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## CAPInv. 903: *he synodos he ton melanephoron*

### I. LOCATION

|                      |                |
|----------------------|----------------|
| i. Geographical area | Aegean Islands |
| ii. Region           | Delos          |
| iii. Site            | Delos          |

### II. NAME

|                                  |  |
|----------------------------------|--|
| i. Full name (original language) | ἡ σύνοδος ἡ τῶν μελανηφόρων (I.Délos 2075, l. 1) |
| ii. Full name (transliterated)   | <i>he synodos he ton melanephoron</i>            |

### III. DATE

|            |              |
|------------|--------------|
| i. Date(s) | 124 / 123 BC |
|------------|--------------|

### IV. NAME AND TERMINOLOGY

|                        |                             |
|------------------------|-----------------------------|
| ii. Name elements      | Cultic: <i>melanephoroí</i> |
| iii. Descriptive terms | σύνοδος, <i>synodos</i>     |

### V. SOURCES

|   |   |
|---|---|
| i. Source(s)                                | I.Délos 2075 (124/3 BC)   |
| Note  | Roussel 1915-16: 138, no. 95<br>RICIS 202/0257 (with pl. 53)<br>Trümper 2011: 77, no. 8 |
| Online Resources                            | <a href="#">I.Délos 2075</a>  |
| i.a. Source type(s)                         | Epigraphic source(s)  |
| i.b. Document(s) typology & language/script | dedication of honorary statue   |

|                          |                                   |
|--------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| i.c. Physical format(s)  | square marble base, broken in two |
| ii. Source(s) provenance | Sarapieion C                      |

## VII. ORGANIZATION

|               |  |
|---------------|--|
| iv. Officials | ἱερεὺς, <i>hiereus</i> (I.Délos 2075, l. 2), named Demetrios, son of Hermesion, from Marathon; he was priest in the year when Eisigenes was <i>archon</i> (124/3 BC). It is not clear whether this was a priesthood specifically of the association, and it is difficult to say whether other honorary inscriptions set up for priests by <i>melanephoroi</i> (I.Délos 2076) or <i>melanephoroi</i> and <i>therapeutai</i> (I.Délos 2077; 2078; cf. 2081; note also 2039; 2079; 2080) concern the <i>synodos</i> as well. See also 'Comments'. |
|---------------|--|

## X. ACTIVITIES

|                              |   |
|------------------------------|---|
| iii. Worship                 | The <i>synodos</i> dedicated a honorary statue to Sarapis, Isis, and Anoubis (I.Délos 2075, l. 4).  |
| Deities worshipped           | Sarapis<br>Isis<br>Anoubis  |
| iv. Honours/Other activities | The <i>synodos</i> of <i>melanephoroi</i> set up a statue in honour of their benefactor (I.Délos 2075, ll. 1-2: εὐεργέτης, <i>euergetes</i> ) Demetrios, son of Hermesion, from Marathon, who was priest (l. 2: ἱερεὺς, <i>hiereus</i> ) in the year when Eisigenes was <i>archon</i> (124/3 BC). The statue was dedicated to Sarapis, Isis, and Anoubis. |

## XII. NOTES

|                        |   |
|------------------------|---|
| i. Comments            | Another inscription from Sarapieion C has been attributed to the <i>synodos</i> of <i>melanephoroi</i> (CAPInv. 925), but the restoration of the text (I.Délos 2082, l. 1: ἡ σύνο[δος] ἡ τῶν μελανηφόρων?), <i>he syno[dos] he ton melanephoron?</i> ) is uncertain.<br>From Sarapieion B comes an early attestation (e. ii BC ?) of a <i>koinon</i> of <i>melanephoroi</i> (CAPInv. 216), which might be the same association as the <i>synodos</i> of I.Délos 2075 (cf. Roussel and Launey in Délos 2075; Roussel 1915-16: 270-1; Trümper 2011: 77, no. 8; Baslez 2013: 239, n 60). The Delian epigraphic record also yields many attestations of <i>melanephoroi</i> which do not specifically refer to a <i>synodos</i> or <i>koinon</i> (e.g., I.Délos 2039; 2076-2081; 2083-2084), but which may directly or indirectly concern the same association(s). Note that information from these texts has not been taken into account in this inventory entry. For a discussion of the <i>melanephoroi</i> , see Baslez 1975. |
| ii. Poland concordance | Poland B 180a   |
| iii. Bibliography      | Baslez M.-F. (1975), 'Une association isiaque: les Mélanéphores', <i>CE</i> 50 : 297-303.<br>Baslez, M.-F. (2013), 'Les associations à Délos: depuis les débuts de l'indépendance (fin du IVe siècle) à la période de la colonie athénienne (milieu du IIe siècle)', in P. Fröhlich and P. Hamon (eds.) <i>Groupes et associations dans les cités grecques (IIIe siècle av. J.-C. - IIe siècle apr. J.-C.)</i> , Genève: 227-49.<br>Roussel, P. (1915-16), <i>Les cultes égyptiens à Délos du IIIe au Ier siècle av. J.-C.</i> Paris.<br>Trümper, M. (2011), 'Where the non-Delians met in Delos: the meeting-places of foreign associations and ethnic communities in late Hellenistic Delos', in O.M. van Nijf and R. Alston (eds.) <i>Political culture in the Greek city after the classical age</i> , Leuven: 49-100.  |

### XIII. EVALUATION

#### i. Private association

Certain

##### Note

The descriptive term and the wellknown character and activity of this association guarantees its private status.