

CAPInv. 1155: Kores mystai sekou kai enbatai hoi en Smyrnei

I. LOCATION

i. Geographical area	Western Asia Minor
ii. Region	Ionia
iii. Site	Smyrna

II. NAME

i. Full name (original language)	Κόρης μύσται σηκου και ενβαται οι εν Σμύρνη (I.Smyrna 726, ll. 3-6)
ii. Full name (transliterated)	<i>Kores mystai sekou kai enbatai hoi en Smyrnei</i>

III. DATE

i. Date(s)	1 (?) - 300 (?) AD
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IV. NAME AND TERMINOLOGY

ii. Name elements	Cultic:	<i>mystai, enbatai</i>
	Theophoric:	Kore
	Topographical:	Smyrna
	Other:	<i>sekos</i>

V. SOURCES

i. Source(s)	I.Smyrna 726 (1 (?) - 300 (?) AD)
Online Resources	I.Smyrna 726
i.a. Source type(s)	Epigraphic source(s)

i.b. Document(s) typology & language/script	Possibly a building inscription, greek
i.c. Physical format(s)	Stone block, maybe originally built into a larger structure.
ii. Source(s) provenance	Smyrna, found at the slope of Mt Pagus.

VI. BUILT AND VISUAL SPACE

ii. References to buildings/objects	σηκόρς, <i>sekos</i> (l. 4): The <i>mystai kai enbatai</i> are tied to a “sacred precinct”. It is unclear from the fragmentary text whether this was a public or a private sanctuary.
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X. ACTIVITIES

iii. Worship	<i>Mystai</i> are “initiates”, <i>enbatai</i> are “those who (are allowed to) enter” - presumably the holy precinct (for parallels from Sardeis and Klaros, see Herrmann 1996: 335-9). Both terms probably refer to the same organization. It is possible that different stages of initiation are in view (<i>enbatai</i> being the more advanced one, like the <i>mystai/epoptai</i> divide in the large mystery cults of Eleusis or Samothrace).
Deities worshipped	Kore
iv. Honours/Other activities	Something was carried out "according to the decree of the <i>mystai</i> and <i>enbatai</i> ".

XII. NOTES

i. Comments	The identity of this group of <i>mystai</i> with the <i>synodos</i> of <i>mystai</i> in I.Smyrna 653 and I.Smyrna 654 is possible, but not likely (see CAPInv. 1148 ; Schipporeit 2013: 199-200).
ii. Poland concordance	Poland B 355
iii. Bibliography	Herrmann, P. (1996), ‘Mystenvereine in Sardeis’, <i>Chiron</i> 26: 315-48. Schipporeit, S.T. (2013), <i>Kulte und Heiligtümer der Demeter und Kore in Ionien</i> . Istanbul.

XIII. EVALUATION

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