

The motif of the depiction of Cadmus fighting the dragon on the Greek krater has ancient Armenian roots

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The antique Greek vase (350–340 BC), excavated in Sant’Agata de’Goti (Paestum) depicts Cadmus fighting the dragon. Through the comprehensive analysis of the plot, depicted on the “krater”, we can detect new content, identify and reveal common features and correlations between the key heroes (Vahagn the Dragonslayer and Cadmus, the grandson of legendary Hayk) of Ancient Greek and Old Armenian mythologies.

The author implements a novel approach to interpret the given data. This approach implies not only its description in the view of the mentioned disciplines, but also reveals its correlation and interconnection with the allied subjects within the universal scientific paradigm of systematic approach. The compositional structure, style and main motifs of the depiction are perceived not as an invariable fact, but as a transitive relation, accompanied by several transformations in the expression plane (sometimes in the content plane) and or in the stylized marking of the cognitive modality of the depiction under the study.



Fig.1 - The antique vase depicting Cadmus, Louvre Museum.

Fig.2 - Cadmus and the dragon, Louvre Museum.