

Some Cults of Greek Goddesses and Female Daemons of Oriental Origin

David R. West

1995

Verlag Butzon & Bercker Kevelaer

Neukirchener Verlag Neukirchen-Vluyn

Contents

Contents	v
Summary	vii
Abbreviations	ix
Note on spelling and other conventions	xv
Introduction	1
Chapter One	
The Archaeological Evidence for Contact between the Greek and Semitic Worlds during the Mycenaean Age	3
Section A Mycenaean trade and colonisation in the East	3
Section B Oriental trade and colonisation in the West	14
Section C The transference of mythology across the Greek Dark Age, and the historical gap between the Mycenaean world and classical mythology	54
Chapter Two	
Semitic Influences upon the Formation of Various Greek Nature Goddesses in Iconography and Cult	59
Section A The goddess Artemis	59
Section B Rhea, the mother of the gods	74
Section C The Cretan maiden Britomartis, with her names Aphaia and Diktyнна	84
Section D The great mother goddess Leto	96
Section E The Greek mare goddess Demeter and the Ugaritic mare goddess <i>phlt</i>	106
Chapter Three	
The Goddess Athena and Other Avian Daemons, including Semitic Antecedents of Greek Bird, Monster and Snake Motifs	114
Section A Athena and her iconography	114
Section B Three Semitic epithets of Athena	156
Section C Another example of avian daemons in Greek mythology — the demonic Sirens	174
Chapter Four	
The Goddess Hekate and Related Chthonian Daemons, with Antecedents in Semitic Demonology	188
Section A The character of Hekate in Greek literature and art ..	188
Section B Some theories concerning the origin of Hekate	221

Section C	The evolution of the goddess Hekate from female daemons of Mesopotamia, especially in relation to the demoness Lamashtu (Lamaštu)	250
Section D	Other classical daemons and monsters with mythological similarities to Hekate and Lamashtu . . .	293
Conclusion	324
Bibliography of Works Cited	326
Appendix One	List of Greek vases with their museum catalogue nos	336
Appendix Two	Selected Illustrations	339
Indices	343
1.	General Index	343
2.	Indices of languages	351
(i)	Greek	351
(ii)	Linear B	355
(iii)	Latin	356
(iv)	Sanskrit	356
(v)	Hittite	356
(vi)	Luwian	356
(vii)	Lycian	356
(viii)	Proto-Indo-European	356
(ix)	Lithunian	357
(x)	Teutonic	357
(xi)	General West Semitic	357
(xii)	Alalakh names	357
(xiii)	Nuzi names	357
(xiv)	Linear A	357
(xv)	Ugaritic	358
(xvi)	Phoenician	359
(xvii)	Syriac	359
(xviii)	Hebrew	359
(xix)	Akkadian	360
(xx)	Sumerian	361
(xxi)	Egyptian	361
3.	Indices of texts	362
(i)	Greek texts	362
(ii)	Latin texts	372
(iii)	Lycian texts	372
(iv)	Ugaritic texts	372
(v)	Biblical texts	372
(vi)	Akkadian texts	373