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CAPInv. 698: *threskeia* Dios Hypsistou (?)

I. LOCATION

i. Geographical area	Macedonia
ii. Region	Pieria
iii. Site	Dion

II. NAME

i. Full name (original language)	θηρησκεία Διὸς Ὑψίστου (?) (SEG 53: 596, unpublished)
ii. Full name (transliterated)	<i>threskeia</i> Dios Hypsistou (?)

III. DATE

i. Date(s)	252 AD
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IV. NAME AND TERMINOLOGY

ii. Name elements	Theophoric: <i>Zeus Hypsistos</i>
iii. Descriptive terms	θηρησκεία, <i>threskeia</i> (?)
Note	<i>threskeia</i> : SEG 53: 596, unpublished. On θηρησκεία, <i>threskeia</i> , and related terms, see Foschia 2004. Although the term θηρησκευτής, <i>threskeutes</i> , used for members of associations seems to be a Macedonian peculiarity, it remains uncertain whether the term θηρησκεία, <i>threskeia</i> , refers here to a religious association (the only other example being the association of the Asklepiastai in Thessalonike, CAPInv. 724) or simply to the cult of the god and its ceremonies.

V. SOURCES

i. Source(s)	SEG 53: 596, 1-2, unpublished (AD 251/2, shortly before ca. March)
Online Resources	SEG 53: 596, 1 SEG 53: 596, 2

i.a. Source type(s)	Epigraphic source(s)
i.b. Document(s) typology & language/script	Both unpublished Greek inscriptions are catalogues of members of the association (or simply devotees of the god). SEG 53: 596, 1 is a list of persons selected by lot for the monthly banquets (δοχαί, <i>dochai</i>) in honour of the god. SEG 53: 596, 2 refers to estates belonging to the god and then records another list of devotees.
i.c. Physical format(s)	Marble plaques
ii. Source(s) provenance	Both inscriptions were found at the sanctuary of Zeus <i>Hypsistos</i> at Dion (Pandermalis 2005).

VI. BUILT AND VISUAL SPACE

i. Archaeological remains	The temple of Zeus <i>Hypsistos</i> at Dion (on which see Pandermalis 2005) is not necessarily related to the association itself.
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VII. ORGANIZATION

iv. Officials	The priest mentioned in SEG 53: 596, 1 is most probably the priest of the cult and thus should not necessarily be viewed as a leader of the association.
v. Other staff	SEG 53: 596, 1 (unpublished) is a list of persons selected by lot for the monthly banquets (δοχαί, <i>dochai</i>) in honour of the god.
Known practice of appointment	Selected by lot
viii. Obligations	Members of the association (?) were selected by lot as persons in charge of the monthly banquets (δοχαί, <i>dochai</i>) in honour of the god) (SEG 53: 596, 1, unpublished).

VIII. PROPERTY AND POSSESSIONS

ii. Realty	SEG 53: 596, 2 refers to estates belonging to the god (not necessarily to the association) and then records another list of devotees.
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X. ACTIVITIES

ii. Meetings and events	Monthly banquets (δοχαί, <i>dochai</i>) in honour of the god are attested (SEG 53: 596, 1, unpublished).
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XI. INTERACTION

i. Local interaction	On the sanctuary of Zeus <i>Hypsistos</i> at Dion, where a number of other dedications to the god were discovered (SEG 53: 597-600 and <i>An.Ép.</i> 2003: nos. 1579, 1580 and 1582b), see Pandermalis 2005.
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XII. NOTES

iii. Bibliography

Foschia, L. (2004), 'Le nom du culte, θρησκεία, et ses dérivés à l'époque impériale', in S. Follet (ed.), *L'hellénisme d'époque romaine. Nouveaux documents, nouvelles approches (Ier s.a.C.-IIIe s. p.C.). Actes du colloque international à la mémoire de Louis Robert, Paris, 7-8 juillet 2000*, Paris: 15-35.
Pandermalis, D. (2005), 'Ζεὺς Ὑψίστος καὶ ἄλλα', *AEMTh* 17: 415-24.

XIII. EVALUATION

i. Private association

Possible

Note

Only the full publication of the material from the sanctuary of Zeus *Hypsistos* may shed light on the nature of the ambivalent term θρησκεία, *threskeia*, –which may point either to an association or simply to the cult in general (see above, under IV.iii)– and thus to the nature of the catalogues SEG 53: 596.