

Magical gem: Solar animals (A) χαβραχ-logos (B)

| | |
|---------------------------|---|
| CBd-Number | CBd-497 |
| ID-Number | GB-BM-MMEu_G 109, EA 56109 |
| Collection | GB_London, The British Museum |
| Inventory | G 109 (EA 56109) |
| References | Michel, BM, no. 97; Michel, DMG, no. 19.6_2 |
| Former Collections | Towneley Collection |
| Material | carnelian (colour unspecified) |
| Dimensions | 17.5 x 13.5 x 3.5 mm |
| Dating | 2nd-3rd c. AD (Michel) |
| Iconography | Harpocrates sitting on lotus flower; flail; plant: lotus buds (2); side-lock of youth; solar disk; snake, winged; phoenix; gesture, hand raised to mouth; bird: falcon; animal: crocodile; crown, unspecified |
| Logoi | χαβραχ-logos |



Credits: From Michel, BM
Rights: © Trustees of the British Museum

A: Surface divided into four sections by hatched double lines, in the middle an oval field repeating the shape of the gem. In the oval field: a bird, to left (phoenix). Top right: Harpocrates on lotus flower, to left, right hand to mouth, left hand holding flail, on the head: sun-disc, side-lock of youth visible. Top left: winged snake, to right, flying upwards, on the head: sun-disc (?). Bottom left: crowned falcon, to right. Bottom left: very damaged, belly and feet of a crocodile still visible.

B: Inscribed in seven lines: χαβ|ραχφν|εσχηρφ|[.]ροφνυ|[.]ωφωχ||ωβω|χ → χαβραχ-logos.

The gem is closely connected to a praxis mentioned in a magical papyrus, see PGM II 104sq.

Bibliography

[Michel, BM on CBd-497](#)

[Gordon 2011](#), 44, pl. 10.

[The British Museum Collection database on CBd-497](#)

Last modified: 2020-12-28 22:57:42