

CAPInv. 133: **synodos**

I. LOCATION

i. Geographical area	Western Asia Minor
ii. Region	Bithynia
iii. Site	Nikomedeia

II. NAME

i. Full name (original language)	σύνοδος (TAM IV.1 63, l. 6)
ii. Full name (transliterated)	<i>synodos</i>

III. DATE

i. Date(s)	145 / 146 AD
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IV. NAME AND TERMINOLOGY

iii. Descriptive terms	σύνοδος, <i>synodos</i>
Note	<i>synodos</i> : TAM IV.1 63, l. 6

V. SOURCES

i. Source(s)	TAM IV.1 63 (145 / 146 AD)
Online Resources	TAM IV.1 63
i.a. Source type(s)	Epigraphic source(s)
i.b. Document(s) typology & language/script	Dedication in Greek on behalf of the association.
i.c. Physical format(s)	Small altar. The right side is broken off.
ii. Source(s) provenance	The inscription was found near a fountain in Kandira, in the area of Izmit (Nikomedeia).

VI. BUILT AND VISUAL SPACE

ii. References to buildings/objects

An altar is dedicated by an individual (P. Ailios Markianos) to *Thea Angiste* on behalf of the *synodos*.

XI. INTERACTION

i. Local interaction

If the dedicator of the altar was not a member of the *synodos*, he seems to have functioned as an external benefactor of the association (cf. below under field XII.i: Comments). The exact nature of the bonds uniting the two parties is not clear. However, since the dedication took the form of a thanks-giving to *Thea Angiste*, it could be argued that the dedicator believed that some form of divine assistance was offered to him, perhaps through the mediation of the *synodos* on behalf of which the dedication was made.

XII. NOTES

i. Comments

The dedication of the altar to *Thea Angiste* (Mother of the Gods/Cybele; see Robert 1940: 318; Schwertheim 1978: 798 no. 8; Dörner in TAM IV.1 63, based on Paus. 7.17.9-12) as thank-offering in the name of the *synodos* (see Mendel 1901: 58 and Robert 1940: 318) may be taken as an indication of some sort of cultic activities performed by of the association in honour of the Goddess. However, no specific attestation of such activities exists. The dedicator, P. Ailios Markianos, may have been either a member of the *synodos* or an external benefactor. According to Marek (2002: 38-39) he could perhaps be identified with the homonymous *strategos* of the Aurelian tribe of Klaudiopolis who appears in a dedication to Septimius Severus dated to 198 AD (cf. SEG 52: 1231 and 1233). However, since the Nikomedeian dedication bears a reference to the eighth year of Antoninus Caesar, this is not very likely.

The altar dedicated to *Thea Angiste* in the name of the *synodos* was probably owned and/or used by the latter.

iii. Bibliography

Marek, C. (2002), 'Die Phylen von Klaudiupolis, die Geschichte der Stadt und die Topographie Ostbithyniens', *MH* 59.1: 31-50.
Mendel, G. (1901), 'Inscriptions de Bithynie', *BCH* 25: 5-92.
Robert, L. (1940), 'Inscriptions de Bithynie copiées par Georges Radet', *REA* 42: 302-22.
Schwertheim, E. (1978), 'Denkmäler zur Meterverehrung in Bithynien und Mysien', in S. Şahin, E. Schwertheim and J. Wagner (eds.), *Studien zur Religion und Kultur Kleinasiens. Festschrift für Friedrich Karl Dörner zum 65. Geburtstag am 28. Februar 1976*. 2 vols, Leiden: 791-837.

XIII. EVALUATION

i. Private association

Certain

Note

The use of the term σύνδοσις (*synodos*) to describe the group in the name of which the dedication is made indicates that it was a private association.