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CAPInv. 1136: U-LIB-001

I. LOCATION

i. Geographical area	Libya with Cyrenaica
ii. Region	Cyrenaica
iii. Site	Ptolemais

II. NAME

i. Association with unknown name	U-LIB-001
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III. DATE

i. Date(s)	m. iii - e. i BC
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V. SOURCES

i. Source(s)	Lajtar 2010: 102-18 (m. iii - e. i BC)
Online Resources	Will soon be available at IGCyr
i.a. Source type(s)	Epigraphic source(s)
i.b. Document(s) typology & language/script	Catalogue in Greek of heads of an association.
i.c. Physical format(s)	Stele inscribed on two faces, but originally inscribed on all four faces.
ii. Source(s) provenance	Between Tocra Gate and the city theatre.

VII. ORGANIZATION

ii. Leadership	The catalogue has more than 30 entries, each with two or three names. It is supposed that these two or three names record the leaders of the association and not regular members. There are more than 30 entries from m. iii BC to e. i BC., i.e. over c. 150 years : the association's heads could therefore have rotated every two years.
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iv. Officials

Two men bear official titles within the catalogue:
εὐεργέτης καὶ ἱερεὺς, *euergetes kai hierous* (l. 14)
ἱερεὺς, *hierous* (l. 32)

VIII. PROPERTY AND POSSESSIONS

iii. Income

Probably funded through the generosity of benefactors (εὐεργέτης, *euergetes*, l. 14).

IX. MEMBERSHIP

ii. Gender

Men

Note

Only men are recorded in the catalogue.

iii. Age

Adults

iv. Status

Citizens. Prosopographical relations between several men in the catalogue suggest that the association was restricted to the civic elite.

v. Relations

Several father-and-son (e.g. l. 9 with l. 16; l. 19 with l. 23) or brother-and-brother (e.g. l. 27 with l. 28; l. 39 with l. 40) relationships between members.

XII. NOTES

i. Comments

The dating is based on paleographical grounds only.
There is no proof of any cult by the group but the dates of existence of the association (more or less from the refoundation of Ptolemais up to the Roman conquest) strongly suggest that the association had something to do with royal cult.

iii. Bibliography

Dobias-Lalou, C. (2011), 'Bulletin épigraphique', *REG* 124: no. 658.
Łajtar, A. (2010), 'A catalogue of officials of an association (?) in a newly discovered inscription from Ptolemais in Cyrenaica', in R.W.V. Catling and F. Marchand (eds.), *Onomatologos. Studies in Greek personal names presented to Elaine Matthews*, Oxford: 102-18.

XIII. EVALUATION

i. Private association

Possible

Note

Łajtar 2010 thinks that it is a private association with cultic purpose.
Łajtar may be right in seeing in the inscription an association since it has 1. heads 2. others officials 3. maybe laws with the rotation of the heads every two years 4. maybe a cultic purpose