

Author: BENEDIKT ECKHARDT

## CAPInv. 467: Ptolemai mystai

### I. LOCATION

|                      |                    |
|----------------------|--------------------|
| i. Geographical area | Western Asia Minor |
| ii. Region           | Phrygia            |
| iii. Site            | Nakoleia           |

### II. NAME

|                                  |                                       |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| i. Full name (original language) | Πτολεμαῖοι μύσται (MAMA V KB 6, l. 1) |
| ii. Full name (transliterated)   | <i>Ptolemai mystai</i>                |

### III. DATE

|            |       |
|------------|-------|
| i. Date(s) | ii AD |
|------------|-------|

### IV. NAME AND TERMINOLOGY

|                   |                |   |
|-------------------|----------------|---|
| ii. Name elements | Topographical: | <i>Ptolemai</i> is probably the designation of a village near Nakoleia. |
|-------------------|----------------|---|

### V. SOURCES

|   |  |
|---|--|
| i. Source(s)                                | MAMA V KB 6 (ii AD)  |
| Note  | See also:<br>Jaccottet II no. 77   |
| Online Resources                            | <a href="#">MAMA V KB 6</a>  |
| i.a. Source type(s)                         | Epigraphic source(s)   |
| i.b. Document(s) typology & language/script | Dedicatory inscription. Greek.   |
| i.c. Physical format(s)                     | Marble altar with representations of Dionysiac cult scenes (for photo and description, see Haspels). |

|                          |        |
|--------------------------|--------|
| ii. Source(s) provenance | Ayvali |
|--------------------------|--------|

## X. ACTIVITIES

|                              |   |
|------------------------------|---|
| iii. Worship                 | The scenes depicted on the altar show cult scenes that were probably familiar to initiates; cf. Haspels 1962: 287, who regards this (and similar scenes in monuments for Zeus <i>Dionysos</i> , presumably an old Phrygian deity) as evidence for "an old local cult, which was taken up, and perhaps enlarged, in Roman time." |
| Deities worshipped           | Dionysos  |
| iv. Honours/Other activities | The <i>mystai</i> dedicate an altar to Dionysos.  |

## XII. NOTES

|                        |  |
|------------------------|--|
| i. Comments            | This altar belongs to a group of similar monuments; cf. Jaccottet 2003: 152-3, 158-60 for discussion.  |
| ii. Poland concordance | Poland B 422   |
| iii. Bibliography      | Haspels, C.H.E. (1962), 'Relics of a Dionysiac Cult in Asia Minor', <i>AJA</i> 66: 285-7.<br>Jaccottet, A.-F. (2003), <i>Choisir Dionysos. Les associations dionysiaques ou la face cachée du dionysisme</i> . 2 vols. Zürich. |

## XIII. EVALUATION

|                             |   |
|-----------------------------|---|
| i. Private association      | Probable  |
| Note                        | The status of <i>mystai</i> -groups is not quite clear; most of them probably served both the private interests of their members and the needs of civic religion. |
| ii. Historical authenticity | Certain   |