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CAPInv. 1204: Pasous hieros thiasos

I. LOCATION

i. Geographical area	Thrace
ii. Region	Euxine Coast
iii. Site	Tomis

II. NAME

i. Full name (original language)	Πασοῦς ἱερὸς θιάσ[ος] (I.Tomis 120, l. 6)
ii. Full name (transliterated)	<i>Pasous hieros thiasos</i>

III. DATE

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

i. Name in other forms	θιάσος, <i>thiasos</i> (l. 1)
ii. Name elements	Personal: <i>Pasous</i> : of Paso. Other: <i>hieros</i>

V. SOURCES

i. Source(s)	I.Tomis 120 (i BC).
Note	Other publications: AGRW 80; Jaccottet II no. 62
Online Resources	I.Tomis 120 and AGRW ID 3720
i.a. Source type(s)	Epigraphic source(s)

i.b. Document(s) typology & language/script	Greek versified dedication of a statue to (Dionysos) πυρίβρομος, <i>pyribromos</i> (i.e. 'roaring with fire'), in the name of the Πασοῦς ἱερὸς θίασ[ος] 'sacred <i>thiasos</i> of Paso'.
i.c. Physical format(s)	Marble architrave.
ii. Source(s) provenance	Tomis

VI. BUILT AND VISUAL SPACE

i. Archaeological remains	It is possible that the architrave belonged to a cult building connected with the worship of Dionysos.
ii. References to buildings/objects	Statue of the god (marble or bronze?) made by Hermagenes (l. 5) and consecrated by an anonymous son of Parmis (ll. 3-4) to (Dionysos) <i>pyribromos</i> .

VII. ORGANIZATION

i. Founder(s)	Paso (l. 6: Πασοῦς ἱερὸν θίασ[ον], <i>Pasous hieron thias[on]</i>).
Gender	Female
ii. Leadership	Possibly [- -] Parmidos: the son of Parmis was the owner of a workshop (l. 2), where the statue was made by Hermagenes, one of his workers (slave, freedman or free worker?). Parmis' son dedicated the statue on the occasion of his accession to the priesthood (cf. l. 3: [μ]υστικὸν ἐμ βακχοῖσι λαχὼν στέφος, <i>[m]ystikon em bakchoisi lachon stephos</i> , 'taking by casting of lots the mystic crown among bacchants'). As bearer of the 'mystic crown' he was probably the leader of the <i>thiasos</i> .
Known practice of appointment	By lot: [μ]υστικὸν ἐμ βακχοῖσι λαχὼν στέφος, <i>[m]ystikon em bakchoisi lachon stephos</i> (l. 3), 'taking by casting of lots the mystic crown among bacchants'

IX. MEMBERSHIP

ii. Gender	Men Women
Note	Certainly also women because the founder of the <i>thiasos</i> was a woman (see VII.i). However, only two male members are known: [- -] Parmidos, who dedicated the statue of the god (ll. 3-4; see above), and Hermagenes, who made this cult object (l. 5).

X. ACTIVITIES

iii. Worship	Practice of an 'archaic initiation' (ἀρχαίη ... τελετή, <i>archaie ... t[ele]te</i> , certain restoration). Given the dedication of a statue to Dionysus (poetically called πυρίβρομος, <i>pyribromos</i> ; see V.i.b), worship by the group may be supposed.
Deities worshipped	Dionysos

XII. NOTES

ii. Poland concordance	Poland B 106
iii. Bibliography	Dana, M. (2011), <i>Culture et mobilité dans le Pont-Euxin. Approche régionale de la vie culturelle des cités grecques</i> . Paris, Bordeaux: 79-80. Jaccottet, A.-F. (2003), <i>Choisir Dionysos: Les associations dionysiaques ou la face cachée du dionysisme</i> . Zurich. I: 92, 132; II, 129-30 no. 62.

XIII. EVALUATION

i. Private association	Certain
Note	The terminology points to a private association.