

What if Kyriai Doxai was NOT a list?

Post by "Don" of July 28, 2023 at 11:08 PM

[Quote from Cassius](#)

And with the Latin too we have the possibility or probability that these translations date back to a period when the people who made them were fluent in both languages *and* had access to people who really understood the philosophy due to training from real Epicurean experts.

Not so sure about that. The earliest Latin translation I've found (so far as of my typing this line) is 1533.

For reference, I'm pasting some links and notes here for later:

Diogenes Laertius: the Manuscripts of "The Lives and Opinions of Eminent Philosophers"

[Diogenes Laertius: the Manuscripts of "The Lives of Eminent Philosophers"](#)

Notes on the history of manuscripts and printed editions of Diogenes Laertius's Lives of the Eminent Philosophers re-arranged in chronological order from the link above (as well as other sources):

- 3rd c. CE: The original work is dated to the earlier decades of the 3rd century AD
- 9th c. CE: we may reasonably assume that a single stray copy, brought to light in the ninth century, was the parent of all extant MSS.
- 1200 CE: best MSS is Codex Borbonicus (B) of the National Library at Naples : Gr. III. B 29 is the class-mark.
 - all critics agree that B is the most faithful to the archetype.
 - B is not digitized anywhere online.
- c. 1300 CE: Next to the Borbonicus comes the [Paris codex MSS \(Gr. 1759\), known as P](#)
- Thirteenth or fourteenth century: MSS (Co) from the Library of the Old Seraglio at Constantinople
- Fourteenth century: MSS (W) from the [Vatican \(Gr. 140\)](#)
 - Co & W may be said to side with P rather than with B
- [Florentine MS. F \(Gr. plut. Ixix. 13 \(69.13\)\)](#), for which letter Martini and Bywater substitute L
 - The superiority of BPF is laid down in Usener's *Epicurea*, pp. vi sqq., xxii sqq.
 - all three must have been written between the twelfth and fourteenth centuries.
- Subsidiary MSS: [Paris codex \(Gr. 1758, Q\)](#), which had been copied from P

- another subsidiary MSS is Florentine codex, [Laurentianus \(Gr. plut. Ixix. 28 \(69.28\), G\)](#)
 - Cod. Neapolitanus Bourbonicus III B 28 (=D)
 - [cod. Laurentianus 69.28 \(=G\)](#)
 - [cod. Vaticanus Palatinus Graecus 261 \(=S\)](#)
 - [cod. Vaticanus Urbinas Graecus 109 \(=T\)](#).
 - These four manuscripts, all dated to the fifteenth century, form a distinct subgroup among the various manuscript families of Diogenes' work. **Their text is almost completely uniform, which indicates that they were either copied from one another or from the same (now-lost) exemplar.**
- **February 1432: Printed Latin Translation of Ambrosius Traversarius Camaldulensis, completed in 1431**
 - 1475: Venice
 - 1476: Nuremberg
 - several times reprinted at other places, with the alterations due to successive improvements in the Greek text.
 - For example: 1559: [Diogenis Laertii De uita et moribus philosophorum libri X. :Cum indice locupletissimo.](#)
- **1533: The whole Greek text printed at Basel** with the dedication: Hieronymus Frobenius et Nicolaus Episcopus studiosis S.P.D
 - [1533: Hieronymus Frobenius et Nicolaus Episcopus studiosis S.P.D.](#)
 - In 1566 there appeared at Antwerp another edition, with this title : *Laertii Diogenis de vita et moribus philosophorum libri X. Plus quam mille in locis restituti et emendati et fide dignis vetustis exemplaribus Graecis, ut inde Graecum exemplum possit restitui; opera Ioannis Sambuci Tirnaviensis Pannonii. Cum indice locupletissimo. Ex officina Christophori Plantini.*
 - editor tells us that he used older MSS., naming the Venetus and Vaticanus.
 - That he has also some readings peculiar to the Borbonicus has been shown by Usener (*Epicurea*, p. 16)
 - editio princeps of 1533 was printed from an inferior MS., the identity of which has been discovered by Von der Muehl, who calls it Z. It is the Raudnitz MS., now in the library of Prince Lobkowitz.
- 1570: [Stephanus \(Henri Estienne\) published 2-volume edition at Paris \(Notes/commentary on Books 1-9\)](#)
 - 1593: [second edition, "cum Is. Casauboni notis multo auctior," Paris](#)
 - 1615: Geneva
 - fault of these editions (as of Froben's) is that they are based on inferior MSS.
- 1649: [Gassendi: 1649, Leyden: Animadversiones in librum X Diogenis Laertii, with a companion volume, De vita et moribus Epicuri.](#)
 - 1675, Leyden: two parts, Epicuri philosophiae per Petrum Gassendum, tomus primus, and Epicuri ethicae per Petrum Gassendum, tomus secundus, were united.

- See also this [1647 edition of De vita et moribus Epicuri libri octo. Authore Petro Gassendo](#)
- Gassendi depended less upon MSS. than upon common sense and his own reasoning powers ; nevertheless to him, as to his predecessors, Stephanus, Casaubon, and Aldobrandinus, are due some conjectural restorations of the text which subsequent editors accept without reserve ; for example, there are three such in x. 83.
- 1691-92: [variorum edition of the whole work was published by Meibomius, included the valuable commentary of Menage and other illustrative matter.](#)
- 1887: [Usener has edited Book X. in Epicurea](#) (1887)
- 1922: Von der Muehl is the editor for the Bibliotheca Teubneriana of Epicuri epistulae ires et ratae sententiae a L. D. seruatae (Leipzig, 1922).

List of manuscripts online:

[Digitized Greek Manuscripts | Modern Language Translations of Byzantine Sources](#)
[Digitized Greek Manuscripts](#)