

Nane (goddess)

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Nane (Armenian: Նանե, *Nané*; Georgian: ნანა, *Nana*; Bulgarian: Нане, *Nané*; Russian: Нанэ, *Nané*) was an Armenian pagan mother goddess. She was the goddess of war, wisdom, and motherhood, and the daughter of the supreme god Aramazd.

Nane looked like a young beautiful woman in the clothing of a warrior, with spear and shield in hand,^[1] like the Greek Athena, with whom she identified in the Hellenic period.^[2]

In Armenia and other countries, the name Nane continues to be used as a personal name.

Cult

Her cult was closely associated with the cult of the goddess Anahit.

The temple of the goddess Nane was in the town of Thil. Her temple was destroyed during the Christianization of Armenia:

"Then they crossed the Lycus River and demolished the temple of Nane, Aramazd's daughter, in the town of Thil."^[3]

"Gregory then asked the king for permission to overthrow and destroy the pagan shrines and temples. Drtad readily issued an edict entrusting Gregory with this task, and himself set out from the city to destroy shrines along the highways."^[4]

According to some authors, Nane was adopted from the Akkadian goddess Nanaya, from the Phrygian goddess Cybele, or was from Elamite origin.^{[5][6][7][8]}

Notes

1. С. Б. Арутюнян. Армянская мифология (http://babon.sitecity.ru /ltext_0903104639.phtml?p_ident=ltext_0903104639_p_2007141421)
2. http://penelope.uchicago.edu/Thayer/E/Gazetteer /Places/Asia/Armenia/_Texts/KURARM/34*.html
3. A. Carrière. The Eight Sanctuaries of Pagan Armenia according to Agat'angeghos and Movses Xorenats'I [Les huit sanctuaires de l'Arménie payenne]. Paris, 1899, English Translation by Robert Bedrosian, 2009. http://rbedrosian.com/Car1.htm
4. AGATHANGELOS. History of St. Gregory and the Conversion of Armenia. http://www.vehi.net/istoriya /armenia/agathangelos/en/AGATHANGELOS.html
5. С. Б. Арутюнян. Армянская мифология S. B. Arutiunyan. The Armenian Mythology (in Russian).
6. John M. Douglas. The Armenians. New York, 1992, p. 91.

7. "Armenian Mythology" (<http://books.google.com/books?id=kQFtlva3HaYC&lpg=PR15&dq=armenian%20mythology&pg=PA29#v=onepage&q&f=false>) in *The Oxford Companion to World Mythology* (<http://books.google.com/books?id=kQFtlva3HaYC>), by David Leeming, Oxford University Press, 17 Nov 2005, p.29
8. http://penelope.uchicago.edu/Thayer/E/Gazetteer/Places/Asia/Armenia/_Texts/KURARM/34*.html

See also

- Anahit
- Aramazd
- Nana

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