

CAPInv. 714: **syngeneia**

I. LOCATION

i. Geographical area	Western Asia Minor
ii. Region	Bithynia
iii. Site	Nikomedeia

II. NAME

i. Full name (original language)	συνγένεια (I. συγγένεια, TAM IV.1 74, ll. 7-8)
ii. Full name (transliterated)	<i>syngeneia</i>

III. DATE

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

iii. Descriptive terms	συνγένεια, <i>syngeneia</i>
Note	<i>syngeneia</i> : TAM IV.1 74, ll. 7-8

V. SOURCES

i. Source(s)	TAM IV.1 74 (ii AD)
Note	See also: Dörner 1941, 65 nr. 39 Schwertheim 1978: 793-794 nr. 2 Ögüt-Polat and Şahin 1985: 111 nr. 17
Online Resources	TAM IV.1 74
i.a. Source type(s)	Epigraphic source(s)
i.b. Document(s) typology & language/script	Dedication in Greek offered as a thanksgiving to Theos Preietos, Kybele and Zeus by the members of a <i>syngeneia</i> .

i.c. Physical format(s)	Altar with reliefs on three sides representing Theos Preietos, Kybele and Zeus.
ii. Source(s) provenance	The inscription was found at Deli Mahmudlar and transported to Izmit (Nikomedeia).

VI. BUILT AND VISUAL SPACE

ii. References to buildings/objects	An altar was dedicated by the <i>syngeneia</i> to Theos Preietos, Kybele and Zeus.
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VII. ORGANIZATION

viii. Obligations	On the possibility of contributions paid by the members of the <i>syngeneia</i> see below under field XII.i: Comments.
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VIII. PROPERTY AND POSSESSIONS

ii. Realty	The altar dedicated by the <i>syngeneia</i> was probably in its possession.
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IX. MEMBERSHIP

i. Number	Seven members (all male) of the <i>syngeneia</i> are recorded in the last part of the dedication to Theos Preietos (ll. 4-8): Biantion, Damas, Biantion, Moukianos, Sostratos, Theophilos and Sosipatros.
ii. Gender	Men
Note	All recorded members are male.

X. ACTIVITIES

iii. Worship Deities worshipped	The members of the <i>syngeneia</i> dedicated an altar as a thanksgiving to Theos Preietos, Kybele and Zeus. Theos Preietos Kybele Zeus
iv. Honours/Other activities	The members of the <i>syngeneia</i> expressed their gratitude to <i>Theos Preietos</i> possibly for protecting their animals as the formula Θεῶ Πρειέτω εὐχαριστήριον κατ'ἐπιταγὴν ὑπὲρ τῶν ζώων (<i>Theoi Preietoi eucharisterin kat' epitagen hyper ton zoion</i> , ll. 2-3) seems to imply (cf. Ögüt-Polat and Şahin 1985: 111 on Theos Preietos as God of domestic animals). They also seem to have thanked Kybele (l. 9: Εὐχαριστοῦμεν τῇ [Μητρὶ], <i>Eucharistoumen tei [Metri]</i>) and possibly Zeus (ll. 10-11 as restored by Ögüt-Polat and Şahin 1985: 111, κατ' ἐπιταγὴν ΤΟΕΙ Διὲ εὐχαριστ[οῦμεν], <i>kat' epitagen TOEI Diei eucharist[oumen]</i>).

XII. NOTES

i. Comments	The cost of the altar may indicate the existence of a common treasury of the group, but there is no clear proof for that. The cost may have been covered from <i>ad hoc</i> contributions paid by the members of the <i>syngeneia</i> , listed by name in the final part of the inscription.
iii. Bibliography	Dörner, F.K. (1941), <i>Inschriften und Denkmäler aus Bithynien</i> . Berlin. Ögüt-Polat, S. and Şahin, S. (1985), 'Katalog der bithynischen Inschriften im archäologischen Museum von Istanbul', <i>EA</i> 5: 97-121. Poland, F. (1909), <i>Geschichte des griechischen Vereinswesens</i> . Leipzig. Schwertheim, E. (1978), 'Denkmäler zur Meterverehrung in Bithynien und Mysien', in S. Şahin, E. Schwertheim, and J. Wagner (eds.), <i>Studien zur Religion und Kultur Kleinasiens. Festschrift für Friedrich Karl Dörner zum 65. Geburtstag am 28. Februar 1976</i> . 2 vols, Leiden: 791-837.

XIII. EVALUATION

i. Private association	Possible
Note	On associations defined as <i>syngeneia</i> or with other correlated terms see Poland 1909: 88. Whether the <i>syngeneia</i> of our inscription corresponded to an organized association or was just a group of relatives collaborating on the erection and the dedication of the altar cannot be established with certainty.