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13th Conference of the FIEC (Fédération Internationale des Associations d'Etudes Classiques)

Proposal for a 20 minutes paper for the panel "Religion and Society"
Word count: 223.

Title: Geographical provenance and social status of the customers of the oracle of Dodona.

The oracle of Dodona was the most ancient of the Greek world. However, its location in North-western Greece (Epirus), a place traditionally considered at the borders of Greek world, contributed to the relegation of the oracle to a marginal position in modern studies. Despite the abundance of evidence, the attention paid to Zeus Dodoneus' oracle and priesthood by modern scholars is slight and not comparable to that paid to the oracle of Delphi. Most scholars affirm that Zeus Dodoneus was widely consulted, but only for private and personal matters (health, family, business, inheritance, etc.). Few voices disagree with this view, but they are isolated opinions, not supported by literary and epigraphic evidence (recently A.M. Prestianni Giallombardo). Through the analysis of the literary, epigraphic and archaeological evidence, it emerges that the oracle of Dodona was used not only by single individuals worried about their private businesses, but that it was also consulted for maritime and commercial trades, political changes and residential shifts. In this paper I will focus mainly on offerings, found at Dodona, which give important information on the geographical origin and the social status of the consultants.

