composite capitals (Ionic capital with flutes and acanthus leaves), The second, composite capitals (Ionic capital with Palme and acanthus leaves), Those types were used on Hadrian's Gates during the Roman Period. The study includes description and comparative study of the composite capitals found in Hadrian's Gates and other Roman Locations.

KEYWORDS: Hadrian Gates; Gerasa, Antalya, Ephesus, Composite capitals

Hadrian's Gates are selected as a case study because it is one of the important Buildings most with composites capitals, The study of the composites capitals on the Hadrian's Gates aims to describe them, as well as to compare them to other composites capitals from the Roman period, where the exterior and interior influences were known. This research includes a study of composite capitals on Hadrian's Gates or arch's during the Roman Period. The remains of the Hadrian's Gates at three locations, namely, Gerasa (Kraeling 1938; Browing 1982), Antalya (Vandeput 1997; Thür 1989; Heilmeyer 1970; Lonckoronski et al. 1890), and Ephesus (Köster 1989; Thür 1989; Strocka 1988), include of the architectural elements in this Research. We will study the composite capitals at three locations above and we can compare them with other Roman locations such as Baalbek (Wigand 1914). The composite capital is one of the types that was used during the Roman period. А typological study of composite capitals shows two types: the first, Ionic capital elements with flutes and acanthus leaves. The second, Ionic capital elements with palme and acanthus leaves). Those types were used on Hadrian's Gates during the Roman Period.

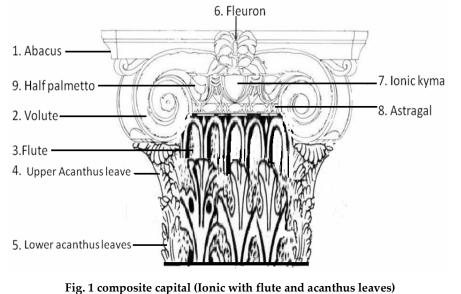
#### Description and Typology of Hadrian's Composite Capitals

The composite capital is one of the types that was used during the Roman period. It is composed of two main parts: the lower part of the Corinthian consists of Acanthus leaves. meanwhile the upper part included Ionic elements. A detailed study of the composite capitals at the three Hadrian's gates in Gerasa, Antalya and Ephesus showed that two main types of composite capitals can be identified. The first type includes Ionic capital with flute and acanthus leaves, while the second type includes Ionic capital with Palme and acanthus leaves. The following is a detailed description of each type.

#### Type I Composite capital (Ionic with flute and acanthus leaves) (Fig. 1)

This type of composite capitals consists of three parts: the lower part, consisting of one row of acanthus leaves alternating with flower lotuses and over it's; the middle part, consisting a flutes extending from the acanthus and louts leaves, the upper part, consisting of an ionic echinus and abacus. The echinus consists of an ionic kyma (egg-and-tongue motif), eyes, and volutes. The abacus consists of a cavetto, and is topped by double fillet; it is undecorated, except of a floral motif (rosette) rendered on it's center. The spatial distribution of this type can be found at Hadrian Gate at Gerasa (Plate 1.1) (Kraeling 1938), Antalya (Plate I.3) (Vandeput 1997: 34, Pl.78.3) and at other sites such as Baalbek during the Roman Period.

We can compare this type with other examples dating from the second century A.D., both are Near East and elsewhere. The capitals of Bacchus Temple at Baalbek (Plate 1.2) (Weigand 1914: 32) are similar to those in Gerasa, though there is characteristic difference, on these, the acanthus leaves have fingers, whereas on those from Gerasa, the leaflets are without.



Moreover, the leaflets are separated from each other by rows, the tips of which touch the tips of the leaflets. Also, the flutes are longer and are surmounted by astragals; both these features are missing from the Gerasa capitals. Finally, the eggs of the echinus are not longish, as the case at Gerasa, but round and the abaci are decorated with laurel leaves Contemporaneous with the Hadrian Gate at Gerasa is the Gate of Hadrian at Antalya (Plate 1.3) (Vandeput 1997: 34, Pl.78.3; Thür 1989: Pl. 78; Heilmeyer 1970: 105.Pl. 39.3: Lonckoronski et al. 1890: Fig. 8; Pl. 5). It's capitals are similar, though instead of a single row of acanthus leaves, they each have two. Additionally, the flutes are longer and deeper, the eggs of the echini are more oblong, and the volutes are more hollowed out. In the

case of Bacchus Temple at Baalbek, we find on each capital an astragal that lies the borderline between the kalathos and echinus. Likewise, those capitals refers back to the Hadrianic period, though more recently, they were reused as spoils in the baptistery of San Giovanni in Laterano (Plate 1.4) (Freyberger 1990: 125, Pl.44c; Kähler 1939: 113, Fig. 4). Those correspond almost completely with the capitals of the Hadrian Gate at Antalya; thus, they have the same differences with respect to the capitals from Gerasa. Comparable with composite capital with acanthus and flutes found in Gerasa and Antalya are capitals of the same type found at several locations also in Asia Minor and Western provinces of the Roman Empire most of the dating the same period, for example. The capitals from Meals

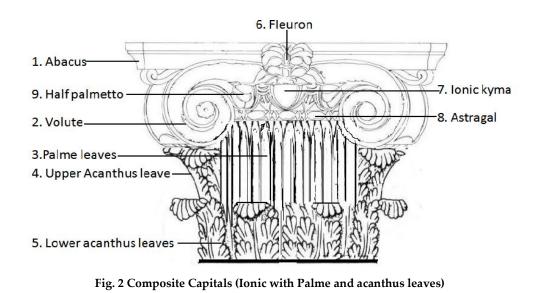
were found in Museum of Melas (Plate 2.1) (Rumscheid 2004: 163, Pl. 26; Heilmeyer 1970: 88, Pl. 24.4; Cook 1961: 90-101) are similar to those of the Arch of Hadrian at Antalya, though here the Kalathos lip undecorated with Astragal as the same Gerasa and San Giovanni, as well that the Echinus and abacus are omitted, the left volute is omitted.

Another example also from Asia Minor but dating from the Third Century A.D., are the capitals of the Great of Church at Milet (Plate 2.2) (Heilmeyer 1970: 101, Pl.38.2) These too are similar to those used on the Hadrian's Arch at Gerasa, though we find the acanthus leaves different, also, we find here the abacus decorated with egg-and-dart whereas the abaci of the capitals in Hadrian's Gates are undecorated. In the western provinces of the Roman Empire, composite capitals (Ionic capital with acanthus and flutes) have been found dating back to the same period, and in some cases even older. For example, those from Palazzo Frenese at Rome (Plate 2.3) (Strong 1994: fig.12; 1960: Pl. XV10; Heilmeyer 1970: 101, Pl. 38.2) are older than those of the Hadrian's Gates and date from First Century A.D., though, here the kalathos is decorated with two rosettes under the flutes. In addition, the flutes are shorter such as the same as those of the Hadrons' Arch at Gerasa. The Echinus is decorated with Palme leaves and without egg-and-dart motif as the same those of the Hadrian's Gates. In Addition, the volutes are decorated with leaves, from outside. example Another from western

Provinces of the Roman Empire, dating from the Second Century A.D., was found on the Tabularium at Rome (Plate 2.4) (Heilmeyer 1970: 101, Pl. 38.2; Strong 1960: Pl.xv.10; 1994: fig.12), though, here the acanthus leaves shorter than those of the Hadrons' gates. Another example from Italy was found on the Temple of Jupiter at Spoletium (Plate 3.1) (Adam 2001: Pl. 26), dating back to the Diocletian Period, though here, the kalathos have one row of acanthus leaves seem as those of the Hadrian's Arch at Gerasa and Temple of Bacchus at Baalbek. The kalatos lip decorated with motif as boll shape, it seems this type of motif concerned on this location. The volutes are decorated with scroll leaves and the abacus decorated with ovoli (egg-and-dart) such as of those the Great of Church at Milet.

# Type II Composite Capitals (Ionic with Palme and acanthus leaves) (Fig. 2)

This type consists of three parts. Theses are: the lower part, consisting of two rows acanthus leaves. Each leaf is divided into five leaflets and each leaflet has four fingers; the middle part, consisting of palmate leaves extending from the acanthus leaves to kalathos lip; the upper part, consisting of an ionic echinus and abacus. The echinus consists of an ionic kyma (egg-and-tongue motif), eyes, and volutes. The abacus consists of a cavetto is topped by double fillet; its undecorated, except of a floral motif (rosette) rendered on its center.



Composite capitals with acanthus and Palme leaves very similar to these (though with the acanthus and flutes capital) and dating from the same period have been found on the Arch of Hadrian at Ephesus (Plate 3.2) (Thür 1989: Pl. 36). We can compare this type with type one, we find here the kalthos lip undecorated with astragal (bead and reel) similar to those of the Hadrian's Gate at Gerasa, while we find those of the Arch of Hadrian at Antalya decorated with astragal also those of the Temple Bacchus at Baalbek. Likewise, the capitals found on the Celsus Library at Ephesus (Plate 3.3) (Köster 1989: Pl. 34.1; Thür 1989: Fig. 150; Strocka 1988: Pl.402) which also date back to the second Century A.D. These capitals were very similar to those of the Hadrian's Gate at Ephesus, though here the volutes decorated with leaves extended to lower part of abacus. An example also from Asia Minor, from the same period has been found on the Portico of the Asklepieion at Pergamon (Plate

3.4) (Strong 1994: 14, Fig. 15.1; 1960: Pl. 14.2), however, the abacus have two filets the lower is decorated with Palme leaves and the upper is decorated with egged and darts motif.

#### **II. DISCUSSION**

In general, the composite capitals used at several locations, in Asia Minor and elsewhere, but the kalathos is decorated with only acanthus leaves. It seems that the older example come from Rome was used on the Santa Costanza (Plate 4.1) dating from Augustan period (Köster 2004: 178, Pl. 27.3), though in this example, the kalthos decorated with two rosettes, the same design also was found on those of the Palazzo Farnese at Rome. Additionally, the kalathos lip here decorated with astragal similar to those on the Hadrian's Arch at Antalya and Temple Bacchus at Baalbek. We find here that the echinus is decorated with egg-and-dart and lotus leaves, while those of the

Hadrian's Gates only decorated with egg-and dart. The abacus consists of a double filets and the shape is the same as Corinthian capitals. An, example from Milte was found on stage of the theater (Plate 4.2) (Freyberger 1990:48, Pl. 16a, no.108; Heilmeyer 1970: Pl.49.1; Roberstson 1964: Pl.9.c)), these are similar to those of the Arch of Hadrian at Antalya, though the kalthos lip of Arch of Hadrian is undecorated with astragal and the kalathos also undecorated with flutes or Palme leaves such as that is found on the Hadean's Gates. Once again back to the western Provinces, we find one example from the same period found on the Arch of Titus at Rome (Plate 4.3), dating back to the first century A.D. (Freyberger 1990: Pl. 16b, no. 109; Hassel 1967: Pl. 29.2; Roberstson 1964: 342), this capital resembles those of Arch of Hadrian at Antalya which have volutes and kalathos lip design are decorated with astragal as well refers back to the First Century A.D. for example, composite capital of the Arch of Trajan at Benventum (Plate 4.4), (Freyberger 1990: 82, Pl. 29d, no. 189; Robertson 1964: 312, 342) though, here the capital are similar those found on the Arch of Titus, while we find here the motif of the kalathos lip are similar to those of the Arch of Hadrian at Antalya. We find that the composite capitals were also widely used at the Tivoli location, for example, on the Hadrian's Villa (Plate 5.1) (Robertson 1964: 218, fig. 94), though there is a characteristic difference, on these, the acanthus leaves have fingers, whereas on those from Gerasa, the leaflets are without.,

while we find the motif of the kalathos lip are similar to those of the Hadrian's Arch at Antalya. In addition, we find the volutes are similar to those of the Arch of Trajan at Benventum and arch of Titus at Rome. An example, From Asia Minor, dating to the Hadrian period found on the Temple of Zeus at Aenzanil (Plate 5. 2) (Koester 2004: 123, Pl. 79.1).

However, the kalathos an Temple Aezanil consists of one a row of acanthus similar those of the Arch of Hadrian at Gerasa, but here the leaf consists of seven leaflet with five fingers such as those of the Temple of Bacchus at Baalbek, also we find the kalathos consists of two volutes in addition the normal volutes. Additionally, the abacus here decorated with egg- and-dart similar to those of the Gereat of church at Milet (Meletos) also from Asia Minor. it seem that the most of the pilaster composite capitals consists of one row of acanthus leaves we have four examples: on Arch of Hadrian at Gerasa, Temple of Bacchus at Baalbek, Great Church at Milet and Temple of Zeus at Aezani. It seems that the composite capitals with acanthus leaves were also widely used in Asia Minor and the Western provinces of the Roman Empire. One example, dating back to the Second Century A.D. are the capitals of the Gate of Market at Milet (Plate 5.3) (Strocka 1988: Pl. 39.3; Heilmeyer 1970: 87, Pl. 25.1), the echinus is similar to those of the Arch of Hadrian at Greasa, while the acanthus leaves are different. In Addition, the abacus in this case is decorated with egg-and-dart such as those of the Great of Church at Milet and those of the Temple of Zeus at Aezani, it seem that this type confer during the Roman Period to Asia Minor. In addition, we see the abacus decorated but with leaves in Eastern provinces of the Roman Empire, such as found on the Temple of Bacchus at Baalbek. We find one example from Ephesus on the Nymphaeum of Trajan (Plate 5.4) Vandeput 1997: 35, Pl. 97.3; Heilmeyer 1970: Pl.32.3; Von Gerkan 1928: 59) similar those of Hadrian's Arch at Gerasa, though, here the kalathos consists of two rows of leaves, we find they seem deigned of the leaves on those of the Gate of Market at Milet. In addition, the kalathos lip undecorated are the same as other examples in Asia Minor and Eastern Provinces. Once again, we find another examples from Miletos on the Faustina Baths (Plate 6.1), dating back to the 160 -170 AD. (Heilmeyer 1970: Pl. 33.1; Keil 1932: 30, Fig. 14), though here, the acanthus leaves similar to those the capitals of most building at Gerasa such as Corinthian capital on the Arch of Hadrian, but not similar composite campsite capital at Gerasa. We can compare the acanthuses leaves also in Asia Minor there are many examples, such as those of the Delphinion at Meletos and those of the Marble Court at Saradis. In geranial the volutes are similar those of the composite capital in Asia Minor, such as those on the Great of Church. In addition, we find here the kalathos lip decorated with Scroll motif, this type of decoration un-widely seems to appear during the Roman period, and we find another example, from the same period similar to those of the Harbour Baths are found on the East Gymnasium at Ephesus. In usual the kalathos lip is decorated with astragal motif (bead and reel) such as those of the Arch of Hadrian at Antalya. In addition, we find the same capital from the same Area, for example, those of the East Gymnasium at Ephesus (Plate 6.2) (Yegül 1986: 170, Fig. 175). as an (example), from Sardis, dating back to the early part of the Third Century A.D. the capitals are used on the first story aediculae of the Marble Court (Plate 6.3) (Kramer 1994: Pl.13.3; 1983: 152, Fig. 4), these are similar to those of Hadrian Arch at Gerasa, though here, the leaves consist of two rows of acanthus, Each kalathos consists only of acanthus leaves while those on the capitals of the Hadrian's Arch at Gerasa consist of acanthus leaves and flutes. The echini decorated with ovoli and astragals, whereas those on the Hadrian Arch at Gerasa consists only ovoli. We find that the composite capitals were widely used on the Theatre at the Prage location (Plate 6.4) (Vandeput 1997: 39; Heilmeyer 1970: 98, Pl. 32.1,2), though here the leaves on each capital consist of two rows of acanthus, and the kalathos consists only of acanthus leaves. The Basilica A at Aphrodsias (Plate 7.1) (Vandeput 1997: 87.2; Strocka 1988: Pl.45.3; Heilmeyer 1970: Pl. 27.3) has some composite capitals similar those found on Ephesus and other locations in Asia Minor. In addition, we find one example from Ephesus found on the Harbour Baths (Plate 7.2), dating back to 156 AD. (Freyberger 1990: 108,

Pl. 38a, no. 255a; Robertson 1964: 345). We can back to the Rome, also the composite capitals without flutes or Palme leaves are fond in several locations at Western Provinces of the Roman Empire most of them dating to the second century A. D. for example, those the Arch of Septimus Severus (Plate 7.3), dating back to 193-211 AD. (Freyberger 1990: 110, Pl. 39a, no. 257). In addition, we find another example from the same period from those the Hippodrome at Rome (Plate 7.4) (Ibid: Pl. 39b, no. 268) One example found on the Caracalla Baths at Rome (Plate 8.1), also dating refers to the era 193-235 AD. We can compare one example, but later than of the Hadrian's Gates found on the Baths of Diocletian at Rome (Plate 8.2), dating refers to the era 284-305 AD. (Durm 1905: Fig. 449), though here, the kalathos have two rows of acanthus leaves similar to those found on the Normal Corinthian capitals. Also we find over the upper row found two rosettes similar those found on the Western Provinces of the Roman Empire, for examples, on the Santa Costanza, Arch of Titus, Hadrian's Villa and other locations at Rome, it seem this type spread only in Rome. In addition, we find that the abacus decorated with Anthemion leaves and ovoli (egg-and- dart) also, it seems that this type of motif confiner of this location. They are some locations outside the Asia Minor and Rome but not widely, we find one example, from Northern Africana was found at the Cruciform Building at Sabratha (Plate 8.3) (Kenrick 1986: 87, Pl. 27b), though here, the volutes come in scroll leaves shape and inner in side of each volute we find rosette. It seems this shape found only in Sabratha location. In geranial, there are many examples of the composites capitals without flutes and Palme leaves confiner in Asia Minor and the Western Provinces of the Roman Empire, but we choose good.

#### CONCLUSION

The focus of this study has been on the composite capitals which were used on the Hadrian's Gates at three sites: Gerasa, Antalya and Ephesus. It has been noted that the composite capitals with flutes and acanthus were found to be popularly used during the Roman period especially in Asia Minor and the Eastern Provinces of the Roman Empire. Meanwhile, it has been noticed that the composites capitals with Palme leaves found on Hadrian's Gates at Ephesus. That is such decorative elements were spatially limited to Asia Minor. This preliminary study serves as an introduction to study of other architectural elements at Hadrian's Gates and other Buildings during the Roman Period.

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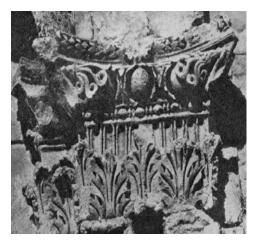
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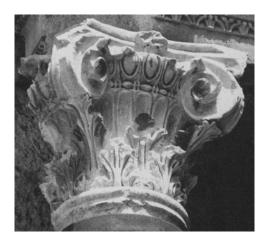
### PLATE I



1. Gerasa, Arch of Hadrian



2. Baalbek, Temple of Bacchus

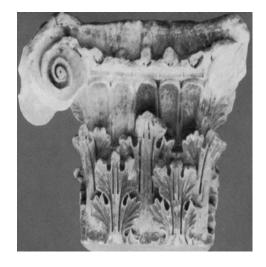


3. Antalya , Arch of Hadrian



4. San Giovanni/ Laterano, Baptisterium

### PLATE II



1. Mylasa (Milas), Museum of Mylasa



2. Milet, Great of Church



3. Rome, Palazzo Farnese



4. Rome, Tabularium





1. Spoletium, Temple of Jupiter



2. Ephesus, Hadrian's Gate



3. Ephesus, Celsus Library



4. Pergamon, Portico of the Asklepieion

### PLATE IV



1. Rome, Santa Costanza)



2. Milet, Stage of Theatre



3. Rome, Arch of Titus



4. Beneventum, Arch of Trajan



1. Hadrian's Villa, Vatican Museum



2. Aezani, (Phrygia) Temple of Zeus



3. Milet, Gate of Market



4. Ephesus, Nymphaeum of Trajan

## PLATE V

### PLATE VI





1. Milet, Faustina Baths

2. Ephesus, East Gymnasium



3. Saradis, Marble Court



4. Perage, Theatre

### PLATE VII



1. Aphrodisias, Basilica A



2. Ephesus, Harbour Baths



3. Rome, Arch of Septimus Severus



4. Rome, Hippodrom, Grotto Tamerlane

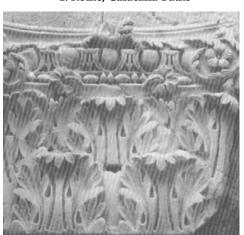
### PLATE VIII



1. Rome, Caracalla Baths



2. Rome, Baths of Diocletian



3. Sabratha, Cruciform Building