

CAPInv. 688: Neikaeis olympiastai

I. LOCATION

i. Geographical area	Thrace
ii. Region	Inland Thrace
iii. Site	Philippopolis

II. NAME

i. Full name (original language)	Νεικαεῖς ὀλυμπιασταί (IGBulg V 5464)
ii. Full name (transliterated)	<i>Neikaeis olympiastai</i>

III. DATE

i. Date(s)	Imp.
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IV. NAME AND TERMINOLOGY

ii. Name elements	Cultic:	The epithet ὀλυμπιασταί, <i>olympiastai</i> , is interpreted as referring to the cult of Zeus <i>Olympios</i> , already attested at Nikaia's territory, see BE 1967: no. 375.
	Ethnic:	Νεικαεῖς, <i>Nikaeis</i>

V. SOURCES

i. Source(s)	IGBulg V 5464 (Imp.)
Online Resources	IGBulg 5464
i.a. Source type(s)	Epigraphic source(s)
i.b. Document(s) typology & language/script	Funerary inscription in Greek of Philippos son of Philippos, with depiction of five wreaths, one of them offered by the Νικαεῖς, <i>Nikaeis</i> .

i.c. Physical format(s)	Rectangular marble stele (1.62 x 0.74 x 0.18) with an elaborate floral pattern at its upper part and a pedimental stele in relief depicted below; this stele bears five wreaths and the funerary inscription.
ii. Source(s) provenance	Found at Ralitz str. at the site of 'Vtora Kamenitsa', where the necropolis of the 1st-3rd cent. AD is located, see <i>TIR K35/2: Philippopolis</i> p. 298.

VI. BUILT AND VISUAL SPACE

i. Archaeological remains	Necropolis
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VIII. PROPERTY AND POSSESSIONS

i. Treasury/Funds	The wreath offered to the deceased Philippos son of Philippos, indicates that these Νικαεῖς, <i>Nikaeis</i> collected funds, even if on an <i>ad hoc</i> basis.
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IX. MEMBERSHIP

iv. Status	On the basis of the groups name the members originated from Nikaia (Bithynia).
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X. ACTIVITIES

iv. Honours/Other activities	A wreath was offered to the deceased Philippos son of Philippos, who should have been an important citizen of Philippopolis (see below XI.i), though not necessarily a member of the group.
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XI. INTERACTION

i. Local interaction	The deceased Philippos son of Philippos, should have been an important citizen of Philippopolis, as indicated by the wreaths also offered to him by the βουλή, <i>boule</i> , and the δῆμος, <i>demos</i> , of the city, the Νικομηδεῖς, <i>Nikomedeis</i> (CAPInv. 806), the ῥωποποῖται, <i>rhopolai</i> (CAPInv. 686) and the βυρσεῖς, <i>byrseis</i> (CAPInv. 583). The presence of two professional associations, of two associations of foreign residents at Philippopolis and the eastern origin of the deceased's brother (as indicated by the personal name Παπίας, <i>Papias</i>) are signs of his eastern origin and of his possible involvement with trade.
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XII. NOTES

i. Comments	The ethnic <i>Nikaeis</i> quite probably refers Nikaia of Bithynia, as indicated by the presence on the same stone of the Νικομηδεῖς, <i>Nikomedeis</i> , and the general influx to Thrace of immigrants from this region (see also CAPInv. 697).
iii. Bibliography	Kolev, K. (1966), 'Nadgrobna plotsa ot Filipopol', <i>Arheologija</i> 8/2: 57-9.

XIII. EVALUATION

i. Private association

Probable

Note

The Νικαεῖς ὀλυμπιασταί, *Nikaeis olympiastai*, just like the Νικομηδεῖς, *Nikomedeis*, mentioned on the same stone, should have been residents of Philippopolis originating from the Bithynian city Nikaia (see also *BE* 1967: no. 375). Their collective name and the group's action of honouring a deceased are signs of an associative organisation.