

Author: STELLA SKAL TSA

CAPInv. 17: hoi Sarapiastai

I. LOCATION

i. Geographical area	Aegean Islands
ii. Region	Thasos
iii. Site	Thasos

II. NAME

i. Full name (original language)	οἱ Σαραπισταί (IG XII Suppl. 365, l. 2).
ii. Full name (transliterated)	<i>hoi Sarapiastai</i>

III. DATE

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

ii. Name elements	Theophoric:	<i>Sarapis</i>
iii. Descriptive terms	κοινόν, <i>koinon</i>	
Note	<i>koinon</i> , ll. 6, 16.	

V. SOURCES

i. Source(s)	IG XII Suppl. 365 (ii. BC)
Note	<i>RICIS</i> no. 201/0101 (Bricault 2013: 95). <i>SIRIS</i> no. 265.
Online Resources	IG XII Suppl. 365
i.a. Source type(s)	Epigraphic source(s)

i.b. Document(s) typology & language/script	Decree in Greek of the <i>Sarapiastai</i> concerning the sale of the <i>eponymia</i> (the post of the eponymous office) of the association.
i.c. Physical format(s)	Marble door jamb broken below (H. 78 x W. 31 x Th. 22 cm).
ii. Source(s) provenance	It was found in 1924, reused as a threshold in the ‘gate of the deity on a chariot’ in Thasos (NW part of the city).

VI. BUILT AND VISUAL SPACE

ii. References to buildings/objects	<p>ἱερὰ κλισία, <i>hiera klisia</i> (l. 8) (sacred banquet room or sacred couch) κώθων, <i>kothon</i> (banquet) (l. 17) ἱερόν, <i>hieron</i> (sanctuary) (l. 34) ἐπιφανέστατος τόπος, <i>epiphanestatos topos</i> (l. 35) στρόφιον λευκόν, <i>strophion leukon</i> (ll. 8-9)</p>
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VII. ORGANIZATION

iii. Members	συνσαρapiασταί, <i>symsarapiastai</i> (ll. 31-32).
iv. Officials	<p>ἐπώνυμος, <i>eponymos</i> (l. 36) ἱερεύς, <i>hiereus</i> (l. 18) (priest) γραμματεὺς, <i>grammateus</i> (ll. 19, 33-34) (secretary)</p> <p>The eponymous magistrate was entitled to the following privileges (<i>gera</i>, l. 6): - to recline in the sacred banquet room (or in the sacred couch) wearing a white headband (ll. 7-9) - to be crowned with the eponymous crown in every <i>synodos</i> at the expenses of the <i>koinon</i> (ll. 9-12) - to have his name written on the administrative acts of the <i>Sarapiastai</i> throughout his life (ll. 13-17) - to vote along with the priest and the secretary in the <i>kothon</i> (ll. 17-20). - to have the stele of the decree set up in the most conspicuous place in the sanctuary whenever he wishes to (ll. 34-36).</p> <p>Eponymous officials ἐπώνυμος, <i>eponymos</i> (l. 36) Known practice of appointment <i>eponymous</i>: by bid (96 dr.)</p>
v. Other staff	<p>δοχεύς, <i>docheus</i> (l. 11) (host) ἱεροκήρυξ, <i>hierokeryx</i> (l. 13) (sacred herald)</p>
vi. Laws and rules	προστέ[τα]κται ἐν τῷ νόμῳ, <i>proste[ta]ktai en toi nomoi</i> (l. 20)
vii. Judicial system	<p>The <i>Sarapiastai</i> issued administrative acts (ll. 13-15). The eponymous magistrate along with the priest and the secretary had the right to vote in the <i>kothon</i> as prescribed by the law (ll. 17-20).</p>

VIII. PROPERTY AND POSSESSIONS

i. Treasury/Funds	The <i>eponymos</i> should pay 96 drachmas to the <i>koinon</i> (i.e. to the treasury) in three annual instalments.
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IX. MEMBERSHIP

i. Number	Six names are preserved in the stele (the lower part of the stele is broken).
ii. Gender	Men
Note	All names inscribed in the stele are of men.
iv. Status	All members were citizens (name followed by patronymic).

X. ACTIVITIES

i. Assemblies	κόθων, <i>kothon</i> (l. 17): the <i>epomymos</i> was allowed to vote along with the priest and the secretary in the <i>kothon</i> (ll. 17-20).
ii. Meetings and events	σύνοδος, <i>synodos</i> (l. 10): the <i>epomymos</i> was to be crowned with the eponymous crown in every <i>synodos</i> at the expenses of the <i>koinon</i> (ll. 9-12).

XII. NOTES

iii. Bibliography	Fraser, P.M. (1960), 'Two studies on the cult of Sarapis in the hellenistic world', <i>OpAth</i> 3: 1-54, esp. 51-52 no. 5. Seyrig, H. (1927), 'Quatre cultes de Thasos', <i>BCH</i> 51: 178-233, esp. 219-33.
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XIII. EVALUATION

i. Private association	Certain
Note	The use of the term <i>koinon</i> to describe the group, its theophoric name (<i>Sarapiastai</i>), its internal organization (i.e. officials) taught with the regularity of meetings suggest that this group is a private association.