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CAPInv. 144: Hermais[tai --]

I. LOCATION

i. Geographical area	Aegean Islands
ii. Region	Lesbos
iii. Site	Mytilene

II. NAME

i. Full name (original language)	Ἑρμαιο[ταί --] (IG XII.2 22, l. 4)
ii. Full name (transliterated)	<i>Hermais[tai --]</i>

III. DATE

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

ii. Name elements	Theophoric: Hermes
iii. Descriptive terms	κοινόν, <i>koinon</i> ?
Note	<i>koinon</i> : IG XII.2 22, l. 5 The word κοινόν, <i>koinon</i> is attested in IG XII.2 22, l. 5, and it is quite likely, though not certain, that it is used as term for the collective body of <i>Hermaistai</i> . Restorations of the text in line 4 have varied between <i>koinon</i> (Newton 1883 in GIBM II 227; cf. Ziebarth 1896: 44; Ziebarth 1900: 509, no. 1) and <i>synodos</i> (Paton 1899 in IG XII.2 22; cf. Poland B 154), but neither can be certain.

V. SOURCES

i. Source(s)	IG XII.2 22 (no date provided)
Note	Older edition: GIBM II 227

Online Resources	IG XII.2 22
i.a. Source type(s)	Epigraphic source(s)
i.b. Document(s) typology & language/script	Honorific decree (?) in Greek.
i.c. Physical format(s)	Fragmentary piece of marble, broken on all sides.

X. ACTIVITIES

iv. Honours/Other activities	If indeed the text can be restored as honorific decree, it seems the <i>Hermaistai</i> honoured an individual from Kedreai (Caria).
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XII. NOTES

i. Comments	Charitonidis (Ἐπιγραφαί: pp. 5, 23) suggests there may be a relation between the <i>Hermaistai</i> in IG XII.2 22 and the <i>thiasotai</i> in Charitonidis, Ἐπιγραφαί: no. 22 (CAPInv. 145). Shields (1917: 38) thinks <i>Hermaistai</i> is a translation of the Latin term <i>Mercuriales</i> and dates the group to the Roman period (cf. Hodot 1990: 275, MYT 028).
ii. Poland concordance	Poland B 154
iii. Bibliography	Charitonidis, S. (1968), 'Αἱ Ἐπιγραφαί της Λέσβου,' <i>Συμπλήρωμα</i>, Athens. Hodot, R. (1990), <i>Le dialecte éolien d'Asie: la langue des inscriptions (VIIe s. a.C. - IVe s. p.C.)</i>. Paris. Poland, F. (1909), <i>Geschichte des griechischen Vereinswesens</i>. Leipzig. Shields, E.L. (1917), <i>The cults of Lesbos</i>. (Dissertation. Johns Hopkins University). Ziebarth, E. (1896), <i>Das griechische Vereinswesen</i>. Leipzig. Ziebarth, E. (1900), 'Zu den griechischen Vereinsinschriften', <i>RhM</i> 55: 501-19.

XIII. EVALUATION

i. Private association	Probable
Note	The theophoric name <i>Hermaistai</i> in combination with the likely use of the term <i>koinon</i> to describe this group makes it probable that they formed a private association.