

Author: MARIO C.D. PAGANINI

CAPInv. 187: to politeuma (ton Boioton)

I. LOCATION

i. Geographical area	Egypt
ii. Nome	Xoites (L06)
iii. Site	Xois

II. NAME

i. Full name (original language)	τὸ πολίτευμα (τῶν Βοιωτῶν) (SEG 2: 871, ll. 8-9)
ii. Full name (transliterated)	to politeuma (ton Boioton)

III. DATE

i. Date(s)	165 (?) BC
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IV. NAME AND TERMINOLOGY

ii. Name elements	Ethnic:	Boiotoi Boeotians
iii. Descriptive terms	πολίτευμα, <i>politeuma</i>	
Note	<i>politeuma</i> : SEG 2: 871, l. 8	

V. SOURCES

i. Source(s)	SEG 2: 871 (ca. 165 BC)
Note	Other publications of the text: SB III 6664.
Online Resources	SEG 2: 871 TM 7262 AGRW ID 20516
i.a. Source type(s)	Epigraphic source(s)

i.b. Document(s) typology & language/script	Greek dedication of a <i>temenos</i> to Zeus <i>Basileus</i> and the <i>patrioi theoi</i> by the <i>politeuma</i> and <i>synpoliteuomenoi</i> of the Boeotians.
i.c. Physical format(s)	Limestone stele.

VI. BUILT AND VISUAL SPACE

ii. References to buildings/objects	The <i>politeuma</i> dedicated τὸ τέμενος καὶ τὰ συγκύρ[οντα], <i>to temenos kai ta synkyronta</i> (l. 15). στήλη, <i>stèle</i> (l. 13)
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VII. ORGANIZATION

iii. Members	The members of the <i>politeuma</i> seems to be referred to as οἱ ἐπισυνηγμένοι ἐν Ξόει Βοιωτοί, <i>hoi episyneghmenoi en Xoei Boiotoi</i> (ll. 11-2). Furthermore the group of οἱ σ[υμ]πολιτευόμενοι, <i>hoi synpoliteuomenoi</i> (ll. 12-13) is also mentioned: according to Thompson Crawford 1984 and Thompson 2012: 94, the term indicated the non-military supporting members who took part in the activities of the <i>politeuma</i> .
iv. Officials	There is a priest of the <i>politeuma</i> : ἱερεὺς τοῦ πολιτεύματος, <i>hiereus tou politeumatatos</i> (ll. 8-9). He may have been at the head of the <i>politeuma</i> : cf. Fraser 1959-60: 149.

VIII. PROPERTY AND POSSESSIONS

ii. Realty	The τέμενος καὶ τὰ συγκύρ[οντα], <i>temenos kai ta synkyronta</i> (l. 15) dedicated to Zeus by the <i>politeuma</i> may have belonged to them.
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IX. MEMBERSHIP

ii. Gender	Men
Note	It is likely that the <i>politeuma</i> was a group formed by people involved in military life, and therefore men.
iii. Age	Adults
Note	If the military character of the <i>politeuma</i> is correct, it does not seem likely that children took part in it.
iv. Status	<p>The members of the <i>politeuma</i> probably belonged to the military background and had (at least in the beginning) a common Boeotian origin. The civilians associated with them (defined as <i>hoi synpoliteuomenoi</i>: they probably represented the soldiers families or immigrant of similar origin) also took part in the <i>politeuma's</i> activities.</p> <p>The priest of the <i>politeuma</i>, Kaphisodoros, son of Kaphisodoros, <i>Boiotos</i>, bore the aulic title of <i>archisomatophylax</i> and was also <i>strategos</i> of the Xoites nome (ll. 6-9; from other texts we know that he was also priest of Alexander and of the Ptolemies in 156/5 BC: cf. Mooren 1975: no. 088). His sons, Metrophanes and Ptolemaios, were also involved in the army (and the <i>politeuma</i>) as <i>diadochoi</i> and were <i>eisangeleis</i>, palace officials (ll. 9-11: cf. Mooren 1975: nos. 0300 and 0301).</p>
v. Relations	Kaphisodoros, priest of the <i>politeuma</i> , and his two sons, Metrophanes and Ptolemaios, were all members of the <i>politeuma</i> .

vi. Proper names and physical features	Καφισόδωρος Καφισοδώρου Βοιώτιος ὁ ἀρχισωματοφύλαξ καὶ στρατηγὸς τοῦ Ξοῖτου καὶ ἱερεὺς τοῦ πολιτεύματος οἱ τούτου υἱοὶ Μητροφάνης κ[αὶ Πτ]ολεμαῖος οἱ διάδοχοι καὶ εἰσαγγελεῖς
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X. ACTIVITIES

iii. Worship	The <i>politeuma</i> of Boeotians dedicated the shrine and premises to Zeus <i>Basileus</i> and the <i>patrioi theoi</i> : Δὲ βασιλεῖ καὶ [τοῖς] ἄλλοις πατρίοις θεοῖς, <i>Dii basilei kai tois allois patriois theois</i> (ll. 4-5).
Deities worshipped	<i>Zeus Basileus</i> <i>patrioi theoi</i>
iv. Honours/Other activities	The dedication is made on behalf of the Royal House, thus showing the <i>politeuma</i> 's loyalty to the Ptolemaic dynasty: ὑπὲρ βασιλέως Πτολεμαίου[υ] καὶ βασιλίσσης Κλεοπάτρας τῆς ἀδελφῆς θ[ε]ῶν Φιλομητόρων κα[ὶ] τῶν [τέ]κνων αὐτῶν, <i>hyper basileos Ptolemaiou kai basilisses Kleopatras tes adelphes theon Philometoron kai ton teknon auton</i> (ll. 1-4).

XII. NOTES

iii. Bibliography	Fraser, P. M. (1959-60), 'Inscriptions from Ptolemaic Egypt', <i>Berytus</i> 13: 123-161. Mooren, L. (1975), <i>The Aulic titlature in Ptolemaic Egypt</i> . Brussel. Thompson Crawford, D. J. (1984), 'The Idumaeans of Memphis and the Ptolemaic <i>Politeumata</i> ', in <i>Atti del XVII Congresso Internazionale di Papirologia</i> , Napoli: 1069-75. Thompson, D. J. (2012), <i>Memphis under the Ptolemies</i> . 2nd edn. Princeton and Oxford.
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XIII. EVALUATION

i. Private association	Certain
Note	The group presents all the characteristics (internal organisation, activities, officials etc) of a private association. There are no hints at the fact that this group had larger responsibilities of whatever character, like it is the case for other <i>politeumata</i> (cf. CAPInv. 1370). It therefore seems certain that this <i>politeuma</i> functioned and was a private association of a military character.