Author: NIKOLAOS GIANNAKOPOULOS

CAPInv. GR-43: **thiasoi**

I. LOCATION

i.	**Geographical area**	Western Asia Minor
ii.	**Region**	Mysia
iii.	**Site**	Daskyleion

II. GENERAL REFERENCE

i.a.	**Full reference (original language)**	θίασοι (I.Kyz. 540, l. 1)
i.b.	**Full reference (transliterated)**	*thiasoi*
ii.	**Reference context**	Certain *thiasoi* set up a funerary epigram for an unnamed deceased (I.Kyz. 540, l. 1: θίασοι μνήμης χάριν, *thiasoi mnemes charin*). At the end of the epigram all initiates of Dionysos who pass by the grave are invited to say farewell to the deceased (I.Kyz. 540, ll. 6-7: χαίρετ᾽ ἐμοὶ παράγοντες [ἀε]ὶ μύσται Διονύσου, *chairet' emoi paragontes aei mystai Dionysou*).

III. DATE

i.	**Date(s)**	Inc.

IV. TERMINOLOGY

i.	**Descriptive terms**	θίασοι, *thiasoi*
	Note	l. 1

V. SOURCES

i.	**Source(s)**	I.Kyz. 540
	Note	Cf. Corsten 1988: 72-74 no. 2 (SEG XLVIII 1255-1258); Jaccottet 2003: II 147-148 no. 74; http://www.philipharland.com/greco-roman-associations/?p=7233
	Online Resources	I.Kyz. 540 AGRW 7233

ISSN 2446-2500

i.a. Source type(s)	Epigraphic source(s)
i.b. Document(s) typology & language/script	Funerary epigram in Greek.
i.c. Physical format(s)	Grave stele with relief depicting Dionysos holding a scepter.
ii. Source(s) provenance	The inscription was found at Beychiftlik (or Yalichiftlik), between Daskyleion and the river Rhyndacus (see Mendel 1900: 375; Hasluck 1910: 288 nr. 312; E. Schwertheim in I.Kyz. 540).

VI. ORGANIZATION

iii. Members	The μύσται Διονύσου, *mystai Dionysou* (I.Kyz. 540, l. 7) invited to say farewell to the deceased is probably a term denoting members of the *thiasoi* who set up the funerary inscription.

VIII. NOTES

i. Comments	As Corsten has pointed out (1988: 73), the inscription testifies to the existence of various *thiasoi* devoted to the cult of Dionysus in the area of Daskyleion. The invitation addressed to the *mystai Dionysou* at the end of the epigram indicates that these *thiasoi* were involved in the celebration of Dionysaic mysteries. Cf. also Jaccottet 2003: II 148.
ii. Poland concordance	Poland B *411A*
iii. Bibliography	Corsten, T. (1988), 'Daskyleion am Meer', *EA* 12: 53-76. Hasluck, F. W. (1910), *Cyzicus*. Cambridge. Jaccottet, A.-Fr. (2003), *Choisir Dionysos. Les associations dionysiaques ou la face cachée du dionysisme II. Les documents*. Zürich. Mendel, G. (1900), 'Inscriptions de Bithynie', *BCH* 24: 361-426.

IX. EVALUATION

i. Private associations	Certain
Note	The term *thiasoi* refers to private religious associations.

CC BY NC SA