

Title	A survey of the materials from the Mithraeum of Dura-Europos
Sub Title	
Author	小川, 英雄(Ogawa, Hideo)
Publisher	三田史学会
Publication year	1972
Jtitle	史学 (The historical science). Vol.44, No.4 (1972. 4) ,p.4- 4
JaLC DOI	
Abstract	
Notes	Abstract
Genre	
URL	https://koara.lib.keio.ac.jp/xoonips/modules/xoonips/detail.php?koara_id=AN00100104-19720410-0123

慶應義塾大学学術情報リポジトリ(KOARA)に掲載されているコンテンツの著作権は、それぞれの著作者、学会または出版社/発行者に帰属し、その権利は著作権法によって保護されています。引用にあたっては、著作権法を遵守してご利用ください。

The copyrights of content available on the KeiO Associated Repository of Academic resources (KOARA) belong to the respective authors, academic societies, or publishers/issuers, and these rights are protected by the Japanese Copyright Act. When quoting the content, please follow the Japanese copyright act.

A Survey of the Materials from the Mithraeum of Dura-Europos

Hideo Ogawa

Although the final report of the results of the excavation at the Dura Mithraeum is not published yet, there are found many remarkable materials relating to the history of Mithraism in the Preliminary Report (1939).

The art and the inscriptions as well as the circumstances of the dedications of this temple show that there was persisting influences of the religious and artistic "Koine", which established itself in the Semitic parts of the Parthian Empire during the first century B. C. On the other hand, the Dura Mithraeum was founded in one of the most critical period of the Durene history just after the occupation of the city by the Roman army in A. D. 165. So the dedication must have not been against the will of the Roman military authority, and have followed the Roman usage of the Mithraic religion, which had been already planted on the soil of the Roman Empire by that time.

From these observations an important problem arises whether its uniqueness, which seems to come from the "Koine", was merely a local peculiarity of the whole system of Roman Mithraism or not. If not, it must represent some traits of pre-Roman Mithraism, which may have been the direct heir of the "Koine", and which did not follow the Roman usage of this mystery religion: it is possible that the first dedicators (the Palmyrene archers) had been initiated into the mystery earlier and brought it with its primitive tradition to Dura-Europos from Palmyra herself or from other parts of Syria before the Roman istion.

4. Although we must wait for the publication of the final report to reach any solid conclusion, the examination of the archaeological data of the Preliminary Report does not exclude the possibility that in Syria there was the pre-Roman Mithraic mystery, that is, the Mithraism of the period from the time of its founder to that of its Romanisation.