



L'importance de l'*askèsis* dans la *Géographie* de Strabon

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Abstract: *Askèsis* is a key word within Strabo's *Geography*, in the measure in which it is strictly linked to the main subject of the work : land conceived as oikoumenè (the inhabited and known world). All Strabo's *askèseis* are practices marking the identity of a collective subject and implying a progressive change. It is the change of civilization, by means of which a simple place becomes a happily inhabited place. In Strabo's *Geography* one may recover the textual tradition of *askèsis* and its meanings within pagan culture up to the beginning of the first century A.D. However, in Strabo's texts, the main influence on the semantic field of *askèsis* is exerted by ethical philosophy. From this perspective, Strabo's main source is Aristotle, who has linked the notion of *askèsis* to practical thought concerning human actions and their goal, i.e. happiness.

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