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Title: Trends of Spatiotemporal distribution of the Cabiri cult in the Ancient Oecumene
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The cult of Cabiri was widespread and respected over the Mediterranean throughout the Antiquity. But the position of Cabiri in mythological systems and the history of the cult development in the Mediterranean cultures are still highly unclear. The present study considers spatiotemporal distribution of the Cabiri cult across the Oecumene on the basis of information provided by ancient and mediaeval texts and text fragments. Records of Cabiri were ranged according to the age of literature source, record-related geographical position, and affiliation of Cabiri. This approach made it possible: (i) to follow the chronology of the cult development; (ii) to outline trends of its geographical evolution; (iii) to reveal temporal trends in transformation of the functional interpretation of the term 'Cabiri'.