

Author: BENEDIKT ECKHARDT

CAPInv. 489: **hoi mystai**

## I. LOCATION

|                      |                    |
|----------------------|--------------------|
| i. Geographical area | Western Asia Minor |
| ii. Region           | Phrygia            |
| iii. Site            | Area of Sebaste    |

## II. NAME

|                                  |                                |
|----------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| i. Full name (original language) | οἱ μύσται (SEG 40: 1223, l. 2) |
| ii. Full name (transliterated)   | <i>hoi mystai</i>              |

## III. DATE

|            |            |
|------------|------------|
| i. Date(s) | i - iii AD |
|------------|------------|

## IV. NAME AND TERMINOLOGY

|                   |         |               |
|-------------------|---------|---------------|
| ii. Name elements | Cultic: | <i>mystai</i> |
|-------------------|---------|---------------|

## V. SOURCES

|                                             |                                  |
|---------------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| i. Source(s)                                | SEG 40: 1223 (i - iii AD)        |
| Note                                        | See also:<br>Jaccottet II no. 85 |
| Online Resources                            | <a href="#">SEG 40: 1223</a>     |
| i.a. Source type(s)                         | Epigraphic source(s)             |
| i.b. Document(s) typology & language/script | Dedicatory inscription, greek    |
| i.c. Physical format(s)                     | Marble bust                      |

|                          |                                              |
|--------------------------|----------------------------------------------|
| ii. Source(s) provenance | Hisar-Payamalan (10 km northeast of Sebaste) |
|--------------------------|----------------------------------------------|

## VII. ORGANIZATION

|                |                                                                                             |
|----------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| ii. Leadership | ἱερεῖς, <i>hiereis</i> (l. 4) (they are mentioned first in the fragmentary list of members) |
|----------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

## X. ACTIVITIES

|                    |                                                                                                                                |
|--------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| iii. Worship       | The bust is dedicated to Dionysos <i>Kathegemon</i> , who, according to Drew-Bear and Naour 1990: 1947-9, is here represented. |
| Deities worshipped | Dionysos <i>Kathegemon</i>                                                                                                     |

## XII. NOTES

|                   |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
|-------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| i. Comments       | The date of the inscription is unclear. Drew-Bear and Naour 1990: 1947-9 point out that one of the priests, Dionysios son of Menandros, could be from a family that in 98/99 CE was represented in the <i>gerousia</i> of Sebaste (through a Menandros son of Dionysios and a Dionysios son of Dionysios). This does not prove, however, that the inscription belongs to the last quarter of the 1st century CE, as Jaccottet 2003: 166-7 assumes. |
| iii. Bibliography | Drew-Bear, Th., and Naour, Chr. (1990), 'Divinités de Phrygie', <i>ANRW</i> II.18.3: 1907-2044.<br>Jaccottet, A.-F. (2003), <i>Choisir Dionysos. Les associations dionysiaques ou la face cachée du dionysisme</i> . 2 vols. Zürich.                                                                                                                                                                                                               |

## 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                                                                                                                                                      |