

## ABSTRACT

Title: Libanius' Declamations 9 and 10

Language: English

Author: Mikael Johansson

University: Göteborg University, Department of Classical Studies/Greek

Of the Antiochene orator Libanius, active in the 4<sup>th</sup> century A.D., we have an unusually large quantity of literary products preserved. The works attributed to him include among others speeches, progymnasmata, and letters. Among his works are also found about fifty declamations. This study is concerned with two of the latter, declamations 9 and 10. This pair of judicial speeches, a so-called antilogy, consists of the fictitious speeches of Neocles and Themistocles, imagined as delivered in 480 B.C. The likewise fictitious presupposed trial concerns the annulment of the disownment of Themistocles by his father Neocles. The text offers a good example of the literary genre of declamation of later antiquity.

The present study has three aims: (1) to translate and present a legible text of these declamations; (2) to comment on the language and rhetoric of the text; (3) to investigate on which historical sources Libanius builds declamations 9 and 10. This work offers the first translation of these declamations into a modern language, as well as the first commentary. The study also focuses upon the impact of the rhetorical treatise *De inventione* (falsely attributed to the 2<sup>nd</sup>-century rhetorician Hermogenes of Tarsus) on these speeches. On this matter some conclusions are drawn. Concerning the determination of which historical sources Libanius relied on when composing declamations 9 and 10, the findings of the present study differ from earlier investigations of the question, which have seen a large number of influences from authors such as Herodotus and Aelius Aristides in these rhetorical pieces.

Key words: Libanius, Pseudo-Hermogenes, Themistocles, Neocles, Herodotus, Aelius Aristides, *De inventione*, rhetoric, declamation, judicial oratory, prooimia, diegesis, pistis, epilogos, basis, apokeryxis.