

CAPInv. 837: **thiasitai**

I. LOCATION

i. Geographical area	Western Asia Minor
ii. Region	Caria
iii. Site	Kaunos

II. NAME

i. Full name (original language)	θιασίται[ι --] (<i>I. Kaunos</i> 75, A, line 5)
ii. Full name (transliterated)	<i>thiasitai</i>

III. DATE

i. Date(s)	200 (?) BC - 100 (?) AD
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IV. NAME AND TERMINOLOGY

ii. Name elements	Cultic:	θιασίται, <i>thiasitai</i> The group probably constituted a cultic <i>thiasos</i> ; see below X.iii.
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V. SOURCES

i. Source(s)	<i>I. Kaunos</i> 75 A-B (ca. 200 BC - 100 AD?).
Note	Cf. also Roos 1968: 154-60 nos. 1-2; BE 1969: no. 545.
Online Resources	PHI: I.Kaunos 75
i.a. Source type(s)	Epigraphic source(s)
i.b. Document(s) typology & language/script	Records (A-B) of the consecration of two sanctuaries (or dedications) in Greek.

i.c. Physical format(s)	Two rock-cut inscriptions (A and B). Only the first explicitly mentions the <i>thiasitai</i> . Both inscriptions are treated as part of the same complex by <i>I. Kaunos</i> 75.
ii. Source(s) provenance	South of Küçükkale; see <i>I. Kaunos</i> 75 for ph. and a full description.

VI. BUILT AND VISUAL SPACE

ii. References to buildings/objects	<p>ἱερὸν, <i>hieron</i></p> <p>The texts (A-B) record the consecration of two sanctuaries (ἱερὸν... ἱδρύται), but it is unclear what physical structures these may have involved.</p> <p>Cp. <i>I. Kaunos</i> 74 for another, perhaps later, dedication in the cult of Zeus Xenios, this one consisting of a block of marble with an upper moulding and akroteria.</p>
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X. ACTIVITIES

iii. Worship	The two rock-cut inscriptions (A-B) refer to the foundation of two sanctuaries respectively (in A, explicitly as a result of a dream, καθ' ὄραμα, <i>kath' horama</i> , line A 6).
Deities worshipped	<p>Ζεὺς Ξένιος</p> <p>Μήτηρ</p> <p>One sanctuary (A) belongs to Zeus Xenios; the other to Meter (B).</p>

XII. NOTES

i. Comments	There are very fragmentary traces of a name (or names) associated with the <i>thiasitai</i> in line A4, though this remains unclear: Ἀγαθη[□ □ □]AI[— —]. The name might be related to a founder/leader.
iii. Bibliography	Roos, P. (1968), 'Research at Caunus', <i>OpAth</i> 8: 154-60 nos. 1-2.

XIII. EVALUATION

i. Private association	Probable
Note	The very fragmentary mention of <i>thiasitai</i> cannot inspire great confidence. However, since the group is invoked explicitly in the context of the foundation (ἱδρύται, i.e. <i>hidrusis</i>) of a sanctuary for Zeus Xenios, this strengthens the notion that it was to some degree permanent rather than <i>ad hoc</i> .