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CAPInv. 754: U-EGY-019

I. LOCATION

i. Geographical area	Egypt
ii. Nome	Arsinoites (00)
iii. Site	Alexandrou Nesos

II. NAME

i. Association with unknown name	U-EGY-019
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III. DATE

i. Date(s)	221 BC
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V. SOURCES

i. Source(s)	P.Enteux. 20 (12 Tybi = 28 Gorpaios = 26 February 221 BC)
Note	AGRW 293
Online Resources	P.Enteux. 20 TM 2981 AGRW ID 2900
i.a. Source type(s)	Papyrological source(s)
i.b. Document(s) typology & language/script	Greek petition to the King by the sister of a deceased member of an association, regarding the non payment of the <i>taphikon</i> by the members of the association.
i.c. Physical format(s)	Papyrus
ii. Source(s) provenance	The papyrus was found in mummy cartonnage at Magdola (Ars.). The petitioner states that she is from the village of Alexandrou Nesos (l. 1): the association was obviously also located in the same village, since it is not stated otherwise.

VII. ORGANIZATION

ii. Leadership	ἀρχιθιασί[της, <i>archithiasites</i> (l. 4): the man was called Philippos.
iii. Members	Membership of the association is expressed by the verb συνθιασιτεύω <i>synthiasiteuo</i> : τοῦ [γὰρ ἐμοῦ ἀδελ.]φοῦ Ἀπολλοδότου συνθιασιτεύοντος αὐτοῖς, <i>tou gar emou adelphou Apollodotou synthiasiteuontos autois</i> (l. 2).
iv. Officials	The association had a ἱερεὺς, <i>hiereus</i> (l. 4): his name was Dionysios.
vi. Laws and rules	The association had a θιαστικός νόμος, <i>thiasitikos nomos</i> (ll. 5, 9). We do not know the details of these regulations, but from the wording in ll. 4-5 (πρὸς τῷ μήτε θάψαι μήτε ἐξακολουθεῖν αὐτοῖ κατὰ [τὸν θιασι]τικὸν νόμον, <i>pros toi mete thapsai mete exakolouthesai autoi kata ton thiasitikon nomon</i>) we can infer that they at least established that the association would take care of the burial of deceased members and would accompany their funeral. Furthermore, the payment of the <i>taphikon</i> , a burial indemnity, was contemplated.
ix. Privileges	According to the rules of the association, every members was entitled to a funeral which was to be attended by the other members. A burial indemnity, ταφικόν, <i>taphikon</i> (ll. 5, 7; verso 3) was also granted to members. In certain cases, however, what promised was not kept and the family of the deceased had to take legal action against the association.

VIII. PROPERTY AND POSSESSIONS

i. Treasury/Funds	The association had to possess funds, given that money for burial indemnity (<i>taphikon</i>) was theoretically being disbursed.
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IX. MEMBERSHIP

ii. Gender	Men
Note	The names of the members of the association are all male. It is nowhere stated that the petitioner, sister of the deceased member, belonged to the association; she most probably did not.
vi. Proper names and physical features	Φίλιππος ἀρχιθιασί[της Διονύσιος ἱερεὺς Ἀπολλόδοτος Κράτεια, sister of Ἀπολλόδοτος

X. ACTIVITIES

iv. Honours/Other activities	The members of the association theoretically took part in the funeral rites for their fellow members.
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XIII. EVALUATION

i. Private association	Certain
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Note

The presence of the verb συνθιασιτεύω *synthiasiteuo* to indicate membership, a well organised structure with an *archithiasites*, a *hiereus*, funds for the *taphikon*, common funerary ceremonies, and a *thiasitikos nomos* render certain the fact that this group was a private association.