

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
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IV. NAME AND TERMINOLOGY

ii. Name elements	Cultic:	<i>mystai</i>
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V. SOURCES

i. Source(s)	SEG 40: 1223 (i - iii AD)
Note	See also: Jaccottet II no. 85
Online Resources	SEG 40: 1223
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)
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VII. ORGANIZATION

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