

## Magical gem: Ibis tied to an altar (A) πέσσε, πέσσε, πέσσε (B)

|                           |                                                             |
|---------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>CBd-Number</b>         | CBd-777                                                     |
| <b>ID-Number</b>          | GB-BM-MMEu_G 462, EA 56462                                  |
| <b>Collection</b>         | GB_London, The British Museum                               |
| <b>Inventory</b>          | G 462 (EA 56462)                                            |
| <b>References</b>         | Michel, BM, no. 406; Michel, DMG, no. 27.2.a_10             |
| <b>Former Collections</b> | Chester, Greville John (1830-1892)                          |
| <b>Material</b>           | albite, brown                                               |
| <b>Dimensions</b>         | 28 x 21 x 3 mm                                              |
| <b>Dating</b>             | 4th-5th c. AD (Michel)                                      |
| <b>Iconography</b>        | bird: ibis, tied to an altar;<br>cord; plant: stalks of (3) |



Credits: Photo: Christopher A. Faraone  
Rights: © Trustees of the British Museum

A: Ibis, striding in profile to left. The bird is tied with a cord at the neck to an altar behind it on the right. The altar is built of two pillars topped with a vase with three stalks of plant.

B: Inscription in three lines: πέσσε|πέσσε|πέσσε → πέσσε, πέσσε, πέσσε. 'Digest, digest, digest!'

### Bibliography

[Michel, BM on CBd-777](#)

[The British Museum Collection database on CBd-777](#)

Last modified: 2014-11-07 13:47:13